

Whashton Parish Meeting – 2026 Annual General Meeting,

Wednesday 17th June at 19:00h in Dalton & Gayles Village Hall - Minutes.

AGENDA ITEM No.	ITEM	ACTION
1	<u>Welcome & Apologies for Absence.</u> Present: Ian Mains, John Moore, Kathryn Guy, Christine Taylor, Sally Zaranko, Tad Zaranko, Cherry Mains, Sian Moore, Denise Newman, Richard Newman, Trevor Brown, Bill Anderson, Anne & Peter Mothersill, Rob Clipsham, Simon & Margaret Firth, Alan Fielder & Mrs. M. Shipman. By invitation: PCSO Sharon Diamond & Councillor Angus Thompson. Apologies: Sue Fielder, Sean & Jane Connors, Ed Ford & Hannah Longworth, Janet Clipsham, Alan & Jenny Cowie, Hilary & Richard Osborne, Sue Amery, Hazel & Grahame Dickinson, & Rosie Anderson. Ian Mains welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting for 2026, and in particular our guests PCSO Sharon Diamond & Councillor Angus Thompson.	
2	<u>Election of Officers</u> The following Officers were elected unopposed: Chair - Ian Mains proposed by Bill Anderson and seconded by Sally Zaranko. Treasurer - John Moore proposed by Peter Mothersill and seconded by Cherry Mains. Clerk – there were no proposals from the meeting, so the role again remains vacant. In the interim, Ian Mains will act as Clerk, supported by John Moore. Ian suggested that should anyone consider standing as Clerk they should get in touch to discuss the role.	
3	<u>Parish Crime Report – PCSO Sharon Diamond</u> PCSO Diamond advised that there were no recent reports of criminal activity in the Parish. She explained the area that she covered and the Police staffing organisation. Sharon reminded residents to use the 101 and 999 telephone numbers, depending on level of suspected criminal offence. Ian thanked Sharon who left the meeting at this point.	
4	<u>North Yorkshire Council – Councillor Angus Thompson</u> Angus thanked the Meeting for inviting him and made comment on the following topics of interest to Whashton Parish.	
4.1	<u>Gayles Quarry</u> Angus advised that a decision is still awaited and would probably be delayed until the proposed dualling of the A66 is well underway. He acknowledged that the 4 years since the proposal was submitted had been very frustrating and thanked Sally Zaranko and her Group for their work on objecting to the proposal.	
4.2	<u>Planning Applications</u> There have been considerable delays in the proposed development of Whashton Farmhouse and Whashton Farm Buildings. Angus acknowledged that most of this had been due to poor performance by the Planning Department of North Yorkshire Council. He added that this was due, in part, to a shortage of Planning Officers, a national problem. Peter Mothersill added that his plans to develop the Farmhouse had been frustrated by ineptitude within the Planning Department. Angus asked Peter to provide details by e-mail including the Application Reference and he would take this up with Senior Management within North Yorkshire Council. Ashley and Peter Gibson, who purchased part of the Farm Buildings for development back in 2024, continue to have delays in gaining approval for their proposal by the Planning Department. Problems with turning in Hagg Lane, primarily with delivery vehicles, have been reported to the Planning Department by Sally, Trevor, Norman and others, but ignored. However, Angus advised that this was not a planning matter since the new application brought forward is purely for structural alterations to the proposed dwelling, not an alteration to the access of Hagg Lane. However, there could be scope for a solution if the land in front of some of the properties belonged to North Yorkshire Highways; he will investigate and report back.	PM/AT AT

