

SCORTON PARISH COUNCIL

The normal monthly meeting held on Wednesday 24th September 2025 at 7.30pm in the Scorton War Memorial Institute.

Present: - Cllrs Threlfall, Rafelt, Richardson, Calvert & Terry, Hilary Enevoldson (Cemetery Chair), Alan Coe (REMS), PCSO Long, 8 MOP

Audio recording of meeting by PC, video recording of meeting by MOP, informed attendees, no objections.

- 1) Apologies. None
- 2) Declarations of interest. None
- 3) Approval of minutes dated 30th July. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
- 4) Matters raised by the members of the public. Resident brings noise pollution to the meeting; this is to be discussed at item 13.
- 5) Crime Report. PCSO Long in attendance and discussed the August report, full report forwarded to Cllrs. Cllr Threlfall asks if any action was taken about cars being keyed in the village, PCSO Long replies that as this occurred some time ago, he would need to look into this. Anti-social behaviour on Hospital Road was discussed, PCSO Long encourages residents to report to the Police and NYC Environmental Health Department. Also discussed car parking around the school, PC has asked for this area to be patrolled around the school drop off/pick up times – PCSO Long states that the team are aware of this request and will carry this out as resources allow. Cllr Richardson adds that there are poor parking decisions being made both at the entrance of Blenheim Close and further in which obstructs drivers' visibility. PCSO Long states that vehicles could be ticketed if they are causing an unnecessary obstruction.
- 6) Updates from previous meetings. Cemetery update re: regs and price structure. Mrs Enevoldson attending, as agreed at the annual cemetery meeting, simplifying the fees was to be reviewed further. A suggested price structure given to Cllrs, First Burial (including plot purchase, burial and memorial fee) Current price £225 to increase to £300, Exclusive right of burial (to include 2nd burial) currently £185 to increase to £200, under 16 years of age currently £100, proposed to increase to £150, Still birth to remain as no charge, Burial of cremated remains, currently £165, proposed £200, burial of cremated remains in the same plot, currently £125 to increase to £150, search of records to remain as £15. Following discussion, Cllrs resolved to accept these changes. People who have purchased a plot before these changes will need to pay the current burial & memorial fee at time of interment. Mrs Enevoldson also discusses when exclusive rights date should begin, currently date starts when purchased, however this seems unfair for younger purchasers. It was resolved to start the date of exclusive rights from the date of the first burial. A resident suggests that the price for people using the cemetery outside the area could be increased to 3 times the amount charged to residents, Mrs Enevoldson will discuss this and the new price structure with Blenkins, and adds that fees will be reviewed annually. Asset of Community Value update. Application to be emailed on 30/9, waiting for letters of support from local PCs and Save Scorton Lakes, as they aren't consulted about the application. Jubilee Green trees options. Following a site meeting with Rennisons Tree Specialists, the following suggestions have been recommended: 3 options, 1. coppice all, reshoot and control as 8 foot barrier/hedge, 2. Remove ½ trees (not necessarily every other one, more species dependant) and reduce remaining to 6/7 metres. 3. reduce all trees to 6/7 metres. The two trees nearest the small entrance need removing as more suitable for a country park. Cllr Threlfall highlights the frequency of the tree reduction work and the costly legacy we leave future cllrs, another option is to remove all and replant with more appropriate species. Cllr Richardson declares an interest as lives near to the proposed work, she feels the trees give a good sound/sight barrier for the houses abutting Jubilee Green, Cllr Threlfall highlights that the work will be for the trees adjacent to the gardens on Blenheim Close. Cllr Rafelt felt that the trees should be left taller than the fence height and that other quotes were required. Cllr Calvert had concerns about hedge cutting and that this should be maintained annually. It was resolved to get further quotes for option 2 and that Cllr Threlfall would discuss with the residents who are affected. Cllr Calvert adds that a branch on the willow tree at Bridge Green is overhanging the beck, the lower branch and dead branch need removing. Pressure washing quote, this will be around £800. Croft Casting – elliptical bridge sign for new bridge with date £145. Cllr Calvert offers to make in stone, it was felt that a cast iron style sign would be more appropriate. It was resolved to accept this quote.

- 7) Updates from North Yorkshire Councillor, Tarmac representative, Save Scorton Lakes, Scorton Surgery. Alan Coe (REMS/Tarmac representative) in attendance and gives his report. General maintenance continues with footpath improvements, ragwort pulling, Dexters have been moved and Hebridean sheep remain. Public have reported an injured deer, lost wallet and reported motorbikes using the site. Volunteers are now opening and closing the gates at the car park. There is an updated species list which is maintaining good figures, also a recent field trip by the Naturalists have recorded flora and fauna. Requests for a memorial bench and trees received. Portaloo was provided for contractors and some walkers asked for this to remain. Cllr Terry asks about the coffee van; Alan Coe replies that this is a trial currently. Resident has concerns about litter. Resident asks about the Christmas trees, which were planted for PC use in the future. Cllr Calvert asks if the wires protecting the reeds could be removed now, Alan Coe replies, maybe next year.
- Save Scorton Lakes. Giving presentations to local community groups (Moulton & Brompton PC) and recent presentation involving RSPB at Richmond Town Hall, audience showed appreciation for the work done by Tarmac and Save Scorton Lakes. Cllr Threlfall thanks Save Scorton Lakes. Save Scorton Lakes would like to discuss the proposals with Scorton Surgery, they will forward questions to PC initially.
- 8) Accounts
Balance at 24/9/2025 £16,473.79 (Internal controls checked by Cllrs)
Incoming:
- Murphys Fun Fair (Ground rent) £300.00
 - HMRC (VAT reclaim) £2,715.21
 - Cemetery £125.00
- Outgoing:
- Tesco (Mobile phone contract) £19.83
 - BT (Broadband) £101.30
 - V Raven (Wages August & September + Brass Band teas) £1767.77
 - HMRC (PAYE) £183.57
 - NYC (Printing S&D Times) £114.00
 - Osmotherley Brass Band (Feast performance) £150.00
 - Mac Plant (Hedge cutting – Cemetery) £216.00
 - PKF Littlejohn (Audit) £252.00
 - CAB (Donation) £300.00
- New BT Contract, slight increase in price. PKF Littlejohn – no issues found, published as per Transparency code.
- 9) Planning items
- Variation of condition 2, 9 & 15 attached to planning permission 22/00730/FULL to enable the inclusion of an access gate to the development at land off Stags Way. Under delegated authority: Cllrs Rafelt & Threlfall. Councillors do not support this variation of the conditions and were confused as to why this would be required; they would prefer the new residents of this development to integrate with our thriving community. If the decision is taken to allow a gate, then it should be placed back as far as possible into the development to avoid congestion from the busy junction (Stags Way/Station Road). Additionally, councillors stated that a wooden 5 bar gate would be more in keeping with our rural environment.
- Granted: Extension and alterations to east elevation to provide double garage at Field View, Bolton Road.
- 10) Safety review. No notifications received.
- 11) Feedback from meetings attended by Councillors/Clerk. Saddington Taylor – Tancred Waterside proposals meeting. Cllrs Threlfall & Calvert attended, also North Yorkshire Cllr Les. Cllrs went to listen and asked about the planning scoping survey. New architect and the over 55's housing has been moved and now bungalows, the main hub building is reduced. Foul water discussed and Cllrs Threlfall & Calvert have asked for a public consultation about the proposals in the SWMI to take place prior to the planning application being submitted. A resident asks if this will be an outline planning application or full, Cllr Threlfall states that this wasn't stated. Discussion follows about type of consultation and when this will be.
- 12) Report relating to minor parish issues since last meeting. Cllr Rafelt reports overgrowing vegetation at Rectory corner. Resolved. Resident reported a raised-up car on Northside, now resolved. Resident queried about various election rules following the resignation of Mrs Harper, also VAS not working, now resolved. Resident reports a cable loose on a telegraph pole on Southside, resolved. Cemetery Chair reported the cemetery bin overflowing, now resolved. Resident reported glass smashed on Jubilee Green, clerk checked the area, residents had cleared the

area. Resident reported rambling rose and hawthorn growing through the fence at Mollie Cail park, contractors will cut back when the hedge is cut. Resident reports overhanging shrubs at St Claires View, clerk will discuss with resident. Station road gate to footpath is off, clerk to report to NYC. Resident reported the grass in front of The Lodge damaged from parking; the owner had offered to re turf this area but the area was re-seeded before this could take place. White bollards will be discussed at the budget meeting; plan re seed next spring following instalment of bollards. Agenda February.

- 13) Correspondence. NYC – North Yorkshire & York Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation, very positive and detailed document about Scorton Lakes area, forwarded to Save Scorton Lakes and Cllr Threlfall & clerk responded as quick turnaround required for this consultation. Retention of BT phone box, this will be retained due to lack of mobile coverage in the area. Radio Tele switch meter Phase-Out, publicised on website, PC Facebook page and in next S&D Times. Community Governance Review & public consultation, Bolton on Swale PM have requested a merger, residents and PC will be consulted. Local Government Boundary Commission – further consultation about draft recommendation for division boundaries. No further alterations for Scorton. YLCA – AGAR 2026 digital and data compliance, clerk will research our options and report back; Richmondshire Branch meeting 13th October – Scotton Village Hall at 7pm. Cllr Richardson will attend. NY Citizens Advice & Law Centre – update and donation request. CAB has helped 26 clients from Scorton area in the last year; it was resolved to donate £300 for this valuable resource. Openreach – Telegraph pole decision. New pole was proposed for Southside, many difficulties communicating with Openreach, however a sensible solution was found and the pole will not be placed at this location now. Bolton on Swale School – Request for 20mph speed limit outside school. Clerk to request again. Resident – School parking, many emails, PC requested Police to attend the area during school drop off and pick up to educate parents about safe, considerate parking, also asked resident to discuss further with North Yorkshire Cllr Les. Save Scorton Lakes query about when the PC plan to hold a meeting about the proposals, clerk replied we will hold a meeting following the receipt of a planning application. Noise Pollution on Hospital Road, discussed already with PCSO Long (item 5), also NYC Environmental Health Department have issued diary sheets and will issue noise monitoring equipment as this is required for evidence. The Noise Pollution Officer highlighted that it is important that all residents affected should report and that their data is anonymous, unless used in court. Residents can record disturbances from their own properties and make noise diaries and forward these to NYC Environmental Health Department. The White Heifer – Table Licence and public liability received.

- 14) Co-option of new Parish Councillor. Three applications received, Cllrs voted - Alan Marsh elected.

- 15) Meeting closed: 21.20

Date of next meeting: 29th October