



STAPLETON AND CLEASBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 15th July 2026

At 7pm, Cleasby Village Hall

There was a 10-minute public speaking session prior to the start of the council meeting.

Present:

Chairman – R Leckie
Vice-chairman- C Vigors
Cllr E Leckie
Cllr L Heritage
Clerk S Perks

1. Apologies

1.1 Apologies were received from Cllr K Webster and Cllr C Mitchell.

1.2 The reason for absence was approved.

2. Declaration of Interest

2.1 No declarations of interests were received.

2.2 No applications for dispensation were received.

3. Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Wednesday 15th July 2026

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Wednesday 15th July 2026 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

4. To receive report from County Cllr A. Thompson.

A report from County Cllr Angus Thompson was received, emailed to all Councillors and a copy is filed with these minutes.

5. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes:

5.1 New Defibrillator- The Clerk reported that we have provided Nick Wilson, Project Engineer for North Yorkshire Road Lighting team, with our preferred locations for any possible mini electrical posts and was waiting to receive confirmation of available dates for him to attend a site visit.

5.2 Community Speed Watch, Cleasby- Cllr Webster confirmed she has enough willing volunteers to take part in CSW and has sent the relevant forms back to the Police .

6. Village greens

6.1 NYC Active Travel Scheme, Accessibility improvements, Stapleton. To note NYC have been successful in securing external funding to progress a package of active travel schemes, including accessibility improvements in Stapleton.

6.1.1 It was decided that the parish council agrees to the extension of the footpath over part of Stapleton village green based on the *de minimis principle* as advised to NYC by The Open Spaces Society to facilitate the accessibility improvements.

6.1.2 The parish council decided that if there is an underspend of the overall Active Travel Scheme and part of the funding is successfully diverted into aesthetic improvements for the village green such as planting/planters, the parish council would not be willing to take care of or maintain the planters.

6.2 The Clerk informed the parish council that a copy of our external aboricultural assessment has been submitted to North Yorkshire Council as requested to aid in the formal registration of the TPO's in Stapleton.

6.3 The Clerk informed the parish council that the diseased Ash trees in Stapleton will be removed on Wednesday 29th July. It was agreed a letter would be written to possible affected residents and hand delivered. Action SP/RL/EL

6.4 Gas works in Stapleton – An email from North Gas Networks informing the parish council of proposed investigation works to see if the mains gas pipe needs changing from a steel pipe to plastic as part of their ongoing safety improvements was received.

6.4.1 It was agreed to respond to North Gas Networks informing them the parish council had no objections to the works taking place..

6.5 New plants for village pump, Cleasby. It was agreed to spend £50- £100 on the purchase of new plants to be installed in the village pump. Cllr Vigors will seek advice from a contact as to what plants would be best. Action CV

6.6 Wooden Posts, Cleasby. The possibility of installing wooden posts in place of kerbing on the green adjacent to the road was discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk would look at some potential options. Action SP

7. **Upgrade of footpath from Stapleton to A66 roundabout towards Darlington.** An update from the Clerk was received. It was noted that North Yorkshire Highways have agreed that they are responsible for the footpath up to the roundabout and the reason they did not complete this section when they completed the previous resurfacing works was they were under the impression National Highways would be installing a cycle lane that would extend on the footpath under the responsibility on NYC. Ian Beighton, Project Engineer for NYC will pick this up again with National Highways. Cllr E Leckie said she would contact National Highways again to keep pressure on the two authorities to work together and obtain a reference number. Action EL

8. Financial matters

8.1 Bank reconciliation – A report from the Clerk was received.

8.2 Income and Expenses. The following payments were approved.

8.2.1 Clerk's salary, April- June	£528.92
8.2.2 HMRC	£132.00
8.2.3 CE & CM Walker Ltd- May-June grass cutting	£576.00
8.2.4 Clerk's expenses- May -A4 paper	£6.65
8.2.5 Ian Crisop Accountancy – External audit	£162.00

8.3 No payments to receive.

9. Planning

9.1 ZD26/00335/VAR - Variation of condition 2 attached to planning permission 22/00250/FULL (approved particulars and plans) Unit 3 Stapleton Grange Strawgate Lane Stapleton- **Councillors agreed there was 'no objections' to this application..**

9.2 ZD26/00346/LBC Listed building consent for installation of an air source heat pump, hot water cylinder, radiators, and associated pipework: Teddington House The Green Cleasby Darlington- **Councillors agreed there was no objection to this application.**

10. **Resignation of Councillor.** The resignation of Councillor Keith Pearson was received. The Clerk has informed Electoral office, and a notice of the vacancy has been posted on the notice boards in both villages.

11. The following correspondence was received.

11.1 North Yorkshire Council Monitoring Officer: Changes to requirements regarding publication of councillors' usual residential address

11.2 PKF Littlejohn - NY0530: Receipt of documents – notification of exempt status, 2026

11.3 North Yorkshire Council New Consultations: Submitted Neighbourhood Plans, comment by 12-8-2026 for Bulmer; and Kirkby Malzeard, Laverton, and Dallowgill

11.4 North Yorkshire Council Parish Liaison: Register for the New Parish Website.

11.5 North Yorkshire Council Parish Liaison: Parish Precept Arrangements for 2026/27 and 2027/28.

12. Items for discussion at the next meeting.

- Posts for village green, Cleasby

13. Date and time of the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be Wednesday 9th September 2026, 7pm, Cleasby Village Hall, with a ten-minute public speaking session prior to the meeting at 6.50pm.

Signed.....Date