

SCORTON PARISH COUNCIL

The normal monthly meeting held on Wednesday 10th December 2025 at 7.30pm in the Scorton War Memorial Institute.

Present: - Cllrs Threlfall, Calvert, Rafelt, Richardson, Terry & Marsh, Alan Coe (REMS)

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

- 1) Apologies. North Yorkshire Cllr Les, PCSO Brown
- 2) Declarations of interest. None
- 3) Approval of minutes dated 29th October. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
- 4) Matters raised by the members of the public. None attending.
- 5) Updates from previous meetings. Asset of Community Value success; Scorton Lakes update, following requests by a resident at the last meeting REMS have an action list for the items discussed. Tancred Waterside Development consultation update, Saddington Taylor have replied that the consultation is unlikely to happen this side of Christmas. Bolton on Swale School external lights, following a resident request the school have dimmed their security lighting as low as possible. Highways updates, Highways recommend that if driveways are completely obstructed then residents should contact the Police, Coloured Slow marking, these are not used now. Provision of H bar near school, this will be painted in the near future, Kerb lowering at bus shelter, waiting for response, clerk to chase prior to January meeting if no further reply. Cllr Threlfall discusses other road markings in that area, Cllr Terry asks when the development next to the school, with additional parking, will be completed - unsure. Cllr Rafelt adds his concerns about the safety of pedestrians with an additional junction so near to the school. Cllr Richardson highlights concerns about poor parking at Blenheim Close, and limited visibility at this junction. Clerk to chase the layby restrictions, and highlight PC's concerns about safety in that area. .gov emails. Clerk attended webinar about Assertion 10 (NALC), recommendation to use .gov for community website, clerk to discuss with Purple Creative, also there are accessibility issues on the website, these to be resolved. Four quotes received for .gov emails, Purple Creative, Cloudnext, Parish Online & WJPS, prices from £260.00 - £536.75, it was resolved to use a local company WJPS, who provide Microsoft Business package with cloud storage, price £297.00/annum. Jubilee Green tree work update, work should be completed prior to Christmas.
- 6) Crime Report. October and November report summarised, full reports forwarded to Cllrs.
- 7) Updates from North Yorkshire Councillor, Tarmac representative, Save Scorton Lakes, Scorton Surgery. Alan Coe (REMS/Tarmac representative) in attendance and gives his report about the concerns raised by a resident at the last meeting. Five issues, Brown vegetation overlooking onto the lake behind Bolton Road. Alan Coe explains that the wildlife is a priority but will trim some areas to tidy. Hedge cutting, he has checked this and the hedge is at the correct height. Tree planting on the bankside, will complete some work to these trees. Area behind cemetery, will manage woodland and remove barbed wire. General maintenance work continues. Donation for Christmas tree offered but this has been donated by a resident this year, so declined offer. Small Christmas trees are doing well but many years away from being used for the village. Long discussion with Cllrs and Alan Coe about Tarmac Community Liaison meeting, and Tarmac's community involvement generally. Clerk to contact Tarmac to better understand their position in relation to the pending planning application. Cllr Threlfall thanks Alan Coe for attending and Alan Coe leaves.
- 8) Accounts
Balance at 10/12/2025 £23,365.02 (Internal controls checked by Cllrs)
Incoming:
 - Cemetery payment £300.00
 - NYC (Urban grasscutting) £1135.00Outgoing:
 - Tesco (Mobile phone contract) £7.99
 - BT (Broadband) £44.93
 - V Raven (Wages November) £827.20
 - YLCA (.gov training) £20.00
 - Mac Plant (Mollie Cail hedge cut) £252.00
 - Royal British Legion (Donation) £150.00

- Unity Trust Bank (Service Charge) £6.00
- a) Royal British Legion – donation. It was resolved to donate £150.00 this year. Collection from the SWMI Remembrance service totalled £411.70.
 - b) Forecast/Precept decision. Forecast forwarded prior to meeting, long discussion relating. Clerk has attended Local Councils webinar about setting precept and holding reserves is advised, and at least 50% of outgoing. PCs are being encouraged to take on more by NYC and obviously this increases our precept. Cllr Marsh suggests a 5 year strategy with the aim to increasing the reserves up to the recommended level and to engage with public to explain the rationale for the increase. Cllr Richardson asks about the ramifications if Scorton and Bolton on Swale PM were merged, this won't happen until 2027 but needs to be in the next Forecast should this be agreed. It was resolved to set the precept at £22,000 and hold approximately 25% reserve for 26/27 financial year.
 - c) NYC – Parish Council Election Recharge Policy. This has been finalised, a contested election will cost around £700 - £1250. Uncontested election around £250.
 - d) Unity Trust Bank – increase in charges. Monthly fee increasing to £7/month, with additional fees for deposits, BACs payments, etc.
- 9) Planning items.
- LBC & FPP to replace windows and doors with new double-glazed windows at Manor House, Southside. No objections.
 - FPP for conversion of 3 existing agricultural barns at Clarence House. No objections.
- i. Station Road West update. Developer assures that the hedge won't look too out of place following the landscaping scheme and already approved in the planning permission.
- 10) Parish Council representative for Scorton Lakes. Discussed and referred.
 - 11) Items for next edition of Scorton & District Times. Clerk has received some requests from Carers Plus & Radio Teleswitch meter phase out, local clubs and annual dates to be included. Cllrs suggest promoting new mobile library, Local Nature Recovery Strategy details and the amount raised by residents at the Remembrance service.
 - 12) Safety review. The accesses around the green have deteriorated, these have now been repaired.
 - 13) Feedback from meetings attended by Councillors/Clerk. None attended.
 - 14) Report relating to minor parish issues since last meeting. Streetlight out at bottom of Flywheel Street, this has been taken in for repair, also streetlight out on Southside, now resolved. Reported manhole cover on Rectory Corner as loose and noisy, Cllr Threlfall further highlighted that the area had become dangerous and clerk contacted Highways who then attended promptly. A resident emails that Highways hadn't obtained the appropriate permit. Resident reports grit bin at The Havens getting low, clerk reported. Also query about downloading VAS figures and where this was stated in the minutes. Resident asks about the allotments at The Havens, advised them to discuss with NYC.
 - 15) Correspondence. NYC – Mobile library launch. 20th January at 11.45am outside Mulberry House. NYC – Movement of waste bin, bin on the Brompton Road needs to be moved to a better location to enable collectors to remain safe. Residents – School parking, resident happy for email to be forwarded to school and discussing issues directly. Football pitch for village green, discussion relating to car parking, moveable goal posts, implications for cricket matches, insurance, use of the village green by all. The school is to gain a new pitch as a requirement of adjacent development, other areas also discussed. Cllr Threlfall to discuss further with the resident to gain more information about what is required. Torsion Homes – funding offer, relating to an archaeological dig on the village green, clerk explained that this has already been carried out. Cllr Rafelt suggests some repair work to the packhorse bridge, clerk to further. North Yorkshire & York Local Nature Recovery Strategy, consultation now online and final version due to be published 20th January. Save Scorton Lakes plan to hold a coffee morning for members between Christmas & New Year.
 - 16) Date of next meeting: 28th January
Meeting closed: 21.15