

FARNHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Telephone 07958403262
Email: clerkfpc@outlook.com
Jodie Fieldhouse
Clerk
2 David Emmott Walk
Steeton
Keighley, West Yorkshire
BD20 6FP

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF FARNHILL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 23 OCTOBER 2025 AT 7.00PM 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 AND CLERK J. FIELDHOUSE

171/25 APOLOGIES, REASON FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE OF REASON

Cllr D. Atkinson sent apologies may be late Cllr A. Brown arrived 7:30.

172/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (MAXIMUM 15MINS)

3 members of public in attendance

A resident wished to raise concerns regarding the garages at Bucklar Hill. These have not been used in a very long time and are in a state of disrepair and dangerous . The Deeds confirm that the road is unadopted and the 4 homes are jointly responsible for any maintenance and for access over it. There is a covenant on the Deeds for the people renting the garages to have right of access. The Council own the garages and land they sit on but the houses own the access road. A resident suggested that if we did take it on the residents would be happy to rent the space and/or purchase the land. It was explained that if the garages / land are transferred to the Parish Council that this will no doubt come with covenants of its own (until we are made aware of this and the full expenses involved we cannot act). It was resolved that prior to any final decisions being undertaken the residents will be consulted upon to get their perspectives.

Another resident came to discuss Farnhill Hall re stables in the field. The resident confirmed that they can only have a portable stable, which has to be moved around the field and it is an eyesore. There are plans to put a further planning request through for some storage units to be built around the rear of the property but this time they intend to communicate with the Parish Council so both can work together to find the best solution for the village. The resident will attend a meeting to discuss the plans with the Council prior to putting them through to see if there is anything the Parish can assist/ guide with. The buildings cannot be placed to the front owing to covenants. The resident explained how desperately these

outbuildings are needed to store and protect vital farming equipment which is being stolen from the land and eroded in the weather. They are happy to place covenants onto any new permanent outbuildings to confirm that they can never be converted into dwellings later down the line. There were 7 trees that North Yorkshire Council's tree officer gave permission to be removed on account of disease and safety of the public, which is why no planning application was required. The work that has been done, has all been discussed with the English Heritage and based on original deeds of how the land was set out. The original application for an outbuilding was rejected but the only explanation provided was that this is a conservation area. It would be very helpful if there could be guidance on what would be acceptable. Cllr. A. Brown, North Yorkshire Representative was introduced to the resident and he confirmed that he works within Planning and provided the resident with some pointers around in keeping with the history and surrounding village such as using natural stone as opposed to metal etc.

The Chair thanked the residents for their much appreciated attendance and invaluable input. The residents left the meeting at this point.

173/25 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

None

174/25 UPDATE FROM NYC REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr. A. Brown retains an open mind on all planning matters. His current view is

Unfortunately, the Planning committee cancelled for lack of business.

Cllr. A. Brown has attended the Heath Care Community meeting regarding hospital discharges, finances and what appears to be driving the council into financial difficulties, which is adult social care. There are twice as many patients being discharged into social care since COVID.

Cllr. A. Brown also confirmed that there are still some funds available in the locality budgets if there are any projects the Council would like to look into.

175/25 CLERKS REPORT

The Clerk has shared these with Councillors.

Following a discussion it was resolved that the Clerks report will be shared with Councillors at the same time the Agenda is sent out. It was also resolved that the Clerk is to only put in responses or actual updates that she has done/received. If there is no response to a specific item and Clerk is still chasing there is no need to enter the item within the report. With regards to emails received and shared with Councillors Clerk is just to compose a list of where emails have been received from as opposed to putting the full details of the actual email as Councillors have received these. Anything that is achieved following the report being disclosed to Councillors will have to be updated verbally during the meeting.

176/25 WREATH FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

Following a discussion it was resolved that the Wreath has been ordered via the Royal British Legion which helps support the Armed Forces Community and Cllr. W. McDonald will lay the

wreath at the remembrance service on behalf of the Parish Council. Total Price of the Wreath is £24.49 including delivery and VAT.

