

MARSKE AND NEW FOREST PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council – MRS Charlotte Smith

Email: clerk@marskeandnf-pc.org.uk

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held in St Edmunds Church on Wednesday 19th March 2025 at 7pm

Present: Cllr Meredith (Chairman) Cllr Ridley Cllr Villiers
Cllr M Wallis Clerk: MRS C Smith **3 Members of the public**

25.17 Public Representations

- Farmers expressed strong opposition to extending the Conservation Area boundary into agricultural land, raising concerns including:
 - The appraisal was viewed as overly focused on historical aspects, with some residents expressing a desire for greater emphasis on the past 50 years of community life.
 - Existing protection provided by YDNP policies is deemed sufficient.
 - Potential for increased bureaucratic burden.
 - Lack of adequate communication or updates from YDNP regarding the process.
- Farmers questioned the Parish Council's (PC) intentions, voicing apprehensions about potential impacts on grant eligibility and agricultural practices. Scepticism was also noted regarding YDNP initiatives, citing a lack of confidence in their effectiveness.
- Residents conveyed a mix of opinions on the matter:
 - Some advocated for the inclusion of Marske Hall and its grounds in the Conservation Area to preserve historical value and manage tourism.
 - Others were surprised by the proposed boundary extension and expressed doubts about the necessity of additional protection for farmland.

25.18 Apologies- Cllr L Wallis, North Yorkshire Cllr Peacock.

25.19 Declaration of Interest- None.

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25.20 Minutes of the Meeting Held on 12th February 2025- Approved and signed as a true record.

25.21 Reports

a. Dales Police Report (appendix).

b. Updates on correspondence from the Clerk- Confirmation received back from Richmond Rotary Club on the entry to the Best Kept Village 2025. Information to be circulated on WhatsApp (please contact the Clerk if you would like to be added to the group).

c. Updates from Councillors - None.

25.22 Conservation Area Appraisal

The village is located within the jurisdictions of two local authorities: the Yorkshire Dales National Park (YDNP) and North Yorkshire Council (NYC). Currently, there is an existing conservation area covering the northern portion of the settlement, under the responsibility of North Yorkshire Council. The appraisal aims to establish a unified boundary that incorporates the area of the village within the YDNP.

This appraisal and management plan has been prepared by heritage consultants from Purcell Architecture Ltd on behalf of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA). The draft will be reviewed and finalised by the YDNPA.

- In 2019, the process was initiated following a request to alter the status of Marske Hall.
- In 2021, the Parish Council for Marske formally requested that the YDNPA review the current Marske Conservation Area, originally designated by Richmondshire District Council in 1995. The goal was to expand the boundary to include parts of the village within the YDNP jurisdiction. The appraisal will also outline management strategies for the preservation and enhancement of Marske.
- Some councillors expressed concerns about the practicality of applying Conservation Area rules to farmland, suggesting these might not align well with agricultural needs.

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- Councillors also highlighted significant advantages of Conservation Area status, particularly the potential for funding opportunities to support farmers in preserving and maintaining their properties under the designation.

After thorough discussions, the Council agreed to submit the following comments (Cllr Ridley abstained from voting on this item):

- *The Council endorses the broader principles of extending the Conservation Area, which acknowledges the unique character of the village. Conservation Area designation is not intended to prohibit change but to ensure that any future developments respect and enhance the character and appearance of the area, fostering long-term conservation of the village.*
- *The majority of the Council supports the inclusion of Marske Hall and its grounds within the Conservation Area. However, opinions remain divided regarding the inclusion of surrounding farmland within the area.*

25.23 Way Marker Restoration- Funding has been secured from the NY Locality Budget, and restoration work on the signpost will begin as soon as weather conditions allow, requiring temperatures above 8°C.

25.24 Finance

- a. Bank Reconciliation (dated 28th February 2025)** - Approved and signed.
- b. Bank Balance: £4,968.49** - Noted.
- c. Payments for authorisation** - Approved.

25.25 Exchange of Information & Next Agenda Items

- Waste bins.
- Updates on facilities.
- Signage in Richmond/Reeth.
- Explore funding for toilets from C2C.

25.26 Next Meeting- Annual meetings, Wednesday 14th May 2025.

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Appendix

Monthly Police Report – 5th Feb – 9th Mar 2025

We do not report crimes whereby victims could be identified, for Domestic Violence or Harassment although these are included in the totals below.

Leyburn Police Station covers the areas of Arkengarthdale, Swaledale from Hudswell up to the county border. Wensleydale from the Hambleton to Cumbria borders, Coverdale and Bishopdale.

Incidents of note; Overnight 4th Feb an attempt of Burglary and vehicle interference occurred without success by 4 males wearing balaclavas on the Upper Wensleydale Business Park. 5th Feb a vehicle stolen from Kirby Lonsdale was discovered by members of Farmwatch which had been abandoned in Bainbridge, the vehicle was recovered by the owner. 14th Feb in the Hurst area, a metal detectorist discovered an item of unexploded ordnance, EOD (bomb disposal) carried out a controlled explosion to make it safe. 27th Feb Theft of 3 x cases of Stella Artois Lager from Leyburn Co-Op. 8th Mar Theft 6 x bottles of Ciroc Vodka from Leyburn Co-Op.

15 – Violence.

4 – Civil Dispute.

3 – Road Traffic Collision (Minor).

22 – Suspicious Circumstances (Door to door sellers/vehicles parked etc.)

18 – Abandoned Calls.

6 – Highway disruption (Animals/Snow/Floods/Trees).

8 – Road Related Offences (manner of driving/vehicles without tax and possible OPL).

3 – Lost/Found.

13 – Concern For Safety.

2 – Criminal damage.

2 – Animals/Wildlife.

1 – Stalking/Harassment.

1 – Vehicle interference.

2- Theft.

In total 138 calls were received reporting either the above or making general enquiries.

The Neighbourhood Team will continue attending Town/Parish council meetings and Community drop ins/events where duties allow.

PCSO 5232 Don Watson. PCSO 3555 Heather Campbell.

PCSO 5777 Sharon Diamond. PCSO 5550 Tracie Taylor-Page.

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Payments since Last meeting

10/02/2025	MRS CE SMITH	SALARY PAYMENT BBP	110.93
10/02/2025	MRS CE SMITH	SALARY PAYMENT BBP	104.49
10/02/2025	MRS CE SMITH	HWA JANUARY BBP	26
10/02/2025	MRS CE SMITH	HWA DECEMBER BBP	26

Invoices awaiting payment

Church hire	£175.00
Salaries April & May	