	A proposal to build 75 houses on the site of the closed nursery in Ravensworth was discussed at a meeting on 16 th June, attended by Angus and a number of Whashton residents. Any comments on the proposal should be made no later than 26 th June through the Planning Portal..... https://planning.richmondshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=TECMG1NAKVY00&activeTab=summary	
4.3	<u>Tourism Tax</u> Angus reported that a proposed Tourism Tax in North Yorkshire could raise significant revenue, although he has concerns that this might benefit York as opposed to North Yorkshire.	
4.4	<u>Registration to use Waste Recycling Centres</u> Angus advised that the new scheme was unlikely to encourage fly tipping and will bring further funds to the County.	
5	<u>Planning Applications (not covered in item 4.2)</u> No further updates.	
6	<u>Highways</u> Ian advised that repairs to Copper Mill Bridge had been delayed since damaged by a lorry in April 2025. He'd been advised by North Yorkshire Highways that this was due to lack of funding; Angus will investigate and report back. Christine Taylor reported an accident that occurred on the Richmond Road near her property involving two vehicles on Friday 12 th June. Any increase in traffic on the road through development in the area has the potential for more accidents. At this point Angus left the meeting and Ian thanked him for his attendance and valuable input.	AT
7	<u>Minutes of the last Parish Meeting held on 4th June 2025</u> There were no matters arising and the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting, proposed by Sian Moore and seconded by Kathryn Guy.	
8 8.1	<u>Financial Report</u> Annual Audit for year 2025/26 John explained the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) process. The accounts for 2025/26 have been prepared, audited by Alan Fielder and are now available for inspection at Moss Cottage. Ian thanked Alan for again undertaking the internal audit task on behalf of WPM. The following AGAR documents were then approved for signature by the Chair: Certificate of Exemption 2025/26 Annual Internal Audit Report 2025/26 Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 Accounting Statements 2025/26 Following this meeting, these documents will be uploaded to the WPM website and posted on the Village Notice Board.	
8.2	<u>Outturn 2024/25 and Budget 2025/26 (Financial Report issued separately with these minutes)</u> John presented his financial report highlighting a number of key issues. A copy of the outturn 2025/26 and draft Budget for 2026/27 was distributed to attendees. WPM was solvent for the current year, but cash flow needed to be managed carefully, as the major source of income (the 100 Club) did not produce its cash until later in the financial year. John reminded the meeting that ball sales of at least 50 must be sustained in 2027 if Core costs are to continue to be funded in this way. Despite the cost pressure in the Core section of the Budget, funded by the 100 Club, it was agreed that the cost of a ball for the 2027 draw be maintained at £25. Grass cutting costs are covered by voluntary contributions. It is estimated that this 'pot' will be exhausted by the end of the 2026 grass cutting season. If necessary, a further request for voluntary contributions may be needed later in the year. As in previous years, the proceeds of the BBQ will be allocated to the Defibrillator Fund. John confirmed that no funds were now held for the Holmedale Nature Network Charity.	
9	<u>Hope Moor Wind Farm Proposal</u> Angus had encouraged residents to attend a Public Meeting on Thursday 25 th Jun at 19:00h in Richmond School to hear from the Hope Moor Action Group on their objections to the proposal. The meeting agreed that anyone wishing to comment on the proposal should attend the Public Meeting and/or visit the Hope Moor Action Group website..... www.hopemoor.org	
10	<u>Social Events</u> The annual BBQ will take place on the Village Green on Saturday 4 th July. Rob Clipsham advised that a Safari Supper was suggested by Pat Belshaw and he will look into this.	RC

11	<u>Biodiversity Projects</u> Balsam Bashing will take place at Whashton Bridge on 29th June at 10:00h and 11th July at 13:30h, and volunteers are needed. Sally updated the meeting on the various activities within the Parish including cleaning bird nesting boxes, shrub and tree maintenance, etc. Ian thanked Sally and Tad in particular for all their work, and added his thanks to all those involved in grass cutting. Ian advised Bill Anderson that the Holmedale Nature Network was being decommissioned with the Charity Commission since it was no longer financially viable to continue.	
12	<u>Any Other Business</u> A newsletter will be prepared after the BBQ. Ian told the meeting that the Parish Website was used for posting issues such as Meeting Minutes, Financial Documents, etc. The website stats show regular access to the website, primarily by visitors to the area. He thanked Sally for taking on the administration of the website following on from Rachel.	IM
	Ian thanked everyone attending and the meeting closed at 20:05h	

Ian Mains, Chair & Interim Clerk
Whashton Parish Meeting
22nd June 2026