

## **Monthly Update – September 2025**

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

Apologies for absence have been received from Councillors Jason Hazelwood and Emily Kelly.

Councillor Langthorne to declare an interest in Accounts regarding cheque payments.

### 2. APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk interviewed Carla Hird of Linen Way on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September for one of the vacant Co-opted Councillor positions and **Recommend that she be appointed as a Councillor at the current Council meeting.**

To date it has not been possible to find a mutually convenient date on which to interview the candidate who applied for the second vacancy.

### 3. MINUTES.

**RECOMMENDED – That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 15th July, 2025 having been having been previously circulated be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.**

### 4. REPORT OF COUNCILLOR STEPHEN WATSON

To report to the meeting.

### 5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

The meeting will be opened for a maximum of 10 minutes for Members of the public who wish to speak regarding items within the remit of the Council.

### 6. LOCAL CRIME REPORT + INSTANCES OF VANDALISM.

<b>Statistics taken from</b>	<b>01/08/2025 to 31/08/2025</b>
<b>Crime Type</b>	
Anti-Social Behaviour	0 Reports
Anti-Social Personal	0 Reports
Total	0 Reports
Arson	0 Reports
Burglary Dwelling	1 – possible attempted burglary
Burglary Commercial/Other	0 Reports
Criminal Damage	2 Reports
Theft (inc. Theft from Shop)	0 Reports
Violence against the person	5 Reports
Other crimes inc. Drugs	0 Reports
Hate Crime	0 Reports
Robbery	0 Reports
Fraud	0 Reports
Auto Crime / SMV	1 Reports

# 1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

## (i) Village Walk Round – 19<sup>th</sup> August.

Metal barrier on Northallerton Road - Chase up NYC and Steve Watson for a site meeting

Grit Bins - Darrell Langthorne to check condition of the bins, renew as necessary + refill if needed

Notice Boards - Darrell to restrain where necessary and check that the catches are working

Dog bin - priority number one - entrance to Lodge Lane

Recreation Ground - surfacing around springer is lifting - resin adhesive to be applied

Council to consider whether there is a need for a second goal post in the Recreation Ground

Darrell to tighten up fixings to the benches/tables in the Recreation Ground

Darrell to clean moss/algae off play equipment safety surfacing

Outdoor Gym Equipment - small plaque to be refixed - step boards on rear of climbing wall need fixing/renewing - renew, glue and screw fix back in place

Methodist Church hedge overhanging path still needs cutting back

Grasscutting on The Green this week has cut through to the soil and will need reseeding - report to Walkers

Cigarette bin as fallen off wall at the bus shelter and is broken - remove

Ask NYC Highways if they can repaint the Keep Clear sign outside the Three Horse Shoes

Report to Steve Watson that there are currently 22 vehicles on the BRG car park assumably belonging to BM Autos - which is in excess fo the 14 agreed

Broken off tree at beck side at rear of BRG - ask Hillside Tree Surgeons to check all trees along the back of the BRG along the beck

Two additional dog bins to go either side of Water End

New bench to go at play area at Water End - liaise with Jason - ?Order two ? - include installation costs in budget - using part of the existing base if appropriate

New bin to go near new seat

Check if MSB Ecological of Thirsk can carry out a survey of the beck and make suggestions + ask Steve Watson to contact the EA

Posts at fence at first road bridge need renewing due to damage by strimmers and adding metal sleeves to prevent further damage - Hillside Tree Surgeons to do

Notice board near Water Splash still needs to be moved

Red oak tree - consider whether permanent posts need to be put in so that barrier fencing can be attached to them when there are high winds

Cockpit Hill - broken and loose coping stones outside the village hall - ask NY Highways to rectify

As NY Highways Engineer if the plant/equipment can be stored on the closed road and barriered off whilst the resurfacing works are being carried out rather than putting onto the Councils car park

All bins overfull around the village and unemptied - especially at the Shop - complain to NYC and report to Steve Watson.

