

Rainton with Newby Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 08 April 2025 at 7.30pm in Rainton Village Hall.

Present: Cllr P Speed (Chairman)
Cllr J Edwards
Cllr C Egerton (Deputy Chairman)
Cllr J Harwood
Cllr O Jones
Cllr S Price
Cllr J Williams

Clerk: Mrs S Adamson
In attendance: Gemma Hodgson, Parishioner (part).

131 To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence: none.

132 To receive Councillors' declarations of interest and consider any requests for dispensations: there were no declarations of interest.

The Chairman brought forward **item 136 (a) – Village Book Exchange** – as Gemma Hodgson, who had had the original idea, was in attendance. She explained that she would take responsibility for the day-to-day maintenance of the books; she had sourced a bookcase measuring 900 x 750 cm with acrylic doors which she would like to position on the right-hand wall of the bus shelter, attached to the wall and supported by the bench. She produced a mock-up of the proposal showing that the signage included a QR code which could be used for voluntary donations to the Rainton Recreation Field. Already supportive of the idea, councillors were very impressed by the design. Cllr Jones explained that as the parish council had a legal responsibility for the bus shelter, he proposed that the bookcase should be attached to the wall and supported by the bench rather than attached to the wall at a higher level, and that following its installation the work would be checked by the council, before books were installed. This was seconded and approved unanimously. Gemma was thanked for attending and then left the meeting.

133 Parishioners' Representations

- a. To receive a written representation about the 'Call for Sites' stage of the NYC Local Plan: a parishioner had enquired why no information had been made available by the parish council in light of the number of sites submitted in Rainton. The Clerk reported that she had responded to explain the process: that no comments could be submitted until the public consultation later in the year and that the parish council would publicise it to all residents at that point; that the NYC Local Plan could take as long as five years to complete and until then the Harrogate Local Plan remained in place. Under that plan two sites had been highlighted for housing, one of which, Robinson Avenue, had already been developed.

There was a dedicated page on the NYC website showing all sites submitted. <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/planning-and-conservation/planning-policy/call-sites-north-yorkshire-local-plan>

- b. To receive information from the Village Hall Committee about the London – Edinburgh – London cycle endurance event in August 2025: the organisers of the London Edinburgh London endurance cycle event had chosen Rainton Village Hall as a pop up café stop, for their 2025 event, to provide toilets, water bottle filling, drinks and snacks, for the participants. The Hall would be open 24/7 from 6pm on Sunday 3rd to 1pm on Thursday 7th. Unlike the Tour de France there would be no support vehicles or closed roads, just individual and small groups of cyclists passing through on route between the main control centres in Malton and Richmond.

Cllr Harwood, in her role as Secretary of the Village Hall Committee, said that although there might be some noise, it would be low-level and cyclists stopping off would be contained within the Village Hall. It was an excellent fundraising opportunity for the Hall as the organisers were paying to use the Hall and participants would pay for their refreshments. Obviously it would be hard work through the night and volunteers would be very welcome.

134 County Matters

- a. To receive a report from Cllr Speed following the meeting of the Uredale Community Partnership on 18 March 2025: this was the third meeting of the Partnership and it was chaired by the Dean of Ripon. Cllr Speed made the following report on the topics discussed:

Youth and Community: a Youth Council was to be set up to engage with young people.

Connectivity: to include digital, smart meters, mobile phones, public transport and school buses.

Access to Services: it was recognised rural communities were ill-served when it came to services such as transport and health – for example Ripon did not have a mental health specialist, and collecting prescriptions had been identified as an area of concern. However the Fire Service was keen to make home visits to fit or check smoke alarms and advise on safety issues.

Culture and Green Spaces: Cllr Speed had taken part in this discussion which was orientated towards Ripon owing to tourism and the city's facilities. It was hoped to plan a network of green spaces and well-maintained public footpaths improving access to country walks for people with disabilities.

Cllr Speed added that if the partnership proved successful it could be rolled out in other parts of the county. Inevitably it was centred on Ripon and to a certain extent, Masham, and he wasn't sure if Rainton would receive any benefit but he would continue to attend the meetings.

- b. To consider the Highways update, if received: Cllr Speed reported that he had only received a holding email from Melisa Burnham, stating that Highways had been very busy due to the weather.
- c. To note a response from the Oakapple Group re. adoption of Robinson Avenue by Highways: the Development Director of Oakapple had replied to a query from the Clerk about this. Their S38 Application was waiting for the foul team at Yorkshire Water to make its final inspection, which had been requested in September 2024. Snagging works to the road had been completed to the satisfaction of Highways in early 2024 and the clean water system had been vested in Yorkshire Water since May 2024. As soon as everything was approved, Highways would adopt and maintain the road.

- d. To receive Parish Liaison March Update: of interest was the news that the Library Service had received external funding to replace the existing mobile library with a smaller, more versatile vehicle. To meet the funding criteria NYC needed to increase the number of communities served by approximately 20 new stops. At the end of 12 months all locations, including the current ones, would be reviewed. Parish councils at locations being considered for new stops would be contacted once the selection criteria had been applied.

