

Washburn Parish Council

Meeting: Full Council

Date: 6th July 2026

Venue: The Robinson Library, Timble

Commenced: 7.30 pm

Concluded: 8.28 pm

Members Cllr G Hebblethwaite (Chair)

Present Cllrs J Davison (Vice), H Barker, A Campbell, P Green, A Johnson, G Knox, S Ryder, K Wilson

In Attendance: No other attendees

24. Apologies

Apologies received from: Cllr F Walkinshaw and Parish Clerk Dr Jason Knowles with the reasons for absence accepted.

25. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest, of any nature, were received.

26. Minutes for approval:

Resolved: the minutes of Full Council held on 11 May 2026 were approved for accuracy by Cllr P Green and seconded by Cllr A Johnson, agreed unanimously and signed by the Chair

27. Ongoing Issues

27.1 Kex Gill – No direct update on progress or definitive date of opening.

Councillors expressed concern regarding the proposed diversion route and associated signage when Church Bank, Blubberhouses is closed. HGVs in particular could cause issues if they do not abide by the diversion specified.

Resolved: Letter to be sent to Highways re concerns also requesting that they contact Greenhow quarry to ensure their drivers are informed.

27.2 White Crag Accident – NYC CEO acknowledged a further enquiry from Parish Clerk in May but has not provided any further update or explanation.

28. County Matters

Cllr N Hull was not present and no update given.

Members were reminded that village halls and local organisations can now apply for funding from their NYC representative.

29. Police Matters

There were no Police in attendance.

There were 5 crimes reported in the Parish – three during March and two in April.

30. Risk Assessment

The Risk Assessment was discussed and whilst it will remain under review, Council agreed unanimously that it should be accepted.

Resolved: that the Council agree and adopts the Risk Assessment

31. Policy Updates

A small working party will review policies and report back to Council when done.

32. Insurance

The relatively modest price increase was accepted by Council.

Resolved: **that the insurance policy quote from Arthur J
Gallager be accepted and renewed for a three year
period**

33. Planning Applications

The list of plans considered.

33.1 26/00877/FUL – Erection of field shelter, Top Farm, Norwood

No Objection

33.2 26/02460/FUL – Demolition of existing rear extension, Erection of replacement rear extension. Alterations to existing car parking. 1 Bland Hill Cottages, Norwood

No Objection

33.3 26/02749/LB – Listed Building Consent to create a new opening in the rear elevation to provide access from the utility area to the gardens. Door to match the style of the existing, East End Manor House, Norwood

No Objection

33.4 26/02879/PNA - Proposed farm building for new machinery and hay storage shed which would be a structure of 13.72m x 12.19m. This is considered to be of sufficient size to contain both hay and machinery reasonably necessary for the agricultural operations on the holding, Field to the north of Timble Ridge Road, opposite Land End Farm

No Objection

34. Planning Decisions

NYC appear to not be informing Parish Councils any longer of their decisions, however these are available on the NYC website. Some recent decisions include:

Stile Top, Norwood – convert stable to holiday cottage - Approved
Stile Top, Norwood – field shelter (for home use only) - Approved
Highfield Farm, Timble – porch and solar panels - Approved

35. Correspondence Received

The following correspondence was received (06.05.26 – 28.06.26)

1. University of Leeds – Climate Ambassadors for Yorkshire and Humber Hub
2. Nidderdale Plus – News from Nidderdale
3. Yorkshire Water – Swinsty Reservoir pipe refurbishment
4. North Yorkshire Council – Monitoring Officer information on changes to register of interests
5. NY Parish Liaison – Calculating Greenhouse Gases
6. York & North Yorkshire Combined Authority – Better Bus Services
7. North Yorkshire Council – Latest News from North Yorkshire
8. NY Parish Liaison – Updates
9. YLCA – White Rose Update

36. Highways Workshop

Cllr G Hebblethwaite and Cllr J Davison attended a workshop at Highways offices on 27 May 2026, led by Chris Blackburn Highways Communications Officer. It was a useful meeting which clarified their budget constraints and detailed the work they undertake in Area 6 along with some of their challenges.

The siting of grit piles will be reviewed over the summer months and it may be possible to relocate some in the parish that are needed elsewhere e.g from Church Bank, Hall Lane, Busky Dyke Lane to Timble three lane ends, Broad Dubb Road, Watsons Lane Norwood and Cobby Syke Road Fewston.

Cllr Hebblethwaite raised some specific areas of concern which were well received by Highways personnel such as roadside verge parking on North Lane near the reservoir. NYC will ask Yorkshire Water to help fund railings to prevent further damage. Grass cutting on junctions was also discussed where highways have a maintenance responsibility.

The reporting interface on the website will be changing to relaunch in mid-July. When reporting potholes/blocked gullies etc including “what three words” reference is very useful to pinpoint the exact location.

37. Harrogate Branch Meeting

Cllr G Hebblethwaite attended the YLCA meeting. It was confirmed that Parish Councils in the area consult on planning applications in similar ways. The meeting confirmed that no remote committee meetings are allowed.

38. Mileage Rates

HMRC has increased mileage rate from 45p to 55p per mile.

Resolved: that the new rate will be applied for all future expense claims

39. Highways Issues

Grass cutting at Meagill Chapel has been reported – expected completion this week.

Fly tipping on Penny Pot Lane has been reported three times and no action has been taken. A formal complaint has been raised.

40. Maintenance

The following issues have been dealt with:

1. Smithson Lane – strimming
2. Wydra Lane – strimming
3. Constable Ridge/Pennypot Lane Junction – strimming

4. Hardisty Hill/Meagill Lane Junction – strimming
5. Millennium Stone area – strimming and weeding
6. Norwood phone box – strimming and cleaning
7. Fewston phone box – door planing and cleaning

New issues requiring action:

1. Wydra Lane – grass and bracken cutting
2. Green Lane at Norwood – cut grass near social hall
3. Strim grass when needed to aid visibility at junctions – Caretaker to keep an eye on local roads

41. Finance

41.1 Accounts for Payment

To: All Members of the Parish Council		From: Parish Clerk		
Accounts Paid				
General Accounts		Jul-26		
<u>DETAIL</u>		<u>GROSS</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>NETT</u>
HMRC TAX		263.60	0.00	263.60
CLERKS SALARY		1055.25	0.00	1055.25
CLERK EXPENSES		127.50	0.00	127.50
PRINTER INK CARTRIDGES		101.29	16.88	84.41
CARETAKER - MAINTENANCE		240.00	0.00	240.00
CARETAKER - MAINTENANCE		50.00	0.00	50.00
INFORMATION COMMISSIONERS OFFICE		52.00	0.00	52.00
THE ROBINSON LIBRARY		80.00	0.00	80.00
ARTHUR J GALLAGHER INSURANCE		1055.58	0.00	1055.58
UNITY BANK CHARGES (JUNE)		7.00	0.00	7.00
TOTAL		3032.22	16.88	3015.34

Resolved: that the accounts paid be approved to 6th July 2026

Signed

Date

41.2 Bank Reconciliation

Resolved: to approve the bank reconciliation statement and budget comparison to 30th June 2026

The balance on 30th June 2026 stands at £16,134.60 (Instant Access - £12,726.30, Current Account - £3,408.30)

42. Next Meeting

42.1 Items for inclusion on the next agenda to inform the Clerk by 16th August

42.2 Monday 7th September @ 7.30pm at the Robinson Library