

Minutes of the Meeting of Osmotherley Area Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Osmotherley on Thursday 18th September 2025

- 1. Present:** Mr B Robinson (Chairman), Mr P Howlett (Vice-Chairman), Mr M Read, Mr M Laverick, Mrs M Kay, Mr N Ward, Mr T Sillars, Mr T Wood, Mr S Blythe, Mrs C Nozedar and NYC Representative Cllr D Hugill

Apologies were received from: Mrs A Atkinson and Mr N Ward for work related reasons.

- 2. Minutes of the meeting of 17th July 2025 were approved and signed by the Chairman**

3. Public Forum

The meeting began at 7pm to allow for the presentation by a representative of Quickline (a broadband installer and provider, contracted by government to improve internet provision in Yorkshire) attended to provide residents of Thimbleby with an update as to progress in providing an improved broadband service to their homes. He explained that previous cabling could not be reused however any ducting could be. Residents pointed out that they had to suffer very slow speeds and were concerned that only one provider would give them improved speeds in the future and also internal connectivity issues were expressed. The representative agreed that this was the case and that Thimbleby is due to be upgraded in summer 2026 with a live implementation in November 2026. It seems that Osmotherley residents are due to go live very soon and he explained the pricing options for all speeds, ranging from 100 to 1000mb download speeds. The 5 residents from Thimbleby that attended were disappointed to hear about the further delays from the implementation of Project Gigabit, funded by central government, and hoped that it would fulfil the potential expressed tonight.

4. Matters arising:

4.1 Items not on the agenda

The Clerk and Chairman updated the council on the following items not on the agenda:

- The damaged bollard on North End has been replaced.
- The gullies on North End, South End and West End were cleared by Highways on the 4th, 5th and 6th August and members noted an improvement in drainage currently.
- Work has been done to the war memorial to tidy up the area and to ensure its quality moving forward. The council thanked the volunteers who undertook this work.
- The Clerk wrote to the owner of the Queen Catherine Hotel regarding the disabled access to the church. No reply has been forthcoming and the Chairman agreed to look into the issue further.
- The village supported the VJ Day celebrations in the village on 17th August, with the help of a grant from the PC and thanked the organizer for her work in coordinating the project.
- The Clerk reported that the damaged steps on the village green opposite Top Shop have been repaired.

- Pintail Nest shop investigations have concluded and the changes approved under The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) Schedule 2, Part 3 - Changes of use Class R - agricultural buildings to a flexible commercial use (i.e. a shop).
- The Chairman confirmed that a letter had gone to the Pre School regarding our agreement at last months meeting. No reply has as yet been received.

4.2 Police matters

The police report from 1st July to 31st August 2025 was circulated to all councillors to discuss the following incidents:

Anti-Social Behavior: ASB Personal : 1; ASB Nuisance: 1

Arson/Criminal Damage: 1

Violence Against the Person: 1(dog bite)

Members were surprised that no reports were recorded in August and asked the Clerk to query this with the Police.

4.3 Highways

Fly tipping on the Drovers Road was reported in August and has yet to be cleared. It is hugely disappointing and reflective of the situation at Waste Collection at NYC. The Clerk was asked to chase the issue up.

NW, in absentia, reported that the work road resurfacing work done to Long Lane Crossing To West Harlsey has been done to a high standard.

4.4 NYC Representative Report

DH presented his monthly update on county wide issues. These included:

Waste Collection from residents has gone well after the change of schedules however street waste bins collections have not gone well due to staff shortages, which are being addressed. Moorland fires this summer have meant an all-out collaboration to bring them under control. NYC will initially have to fund the work however it is hoped to recover these from central government.

The boundary review currently underway in North Yorkshire is entering its final consultation exercise but as it is a political review of council representatives it is unlikely to have much effect to our day to day work.

SWAG/Project Spotlight – the Clerk also attended this online meeting to discuss the issues of anti-social behavior at Sheepwash and Cod Beck and what has been done to help the situation. The summer has proven extremely difficult for all partners due to the hot weather and a poster campaign backed up by an awareness day has had limited success. Over 181 parking tickets have been given out by enforcement officers following approx.55 visits. A lot of the deterrent signs have been lost to vandalism and will be replaced. SWAG will next meet next spring.

4.5 Village Assets

The Clerk confirmed that approval has been agreed from NYM for the work on the trees in the village. A quote of £600 has been received and it was agreed to proceed with the work this autumn.

A review of gravestone safety and uneven graves was carried out with the Caretaker and it was agreed that he should utilise the spoil in the cemetery where possible to undertake the work. This was agreed.

The report from RoSPA had been received regarding the recent inspection of the Play Area. Three elements were considered high risk and have been taken out of action until a repair has been made (although we were aware of two of these already). The contractor has provided a quote of £2200 and it is proposed to undertake the work asap. This was agreed by all as it is

important to maintain the viability of the facilities in the village. The bid for funding from the National Lottery to assist with the play area refurbishment has been unsuccessful. PH confirmed that the defibrillator batteries have been replaced and that the pads will need replacing next year.

4.6 Constituent Reports

Members from the other areas in the Parish were asked to raise any issues pertinent to their areas.

MR reported on some drainage issues in Thimbleby and the Clerk requested further details. CN confirmed that the recent gully clearing on West End, did not extend to Clack Bank. PH asked that contact be made with the owners of the methodist and catholic churches in the village as they could be in danger of falling into disrepair.

4.7 NYM Footpath Identification

The Clerk introduced the subject and referred to the report highlighting the issues. For continued maintenance priorities the NYMNP have highlighted important footpaths throughout the park and requested parish councils if they'd like to nominate another two paths for priority maintenance. The PC discussed the paths in question and it was agreed that this be finalized at next months' meeting.

