

Fearby, Healey and District Parish Council

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Clerk: Alan Greensit 07763229959

Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 30 July 2026 at 7.30pm in Fearby Village Hall

Present: Chair Cll K Marshall; Vice Chair Cll J Thompson;

Cllrs: S Searle; G Verity; C Iveson

App:- J Marsden; J Hayman; N Bromhead; J Gregg; Cllr Felicity Cunliffe Lister

4 member of the public also attended

The minutes of the previous meeting were declared a true record and signed by the Chair

Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

Ilton Councillor Vacancy. Councillor Iveson brought a Ilton resident Robert Middleton to the meeting as a prospective candidate for the post. Mr Middleton has lived in Ilton for many years and is very much involved in the community. He has lived in the area all his life and is known to many of the councillors. Cll Iveson proposed that Mr Middleton be co opted onto the council for the parish of Ilton. Cll Thompson seconded and so Mr Middleton was asked to join the council for the rest of the meeting which he accepted. The clerk issued the statutory paperwork for him to complete.

Fearby Allotment Update. Cll Gregg who has been liaising with Swinton Estate was not at the meeting and sent a message that there was no further update.

Ilton Noticeboard Cll Searle whose daughter is painting the new board reported that the work is progressing and is nearing the final states. The clerk advised that the current noticeboard is in a serious dilapidated state and is in desperate need of replacement.

Healey Noticeboard update. Cll Marshall has the wood and is now able to progress the work in making the noticeboard.

Replacement Clerk. One of the members of the public specifically came to see what happens as may be interested in the position. The clerk explained the post to the meeting and knew to the interested party so will meet them with the details. The council were supportive of this move.

Update of footbridge adjacent Charis Cll Gregg sent a message advising that there was no update on this item.

Planning

Although is was not on the agenda, a planning application 26/03493/TPO, Yew Tree Farm, Fearby was received immediately prior to the meeting. This was for a Crown reduction of an Acer, a reduction of a Silver Birch and the felling of a Laurel. After a brief discussion the council had no objection to this application.

The Chairman brought up the recent planning application of two large cattle sheds adj Dawson Lane in Fearby for Rodney Brothers. There was some confusion in the village as to what was happening. Mr Rodney, the applicant, was at the meeting to advise of the situation, He had heard

the people thought he was building an industrial estate, he quickly advised that the planning was for a cattle shed and a grain store and that is what he is building. He has the correct planning permission and building regulation. He owns the property and is developing a cattle enterprise to support his rented farm and his building business. The council were aware of his situation and were very supportive of the agricultural enterprise. Mr Rodney just wanted to put everyone's mind at rest regarding the development. Cll Searle asked if the area would be screened, Mr Rodney advised that the hedges would be tidied up and some hedging replaced but had no plans for large screening trees. The chairman thanked him for his explanation.

Finance

The bank statements were handed round with the allocation sheet. These were explained to the new councillor. The statements were signed by the chair as a true record.

The clerk's expenses were handed round, this was for mileage only, however, the price per mile has increased from 45p to 55p. The expenses showed the usual mileage of 54 bringing the total expenses to £29.70. No other clerk expenses were presented. The council agreed this amount.

Cllr Thompson reminded the council about the lawnmower insurance which was to suggest to the committee to make a contribution to the insurance. The chair said he has not seen anyone to discuss this with but will make a point of doing this.

The chair advised that Masham Community Office has a project of providing community patient transport to the local community within 5 miles of Masham. This has been very successful and is currently running at about 20 journey a week. It is currently costing more than the grant they are allocated and, as it covers this council's area as well, they may be asking for a contribution to the running of it from the council. The council will await contact from MCO.

Highways –

The clerk and chair have finally received a response from highways regarding outstanding highway issues via Cll Cunliffe Lister and read them to the council. This did not address all the issues but some. It seems that the standard response to clearing gutters was to write to the land owner, this response was met with disapproval from the council as most of the gutters are highway ones. There was no mention of some of the items outstanding. Cll Middleton advised that he has had a good response regarding pothole maintenance around his business, it seems that if a number of people complain about an item it is dealt with sooner.

There is a problem with parking on the edge of Fearby Village Green making it difficult to access the road safely. Many of the car owners have driveways to their houses but do not use them. It was suggested that a letter should be drafted to deliver to all the Fearby residents asking if they have a driveway please use it to park their cars to avoid any accidents.

It was brought to the notice of the council that the fire hydrants were either hidden or inaccessible. A number were buried in undergrowth. It was requested that Yorkshire Water be contacted to look at the hydrants from Masham to Healey.

Other Business.

Cll Cunliffe Lister was not there but has sent a report to be read out. The chair read the report.

Connectivity, the proposed mast at Ox Close with a transmission dish may not come to pass, Internet connectivity is still very poor in the outlying areas but Cll Thompson advised that it seems that phone companies were starting to use satellite communication for mobile phone signals which for little more provided an excellent signal everywhere.

The chair asked Mr Mountain who is part of the Community Led Housing to update the council. The project is up and running but there are no further developments for Kell Bank School. That matter is currently in the hands of the Diocese of Leeds who owns the land. CLH is currently in place for community housing projects in the area

The remainder of the report was read to the council and the clerk has put it on the website for the public to view.

AOB for next meeting

There were no other business to discuss

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

The next meeting will be held on 24 September 2026 at 7.30 in Fearby Village Hall