

**Minutes of the Meeting of Brompton Town Council held in the Methodist Church,
Brompton on Tuesday 21st October 2025**

PRESENT – Councillors Mr R Carter (in the Chair), Mr J Hazelwood, Mrs C Hird, Mr C Potter and Mrs A Robinson.

There were 9 members of the public present at the meeting.

1. ELCTION OF CHAIRMAN.

AGRRED – That in the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman Councillor Carter be elected Chair for the duration of the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs E Kelly, Mr M Langthorne and Mrs M Sheil Dods. NY Councillor Steve Watson had also submitted his apologies.

Councillor Robinson declared an interest in Accounts regarding cheque payments.

3. MINUTES.

AGREED – That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on the 9th September, 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

The Clerk reported that Councillor Watson was still chasing up the NYC Lead Flood Officer.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

No public questions were raised at this stage of the meeting.

5. LOCAL CRIME REPORT + INSTANCES OF VANDALISM.

Statistics taken from	01/09/2025 to 30/09/2025
Crime Type	
Anti-Social Behaviour	1 Report
Anti-Social Personal	1 Report
Total	2 Reports
Arson	0 Reports
Burglary Dwelling	0 Reports
Burglary Commercial/Other	0 Reports
Criminal Damage	1 Report
Theft (inc. Theft from Shop)	0 Reports
Violence against the person	2 Reports
Other crimes inc. Drugs	0 Reports
Hate Crime	0 Reports
Robbery	0 Reports
Fraud	1 Reports

Auto Crime / SMV	0 Reports
Total	4 Reports

Sean Derbyshire was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment plus a further 3 years on Licence for stabbing a resident on Danes Crest last December.

Multi Agency Crime Partnership Meeting - 9th September 2025

The report of this meeting is contained in the Monthly Update. No crime concerns relating to Brompton Parish had been raised in the meeting.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

(i) Battle of The Standard Plaque.

Councillor Carter had taken possession of the plaque from Northallerton Town Council. However the Diocese had indicated that it would not approve a Faculty for the plaque to go in St Thomas's Church.

See separate agenda item below.

(ii) Trees in the Churchyard.

The Diocese had approved an application for a Faculty to fell two trees in the Churchyard as determined in the last tree survey report subject to new trees being planted in their place.

The Diocese had asked what would be planted in their place and the Council's tree contractors have suggested that these be blossoming cherries as over the years some of these have died off and other are nearing the end of their natural life.

A Councillor asked that the replacement trees be not ones that produced cherries.

(iii) The Beck.

Since the last Council meeting the Clerk had been in protracted correspondence with two residents about the state of the beck and had also met them and forwarded to Councillors a resume of that meeting.

The Council had responded to further correspondence as follows –

The Council puts aside £1,500 each year for the maintenance of the leaky dams.

The repair costs to the dams were just under £40,000.

Brompton Council also maintains the channel from the beck running across the Green at Water End from near the road bridge at the bottom of Cockpit Hill that runs to rear of the School, thus diverting flood water.

The Council had a flood risk assessment undertaken with regard to the middle bridge at Water End but the Chairman has this and is currently out of the Country.

Flood prevention is not the primary or statutory responsibility of a Parish or Town Council due to the fact that the primary responsibility for managing flood risk lies with the Lead Local Flood Authorities - in this case North Yorkshire Council.

Contingency plans come under North Yorkshire Council's emergency procedures. In such plans there will be arrangements for such as road closures, evacuation, provision of rest centres etc on the occurrence of a local disaster.

Brompton Council has no other responsibility other than providing information to NYC about an Emergency Plan when requested to do so.

The Council has twice tried to re-establish the flood group and has offered funding to help with some funding for a new group but no residents came forward to volunteer to establish a new flood group.

Councils are not responsible to cover anyone's financial losses if they don't have insurance.

North Yorkshire Council in this case may offer emergency help but that is for NYC to do such as arranging temporary accommodation.

In rental properties it is important to have contents insurance covering flood damage and it is the owners or landlords responsibly to have appropriate buildings insurance.

If insurance has been refused because of a high risk of flooding the Government has the FLOODRE scheme to help such owners to obtain affordable insurance.

(iv) Uncut Hedges.

The Clerk was still following up with NYC highways about hedges that remained uncut.

(iv) Trees

A number of trees around the village have been uprooted in the recent stormy weather and were being dealt with.

(v) Leaky Dams.

The Clerk reported that Coxon Bros had carried out an inspection of the leaky dams and had reported that all debris had been removed from the dams and there were currently no repairs that need to be carried out.

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

No actions were reported to meeting as neither the Chairman or Vice-Chairman were present.

8. REPORTS – INCLUDING REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS –

(i) Finance Group.