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(ii) Pigeon Droppings.

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A further complaint has been received about bird droppings from trees onto vehicles parked on Church View.

Councils are not permitted to carry out lopping works to trees solely to reduce bird droppings.

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Transfer of disease from pigeons to humans would appear to be very rare.

The main risk of disease is from the dust that arises when the droppings are being swept away.

(iii) Dog Bin Complaint

A complaint has been received from a new resident who has moved into a property at Water End that there is a dog bin on the Green outside her property. The complainant has been referred to North Yorkshire Council.

(iv) Resurfacing of Fullicar Lane.

During the 2026/27 financial year North Yorkshire Council are to resurface the west side of Water End to the end of Fullicar Lane at the wildlife area.

Councillors met on site on the 18th August to discuss the arrangements for the consequent road closure with the Highways Engineer.

The proposals did not include the access to the Water Splash on the east side of the Village Green and Councillors asked that this be included in the contract for resurfacing.

NYC has also been asked to sort out arrangements for the parking of vehicles belonging to the occupiers of properties on the west side of Water End when vehicle access will be closed to their properties.

(v) Post Box at Entrance to Hilton Close.

The new post box was promised by the beginning of September. To date it has not appeared and the Clerk is pursuing Royal Mail to ascertain when the new post box will be installed.

(vi) Tree in the Churchyard.

The PCC is applying for a Faculty so that the tree in the Churchyard that requires felling can be taken down.

(vii) Overgrown Hedges

A number of overgrown hedges have been reported to NYC Highways. The Highways Inspector has looked at the hedges concerned and has written to the property owners requesting that the hedges be cut back.

(viii) New Fencing Alongside the Wildlife Area

A farmer complained to the Clerk that the new fencing along the side of the wildlife area was preventing tractors from driving onto the Green to get past each other.

(ix) Fencing near the Road Bridge at the Foot of Cockpit Hill

Hillside Tree Surgeons have been asked to submit a quotation for renewing the fencing alongside the road bridge at the foot of Cockpit Hill as the posts have been substantially worn away by the strimmers and some of the fence is suffering from rot. Hillside Tree Surgeons have also been asked to include metal sleeves in the quote so that the posts no longer get damaged by the strimmers.

(x) Scarecrow Trail.

In respect of the forthcoming Scarecrow Trail being arranged by the BRG Councillors raised no objections to residents using the Village Greens for putting out the scarecrows.

(xi) New Lamp Standard.

The new lamp post, paid for by BTC has been installed near the Rugby Club.

(xii) Trees with Low Branches.

A number of low branches have been removed from roadside trees as these were impeding tractor loads.

(xiii) Overfull Litter bins.

Several complaints were received about overfull litter bins throughout the village in recent weeks. Councillor Watson stated that there had been a change of collection procedures which had led to this and the bins have subsequently been emptied.

(xiv) Overgrowth on Path to the Methodist Church.

The Church have agreed to cut back the overgrowth.

(xv) Damaged Wall at Cockpit Hill.

NYC Highways have inspected the damaged wall outside the Village Hall noticed on the village walk-round and have raised an order for the repair works to be undertaken.

(xvi) Damaged Seat in the Cemetery.

Due to a tyre blow out on the ride-on grasscutting machine a memorial seat in the Cemetery was severely damaged by the grasscutting contractors who had agreed to take the seat away and have it repaired. However the relative has taken advice from Sam Turners who have said that as the seat is made of plastic resin it cannot be repaired. The matter is therefore on-going.

## 2. CHAIRMAN'S/VICE-CHAIRMAN'S ACTIONS.

To be reported to meeting.

### 9. REPORTS – INCLUDING REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS –

#### (i) Finance Group.

The Finance Group met on the 1st September.

#### Annual Newsletter.

RECOMMENDED - That due to the increasing costs of production and issues over delivery the Annual Newsletter be produced on-line instead of being delivered to each household. Copies will be available at Council meetings for anyone present and this will be advertised on the web site, on the notice boards and for a number of weeks under the Villages section in the Darlington and Stockton Times.

