

Minutes of the Melbecks Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 2nd October 2025 at Gunnerside Village Hall

The Melbecks Parish Council meeting was held on Thursday 2nd October 2025 at Gunnerside Village Hall. Present were Councillors Silver, Calvert, Bowe and Strafford with Cllr R. Alderson chairing. Also present was NYC Councillor Yvonne Peacock and PC Heather Campbell. There was one member of the public present. The Clerk was Miss N. Adams. All were welcomed to the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence: There were no apologies. All were present.

2. Declaration of Interests: Councillor Silver declared an interest in item 8(e).

3. Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the last meeting, held on 17th July 2025 were agreed to be a correct record, and these were signed by the Chair.

4. Matters arising: A concern was raised about lack of communication between Parish Councillors, however going forward, it was agreed to set up a WhatsApp group for parish councillors, and any councillors who are not able to join this group will be informed of any important issues by the Clerk. The Clerk will also send a report for the Reeth Gazette following Parish Council meetings.

Following the decision made at the last meeting to send a letter regarding the tarmac which has been laid near the Institute, it was noted that this letter has not yet been sent but the Clerk will arrange for this to be done.

The notice board in Low Row has been repaired at a cost of £40.00 and the contractor was asked to send an invoice for their work and they will be asked to do the same at Gunnerside. Locality funding of £300 for the notice boards has been received, however if the decision is not to replace these at the moment, it was confirmed that this can be allocated to a new website instead.

5. Finance

a) Bank Account: Councillors noted that communication from Barclays Bank has been received. The clerk will investigate this.

b) Parish Precept arrangements for the financial year 2026/27. It was noted that this needs to be confirmed by December 2025 and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

c) New Assertion 10 in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31 March 2026 - Digital and Data Compliance. This new requirement around email addresses and website etc will be discussed at the next meeting.

PC Heather Campbell joined the meeting at 20:30

6. Highways

a) The clerk was asked to report the following highway concerns, and Councillor Peacock to be copied in:

- At Rowleth Bottom, Low Row, the road is falling away on the south side of the road.
- At Gunnerside, opposite the electric gate, the wall is damaged with a steep drop behind.
- At Robin Gate, Low Row, the bollards are damaged on the south side of the road.

7. North Yorkshire Council

a) Consultation on proposals relating to Reeth and Gunnerside Federation: The Parish Council noted this consultation, and the date of the public meeting, which is taking place around how Reeth and Gunnerside Federation is currently working. The proposal is for Reeth to become an Infant School and Gunnerside a Junior School.

8. YDNPA a)

Protected tree applications: Land next to Brockma Gill, Kearton, Low Row fell of 1 x ash tree - there were no comments or objections.

b) Protected tree applications: Thistlebought Farm, Gunnerside fell 1 x pine and crown lift 1 x elm -there were no comments or objections.

c) Householder planning permission for erection of a stone boundary wall with pedestrian gates at Jingle Pot Lodge, Gunnerside, DL11 6JG - R/05/67G - there were no comments or objections.

d) Listed building consent for erection of a stone boundary wall with pedestrian gates at Jingle Pot Lodge, Gunnerside, DL11 6JG -R/05/67H/LB - there were no comments or objections.

e) Section 73 application to vary conditions 2 (approved plans) and 17 (roofing slates) of

R/05/252 (Full planning permission for re- occupation of a former dwelling and installation of sewage package treatment plant) in respect of the amended location of the fuel tank, generator and heat pump and for the use of weathered Indian stone slates for any additional slates required at Mount Pleasant, Low Row, Gunnerside, DL11 6PU - R/05/252B - there were no comments or objections.

f) Autumn Parish Forum online Tuesday 4 November 2025 at 7pm - the council noted receipt of this.

g) Yorkshire Dales National Park Local Plan 2025-2040 - the council noted receipt of this.

h) Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan Annual Forum - the council noted receipt of this.

9. Any Other Business

a) Housing Needs Survey Report for Affordable Housing - the council noted receipt of this.

b) North Yorkshire Citizens Advice & Law Centre- the council agreed not to make a donation at this time.

c) Dales Police Report 8th August to 6th September 2025 - the council noted receipt of this.

d) Dales Police Report 7th July to 7th August 2025 - the council noted receipt of this.

Both these reports had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. PC Heather Campbell advised that there had been an incident of fly-tipping which was reported to the police, but it was noted that this is not a police matter, unless there is an obstruction on the highway.

e) The North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel - the council noted receipt of this request for co-opted members of the panel.

f) Complaints Procedure. The councillors reviewed an adopted the Complaints Procedure.

g) Brown Hill Top 'Parking for residents of Brown Hill Top' It was noted that this sign had originally been put up by a previous owner of the house. The Parish Council suggest that this sign is taken down as no permission had been obtained to put this up, although cars can still park at this location. The owner of the property has agreed to take this sign down.

h) Scott Trial permission slip: This was signed and will be returned.

10. Dates of next meeting _____ The

meeting dates for the year ahead were agreed:

- 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 20.55