It was noted that in the past the mobile library had stopped in Rainton and the clerk was asked to contact the officer at NYC to express an interest.

- e. To receive information about the new arrangements for bin collections in the county: collections would be condensed into four weekdays, to improve reliability and reduce the need for Bank Holiday disruptions; residents would receive a letter from w/c 21 April advising them of the new arrangements.
- f. To note that the damaged footpath sign on the public right of way 15.110/1/1 from Church Lane to Baldersby has been replaced: the council was pleased to note that this sign had been prioritised as part of the NYC annual repair schedule.
- g. To consider the draft recommendations from the Boundary Commission on the division patterns for NYC: this was taking place following the formation of the unitary authority of North Yorkshire; its purpose was to equalise the number of electors in each division and reflect community identity. Rainton would be included in a new division of rural villages lying between the A1(M) and the A19. Following the current consultation, the final recommendations would be published in September, with the new arrangements effective at the 2027 local elections. After a short discussion, the parish council had no comments it wished to make in response to the draft recommendations.

135 Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 March 2025: it was resolved to approve the Minutes as a true record of the proceedings and they were signed by the Chairman.

136 Matters Arising

- a. **Min 124:** Village Book Exchange: to agree plans: *the Chairman had taken this at the start of the meeting.*
- b. **Min 127(c):** To consider a report from Cllr Speed about bulb and flower planting: Cllr Speed put forward his proposal which he said would enhance the visual impact of the area as well as being environmentally friendly, particularly for pollinators. He had identified several areas on Church Lane and various methods of planting, both manual and mechanical; costs would be dependent on the number of bulbs and the planting method used.

It was agreed that the landowners of the verges should be consulted before any decisions were made; to return to the Agenda.

137 Planning Matters

- a. Decisions: Noted.
[ZC25/00525/FUL](#) Replacement detached garage, store and utility room. Change to footprint and material palette, at Rosedale Cottage, Sleights Lane YO7 3PL. *Permission granted subject to conditions.*

- b. Enforcements: Case No: 25/00097/BRPC05. Possible breach of control at the STW Carr Lane, Rainton, by non-compliance with pre-commencement conditions (5 & 6) of NY/2023/0230/FUL. *Noted.*
- c. To note updated allocations from S106 Commuted Sums: *Noted.*

138 Financial Matters

- a. Accounts: it was resolved to approve the following for payment:
 1. Cllr Speed, annual contribution to printing/paper costs £60
 2. Clerk's expenses, printing, travel, safety sign £59.94 inc VAT
 3. YLCA Annual membership £162
 4. HMRC PAYE Q4 £156.80p
 5. Clerk's salary 28 April. Gross £294.66 Net £235.86 new tax code.
- b. Receipts: VAT 126 Reclaim May 2023 to December 2024: £1,202.95
- c. To approve bank reconciliation to 31 March 2025 and note balances: previously circulated with copies of the bank statements and the Receipts and Payments for the financial year 2024-2025. It was resolved to approve this and it was signed by Cllr Speed and Cllr Williams. Remaining funds from the Lloyds Bank Account had been transferred to Unity Trust, which now held £5,006.16 in the deposit account and £4,549.71 in the current account.
- d. To note the S137 expenditure limit for 2025-2026: this money which allows local councils to spend money on community benefits when no other specific legal power exists, had risen from £10.81 to £11.10 per elector.

139 Council Business

- a. To receive further correspondence from a Parishioner about a parish council tree overhanging his property, and in this context to agree a date for the next Tree Safety Inspection: the parishioner had informed the council that he would be asking a professional tree surgeon for a quote which he would submit to the council before any work commenced.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Barnes Associates, who had carried out the last two tree safety surveys of the trees on the Village Greens, should be asked to provide a quote for the 2025 survey.

- b. To consider quotations for painting and repair to the village signs: four quotations had been received and following perusal of these, it was resolved to accept the quote from ICD Painting and Decorating at a cost of £575 for labour with a further cost for materials between £120 - £160.

140 Correspondence

- a. To receive correspondence from a gentleman in Italy requesting picture postcards or historical cultural news of the region: the Clerk to action.
- b. To note the YLCA White Rose and Law & Governance Bulletins: of interest was information about government funding for rural areas including transport integration and assets such as village halls; training and information for councillors on employment matters and policies and procedures.

141 Exchange of Information

- a. Cllr Speed noted that the wooden bench on Church Lane looked rather dry and Cllr Edwards said that although it had received two coats of oil, she would apply a third.

- b. Cllr Edwards said she had been monitoring parking on Sleights Lane on Thursday evenings when the pottery class was taking place. To return to the Agenda.

Cllr Edwards left the meeting at this point due to a family commitment.

- c. Cllr Speed asked the clerk to report two concerns on Dishforth Lane: the obscuring of road signs by overgrown vegetation, and an area of fly tipping on the old road on the left-hand side just before the roundabout.

142 To agree the time of next meetings on Tuesday 13 May 2025:

Annual Parish Assembly: 7.15pm

Annual Meeting of the Council: to follow the Annual Assembly.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.21 pm