177/25 BUDGETS / PRECEPT

Clerk supplied all Councillors with a copy of the running budgets , cashbook and figures for increases. It was resolved that the Parish Council will increase the precept next year by 5%.

It was also agreed that this would be brought back to another meeting to discuss the allocation of these funds for the year 26-27 budgets.

178/25 RESIDENT ONLY PARKING SIGNS ON LANG KIRK CLOSE

It was resolved that the signs have all been removed now so this item can be removed from the agenda.

**179/25 CANAL AND RIVER TRUST SIGNS GRANT AND
WILDFLOWER GRANT – NEW BENCH REQUEST**

There was a suggestion to use the remaining grants for planters across the front of the village. Between Redmans bridge and Parsons bridge. The second idea was that residents can adopt them for upkeep of the same so that Canal and River Trust don't have to worry about the upkeep of them. Cllr. W.McDonald has even confirmed that he would be happy to adopt one and be responsible for keeping it clean and planting wildflowers in it.

**180/25 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FPC MEETING HELD
25.09.2025 and 16.10.2025**

It was resolved that the Minutes from 25.09.2025 are approved but the Minutes from 16.10.2025 will be deferred until next meeting as Councillors have not had sufficient time to review these fully.

**181/25 DATE OF DECEMBER MEETING AND ANY PLANS FOR THE FESTIVE
SEASON**

It was resolved that due to the December meeting falling within the Christmas period and unavailability of Councillors that this meeting will be deferred until 8.01.2026 and then the February meeting will be held on 27.02.2026.

Owing to the retaining wall in the play area undergoing repairs the Christmas tree placement may be an issue, if possible Chair will put it up. It was resolved that Chair has sourced a free tree. If the tree cannot be placed in the play area Chair will speak to others and try find another placement.

182/25 THE ARBOUR

- **BOULDERS**

A Resident said the new Boulders may be a trip hazard and another one pointed out that it was historically agreed for the boulders to be placed 2feet from the edge . The Council has

looked at this and can see the historic entry the resident is referring to, the same entry also refers to these being sourced and placed by another resident. The Council were not able to source the larger boulders originally looked at as they required specialist equipment that could not access the area safely. They are actually large stones not boulders which are smaller than originally discussed so this would supersede previous discussions.

It was resolved that the new boulders are not in fact boulders but large stones owing to the fact that there was insufficient access for the specialist equipment to place boulders. The stones have not been placed on the footpath they are along the side of the road in order to prevent vehicles from turning onto the Arbour as requested by the residents. The Parish Council will take this issue seriously and undertake an assessment.

It was resolved that the Clerk will undertake a risk assessment of the Arbour for safety concerns and also respond to the resident with concerns regarding the placement of the large stones.

- **TREE REMOVAL / REPORT OF BATS**

It was resolved that the Clerk will ask the liaison officer to chase them as not getting anywhere.

183/25 WORKS AT FARNHILL HALL

It was Resolved that the resident is going to be more cooperative with the Parish Council in communicating the plans for the finished product. It was agreed that the resident will do a pre-application and bring all of the plans to the next available meeting.

184/25 GARAGES AT BUCKLAR HILL

As per indepth discussion above , the Parish Council has done a survey on the garages and are currently looking at :-

- a. if possible for us to take them over , clear them and demolish the hazardous garages.
- b. the cost entailed in taking this on, legal fees, clearing the rubbish fees, demolishing them and what we do with it there after. But until we have all of the necessary information we cant make any firm decisions. Consultations will be made with the residents prior to any decisions.
- c. the council need to find out about the access road , what we can do with the land after, if any restrictions will be placed on it. Eg can it be rented / sold thereafter. Etc. clarify the right of access into the area – exact wording. Does the right of access only apply to use of garages?

It was resolved that the Chair will obtain copy deeds for one of the properties to see exactly what the right of access is. The Clerk will also write back to the engineer to request full disclosure of information regarding access

185/25 COUNCILLORS UPDATES

- PEGGY WILSON TRUST MEETING

The climbing frame in the field has been condemned and the school are wanting to put in a summer house which can double up as an outdoor classroom and can be accessible for the village . The children have an area they want to make into a wildflower area. There is Also a tree brining down a wall so the plan is to rebuild the wall around the tree rather than remove the tree.

