

**Minutes of the Meeting of Brompton Town Council held in the Methodist Church,
Brompton on Tuesday 9th September 2025**

PRESENT – Councillors R Carter, Mrs E Kelly, Mrs C Hird, Mr M Langthorne, Mrs M Shiel Dods (in the Chair) and Mrs A Robinson.

There were 19 members of the public present at the meeting including NYC Councillor Steve Watson.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jason Hazelwood and Chris Potter.

Councillor Langthorne declared an interest in Accounts regarding cheque payments.

2. APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR.

The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Clerk had interviewed Carla Hird of Linen Way on the 3rd September for one of the vacant Co-opted Councillor positions.

AGREED - That Mrs Carla Hird be appointed as a Councillor for the current term of office for Councillors.

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed at the commencement of the meeting.

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

3. MINUTES.

AGREED – 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

Councillor Watson reported that the litter bins not being emptied was a result of a combination of a high level of sickness, annual holidays and staff vacancies, however this was being caught up on although domestic collections took precedent. He added that the public could always put any rubbish in another bin or take it home with them.

The 20mph speed limit issue was currently with the Lead NYC Councillor for Transport and this was planned to cover the centre of the village, all of Water End on both sides and a reduction of the speed limit on the main road to 50mph. There had been a delay in progressing the matter due to changes at Cabinet level however Councillor Watson and the new Cabinet Transport member had driven the route recently and the new Cabinet member had been very supportive of the proposal, although funding would be a key factor.

There would also be speed limits introduced at the properties on the west side of the railway crossing on Station Road so that the speed could be got down to 20mph across the level crossing where there was no footpath.

Councillors thanked Councillor Watson for the efforts he was making with the 20mph speed limit.

As regards the closed bridge at Walkers field the replacement was expensive but the contributions from the NYC Locality budget and BTC would very much help and Councillor Watson would also ask for a contribution from Broadacres Housing so that the works could be carried out in the current financial year.

The Chairman asked if Councillor Watson could also press Broadacres to clear back the overgrowth.

Councillor Watson also remarked that there had been a lot of misinformation about the proposed development off Winton Road as this should not be new news to residents as it had been in the Local Plan for 10 years.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

(i) Brompton Beck

At the start of the public question session the Chairman pointed out the BTC did not own the beck and asked those present if they had a spokesperson who would submit their comments to the Council during the public questions session.

Mr Brigg, a local resident said that at the moment residents were concerned about the state of the beck and the overgrowth. He did not think that the beck should be dredged but was concerned that if the beck was left in its current stage then there was a good chance of flooding occurring this year.

He added that a survey had been carried out of residents who lived along Water End and that 71% of those residents were worried about flooding and why no one was doing anything to resolve the matter. It appeared that the plants came before the people.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Council had met with a representative of the Environment Agency on site but that the EA representative had declined to come along to the current Council meeting.

A response had been received that afternoon from the EA and that would be circulated to Councillors.

Another resident asked why the beck couldn't be cleared out as all the farmers had been clearing out the becks on their lands.

The EA had however said that Brompton beck was not considered as a flood risk and that it was very unlikely that a permit would be granted and dredging was no longer carried out.

Maintaining the leaky dams had been proven to be a solution for flooding in Brompton and the only other permanent solution would be the re-profiling of the beck which would however cost a minimum of £250,000 which neither the EA or Brompton Council had.

The Chairman added that the Council had asked NYC Councillor Steve Watson how he was able to help in the matter,

It was pointed out that of the 175 residents who had been surveyed 79% had said that the beck was an eyesore. It was agreed that the results of the survey be published in the Minutes.

There had been claims that rats were breeding in the beck but a Councillor pointed out that rats did not live in becks although they may go down to drink the water in the beck and that what had been seen by residents were not rats but were water voles. .

The Chairman urged residents to resurrect the Flood Group.

Councillor Watson said that the next step would be for him to speak to the Flood Officer at North Yorkshire Council.

He added that if the Environment Agency was not on board then it would be very difficult to proceed. However a NYC Officer would be able to get more detail.

A resident said that spraying of the beck had stopped in 2024 and Councillor Watson responded that the Council was not permitted by the Environment Agency to spray the beck. The Chairman confirmed that the Environment Agency representative had confirmed that a permit would not be granted for spraying but that the local North Yorkshire Councillor had powers that Brompton Council did not have.

The Chairman also said that the Council would be happy to help fund a new Flood Group if residents could get one up and running.

Another resident said that the beck had got worse over the past three years and the Chairman reported that to do any work on the beck would require a permit.

