

**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF POTTO PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
TUESDAY 24 MARCH 2026 AT 7.15 PM AT POTTO VILLAGE HALL**

**Meeting Open to the public**

Four members of the public were present, to discuss bench and state of road outside Barnfather's site and general state of the roads in the parish..

Discussed the state of the road outside Barnfather's site and general state of all the roads around Potto including Blackhorse Lane, Goulton Lane, Butcher Lane and Parsons Back Lane. It was noted that Highways were attending to fix roads on days when the weather was inappropriate, therefore the repairs were ineffective, they also did not have enough tarmac to fix the jobs that needed to be completed. The parish council will contact Highways to highlight the areas of the roads within the Parish that need to be fixed. Councillor Hugill informed that the Mayor will be able to cover certain pothole work from his budget and can override Councils on potholes.

Meeting closed to public.

**1. Reminder by the Chairman of the Councils expectations for the audio or visual recording of this meeting**

No requests received.

**2. Apologies for absence and approve reasons for absence**

Present: Councillor Mr A Wilde (Chairman), Councillor Mrs E Griffin, Councillor R Walker and Unitary Councillor D Hugill.

Apologies: Councillor Mr S March and Councillor Mr I Macpherson.

**3. Minutes of the January and February meeting**

The minutes of January's meeting were discussed and agreed as a true record and resolved.

The minutes of February's meeting were discussed and agreed as a true record and resolved.

**4. Matters Arising from last month's meeting**

- 4.1 Police Report - One case of 'Violence against the person' no further information.
- 4.2 Footpaths, Bridges and Stiles - Stell system walk will be completed shortly.
- 4.3 Annual Returns - Documents received from PKF LittleJohn for the AGAR. Objections to 2024/25 AGAR 10 objections have been responded to.
- 4.4 Traffic Calming - Speed sign is currently in Seamer. In Potto a vehicle travelling at 55mph was recorded from corner in village towards the pub at 11:35 on 28 February.
- 4.5 ICO - Freedom of information requests and reviews, the following cases were discussed:
  - EA-2024-0028 - Tribunal ongoing.
  - FT/EA-2025-0228 – No action required by the council
  - FT/EA/2025/0154.

Carried out a review from a non-resident for his freedom of information request. It was agreed that appropriate responses had been provided as required.

- 4.6 Parish Plan - To be reviewed at a later date.

- 4.7 Community Governance Review - Discussed email from CGR Team. 40% voted to stay as Parish Council 37% to move to Parish Meeting.
- 4.8 Website - Layout of website was discussed at last month's meeting. Clerk contacted Mr Whitlock who is our webmaster and he is able to amend the layout to be similar to Hutton Rudby's at no cost to the Parish Council. Discussions on layout were held. Agreed.

## **5. Report from Unitary Councillor**

### NYC Councillor Report March 26

- *As our next election is just over a year away, some colleagues may be evaluating their chances of re-election. So far two have jumped ship although with no criticism of what we have been delivering*
- Our group remains the largest single group by some margin, delivering stable local government, making sound financial and not knee-jerk decisions or chasing populist causes for headlines' sake.
- Demand continues to grow for services, especially our very high-cost social care for both children and the elderly.
- We are working with over 1500 children with SEND at any one time. 80% of children needing an assessment are assessed within the 20-week timescale
- Government grants have led to almost 500 new early years places and over 2000 new wraparound places; these programmes offer choice to working parents.
- We have received a good CQC inspection for Adult Services, 81/100, 3<sup>rd</sup> highest nationally.
- We are investing £60m in dedicated care and support hubs, and a new programme for prevention called Prevention Plus. These are Invest to Save initiatives, designed to save money in the long term.
- We are working with the NHS to reduce hospital stays and get people home sooner
- We have disposed of excess property exceeding our original target but we will continue with more.
- This new government has little understanding of the costs of delivering services in rural areas, even saying there is no evidence for it. The loss of Rural Support Grant has hit us hard, over £14m pa.
- Fortunately, we have made £63m of savings from LGR. This could have been used to invest in services and facilities or reduce CT, but has had to be used to prop up the revenue budget, along with £17m of reserves formerly prudently gathered up for one-off capital projects.
- We have had to raise CT by the maximum to maintain our core spending power as required by the government.
- All second homes CT premium is being allocated to housing initiatives. We are still the only council in England to do so.
- We will complete the Blubberhouses bypass scheme on the A59 so ending years of landslips leading to road closures, and we will introduce a lane rental scheme to speed up utility works
- We continue to prepare the Local Plan to deliver the government-imposed target of 4200+ houses every year outside the National Parks
- Maltkiln will deliver 3000+ houses – we will need more Maltkilns
- There is still a national shortage of qualified planning officers. In planning enforcement, we dealt with over 1900 cases last year including some successful court cases, one resulting in a fine of £25k and all our expenses paid.
- We have started 23 out of 32 Neighbourhood Plans with positive engagement in Malton / Norton, Hawes, Selby and Richmond.
- We will maintain the locality budget scheme at last year's level.
- We continue to pursue double devo initiatives, notably Knaresborough market and Ripon City Council's property

