

FARNHILL PARISH COUNCIL

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**MINUTES FOR THE EXTRA-ORDINARY MEETING OF FARNHILL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
16 OCTOBER 2025 AT 7.30PM IN KILDWICK/FARNHILL INSTITUTE.**

BUSINESS

INVITEES: CHAIR CLLR J.WARING, VICE CHAIR CLLR S.CLOSE, CLLRS W. McDONALD , A-M KEENAN-DUNNE, D. ATKINSON, J. WALTON , NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE CLLR. A. BROWN, HIGHWAYS OFFICER, NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL LIAISON OFFICER, Mark CODMAN, COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER, CLERK J. FIELDHOUSE, ALL RESIDENTS.

167/25 APOLOGIES, REASON FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE OF REASON

Highways Officer.

168/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

19 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Chair addressed the residents

1 resident was enquiring what the Parish Council were doing about the garages. He explained that there is a 10 year enforcement notice to the previous resident who filled them up and hasn't done anything about it. The resident bought the house in nov 2022. With regards to the corner road access, this is not adopted, it is owned by 4 houses around. Previous owners had to contribute to repairs of the road and the resident would like to know if the Parish will be adopting it and resuming responsibility for this road. There is right of access to the garages and no.1 owns the concrete garage. – Chair explained that this item is not on the agenda but explained that the Parish Council are making enquiries but for a full update he will need to attend the meeting next Thursday evening or await the Minutes which will be online / in the notice board as soon as they are approved.

A resident asked if there was any legislation for a limited number of cars per household. If there isn't any legislation can we develop a village courtesy code for anyone with more than one vehicle to maybe park extra vehicles in a designated carpark same for visitors and work vans. - Clr A.Brown confirmed there is no such legislation for this. Cllr. Atkinson confirmed that there is a new system being trialed by Swansea Council. They are issuing parking residents only permits based on size of vehicles. Chair confirmed that this has been requested previously and North Yorkshire Council have said that they would not look at parking permits at that time. The parking code is doable but we will always get people who

don't do it by the code and there is no way of enforcing it and you will still get the same issues with visitors.

Another resident pointed out that there are cars Parking all the way down main street and down the arbour in front of canal. There are people parking and then going off for 3 weeks on the canal leaving vehicle insitu. The resident was encouraged to get their pictures through to the Clerk to share with Highways so they can see for themselves what difficulties the residents are having. They were also encouraged to make a report direct to North Yorkshire Highways too because the more people involved in reporting the better the impact.

A resident brought up the notice on the play area regarding the closure for repairs and how much disruption this was going to cause. Chair explained that this is extremely important health and safety repairs on the retaining wall and unfortunately it needs to be done. However the Council have been active and spoken with both the Church and regarding the possibility of using their parking whilst the works are being undertaken. The Church has confirmed that they are happy for residents to use the carpark however within reason. They have requested that it is not used during services and special occasions as this makes it difficult for users to access the church. Please do not take advantage as they may consider closing the gates. Happy for residents to park overnight and during the week.

There is an increase in commercial vehicles on the Main Street

Resident mentioned carpark closure Chair clariid history and then Cllr A Brown confirmed the issues with the initial cause of the problem. Cllr Atkison then provided in depth details of how many times the scaffolding was erected and taken down wasting funds.

Church carpark and white lion carpark enquiries were made. Need to be aware that should not park in church on services or events as preventing people attending the church then.

Issues raised with Newby Road parking Highways looking at putting double yellow lines in to prevent issues.

Cllr. D. Atkinson confirmed that he voted against the measure never been an issue on this road until this one vehicle started parking on the pavement.

Cllr. J Walton pointed out that the Parish Council have tried every other avenue prior to reaching this decision but this is the last resort. Tried speaking to him , tried letters, tried police none of that has stopped this happening.

Chair explained that it is a dangerous obstruction you can just about get a vehicle past it but when a vehicle comes in the opposite direction.

Resident confirmed cars are parking directly in front of her access and blocking her out of her home. Recommended taking pictutes sending to police and clerk to share with Highways cant block access.

Signs on lang kirk close saying resident parking only, Chair explained liaised with North Yorkshire, Highways and Yorkshire Homes and the signs are being removed.

A resident believed the Issue is being a tourist attraction , cafes, running, walks etc. there can be three cars in layby and 4 hrs later they may return. It has been far worse since the pandemic.