5. Correspondence

Most correspondence is now electronic and is forwarded when received so Members can therefore raise concerns or comments by email to the Clerk should it need to be an agenda item. These items will only be minuted if they are discussed at a meeting.

Members of the Osmotherley Society have offered the balance of funds, £2633.85, held by them to the PC. The Society unfortunately has decided to fold and asks that the monies be used for the benefit of the village. It was agreed to utilize the funds to maintain the Play Area as highlighted at 4.5 above.

6. Planning.

a) Applications

6.1 1 Grant Close, Osmotherley - Application for installation of five CCTV cameras and three wall mounted awnings and erection of gates with ANPR camera installed to gatepost (retrospective) – **Support with Comment**

6.2 Green Croft, Clack Lane Ends, Osmotherley – Application for retention of garden room/shed – **Support**

6.3 Clack Pleasant Farm, Clack Lane, Osmotherley - demolition of timber pole and tin barn and erection of replacement steel portal frame building to be used for domestic purposes including workshop, equipment, and vehicle store - **Support**

6.4 20 Back Lane, Osmotherley - alterations to windows and doors, construction of two dormer windows, installation of one additional rooflight and solar panels – **Support**

6.5 North Of The Grange Sowerby Under Cotcliffe - Application to determine if prior approval is required for the change of use of part of the agricultural building (referred to as Unit A in attached drawings) to a flexible use within Class E of the Use Classes Order - **Support**

b) Decisions

6.6 Low Moor Farm Long Lane Brompton - Application for the construction of a Replacement of Slurry stores – **Granted**

6.7 Beech Dene Crosby Northallerton - Demolition of former barn and erection of 1no. dwellinghouse with associated parking and landscaping – **Granted**

7. a, b, c and d Accounts

The Clerk reported the up to date financial position of the council updating the accounts from the last meeting in July. The monthly bank reconciliation was agreed and supported.

Income reported at last meeting	£13,117.67	
a) Receipts in the period:		
Honesty Box	£284.00	
Cremated Remains - Cafferkey	£830.00	
Burial Fees	£360.00	
Newsletter Ads	£840.00	
NYC Grasscutting Grant	£96.46	
Electronic Honesty Box	<u>£17.68</u>	
Total income for the period	<u>£2,428.14</u>	
Revised 2025/265 income to 31st August 2025		£15,545.81

Expenditure reported to last meeting	£5,998.29	
b) Payments in the period:		
Community TM - Summer Games Traffic Management	£720.00	
Holly Enisz - Toilet Cleaning June	£104.00	
Printroom	£117.00	
Restarting Hearts Training Donation	£100.00	
Design Display - Play area sign	£17.40	
J.Robinson - Expenses	£59.75	
Sam Turner & Sons - Various toilet consumables	£9.98	
Osmotherley Village Hall	£11.00	
Inside Outside Services - Maintenance	£373.00	
1 & 1 Internet	£25.85	
SSE Energy supply to toilets	£6.87	
Scottish Water - Toilets	£603.89	
Scottish Water - Cemetery	£4.00	
Service Charge	<u>£12.00</u>	
Total expenditure for the period	<u>£2,164.74</u>	
Revised 2025/26 expenditure to 31st August 2025		£8,163.03

c) Funds:	
Surplus/(Deficit) for Period (Income less Exp)	£263.40
Funds B/Fwd From last meeting	<u>£33,165.57</u>
Funds C/Fwd to next meeting	<u>£33,428.97</u>

Represented by:	
Balance of Unity Trust a/c 31st August 2025	£33,428.97

Unpresented

Invoices for Payment:	
Inside Outside Services - Play Area Maintenance	£280.00
Inside Outside Services - Repair of Equipment	£350.00

Printroom - Messenger September	£117.00	
Sam Turner - Consumables	£16.48	
Eileen Bellett - VJ Celebrations Grant	£50.00	
PKF Littlejohn - External Audit Fee	£378.00	
Pearson Groundcare - June Grasscutting	£440.00	
Pearson Groundcare - July Grasscutting	£990.00	
Pearson Groundcare - Aug Grasscutting	£990.00	
Holly Enisz - Toilet cleaning July/Aug	£143.00	
J.Robinson - Expenses	£60.99	
J.Robinson - Salary	£822.93	
HMRC	£205.60	
D.Black - War Memorial refurb	£89.99	
Playsafety - RoSPA inspection	<u>£129.60</u>	
		£5,063.59

8. Any Other Business

The Clerk confirmed that work has been carried out to ensure the Remembrance Sunday event on November 9th is actioned efficiently. More red tape introduced this summer by North Yorkshire has made this task extremely onerous.

The Clerk outlined plans to ensure that each councillor has an official email address linked to our website at www.osmotherley.org.uk which had come about following the external auditor introducing a condition into the AGAR for 2025/26. This will be rolled out in the coming months to each councillor, including changing the Clerks email address. PH asked for confirmation as to how password and future email usage will work moving forward. The Clerk confirmed that a resident in the village has been instrumental in helping to bring this to fruition and the PC thanked him for all his hard work. The Clerk will liaise to bring this onboard in the next few months.

MR will liaise with the owners of Thimbleby Estates regarding a water leak at Sugar Hill.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to look into whether the excess funds from the Community Bus was received by the PC. A resident has raised this with him but will be asked to confirm the request in writing.

9. Press Items

It was agreed that the approved minutes be included on the website and a summary of the discussions at this meeting be included in the next available Messenger newsletter.

10. Date of next meeting :

The meeting will take place on Thursday 16th October 2025 in the Supper Room, Village Hall, Osmotherley at 7:30pm prompt.