

Farnhill Parish Council

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Draft Minutes for the meeting of Farnhill Parish Council held on 22nd January 2026 AT 7.00pm in Kildwick / Farnhill Institute.

Business

Invitees : Chair Cllr. J. Waring, Vice Chair Cllr. S. Close, Cllrs. W. McDonald , D. Atkinson, J. Walton , North Yorkshire Council Representative Cllr. A. Brown and Clerk J. Fieldhouse

224/26 Apologies, Reason for absence and Acceptance of reason

All present

225/26 Public Participation (Maximum 15Mins)

14 residents in attendance.

Residents attended regarding Farnhill Hall to provide Councillors with plans for building an outhouse/storage units. Also to notify that no works were being undertaken on the grounds whilst they were away.

A group of residents attended regarding the Trees . A spokes person was chosen to represent the group. Cllrs listened to the concerns raised and the Chair provided the residents with a full history of the issues at hand and reasons for the decisions taken to date. A Petition for the Council to not fell the Beech and Cherry tree on the Arbour was presented with 370 signatures undertaken by two talented local children at a school from a neighboring village.

A few residents attended to confirm that they wanted works to be undertaken to avoid maintenance and further costs and possible insurance implications to the parish. An offer was made to pay for a healthy replacement tree.

226/26 Public Participation Policy

This item was deferred as it is still being researched.

227/26 Disclosure of Interests

None

228/26 Update from NYC Representative

Cllr. A. Brown retains an open mind on all planning matters. His current view is:-
The 2026 -2027 Budget currently being completed. There will be a 4.99 increase in tax and it is expecting a 17 million revenue deficit 11.7 million of this is owing to the over spend on Kex Gill, North Yorkshire Council are currently looking at moving some funds around.

In the meantime Kex Gill is expected to be open in June.

The Planning committee are meeting for items in Craven, Ripon and an issue which has arisen in Cowling in October, this is expected to be a big week and then on Friday in Scarborough about a form of fracking and gas extraction.

229/26 Clerks Report

None

230/26 Budgets / Precept

It was resolved that Clerk and Cllr. J Walton are going to go over the budgets with more detail and report back to the Council if there are any proposed changes that need to be made.

231/26 Requests for litter picking Duke of Edinburgh.

Resolved Clerk write to them and try combine groups together

232/26 Canal and River Trust Signs Grant and Wildflower Grant - Planters

Cllr. W. McDonald is still making enquiries into this

233/26 Approval of Minutes for meeting held on 08.01.2026

Proposed by J Walton 2nd by Chair

234/26 The Arbour

- **Traffic Measure Rocks** – It was resolved that Cllr. S. Close and D. Atkinson would look into getting a price for removal and come back to this.
- **Encroachment** – the matter of encroachment was brought up under the arbour and a Cllr proposed that the Council should take control of the management of the Arbour. It was resolved Clerk will write to the residents who have been assisting with the management of the upper arbour and thank them for their assistance however the Council is going to maintain it.
- **Tree removal / Report of bats**- Clerk shared the Insurers response with all Cllrs prior to the meeting. The insurers confirmed if the Parish Council has expert advice to fell the trees and they go against this, should something go wrong the Parish would not be covered. It was resolved that the experts don't specifically confirm the trees are a danger what they confirm is that they are at end of life. Cllrs considered if something was to go wrong with the Beech tree it would cause significantly more damage than that of the Cherry tree. It was resolved that the Beech tree will be felled, the Cherry will be crown reduced for now but it will be readdressed and 2 new trees will be put in to be decided upon.

235/26 Works at Farnhill Hall

As stated above the residents have dropped off some possible plans to build storage/ outbuilding. It was resolved that the Councillors will review this and bring back to the next meeting.

236/26 Garages at Bucklar Hill

It was resolved Clerk is to chase for a list of proposed covenants.

237/26 Councillors updates

- Peggy Wilson Trust – no update to be provided

238/26 Web Sites

- A. Parish Council** – Clerk has implemented suggested changes.
- B. History Group** – no updates
- B. Emails - .gov** – Cllr W. McDonald has now gained access to his emails

239/26 Noticeboards

Deferred

240/26 NYC New Recycling bin policies

It was resolved Clerk to write to NYC and ask how they intend to facilitate this within this village with very limited space

241/26 Development Plan

a. Highways – Speed/ maintenance -

- 20MPH Request for Starkey Lane / Mary Street- Consultation Notices are now up.
- Blocked Drains on Main Street- Engineers have this on a list
- Double Yellow lines on Newby Road – Clerk to find out when this Consultation process will begin.

b. Lighting Issues -

- i. LED installation**
- ii. Broken light on back Mary Street which is rattling in the wind -** It was resolved that although the lamp has been replaced with a

heritage lamp NYC have not replaced the post and Clerk needs to go back to them as the old post is still rattling in the wind.

- iii. **Request for light replacement on 54 Starkey Lane House with a heritage light** – This has been requested.
- iv. **Heritage Light on Starkey Lane completed but request to have a different bulb made by resident as too bright** – It was resolved that Clerk will contact NYC and request that this is looked into.
- v. **Heritage Light on Main Street** – Clerk to continue to chase an update on this item.
- vi. **Heritage Light at back of play area – old post to be replaced with heritage post-** Clerk to chase update.
- vii. **Missed LED conversion for Heritage light on Parsons Bridge** – Clerk to chase update

c. Update on the Play Area / Carpark retaining wall

It was resolved that the letter drafted by Cllr J. Walton is approved to be sent. Cllr. J Walton will provide Clerk with the address details.

242/26 Gardener walkabout and resident request for walkway to be cleared.

It was resolved that Clerk will obtain availability from the contractor and provide the same to the Cllrs.

243/26 Councillor training

The joint meeting with Glusburn & Crosshills has been delayed

244/26 Defibrillator Training for residents

Clerk has requested a proposed date for June. There is also an advertisement on the history Group website requesting any residents who are interested in attending this contact the Clerk so we can see how many residents are interested in participating in this training.

245/26 Responses to emails, letters and phone calls

Email received from resident query regarding the pinnacle restoration funds. The Parish Council is aware of the funds however we are not named on the account so we cannot do anything about it. Only the account holders have authority.

Emails regarding the trees on the Arbour – Clerk to respond thank the residents for all their input and confirm the decision made.

Email regarding the new recycling bin scheme to be initiated by NYC.

Letter from MP asking to put notice of clinic dates in the notice board.

Emails regarding Duke of Edinburgh – Litter Picking

Last Minute planning application 4 story house and garage any comments to be received before next meeting. Resolved seriously concerned that the parking suggestion will significantly affect the amenity of street parking.

246/26 Code of conduct policy review

It was resolved that we also need to agree a complaints policy Cllr. D Atkinson is going to look at models and Clerk will contact YLCA to see if they can provide any assistance with this.

247/26 Finance & Accounts

To consider the following invoices for approval

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| • Jodie Fieldhouse (Salary January) | £410.76 |
| Taxable pay £431.04 | |
| Pension | £20.88 |
| TAX £-0.60 | |
| • Parish Online annual fee | £378 |
| • ICO – data protection renewal fee | £52.00 |
| • Kildwick/ Farnhill Institute Room Hire Fees (Oct-Dec 25) | £50 |

It was resolved that all payments are approved.

248/26 Minor items of business & items to go on Agenda next meeting

Complaints procedure

Approve Budget

Code of Conduct

249/26 Holidays

Date of next meeting

The meeting of Farnhill Parish Council is to be held at 7.00pm on Thursday 26th February 2026 in Kildwick/Farnhill Institute

All members of the village are welcome to attend

Clerk 22.01.2026