

Minutes of the Melbecks Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 17th July 2025 at Low Row Institute

The Melbecks Parish Council meeting was held on Thursday 17th July 2025 at Low Row Institute. Present were Councillors Silver, Bowe and Strafford with Cllr R. Alderson chairing. Also present was NYC Councillor Yvonne Peacock. The Clerk was Miss N. Adams. All were welcomed to the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Councillor Calvert.

2. Declaration of Interests: There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the last meeting, held on 15th May 2025 were agreed to be a correct record, and these were signed by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

a) At the previous meeting, the issue of communication both between councillors and between the council and residents and how this could be improved going forward was raised as well as the regulations regarding parish council websites etc. The clerk had circulated information and guidance regarding this.

b) Defibrillator pad for Low Row Institute. Councillors unanimously agreed to pay £77.93 for defibrillator pads. The clerk will liaise with Richard Lewis to arrange for this to be paid.

5. Finance

a) Bank Account: Councillors noted that the clerk had received communication from Barclays Bank advising that going forward, bank statements need to be sent to one of the signatories of the account, not the Clerk. Councillor Alderson has contacted the bank, and statements will be posted to his address in the future.

b) Charge for cancelling a cheque: Councillors noted that £12.50 has been charged for the cancellation of a cheque.

6. Highways

a) Councillors were informed of the road closure taking place on the B6270 Richmond to Reeth Road, Downholme for resurfacing works from 4th August 2025 for 7 days.

7. North Yorkshire Council

items. No

8. YDNPA

a) Yorkshire Dales National Park Spring Parish Forum notes and briefings. These had been shared with councillors prior to the meeting.

b) Full planning permission for conversion of the attached barn to create additional living accommodation for use ancillary to the main dwelling; refurbishment of the existing dwelling including internal and external alterations and reinstatement/repair of pigsty for use as cycle storage at Barfside (formerly Staining), Low Row, Richmond. The council raised no comments or objections.

9. Any Other Business

a) The state of the notice boards in Low Row and Gunnerside had been raised by a resident and councillors discussed different options. Councillor Yvonne Peacock has confirmed that some Locality funding is available and the clerk will complete the relevant forms. As well as the quote for the recycled plastic wood-effect boards, it was agreed to obtain some quotes for hard wood notice boards from local joiners. The clerk to obtain some quotes. Reeth Estates have kindly confirmed they will donate £250 towards a notice board for Low Row and Councillor Bowe will ask Gunnerside Estate about a donation towards a notice board for Gunnerside.

b) Northern Powergrid Enquiry regarding new connection of electricity at High Green Barn, Gunnerside Richmond DL11 6LA. The council noted receipt of this and raised no objections in relation to the proposed works. The clerk will sign and return the form.

c) Dales Police Report: 9th June 2025 to 7th July 2025 and 6th May 2025 to 8th June 2025.

Both these reports had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

- d) Parking issues Low Row. This issue was raised anonymously, and it was clarified that anonymous issues cannot be dealt with by the Parish Council.
- e) Turning circle, Low Row Institute. It was raised by a councillor that some tarmac has been laid on the turning circle outside the Low Row Institute, which looks unsightly and has covered the grit heap. Councillors agreed that a letter should be sent to those who completed this work to ask them to address this.
- f) Brown Hill Top. It was noted that the owner of this property has put up a sign 'parking for Brown Hill Top' on common land, and it was agreed for the clerk to send a letter asking if permission has been given to put up this sign.
- g) Yorkshire Dales Rally 2026: The council were informed of this event taking place next March. The clerk was asked to write to obtain more information and specific routes and timings etc.
- h) Speeding issues in Low Row: Two residents had raised concerns regarding speeding issues in Low Row. It was unanimously agreed for the clerk to enquire about arranging traffic speed checks in the village.

10. Dates of next meeting

The meeting dates for the year ahead were agreed:

- Thursday 2nd October 2025 at Gunnerside
- Thursday 27th November 2025 at Low Row
- Thursday 29th January 2026 at Gunnerside
- Thursday 19th March 2026 at Low Row
- Thursday 14th May 2026 at Gunnerside
- Thursday 16th July 2026 at Low Row

As there was no other business, the meeting closed at 9:00pm.