- You are welcome to attend Area Committees and / or ask your elected Member to raise matters on your behalf.
- We have produced electronic material about the budget for PC members [www.https://youtu.be/rdbwjCcPiDM](https://youtu.be/rdbwjCcPiDM) and content for the web [www.northyorks.gov.uk/budgetPTC](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/budgetPTC)

## **6. Planning Applications to consider and decide upon**

- 6.1 ZB26/00232/FUL - Conversion of garage to habitable space and construction of new double garage. **37 Cooper Lane**, Potto.

## **7. Planning Decisions of Hambleton District Councils**

- 7.1 REF: ZB25/02112/FUL - Construction of a single self-build dwelling. **Land To Rear of 50 And 52 Cooper Lane**, Potto. There were many issues raised by residents during the public session. Concerns were raised about the timings of planning notifications by NTC planning department. Outlined timeline of NYC publishing information on the planning application. *Awaiting Decision.*
- 7.2 REF: ZB25/01883/FUL - Application for a New Detached Building to incorporate a car port on the ground floor and an annex above as ancillary accommodation to the main house. **Moor House Farm**, Goulton Lane, Potto. *Awaiting Decision.*
- 7.3 REF: ZB25/01281/OUT - Proposed agricultural workers' dwelling. **Goulton Grange Farm**, Potto. Comments regarding concerns of '4+ bedrooms' recommended no more than 3 bedrooms. *Awaiting Decision.*
- 7.4 Ref: ZB25/00332/MRC - Application for the removal of Condition 6 (occupancy) on two holiday lets. **Potto Fields Farm**, Black Horse Lane, Potto. *Awaiting Decision.*
- 7.5 Ref: ZB25/00332/MRC - Application for removal of Condition 4 (Occupancy) and 8 (access) for previously approved application 08/03395/FUL. **Potto Fields Farm**, Black Horse Lane, Potto. *Awaiting Decision.*

## **8. Matters requested by Councillors.**

- 8.1 Stell Inspection - Date to be arranged.
- 8.2 Pam Fanthorpe Bench - Councillor Walker is corresponding with Pam's daughter.
- 8.3 150+ spam emails received over weekend.

## **9. Finance**

- 9.1 To receive bank reconciliation and budget comparison to **24 March 2026**.

Community Account	£ 12,546.60
Business Premium Account	£ 5,221.37

- 9.2 Invoices:
- |                   |                                  |          |        |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------|--------|
| Kitsons           | Grass cutting                    | £ 126.00 | Agreed |
| Chipchase Manners | Internal Audit                   | £ 564.00 | Agreed |
| YLCA              | National Planning Policy Webinar | £ 18.20  | Agreed |
| Clear Councils    | Insurance                        | £ 501.44 | Agreed |
- 9.3 2026-27 Precept - Discussed the precept request submitted to North Yorkshire Council.
- 9.4 Budget - The current budget and expected expenditure were discussed.

9.5 Clerks Salary - Agreed.

9.6 Barclays Bank - Issues with bank ongoing. Contacted NatWest to discuss moving to them, following information received, agreed to move banking to NatWest.

**10. Correspondence**

To note correspondence received not specifically dealt with on this agenda.

10.1 Review of correspondence.

Appropriate responses to be provided as required.

**11. Any Other business**

None

**12. To confirm date & time of next meeting**

**Next meeting date Tuesday 21 April 2026 at 7.00pm.**

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.15 pm.