#### Tree on Church Green

**RECOMMENDED** - That details of the tree on Church Green from which the large branch recently broke off be awaited until the next overall tree survey report.

#### Safety Condition of Memorials in the Churchyard.

AGREED - That the Clerk obtain a price from Mr France for laying all but two of the ten headstones down flat.

#### Grasscutting Contract

The group acknowledges that fewer grass cuts have taken place this year due to the unusually long periods of dry weather therefore for the 2026 grasscutting season consideration be given to placing a retainer clause in the grasscutting contract so that there is a standing charge each month.

#### Seats at Water End

AGREED - That there is a need for an actual quotation that includes details of installation so that this can be considered in the budget review in October.

#### Christmas Tree.

AGREED - That the larger size Christmas Tree be ordered as last year and that the tree contractors be asked to install a fitting (capped pipe) so that the tree does not get blown over as happened last year.

### E mail Addresses.

As it will be a national requirement for Council email addresses for all Councillors from March 2026 the Clerk obtain the costs of Councillors email addresses from NYC and raise the question as to whether such costs include archiving of the emails.

### Closed footbridge.

That should a donation be made towards the costs of a replacement bridge then this be taken from the CIL monies

However the need for a bridge was raised as there is another bridge in close proximity and the public footpath could be diverted - a number of issues would therefore be raised with NYC.

The following has subsequently been received from NYC –

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*All diversion orders are subject to legal tests, as outlined below:*

*The legal tests:*

*Before making an Order, the authority (North Yorkshire Council) must be satisfied that:*

- It is expedient to divert the path in the interests either of the public or the owner, lessee or occupier of the land crossed by the path.*
- The authority must also be satisfied that the proposed diversion does not alter any point of termination of the path, other than to another point on the same path, or to another highway connected with it,*
- and which is substantially as convenient to the public, (i.e. the diversion must terminate on a highway, and not create a cul-de-sac). If a route is already a cul-de-sac, the termination point cannot be altered by a Diversion Order – there are other processes to manage this situation.*

*Before confirming a Diversion Order, the authority or Secretary of State must be satisfied that:*

- It is expedient to divert the path in the interests of the person(s) stated in the order;*
- The route will not be substantially less convenient to the public as a consequence of the diversion*
- It is expedient to confirm the Diversion Order having regard to the effect it will have on public enjoyment of the path as a whole, on other land served by the existing path, and on land affected by any proposed new path taking into account the provisions for compensation.*

*Looking at the above, I'm not sure that the proposed route alongside the railway line and then up towards the vehicle bridge is wholly convenient to the public. It is quite a substantial addition in length to what users of the route are currently walking to gain access to the point of the footpath going north from the footbridge, and therefore I think that this would attract objections, certainly from the Ramblers Association. I think they would also argue (and we have already received objections on these grounds before) that the enjoyment of the route would be somewhat reduced by having to walk alongside the railway line.*

*I also approached the landowner regarding your proposal, and whilst they would like some time to consider it, they were quite concerned about their livestock escaping onto the railway line if someone failed to shut the gate at the end of the route. I do think that this is a very valid concern.*

*Although initially 25K looks to be a large expense, the alternative proposed diversion would still involve the building of a possibly quite substantial ramp into the field, as the gradient would need to be no more than 1:12, and we would still need to remove the current footbridge regardless.*

*Timescale also needs to be considered; we were hoping to install the footbridge before the end of this calendar year (but this is ALWAYS subject to landowner access arrangements, weather conditions and contractor availability) so this is a hope rather than a statement of fact. Diversion orders generally take 9 to 12 months minimum to process; whilst a diversion order is still necessary at this location to bring the public footpath and footbridge into alignment, the bridge can still be installed while this process is ongoing. If the route was to be diverted alongside the railway line, the definitive line of the public footpath would have to remain closed until this process was completed.*

**RECOMMENDED – That the Council make a contribution of £2,500.00 towards the costs of the works to the footbridge, to be taken from the CIL monies to match the offer of £2,500.00 made by Councillor Watson from his NYC Locality Budget.**

#### Climbing Frame at Water End

AGREED - That a price be obtained from Prest Engineering for blasting and powder coating the climbing frame on site to match the colour to the new swings. **See agenda item 13 below**

#### Poppy Wreath

AGREED - That the same wreath and number of crosses be obtained as in previous years and that a donation of £100 be made as usual.

Next Meeting - 12th October at 4.00pm at which the budget will be reviewed as necessary.

(xvii) Highways/ Road Safety Working Group.

No meeting held.

(xviii) Wildlife Area Working Group.

No meeting held.

(xix) Joint Pedestrian/Cycling Working Group.

The Active Travel Group met at the Town Hall on the 4th September. Councillor Carter and the Clerk represented BTC at the meeting.

Over recent months discussions have been take place with various stakeholders in addition to the Transport event held in the Town Hall to obtain the views of residents on local transport.

The NYC Local Transport Plan is currently under review although this could take another year to develop.

The Local Plan Review for the whole of North Yorkshire is at an early stage and a submission was made in July by Northallerton Town Council of how Northallerton should develop.

The question was raised as to whether Brompton and Romanby Councils had responded.

A transport related plan was needed for the town - which included all three Parishes however this would need funding and discussions had therefore been held with Combined Authority Mayor.

A meeting had also be held with the NYC Head of Transport who was to prepare a consultancy brief for the town as to why a transport plan is necessary.

The Combined Authority confirmed it would provide some funding and the NYC Transport Planning Team would also provide some funding but there was likely to be a shortfall and both Brompton and Romanby Councils may be asked to contribute.

The NYC Cycling Officer had held an on-line meeting with local NYC Councillors and Northallerton Councillors on the Group had cycled around the town with the NYC Cycling officer so that he was aware of what schemes he could come up with. This has resulted in a list of 30 possible routes which had now been put into a priority order which was required in order to obtain funding, however the whole of the NYC budget for active travel was limited at a total of £4m.

There were specific problems with Romanby as regards the bridges and parking on the Green and there was a need to improve the cycling routes in the north of the town especially as regards the new developments.

Discussions had already been held with the applicant for the development of the Church Commissioners land off Stokesley Road which would develop routes through from Bullamoor road and a brief would be put in to the planning application.

The study was estimated to cost in the region of £30k and it was anticipated that the Combined Authority Mayor and NYC would both contribute £10k with the shortfall coming from the three Councils comprising the Working Group.

There was also a need for consideration of where benches could be installed to encourage walking.

Monies were available through the Developing Investment Plans for towns in North Yorkshire but this covered 32 locations.

NYC had appointed an Officer to look at the plan for Northallerton and all three Councils would be involved in this process.

The next steps would be -

To work with the NYC Cycling Officer and finalise a Cycling Plan in which the three Councils would be involved.

To look for any funding opportunities.

To continue to lobby and engage - especially through the NYC Area Committee.

In a few months time to invite the NYC Cycling Officer to a meeting of the Joint Working Group together with the NYC Transport Team officer to talk about the Local Transport Plan

(xx) New Estates Working Group.

No meeting held

## 10. PLANNING MATTERS.



(i) Decisions.

ZB25/0137/FUL - Extension to dwelling add construction of existing garage to living accommodation - I Aumale Road – Granted

(ii) Applications.

ZB25/01427/FUL – Demolition of existing dwelling. Replace with a new dwelling which has a larger footprint including change of use of part of adjacent paddock into a new access track and parking – Juarna, Stokesley Road

ZB25/01302/FUL – Revised full plans application for a detached dwelling with integral garage – land adjacent to 53 Water End

ZB/25/01480/FUL – Demolition of existing outbuildings and garage and construction of replacement ancillary accommodation and access and construction of replacement greenhouse/potting shed – 77 Northallerton Road

ZB25/01512/FUL – Retrospective application for works or extension to a dwelling and relevant demolition of an unlisted building in a conservation area; demolition of existing rear lobby & WC with a lean-to roof to be replaced by a sunroom with a flat roof, demolition of existing timber framed glazed sunroom – 24 Water End

The following planning applications were dealt with by consulting Councillors during the month of August and no comments were received on any of the applications and NYC have been informed accordingly.

ZB25/01317/FUL - Householder application for planning permission for works or extension to a dwelling. Alterations to existing dwelling and conversion of existing garage to form living accommodation - 1 Aumale Road - No objections

ZB25/01287/FUL - Retrospective application for the change of use of land to form parking area - resurfacing of existing access track including the formation of a parking area and modifications to existing entrance area and erection of domestic garage - 66 Water End - No objections

ZB25/01369/FUL - Householder Application for Planning Permission for works or extension to a dwelling and for relevant demolition of an unlisted building in a conservation area: minor internal alterations and replacement of existing windows, timber to front and upvc to rear of building, demolition of existing conservatory and kitchen extension and replacement with new orangery, refurbishment of vine house, new garage to garden - 4 The Green - No objections

## 11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

### Income

NYC (Highways grasscutting reimbursement).	£184.90
Dales of Thirsk (Memorial fee)	£ 60.00
Barthrams Funeral Directors (Burial fee).	£620.00

Northern Powergrid (Wayleaves).	£348.55
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### Payments

CE+CE Walker (August grasscutting)	£913.20
Fletcher Pest Control (Allotments site).	£81.60
P Atkin (Salary).	£458.48
HMRC (PAYE).	£114.60
YDS Ltd (Trailer hire and labour).	£121.20
Mr D Langthorne (Village Caretaking).	****
Direct Debit -	
NYC (Trade Waste collection).	£30.36

### The following payments were made out of meeting -

North Yorkshire Council (New Street Light)	-	£2,970.00
CE+CM Walkers (July grasscutting)	-	£1,826.40
Hillside Tree Surgeons (Fencing and tree works).	-	£2,370.00
Barnes Associates (Red Oak Tree Stability tests).	-	£990.00
Sam Turner & Sons (Various)	-	£53.60
Mr D Langthorne (Various strimming works).	-	£140.00
YDS Ltd (Trailer Hire and welding)	-	£100.80
P Atkin (Salary).	-	£515.44
P Atkin (Expenses)	-	£18.07
HMRC (PAYE)	-	£128.80
PKF Littlejohn LLP (External Audit fee).	-	£504.00
D France Stonemasonry Ltd ( Memorial inspection)	-	£564.00
M Shiel Dods (Reimbursement for bulbs)	-	£200.94

### Bank Balances

#### Unity Trust Bank at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 –

Current Account - £9,782.09

Deposit Account - £61,352.20

Barclays Bank at 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025

Business Premium Account - £128,547.49

**Recommended - That the accounts as listed above be approved for payment.**

Annual Financial Return (AGAR)

The External Auditors have approved the AGAR for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 without raising any issues.

## 12. BATTLE OF THE STANDARD PLAQUE.

The original plaque commemorating the Battle of the Standard was stolen from the monument on Darlington Road about 25 years ago and was replaced with a replica.

Some years later the plaque was recovered after being advertised for sale and for nearly 20 years was stored in the attic at the Town Hall.

When Northallerton Hub opened it was displayed in there until the hub closed.

There was nowhere to display it in the Library where some of the Hubs artefacts moved to and it was intimated that Brompton Council could have the plaque if it found somewhere to display it.

For some time Councillor Carter has been liaising with the Parochial Church Council about displaying the plaque in St Thomas's Church.

An application needs to be made for a Faculty for this to be done.

In the meantime the Clerk at Northallerton Town Council is unable to release the plaque which was returned to NTC on the closure of Northallerton Hub as there is no NTC Council Minute agreeing to release the original plaque.

This will hopefully be resolved at the next meeting of Northallerton Town Council on the 15th September.

## 13. CLIMBING FRAME AT WATER END.

**To discuss at the meeting**

The Finance Group agreed that a price be obtained from Prest Engineering for blasting and powder coating the climbing frame on site to match the colour to the new swings.

However Prest Engineering are unable to carry out shot blasting on site and would have to send away to be done by another company/

Councillor Hazelwood has commented that he doesn't see the point in doing what is suggested, it would just fail again on the next inspection. It would need alterations doing that conform to the standard and he doesn't think it meets the grip and grasp standards. Besides, it will be too big to go through any powder coating process anyway. It would need to be wet sprayed.

He has also said that he could look at designing a fully compliant climber, similar to the existing one subject to the Council taking on the insurance aspects.

Any designs would fully compliant with EN1176 and 1177 and there are multiple fabricators/powder coating firms that would be suitable for this type of work.

He would also get "another" to check compliance before manufacture.

With no charge for his work.

14. HIGHWAY MATTERS - Including Notification of Road Closures and application for Weight Limit on Cockpit Hill

#### PLANNED ROAD RESTRICTION NOTIFICATION

Location: Long Lane, Brompton CP, Brompton, Unknown

Description of works: Level Crossing works.

The Restriction will be in place for a period of 7 hours between 28th September 2025 and 29th September 2025

#### PLANNED ROAD RESTRICTION NOTIFICATION - Deighton Lane, Deighton

Location: Deighton Lane, Deighton CP, Deighton, Unknown

Description of works: Road Closed to allow for Drainage works to be undertaken in the highway  
Verge Road Closed between 08:00 and 16:00 on 3rd September to 9th September excluding weekends  
For further information please contact NYC on 03001312131

The Restriction will be in place for a period of 5 days between 3rd September 2025 and 9th September 2025 excluding weekends

**At the request of a resident to consider applying to North Yorkshire Council for a Weight Restriction Order on Cockpit Hill**

#### 15. CONDITION OF BECK ALONG WATER END.

A meeting took place between Councillors and a representative of the Environment Agency on the 5th September.

The beck does not belong to Brompton Council; neither does it belong to the Environment Agency.

The EA no longer has local funding for projects.

The funding is centralised nationally and the local EA would have to bid for funds based on a submitted case.

However the local EA does not consider that Brompton beck has a case for any funding.

Dredging is no longer undertaken and is detrimental to the beck and it's environment.

Spraying would require a permit and it is very unlikely that a permit for Brompton beck would be granted for a number of reasons. -

Wildlife habitats would be disturbed and such as water voles are a protected species.

The permit would also have to be agreed by the Fisheries Officer and that again is highly unlikely.

The leaky dams and the channel are the answer to any potential flooding and are proven to be effective,

The recent rain fall is flowing in the beck albeit very slowly.

Much of the growth in the beck is not deep rooted and would wash away in a heavy storm.

Re-profiling of the beck would be a long term answer but that would cost in excess of £250,000 which the Environment Agency would not be able to contribute towards and the Council does not have that money.

A Flood Group would be able to apply for external funding.

16. GREENS INSPECTION + WILD LIFE AREA – Including Red Oak Tree at Water End

**To discuss at the meeting**

The cost of felling the red oak tree at Water End has come in at £1,800.00.

Permanent wood posts could be put in to which barrier tape could be attached at times of anticipated high winds as this would not impede the grasscutting.

17. CORRESPONDENCE - Not appearing elsewhere on the agenda.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Including Date of the next Meeting – Tuesday 21st October 2025

19. BURIAL MATTERS – Including Safety Inspection of Headstones and Headstones in the Churchyard

**To discuss the way forward based on the two quotes received from Mr D France, Stonemason**

Cost of repairing ten headstones that have failed the safety inspection – £1,160 + VAT (may have grasscutting implications)

Cost of laying all but two flat - £940.00 +VAT