It was also pointed out that the EA representative had confirmed that the EA would be sending out staff in the Autumn to walk the route of the beck to see if there was anything that needed dealing with.

The Vice-Chairman said that residents could forget about spraying as it was destroying the structure of the beck and in places it was falling in.

Another Councillor said that she had reported a number of blockages in the beck and that if anyone was aware of any blockages then they needed to report them so that the Environment Agency could deal with them.

The Chairman commented that Brompton Council had spent a considerable amount of money ensuring that the leaky dams were maintained.

A resident remarked that people would like the Council to work on their behalf.

A resident from Water End handed the following letter to the Clerk which the Clerk read out at the meeting -

"I am unable to speak after a stroke and a cancer operation but wish to support the other residents of Water End.

The judgement in the Victorian case of Rylands v Fletcher established the liability for the escape of water if it had been damned, and then escapes.

The beck needs dredging. It is full of silt and weeds and Brompton Town Council has deliberately left it in this condition for years".

A Councillor said that he was irritated by the accusations that Brompton Council had deliberately not done anything as the Council had done what it could do and the Environment Agency had

made it clear that it would not grant a permit. He added that one issue was that there were no riparian owners of the beck, though ownership was still being investigated.

The Chairman said that she would ask Councillor Watson to report back to the Council of there were any further steps that NYC though could be investigated.

A resident pointed out that severe flooding had occurred in 2000 and in 2002 and flood water had been up to the doorsteps on four occasions since then.

Councillor Watson also commented that a clear out of Brompton beck would have severe adverse effects further downstream through Northallerton and all down the River Wiske.

Another resident asked why the vegetation couldn't just be cut back?

Councillor Watson confirmed that he would be speaking to the NYC Flood Officer.

Results of door to door survey -

Do you worry about flooding? - 71%

Do you think the beck is a mess? - 79%

Do you worry about rats? - 60%

Do you want the weeds sprayed? - 56%

Do you want weeds in the beck removed? - 82%

Would you like the beck de-silted? - 84%

(ii) The BRG

Mrs Slater thanked the Council for donating safety mats so that the BRG could rectify defects at it's children's play area that had been identified in the recent safety inspection report.

She also commented that when Councillors had noted that there were 28 vehicles parked on the BRG car park on the night of the Council's annual village walk-round the timing of that walk along the BRG areas had coincided with the boot camp being held on the field.

6. LOCAL CRIME REPORT + INSTANCES OF VANDALISM.

Statistics taken from	01/08/2025 to 31/08/2025
Crime Type	
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
Total	9 Reports

The Clerk reported that lengthy jail sentences had been handed down to the three persons convicted of the stabbing incidents at Danelaw Gardens on the 25th January 2025.

1. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

(i) Village Walk Round – 19th August.

The list of matters noted on the Village Walk-round on the 19th August appears in the Monthly update.

(ii) Pigeon Droppings.

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

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

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

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

(iii) Dog Bin Complaint

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

(iv) Resurfacing of Fullicar Lane.

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

Councillors had 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 had 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 would be closed to their properties.

(v) Post Box at Entrance to Hilton Close.

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

(vi) Tree in the Churchyard.

The PCC was applying for a Faculty so that the trees in the Churchyard that required felling could be taken down.

(vii) Overgrown Hedges

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

It was reported that to date none of the reported uncut hedges had been cut back and the Clerk undertook to contact the Highways Inspector.

(viii) New Fencing Alongside the Wildlife Area

A farmer had 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.

It was suggested that the Council needed to keep an eye on the grass verges fronting the properties opposite the Wildlife Area in case tractors used that area to get past each other now that the new fencing had been erected alongside the Wildlife Area.

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

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

(x) Scarecrow Trail.

In respect of the forthcoming Scarecrow Trail being arranged by the BRG Councillors had 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 had been installed.

Whilst the Council had considered that the new lamp standard needed to be erected at the end of the Rugby Club field NYC Highways had positioned it near the bus stop, which was equally acceptable.

(xii) Trees with Low Branches.

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

(xiii) Overfull Litter bins.

Several complaints had been received about overfull litter bins throughout the village in recent weeks

(xiv) Overgrowth on Path to the Methodist Church.

The Church had cut back the overgrowth.

(xv) Damaged Wall at Cockpit Hill.

NYC Highways had inspected the damaged wall outside the Village Hall noticed on the village walk-round and had 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 had taken advice from Sam Turners who have said that as the seat was made of plastic resin it could not be repaired. The matter was therefore on-going.

8. CHAIRMAN'S/VICE-CHAIRMAN'S ACTIONS.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman had both attended a meeting to interview Carla Hird for the position of Councillor.

9. REPORTS – INCLUDING REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS –

(i) Finance Group.

The Finance Group had 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.

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 - 13th October at 4.00pm at which the budget will be reviewed as necessary.

AGREED – That the Recommendations of the Finance Group be approved

- (ii) Highways/ Road Safety Working Group.

No meeting held.

- (iii) Wildlife Area Working Group.

No meeting held.

AGREED- That Councillor Carla Hird be added to the membership of the Wildlife Area Working Group.

(iv) Joint Pedestrian/Cycling Working Group.

The Active Travel Group had 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

- (v) New Estates Working Group.

No meeting held

- (vi) Social Media Working Group.

That an item be placed on the next Council meeting agenda to appoint a Social Media Working Group.

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 orangey, refurbishment of vine house, new garage to garden - 4 The Green - No objections

ZB25/01425/FUL - Householder application for planning permission for works or extension to a dwelling, alterations or extension to existing dwelling, the provision of lime rendering to external walls, the replacement of existing doors and windows, the replacement of existing clay pantiles and the removal of a tree in the rear garden - 17 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

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).	£453.01
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 31st August 2025 –

Current Account - £9,782.09

Deposit Account - £61,352.20

Barclays Bank at 3rd September 2025

Business Premium Account - £128,547.49

AGREED - 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 31st 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 had been liaising with the Parochial Church Council about displaying the plaque in St Thomas's Church.

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

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

This would hopefully be resolved at the next meeting of Northallerton Town Council on the 15th September and the relative NTC Committee which had recently met would be recommending this to the full Council.

13. CLIMBING FRAME AT WATER END.

The Finance Group had 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 had commented that he didn'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 would 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.

AGREED - That Councillor Hazelwood be thanked for his offer to design a climbing frame and that that offer be accepted but that he be asked about the details of who would undertake it's manufacture and that further enquiries be made to ascertain whether there is a local company that can undertake on-line blasting and powder coating of the existing climbing frame.

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

Weight Restriction Cockpit Hill

At the request of a resident consideration was given to applying to North Yorkshire Council for a Weight Restriction Order on Cockpit Hill. This was AGREED.

15. CONDITION OF BECK ALONG WATER END.

A meeting had taken 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

The cost of felling the red oak tree at Water End had 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.

AGREED - That an application be made to NYC Planning for permission to fell the Red Oak Tree at Water End as this is in the Conservation Area and that this be advertised on the Notice boards and the Council's web site but also that Hillside Tree Surgeons be asked for the costs of putting a fence up as suggested in the tree survey report.

17. CORRESPONDENCE.

No items raised.

18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

(i) Date of the next Meeting.

AGREED – That the next meeting of the Council be held at 7.25pm on Tuesday, 21st October 2025 in the Methodist Church.

(ii) Reversing Vehicles

Councillor Kelly reported on the dangerous practice of motorists reversing into parking opposite The Shop and another Councillor said it was against the law to reverse into traffic. AGREED - That Police advice be obtained and be asked if the Council could do a leaflet drop on the matter.

(iii) Water Voles.

Councillor Kelly reported that to date she had received no information as to the identity of the dead creatures she had found in the beck at Water End or whether they could be identified as water voles.

(iv) Access to Lodge Lane.

The Vice-Chairman reported that motorists exiting Lodge Lane were unable to see oncoming traffic. AGREED - That Councillor Watson be asked if NYC Highways could provide a mirror at this location opposite the Recreation Ground access gate so that motorists could see to the other side of the road.

(v) Allotments Fence,

The Chairman reported that it was necessary for the tree contractors to provide a quote for works to the allotments fence and for a report on the trees on the allotments site as a large branch had recently broken off one of them. The Clerk undertook to contact the tree contractors in this respect.

19. BURIAL MATTERS

Safety Inspection of Headstones and Headstones in the Churchyard

The Clerk reported that the cost of repairing ten headstones that had failed the safety inspection was £1,160 + VAT. However this would have grasscutting implications as laying headstones flat would impede the ride-on grasscutting machine and extra labour would have to be engaged to carry out strimming instead

The cost of laying all but two headstones flat was £940.00 +VAT

AGREED - That all ten headstones be repaired at the cost quoted by Mr D France, Stonemason.

Cemetery Walk-round.

AGREED – That Councillors Hird and Kelly accompany the Clerk on a walk-round the Cemetery one evening as neither had been in the Cemetery yet were members of the Burial Board.

The meeting closed at 8.25pm