

SKELTON CUM NEWBY PARISH COUNCIL

c/o Nick Reed, Clerk, 9 Little Market Place, Masham, N. Yorks HG4 4DY

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Wednesday 14th January 2026
TIME: 7.00pm
LOCATION: Reading Room, Skelton-on-Ure
PRESENT: Cllrs Jane Mosley (Chair), Emma Gerrard, Alexandra Lake, and Jim Spillings
CLERK: Nick Reed (minutes)
IN ATTENDANCE: 6 members of the public [MoP]

25.45	Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation There were none.
25.46	Apologies and consideration of reasons for absence There were none, all Councillors being present.
25.47	Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th October 2025 These were AGREED as a true record of the meeting, and signed as such by the Chair.
25.48	Ongoing issues from the minutes for updating (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)
25.481	Highways: The Council noted with thanks that Guy Critchlow is willing to continue advocating for highways improvements within the parish, even after stepping down as a councillor. There were no other developments to note.
25.482	Millennium Walkway: The Council noted feedback between meetings that this continues to be considered an important area for peace and quiet within the parish. The walkway was refurbished in the summer of 2024, supported by the Parish Council and by private donations. A MoP reported that a working group is being sought informally, with replacement planks for the walkway donated, and that therefore no financial contribution is requested from the Council at this stage. The Council NOTED its support for this work, and for the continued benefits of the Millennium Walkway.
25.483	NYC Joint Parishes Meeting: The Council noted that both the Wathvale and Biskop Monkton Community Forum, and Boroughbridge Joint Parishes Group, meet towards the end of January.
25.49	Reports from parish organisations / activities (not covered elsewhere on the agenda) The Council heard that the Christ the Consoler 150 campaign, celebrating 150 years since the church's opening, is going well and raising money towards renovations of the heating system and organ.
25.50	Questions and Comments from members of the public / district and county councillors / NY Police There were no comments on matters not covered elsewhere in these minutes.
25.51	Financial Statement and approvals for payment The Council was noted as having on hand £7,668.74 on 31 st December 2025, with recent receipts of £160 (Reading Room hire fees) It was RESOLVED to approve the following payments: Wages and PAYE (Clerk, Cleaner, joint parishes secretary); Clerk's expenses/training qtr 3; Accountants Ripon (£50+VAT, payroll admin qtr 3); Absolute Gardens (£96, caretaking qtr 2); and LexisNexis (£220, purchase of new edition of Arnold-Baker on Local Council Administration)

SKELTON CUM NEWBY PARISH COUNCIL

c/o Nick Reed, Clerk, 9 Little Market Place, Masham, N. Yorks HG4 4DY

	<p>The Council further RESOLVED to formally approve a payment necessarily agreed between meetings to Shawgas (£71.57+VAT) and NOTED direct debit payments to Scottish Water (£56.61, Reading Room supply, and £30.10, allotment supply), e.On Next (£167.84+VAT, Reading Room electricity), Compton Estate (£30, Reading Room lease), and Unity Trust Bank (£36, bank charges). The cash book balance after these transactions was noted as being £5,588.29.</p>
25.52	<p>Planning applications and decisions There were neither any applications to consider, nor any principal authority decisions to note.</p>
25.53	<p>Commutated sums for Reading Room The Council heard that all the works suggested will need the approval of Newby Hall Estate as Reading Room landlords, and that the working group is awaiting a reply from NH representatives. Noting that work is currently taking place to the dwelling semi-detached to the Reading Room, and that if work is swiftly commissioned then the Council could realise £124,937, rather than £107,262, it was AGREED to ask again for a swift response, and Cllr Spillings agreed to progress this. The Council NOTED its approval of the parcel of Reading Room works currently being suggested by the working group.</p>
25.54	<p>Community litterpick / parish tidy The Council RESOLVED to hold a litterpick / tidy up of gutters and verges session on 14th March, with 21st March as an alternative if the weather is not clement. It was agreed that if sufficient volunteers turn out the Millennium Pond could also be spruced up.</p>
25.55	<p>Housing needs The Council NOTED the forthcoming meeting regarding housing needs surveys in the Uredale area, and considered whether it is content for a housing needs survey to be provided, at no cost to ourselves. The Council RESOLVED that this is not of interest at present.</p>
25.56	<p>2026-27 meeting dates The Council RESOLVED to meet on the following dates, all Thursdays: 9th April, 14th May (Annual Meeting); 9th July; 8th October; and 14th January.</p>
25.57	<p>Parish Caretaker There was no work to commission beyond that regularly scheduled.</p>
25.58 25.581	<p>Correspondence North Yorkshire Council: Noting the receipt in good order of the 2026-27 precept requirement.</p>

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 9th April

SIGNED: (Chair)

DATE: