

CLAPHAM CUM NEWBY PARISH COUNCIL
Wednesday 15th July 2026
Clapham Village Hall

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs John Dawson (Acting Chair), Diane Elphinstone, Maria Farrer
In attendance: 3 members of the public.

1. To Receive Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr Colin Price, Alex Heath (Clerk) and Chris Hart

2.Code of Conduct and Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

2.1 To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's code of conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests **None**

2.2 To receive, consider and decide upon any application for dispensation **None**

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 17th June 2026 as a true and fair record.

*The parish council **RESOLVED** that the minutes as presented should be approved and signed by Acting Chair Cllr John Dawson as a true and accurate record.*

4. To receive updates on actions from previous meetings not covered elsewhere on the agenda

Meeting 17.06.26

Councillors received updates on actions from meeting 17.06.26.

(i) Councillors received further correspondence re caravans on Clapham Old Road. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk write, again, to police and Highways as thus far no response has been received. In addition to previous concerns, the use of an open fire has been noted which presents a particular risk in the current weather conditions.

(ii) There was continued discussion around the roadside weeds in Clapham. Thus far no letter has been sent as the situation changed in the days following our last meeting. An NYC contractor was seen in the village (weed spraying) and had a conversation with a Clapham resident who reported that he showed her a map of where he was spraying (only on the Beck side of road - not in front of houses which was residents' responsibility). It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would write to Highways to thank them for spraying the weeds but to request that, in future, there is some advance notification for health and safety purposes. The problem remains around dead weeds and soil removal. **Councillors to examine and report back.**

A representative from the Sustainability Group asked the Parish Council to consider recruiting a Parish Caretaker who could deal with a number of local issues such as weeds. **It was agreed that this should be added to the next agenda.**

5. To receive the Police Report: There was no police report

6. Highways, Streetlight, Road Signage and Boundary Markers:

Cllr Dawson advised that the streetlights for Newby have been ordered. The issue of roadside weeds in Clapham has been covered in 4.ii (above).

7. To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary:-

7.1 Parish Maintenance Matters:

- (a) Non-drinking water fountain beside Clapham Beck:- It was reported that water is overflowing from the fountain and is causing some staining and a continuous muddy base. There may be a blockage or flow may be too strong. It was asked that councillors should consider cutting off water supply. It was **RESOLVED** that councillors should investigate further to see if there was a solution to the problem. A preliminary delegation visited the fountain following the meeting!

7.2 The Community Emergency Plan, Community Defibrillator training and other topics related to the emergency services:

*Cllr Elphinstone **ADVISED** that replacement pads have been delivered and are now in place on Sawmill defibrillator.*

7.3 Climate Emergency

The Sustainability Group representative reported the following:

- (I) Following the meeting with YDNP, the Sustainability Group had decided that establishing Wildlife Corridors: was too large a project. Instead smaller projects or “patches” may be considered along with “garden wildlife areas” and possibly some “open days” to showcase these.
- (II) Blister Packs: The initiative is working well. A request was made for the Parish Council to consider funding the next two blister pack boxes. (Next agenda?)
- (III) Curlew Cluster: The most recent reported figures were: 28 nests located, 12 fenced, 89 eggs laid and 44 hatched. Public information farm walks have been very successful. Hayley Land will give her final verbal report at a closed meeting on Monday 20th July.

8. Planning Applications

- (I) **26/044460DVCON - Lodge Bank Farm** - It was agreed that the Clerk should write in support of this application.
- (II) **F100131 - Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority** - Protected Tree Application Shamba Clapham. Councillors received this notification.

9. Planning Decisions

- (I) **ROW/3323377(M1) -Restricted Byway and Byway Open to All Traffic at Thwaite Lane Clapham-cum-Newby and Austwick:** Following the decision, Austwick Parish Council has advised that they have put in a request to YDNPA to erect signs at both ends (Clapham and Austwick) of Thwaite Lane to advise that this is now a restricted byway (RB).

10. Employment Matters:

10.1 With agreement of councillors, and in the absence of the new Clerk, John Dawson signed the new Clerk's contract of employment.

10.2 The Clerk has enrolled on a number of training courses. The councillors approved these courses.

10.3 Cllr Elphinstone confirmed that the new Clerk is now the primary user for the bank account. Cllr Elphinstone to check if a copy of letter of agreement needs to go on file.

11. Financial Matters

11.1 The council **RECEIVED** notification of automated payments and receipts made since last meeting

11.2 The bank statements 30th June 2026 for HSBC1 (£5,910.05) and HSBC2 (£13,462.99) were received and signed

11.3 The Bank reconciliation as at 30th June 2026 was received and signed.

11.3 The Council **APPROVED** the following payments:

- (a) Clerk's salary for July £341.80
- (b) Clerk's August Salary - £341.80
- (c) YLCA - Training for Clerk (Clerk induction, RFO induction, Charing Skills, Asset Management) up to £188 through August/September Training for the
- (d) WEL Medical - Electrode Pads for Defibrillator - £155.94
- (e) S Culver Mileage April-June £8.25

11.4 Councillors **RECEIVED** the parish precept arrangements and timetable for 2027/28

11.5 Councillors **RECEIVED** notification of exempt status form PKF Littlejohn LLP, 2026

12. Matters for Consideration

12.1 Councillors **RECEIVED** items of correspondence received prior to the meeting

- (i) Travellers on the Old Road: Further concern was expressed by members of the public related to long-staying travellers on the Old Road. This has already been reported to Police and Highways. There was additional concern regarding the use of open fires in the current dry weather conditions. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would write, again to police and ask for response.
- (II) Caravan at Brock-a-Bank: It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk to write to planning enforcement to support concerns that a caravan has been parked in the field in breach of terms of access and, now it has been in situ for more than 28 days, in breach of planning consent.

12.2 To receive and respond to items of correspondence received too late for inclusion on this agenda.

- (i) Litter bins around the village: Concerns have been expressed by members of the public and councillors that the size of the litter bins around the village is insufficient given the number of visitors, particularly at this time of the year. They are regularly overflowing and some volunteers have been emptying them between council collections to try to alleviate the problem. It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should write to NYC to ask if we can replace the current bins with larger bins.
- (ii) The Estate had received an estimate for work needed on Toll Bar wood. The whole area needs to be trimmed and, while trees are still small, may also need to be sprayed. The council had already agreed to contribute. It was **RESOLVED** that the council would contribute but that there could be further discussion around spraying. It was also **RESOLVED** that the Clerk write to YDMT to see if there was any possibility of a contribution.
- (iii) A member of the public raised the perennial problem of overhanging greenery on the Bridge near the New Inn. She asked that the Parish Council write to the New Inn to ask if work could be carried out to cut back some of the greenery to improve sight lines and make it safer. **THANKS** were recorded to Ann Stewart for all the work she does around the village.

13. Items for inclusion on next agenda

The following items were suggested for inclusion on next agenda

- (i) Changing day of parish council meetings
- (ii) Update on Toll Bar
- (iii) Parish Caretaker

14. Parishioner Matters Arising - None that had not already been discussed.

15. To confirm the dates of the next meeting

The next meeting will be on 16th September. Maria Farrer gave her apologies in advance.

The meeting ended at 8.30