Other than permits there is no solutions. Chair pointed out that we really needed to have the police and highways attend but unfortunately this was not the case. The other issue they will face if they do obtain permits would be that the Traffic wardens are based in Harrogate and the Chair cannot foresee them attending to issue tickets here.

A resident was concerned about access for fire engines/ambulances through the village past all the work vans. Cllr. Close had ambulance and fire service attend the village and did a walk through to show them the best routes through the village and to see if they can get a vehicle through. The fire crew will just push any obstructions out of the way . The ambulance is a different story however when they attended neither of them seemed concerned about access issues.

Another resident suggested a pole being taken for permit parking. Most often when she parks it is another resident, there should be a gentleman's agreement. Another resident suggested asking for residents parking with a special space outside each house would be too much but maybe we could ask for a limiting amount of cars in one area. - Cllr. D Atkinson agrees in the past people managed parking by being good neighbours adapting and moving for each other. Chair explained that we had held a meeting at another discussion regarding Starkey Lane about putting in spaces there and they would have lost parking spaces by doing this so agreed they did not want this. The general feeling was that this would create more problems for ourselves, this costs money when they are of no value because no one will enforce it. Cllr D. Atkinson confirmed that the report on Swansea was 1 car per household if you want additional parking it costs a lot more money. Cllr. Walton pointed out that some people may just have a van not a car and it would not be right to say to them sorry you cant park that there. Chair confirmed that a lot of companies let their workers take the vans home because they don't have storage but if you ring them sometimes they will assist and stop their vehicle obstructing roads.

Another resident suggested an area marked out a long bay stating residents only parking, doing nothing is not the answer.

A resident mentioned that the Institute causes issues, they do love the institute which is an asset but people attending are parking inconsiderately. Chair confirmed that owing to residents shouting at groups attending the Institute a number of them groups have left. This then means we can loose the institute because there is no income to sustain it. A resident suggested doing a village dance and it was pointed out that if this was done there would be 20-30 cars. A lot of people that currently come to the institute are residents who tend to walk but its very difficult.

A resident suggested making back space into carpark of the institute but if this is done you would lose 5 spaces on Main Street and it would cost thousands to do.

A resident suggested putting parking space on the arbour but there will be objections to this by the residents as this is a nice greenspace.

Cllr. J.Walton pointed out to the residents that if they have strong issues with things they don't have to go through the Parish they can go direct to North Yorkshire Council direct, Chair explained it is a user friendly website can report lights out highways issues etc.

Cllr. Close explained what it means to get permits, you purchase permits for the cars registered to the property and you can also purchase visitors permits with a number of pre-

registered vehicles on it. You must give 5 days notice to add a new registration for visitors. Once they have permits they will just park anywhere they have a permit. The issue will not have changed because there will be more permits than spaces.

The Holiday cottages are also an issue as vehicles are parked on the pavement. Will bring two cars and they will stay there for the whole duration that they are in the cottage. Do the owners not have a responsibility to notify the users.

Clerk explained how permits work in Steeton.

Chair explained that when we looked at putting in spaces we initially thought 8 bays but regulations set the size of bays so the most they would get was 6 bays. Starkey Lane in general has good neighbor relations the only time there is an issue is with the holiday lets. A resident from Mary Street confirmed most of the times it works fine when there are issues its usually visitors who leave the car in a position where would normally get 3 cars and can only get 2 spaces instead and no way of getting hold of the owner.

Cllr. close explained that he went out with cars parked when he returned the whole street was empty and someone had just parked in front of his house.

There was a request for the road parking on Grange Road to be extended however the Parish has already asked for this and it was declined, the same resident then asked about a mirror but this was not allowed due to concerns of accidents/liability.

Cllr. Close explained the issues over cyclists speeding and the issues with the signs. Explained the whole process to provide an idea of some of the issues we have with this. Can buy signs but couldn't place on the canal. Etc.

169/25 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

None

170/25 TO DISCUSS PARKING/ HIGHWAYS ISSUES

After an extensive discussion it was resolved that residents will provide photographic evidence to Clerk to provide Highways with this. All residents will also attempt to send details of their difficulties to Highways directly by acceding their online account.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

**THE MEETING OF FARNHILL PARISH COUNCIL TO BE HELD AT 7.00PM ON THURSDAY 23
OCTOBER 2025 IN KILDWICK/FARNHILL INSTITUTE**

All members of the village are welcome to attend

Clerk 16.10.2025