

Constable Burton and Finghall Parish Council

The quarterly meeting of the Council held on 4th August 2025 at 7.00pm in The Reading Room, Constable Burton.

Present: Cllrs Smith, Allinson, Hale, Gelder & Dalton, 2 MOP

1. To receive any declarations of interest. Cllr Smith declares an interest in item 6 (Spruce Gill Farm) & Cllr Dalton declares an interest in item 6 (Pump Street, Hauxwell)
2. To confirm the minutes of meeting held on 19th May & 9th June 2025 as a true and accurate record. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.
3. Matters raised by members of the public. Resident has concerns about trade being taken away from the Queens Head if the Chapel is used as a public space and specifically if the Chapel intends to serve food, also concerns about parking should this come to fruition. Cllr Allinson gives a brief history about the Chapel and being used as a village hall, both himself and Cllr Hale attended the initial meeting, and the support seemed limited. Cllr Gelder adds that the Chapel and Queens Head need to get together and discuss each others concerns in relation to the Chapel opening as a public building.
4. Crime report. Crime reports received for May, June, July, reports forwarded to Cllrs.
5. Clerk report. To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary.
 - Defibrillator for Barden & possible phone kiosk adoption. Confirmation that the phone kiosk at Barden should be adopted, should BT decide to remove the phone, cllrs resolved to adopt the phone kiosk at Barden, clerk to send confirmation to BT. Defibs discussed should this be agreed, some funding available: London Hearts (Internal defib £660, cost to PC), British Heart Foundation (free – application), Resuscitation Council (closed for 2025, re-open 2026). Clerk to apply to British Heart Foundation in the first instance.
 - Highways updates. Poorly completed trench in Finghall, this has been reported to the Streetworks Inspector who has chased the repair with the contractor. Constable Burton Bridge, this is Grade 2 listed, and so approval is required from the Conservation Officer, this has been granted. Highways are uncertain of a date for this work due to the possibility of a road closure but will keep us informed. Residents reported 'Slow' road markings faded near the level crossing at Finghall, reported these and other road markings in Finghall. Highways have completed the ones near the level crossing and the one towards Conyers Lane, the others do not meet the criteria for refreshing. Developers of the house next to the Queens Head informed about their requirement to dig in the verge. Clerk spoke with Cllrs Smith & Allinson, Highways verge and informed developer of this, also that the PC request that the area is made safe during the work and reinstate to current quality. New signs have been placed in Barden, clerk to send thanks to North Yorkshire Cllr Jones. Clerk to report the broken grit bin towards the top of Finghall bank.
 - Constable Burton bench. Cllr Gelder updates, waiting for a decision about a new bench, a temporary bench has been placed at the triangle. Cllrs aren't happy with this temporary bench, not suitable for a public space, also concerns about insurance. Clerk to check/add to the insurance and confirm that the 3 tanalised picnic benches are on the policy, councillors queried whether these benches would benefit from having a small plaque stating that they are PC property.
 - Community Emergency Plan update. Emergency equipment to be held in the Reading Room kitchen. Confirmation received that all people within the Emergency Plan have been contacted for their permission to be included, could do with more people on the community volunteer list and queries whether a Rest/Welfare location could be found in Finghall, cllrs to discuss with likely locations.
6. Planning Applications.
 - Application to determine if prior approval is required for conversion of an existing agricultural building to residential use under Class Q at Spruce Gill Farm, Finghall. Cllr Smith declares an interest in this application. No objections under delegated authority (Cllrs Allinson & Dalton).
 - Full planning permission for conversion of an existing stone barn to form a dwelling, including an extension in matching materials to provide two bedrooms and a bathroom. The works also involve

installation of services, construction of a stone-built garage/workshop, redirection of existing farm track and change of use from agricultural to residential at Pump Street, East Hauxwell. Cllr Dalton declares an interest in this application. No objections.

- Full planning permission for the change of use of existing building from agricultural to equestrian and side extension for hay storage (retrospective). Cllr Smith declares an interest in this application. No objections.
 - Appeal notification for FPP for construction of an ensuite extension over existing rear off-shoot at Fieldfare Barn, Hutton Hill. Clerk to forward original concerns.
7. Matters requested by Councillors & meetings attended by Councillors & Clerk. Cllr Gelder & clerk attended the YLCA Branch meeting, the speaker was from Catterick Integrated Care Centre; this was inspiring & informative and is the first jointly funded health care project involving the NHS & MOD. A resident informs that the Friarage was also jointly funded in the past. This will open in 2026 and will house outpatients, community midwifery, mental health, OOH, OOH Dentistry, X-Ray and maybe chemo and radiotherapy, drug and alcohol services. Transport to this new care provision was discussed by attending PCs.
8. Financial matters. Balance at 4/8/25 £4133.00 (all Cllrs viewed the internal financial controls via email)
- Outgoing
- Streetscape (New swing seats) £744.00
 - Vicki Raven (May, June, July wages) £1145.04
 - HMRC (PAYE) £101.60
 - Margaret Goldie (Internal audit) £30.00
 - Constable Burton Reading Room (Hall hire) £30.00
 - V Raven (Amazon, Boyes emergency equipment) £47.25
- NALC - National Joint Council Salary award. It was resolved to approve this pay award (3.2%) from 1/4/25, hours worked from 1/1/25 = 6/week, hours to remain at 6/week.
9. Safety Review. Clerk to chase the quarterly report, Cllr Hale enquires about the bushes on the other set of swings, clerk to confirm they have been turned with contractor.
10. To consider the following new correspondence received and decide action where necessary: North Yorkshire Council – Application to record a public bridleway from Garriston to West Hauxwell. Cllrs request more information about this application, and specifically who is applying, and why needed. Clerk to discuss with NY Footpaths & Bridleways, and Cllrs to discuss with local residents. Clerk to reply by Thursday and will discuss with Cllrs about PC reply.
- Community Governance Review. Constable Burton & Finghall PC requires review, as the current provision does not satisfy the requirements. Options have been suggested, Cllrs resolved to ask for a different option: Maintain a 'grouped' parish arrangement and retain existing council size (Constable Burton – 2 Cllrs, Finghall, Akebar, Hutton Hang – 2 Cllrs, Garrison, Barden & Hauxwell – 2 Cllrs. There was also a request by Spennithorne Parish Meeting to join a nearby Council. Cllrs felt there were no close local links with this parish and suggested that Harmby may be a better option for a merge. Clerk to reply.
11. Date of next meeting. 10th November, 7pm
Meeting closed: 8.25pm