The Finance Group had met on the 13th October -

Allotment Rent.

The landowner had applied for an annual increase in rent requesting an increase from £1,200.00 per annum to £1,700.00 per annum as there had been no increase in rent for 12 years and water was included in the rent.

RECOMMENDED - That the landowner be offered an increase to £1,500.00 for the current year with the Council paying for tree works that were necessary on the site and that the matter be again reviewed next year.

It was thought inappropriate to increase the rent any further for the current year as the season was more than half way through and rents had already been collected from the tenants of the plots for this year.

Fencing at Water End Green opposite the Car Park.

RECOMMENDED - That the quotation received from Hillside Tree Surgeons in the sum of £2,498.19 to renew all of the fencing and to protect the posts with metal sleeves to avoid grass strimming damage be accepted.

Wildlife Area

AGREED - That the Clerk purchase the seeds that had been requested by the Wildlife Group but that clarification be obtained as to which trees it was being suggested should be removed.

NI Payments

AGREED - That the Clerk investigate whether the Council should be paying Employers NI contributions to HMRC.

Northallerton Bonfire Donation

It was reported that Northallerton Town Council would be sending a letter asking that BTC make a contribution towards the Northallerton Bonfire and Fireworks but to date the letter had not been received.

VAT

It was noted that VAT had been claimed in the sum of £5,889.48 from HMRC.

Closed Footbridge rear of The Orchards.

AGREED - That the Clerk ask NYC to raise an invoice so that BTC's contribution of £2,500.00 towards the costs of the repairs to the bridge could be paid.

Leaky Dams

AGREED - That the Clerk try to get an alternative company to inspect and maintain the leaky dams as communication with Coxons had not been responded to.

Meeting with the BRG

AGREED - That the Clerk liaise with the BRG to arrange a catch up meeting between the respective representatives.

Climbing Frame at Water End

That a sum of £15,000.00 be placed in the Budget for the replacement of the climbing frame at Water End.

2025/26 Budget

The Finance Group revised income and expenditure for the financial year to date and made adjustments as necessary.

E Mail Addresses

RECOMMENDED - That, subject to clarification on a couple of matters, the Council change from NYC and transfer its Web site and arrange the new email addresses through Parish On Line for an overall sum of £480.00 +VAT

The clerk reported that since the holding of the Finance Group meeting the allotment site landowner had put forward further reasons supporting his request for a rent increase and it was AGREED – That the Finance Group look at this matter again at its November meeting.

The Clerk reported that to date no letter had been received from Northallerton Town Council about the making of a contribution towards the Annual Bonfire and Fireworks Display.

NYC had advised that it would raise an invoice so that BTC's contribution of £2,500.00 towards the costs of the repairs to the bridge could be paid when the works had been completed.

As regards the leaky dams Coxon Bros had very recently carried out their annual inspection and removal of all debris.

AGREED –That the Recommendations of the Finance Working Group as set out above be approved.

- (i) Highways/ Road Safety Working Group.

No meeting held.

- (ii) Wildlife Area Working Group.

Meeting held on the 2nd October - See report of meeting under Wildlife Area item below.

A local resident Keeley Metcalfe has been appointed to serve on the Working Group.

AGREED – That this action be endorsed.

- (iii) Joint Pedestrian/Cycling Working Group.

No meeting held.

See NYC Update under Correspondence.

- (iv) New Estates Working Group.

No meeting held

10. PLANNING MATTERS.

- (i) Decisions.

ZB25/01425/FUL – Development at 17 The Green – Granted

ZB25/01427/FUL – Demolition of existing bungalow and replace with a new dwelling with larger footprint at Juarna, Stokesley Road – Refused

ZB25/0512/FUL – Extension and development at 24 Water End – Granted

ZB25/01480/FUL – Demolition of outbuildings and garage and construction of ancillary accommodation at 77 Northallerton Road - Granted

(ii) Applications.

ZB25/01656/FUL - Retrospective application for the retention of a rear wooden lean-to extension and construction of a wooden shed on a raised platform/garden area at 2 Fernwood Close – No objections.

ZB25/01709/FUL - Covering of 4 existing silage clamps and the replacement and extension of an existing cattle building at Lowfields Farm, Fullicar Lane – No objections.