It was resolved that the Parish Council require further information. They need to know what area they are thinking of planting , what the maintenance plans will be for the new planting area and summer house, how they are going to avoid the summerhouse being broken when the children are playing football games in the area and what money will be required for these projects to be undertaken. They will also need to know what is happening with the current community garden before looking at creating another space as this is now looking neglected.

Grit bins are all full bar Lang Kirk close bin.It was resolved that the Clerk will ask NYC to fill it.

186/25 WEB SITES

- A. Parish Council – more updates completed on website.**
- B. History Group – no update**
- B. Emails - .gov - Cllr. W. McDonald locked out Cllr. S. Close will assist**

187/25 NOTICEBOARD

Resolved will swap the noticeboard over . Clerk to ask Cllr. A. Brown about the available community funds with the possibility of putting some towards purchasing two noticeboards for the front of the institute.

188/25 HISTORIC BLUE PLAQUES

No progress to date, this is going to be a very long process.

189/25 DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

Once a quarter can be put on the agenda . Clerk can put on website once received from Cllr. W. McDonald.

- a. Highways – Speed/ maintenance -**
 - **Extra-Ordinary Meeting to discuss parking issues within the village.** It was a great turnout from the residents however Highways officer was unable to attend and the police didn't even respond. Minutes of the meeting will be published once approved at the next meeting.
 - **20MPH REQUEST FOR STARKEY LANE/MARY STREET.**

Email received from Highways indicating that this is now being looked into

b. Lighting Issues -

- i. **LED installation**
- ii. **Broken lights reported x2**
- iii. **Heritage Light on Starkey Lane**
- iv. **Heritage Light on Main Street**
- v. **Missed LED conversion for Heritage light on Parsons Bridge**

These items have all been reported/requested. The Parish have heard from the lighting team who now have plans to install the two new light fittings also.

c. Update on the Play Area

190/25 GARDENER AND RESIDENT REQUEST FOR WALKWAY TO BE CLEARED

It was resolved that the Clerk will write to the resident and ask for clarity of where the wall is located. If this is the wall at the bottom of their property with their overgrown shrubbery Clerk to ask if they could please clear the overgrowth from the new light fitting down the pathway. As this is not on the contractors current schedule of work it would ultimately cost the Parish more funds not budgeted for.

Clerk will also ask the Gardener to clear debris on the roadside between bottom of triangle and the nursery .

191/25 COUNCILLOR TRAINING

The Chair and Deputy Chair are going to attend the YLCA Chairing Course.

Unfortunately the joint meeting with Glusburn & Crosshills Parish Council has been delayed owing to Councillors leaving however they are still interested in doing this at a later date.

192/25 CONCERNS OF STATUTORY NOISE NUISANCE - BARKING DOG

This item can be removed.

193/25 REQUEST FOR CPR/DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING FOR RESIDENTS

Clerk to enquire about holding a refresher training session.

194/25 RESPONSES TO EMAILS, LETTERS AND PHONE CALLS

Noted above within the Minutes.

195/25 FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

To consider the following invoices for approval

• Jodie Fieldhouse (Salary October)	£410.16
Nest Pension	£20.88
NIC	£0
TAX	£0
• PEGGY WILSON TRUST INSURANCE	£68.46

- CONTRACTOR FOR INSTALLATION OF BOULDERS £216.00
(Plus £25 for travel not added to the final figure on invoice) £25
- Village Contractor £527

196/25 MINOR ITEMS OF BUSINESS & ITEMS TO GO ON AGENDA NEXT MONTH

Apologies and reasons for November meeting received from Cllr D.Atkinson. Possible apologies for Cllr. S.Close for November meeting.

197/25 HOLIDAYS

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

THE MEETING OF FARNHILL PARISH COUNCIL TO BE HELD AT 7.00PM ON THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2025 IN KILDWICK/FARNHILL INSTITUTE

All members of the village are welcome to attend

Clerk 23.10.2025