11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

Income

Mrs K Atkinson (Burial plot)	£420.00
North Yorkshire Council (Half-yearly Precept)	£39,000.00
Barthrams Funeral Directors (Burial fee)	£620.00
HMRC (VAT reimbursement)	£5,899.48
Brompton Allotments Group (Annual allotments rent)	£1,200.00

Payments

T P Jones (Quarterly Payroll)	£59.40
Sam Turner & Sons (Fence posts and post fix etc)	£1,086.51
Mr J Robinson (Financial Services advice)	£741.75
North Yorkshire Council (Domain Renewal)	£33.60
CE+CE Walker (August grasscutting)	£1,826.40
P Atkin (Salary).	£458.48
HMRC (PAYE).	£114.60
YDS Ltd (Trailer hire and labour).	£177.60
Hillside Tree Surgeons (Felling of Ash tree)	£900.00
Coxon Bros (Maintenance of Leaky Dams)	£804.00

Direct Debit -

NYC (Trade Waste collection).	£30.36
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Bank Balances

Unity Trust Bank at 30th September 2025 –

Current Account - £47,020.19

Deposit Account - £61,700.14

Barclays Bank at 3rd September 2025

Business Premium Account - £128,547.49

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

12. SOCIAL MEDIA.

Councillor Hird outlined plans for establishing a social media platform for Council business to obtain a higher degree of public connection.

AGREED - That the Social Media Working Group be comprised of Councillors Mrs Hird, Mr Potter and Mrs Robinson and that the Clerk ask those Councillors not present at the current Council meeting if they also wish to be on the Working Group.

13. CLIMBING FRAME AT WATER END.

AGREED – That in the absence of Councillor Hazelwood at this stage in the meeting this matter be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council.

14. BATTLE OF THE STANDARD PLAQUE

Sent from the Diocese to the PCC –

The DAC considered your petition at their meeting on 23rd September but were not able to recommend it to the Chancellor for the following reasons:

- The plaque was not a memorial to commemorate a person/persons who had died or been killed but was simply part of a marker for a battle site, and therefore the committee felt that it would be inappropriate to display the plaque within a church setting.*
- The Parish Council had asked for it to be displayed in the church because the church was generally kept locked and therefore the plaque would be less vulnerable to theft. The committee felt that this argument did not hold water as the parish had been granted a faculty for a re-ordering scheme which would see the church and community use of the building and visitor footfall increased, thereby requiring the church to open for longer periods than at present.*
- It did not seem that any thought had been given to the church's insurance provisions, both as regards the intrinsic value of the metal and the damage which would be caused to the building in the event the plaque was forcibly removed.*

- *The Archdeacon noted that the parish was presently in vacancy; how would the incoming incumbent view this proposal?*
- *The committee as a whole felt that this item would be more appropriate for display in a museum, for example at the Northallerton Heritage Hub.*

I have updated the online system with the DAC's Notification of Advice that your petition was 'Not recommended' and you will have just received an email confirming that. However, please note the statement in that notice which says, in bold lettering: "Despite the Committee's advice, you may, if you wish, apply to the court for a faculty authorising the works or proposals". In other words, you can still carry on with your application and submit it to the Chancellor, but she will take note of the DAC's reasons for not recommending it and may wish to ask for more information before making her decision.

Agreed – That the School, the BRG, The Village Hall Committee and the Methodist Church be asked if they would be willing to display the Battle of the Standard plaque.

15. HIGHWAY MATTERS.

A resident had expressed concerns about the current continual movements through the village of heavy tractors and trailers and had asked the Council to again discuss the matter.

Mrs Barningham referred to an email she had received from Mr Lillie of the Environment Agency and clarified that she had raised the issue of the beck at Water End with Mr Lillie as a resident.

Councillor Hazelwood commented that as regards the recent alleged threat of flooding he had not received any flood alert adding that the level of the beck had only risen by 200mm therefore the leaky dams were working and the area was now classed as a low risk area.

Mrs Barningham stated that some residents had been flooded in 2012 but did not claim for this as it would affect their future insurance liabilities. She also commented on trees that had been planted on the edge of the beck and the Chairman said that he had walked the length of the beck and had noted 4 or 5 trees that had been planted in accordance with a plan and that the rest were self-seeded trees.

Councillor Hazelwood left the meeting at 7.55pm

A Councillor asked how the issue could be resolved and the Chairman said that the Council needed to find out what Mr Lille had told residents. However Mrs Barningham said that she was not prepared to reveal that information to the Council.

Mr Colley who had raised issues about heavy tractor movements through Brompton over the past month was present at the meeting and referred to the issues that he had raised.

The Clerk outlined the responses that had been given to Mr Colley and the Chairman added that the Council could not force the operator to use the back road track and that this crossed the railway line.

Mr Colley pointed out that 15 concrete wagons had gone past his property and this was not acceptable. The Chairman responded saying that if it was thought that an offence had been committed then it was for residents to make a note of the licence plates and to report the matter to the appropriate Authority as that Brompton Council could do nothing to stop such vehicles.

Mr Colley stated that from experience he was aware that pig farmers were only permitted to work to restricted hours and the Chairman pointed out that pig farming was completely different to dairy farming.

The Chairman asked the public present what they wanted the Town Council to do about the situation as the Town Council had no powers to do anything as such matters lay with the Police and with North Yorkshire Councils Highways.

In answer to a question the Clerk stated that he had been to see Mr Spence on several occasions and Rishi Sunak MP had also taken up the matter in recent months. The correspondence that Mr Sunak had had with NY Highways had been copied to Mr Colley.

Mrs Barningham said that someone else should go to see Mr Spence, adding that she herself would go and speak to Mr Spence as the general public especially children were at risk from serious injury by the tractors which were being driven by young males, who were often on their mobile phones and who sometimes had their girlfriends in the cab with them.

Mr Colley commented that for a village with 2,500 electors it was obvious to him why attendance by the public at Council meetings was low as this was due to the non-co-operation of the Council with residents.

Councillors strenuously denied this.

The Chairman stated that he himself had had an altercation with one of the tractor drivers when he had been out on his bike

The Clerk reported that the Police had checked the speeds of the tractors in the village and had found none of them to be speeding. Police resources to do this were however very limited.

There was currently an application in with NYC to make the centre of the village 20mph and it was anticipated that this would happen in due course as it was being supported by the NYC Transport Portfolio Councillor.

Mr Colley expressed the view that the road bridge at the foot of Cockpit Hill was in danger of collapse as it was not designed to take such heavy vehicle movements. The Clerk reported that the bridge had been recently inspected by NY Highways and had been deemed to be quite able to take such traffic. The Chairman added that if the bridge did collapse this was a matter for NYC Highways and not for Brompton Council,

A Councillor commented that the Council had tried everything in its power to resolve the issue of tractor movements and had had the Police and NY Highways out but Mr Spence was expanding and the back road was merely an escape route if anything was to happen to the main road.

The Clerk clarified that agricultural vehicles were exempt from weight restriction orders in accessing their own properties.

Mr Colley asked what the Town Councils Plan B was to which the Chairman responded that the 20mph speed limit proposal was the Councils Plan B.

Mr Colley expressed fears about tractor movements at times of flood water across the roads and the detrimental affects on properties. The Clerk mentioned that in Northallerton when

serious flooding had occurred residents had put their own HGVs across the roads to block vehicular access that could form flood waves going into properties.

As regards speeding the Clerk suggested that as in some other villages such as Melsonby residents could approach the Police to set up their own Community Speed Watch.

In closing the debate the Chairman pointed to NY Councillor Steve Watson being the correct route for these concerns.

16. CYCLING NETWORK DEVELOPMENT FOR NORTHallERTON

Received from the NYC Transport Planning Officer (Projects) -

A comprehensive report had been received from North Yorkshire Council Officers who were seeking to engage with key stakeholders on the Cycling Network Development for Northallerton and collect views on the emerging priorities which are outlined below.

The full report is contained in the Monthly Update.

Corridors had been selected and assessed to create short-, medium- and long-term priorities under the following definitions.

Short Term	(Typically, under <3 years) schemes which can be implemented quickly or are under development (subject to implementation funding becoming available)
Medium Term	(Typically, <5 years) comprising improvements where there is a clear intention to act, but delivery is dependent on further funding availability or other issues (e.g. further design work, securing planning permissions and/or land acquisition)
Long Term	(Typically, >5 years) more aspirational improvements or those awaiting a defined solution.

Time Frame	Corridor	Town	Cost Estimation
Medium	A684 Stokesley Road	Northallerton	Medium
	Turker Lane	Northallerton	Low
	Oak Grove	Northallerton	Low
	Town Centre Linkage	Northallerton	Medium
	Tannery Lane/Path	Northallerton	Medium
	Castlegate Path	Northallerton	Low
Long	Bullamoor Road	Northallerton	High
	A167 Darlington Road (Thurston Road to North Moor Road)	Northallerton	High
	Malpas Road	Northallerton	Medium
	Ashlea Road	Northallerton	Low
	Applegarth Playground	Northallerton	Medium

AGREED – That the suggestions outlined in the report be accepted.

17. GREENS INSPECTION + WILD LIFE AREA

The Wildlife Area notes of the meeting held on the 2nd October are contained in the Monthly Update.

The Clerk reported that the bulbs requested by the Working Group had been ordered and had been delivered.

18. CORRESPONDENCE.

None.

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Date of the next Meeting

AGREED – That the next meeting of the Council be held in The Methodist Church at 7.15pm on Tuesday 18th November 2025.

(ii) Beck Behind The Orchards.

It was reported that there was a pallet and a tyre in the beck behind The Orchards. The Clerk said that he had reported this to the Environment Agency but would do so again.

20. BURIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reported that two burials had taken place during October and that two interments of ashes were scheduled to take place.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm