

KEXBY & SCOREBY PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Chairman: Andrew Wilkinson

Parish Deputy Chair: John Mackfall

Minutes of the (Ordinary) Parish Council Meeting of June 2026

Date of Meeting Wednesday, 17th June 2026

Time of Meeting 1900

IN ATTENDANCE:

Parish Cllrs Cllr Andrew Wilkinson (Chair): Cllr John Mackfall (Dep.Chair):
Cllr Ann Carrington: Cllr Kevin Daniels: Cllr Denise Ray: Cllr Jill Edwards

North Yorkshire Cllr Ward Cllr Mark Warters (not in attendance)

Parish Clerk Andrew Crabbe

Part 1: Procedural Matters

1. Present and Apologies (*Clerk to advise apologies, Chair to confirm quorum*)

Resolved Chair noted apologies from Cllr Terry Marran

Resolved Chair confirmed quorum and welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Declarations of Interest – relevant to the agenda for the meeting (*Chair*)

Resolved Cllr (Chair) Wilkinson advised of a pecuniary interest with regard to Minute 8.13 due to the fact he was one of the tenant farmers affected by the sale of Church lands. Cllr Wilkinson would therefore leave the meeting at this point and Deputy Chair Mackfall would assume the office of Chair.

3. Chair to check Cllr agreement of previous minutes / approval of minutes (*Chair*)

Resolved Chair asked Cllrs to confirm they had read and agreed with the previous minutes for the March 2025 meeting – no issues were raised by Cllrs, and the minutes were resolved as a true record, and would be posted for the public

4. Financial Report and Accounts (*Clerk*)

Clerk referred to the accounts previously submitted to Cllrs and asked if they had any questions – none were submitted – the accounts to be approved are :

Flowers for Jill Edwards & Ann Longmore - reimburse A Crabb	£40.00
Stationary for Accounts Folder - reimburse A Crabbe	£10.00
YLCA Membership - Invoice 6051	£140.00
Harrison Flags - Flagpole for Memorial Site	£191.95
Zurich - Insurance Premium: 2026-27	£299.21
Annual Rental of Primrose Bank Tearooms for Parish Council meetings - missed in 2024 by previous Clerk	£60.00
Stamps - correspondence re: Church Land and sending cheques -6x1st Class (£1.80) & 6x2nd Class (91p)	£16.29

Resolved The above payments were submitted, verified with invoices and duly approved

Ongoing Clerk noted that there remained issues with the bank and the change of mandate in so far as he had not been instated to receive bank statements etc. However, noting that Cllr Edwards was now a Cllr, it would make sense for her to remain as a signatory, and noting that Cllrs had agreed to instating Cllr Carrington as a third signatory, a new mandate would now be needed anyway. There were no immediate concerns as the Parish Council was still able to meet any debits via the cheque book

5. Session for members of public to speak / North Yorkshire Cllr Report

5.1 Resolved Chair noted Ward Cllr Warters was not in attendance

5.2 Resolved Chair noted several residents / members of the public in attendance who spoke to Cllrs on a number of points, summarised as below:

- A member of Dunnington PC advised Cllrs that Dunnington was proposing to register Hagg Wood as a Asset of Community Value to protect the site from development as a result of the sale of Church lands in the parish – the member advised Dunnington PC was looking for Kexby & Scoreby PC to support / jointly sign the application submission
- A member of the Friends of Hagg Wood spoke to Cllrs on the activities of the Group and that they were supporting the ACV application by Dunnington PC.
- Several attendees advised they were representing the horse-riding community and wanted Cllrs to be aware of their understanding that the Friends of Hagg Wood were attempting to restrict or remove horse riding in the woods, and their hope Kexby Parish Council would resist this.
- Several attendees commented on the situation of the sale of Church lands in the parish and expressed concerns for this happening – attendees were advised of the Parish Council's current position and actions and Cllrs were asked to keep residents informed and up to date

Resolved Chair addressed those in attendance and thanked them for their comments and that all points would be noted by Cllrs and would be considered when decisions in respective matters were taken.

6 Correspondence

Resolved Clerk advised there were no outstanding correspondence

7 Planning applications

Resolved Clerk noted no planning applications had been received.

Part 2 of the Meeting – Matters arising: to consider ongoing and any new matters and to determine further action if required

Ongoing Issues

8.1 Painting of the York bound bus stop (shelter) at Scoreby Lodge – *Cllrs to be updated on any response from Dunnington PC*

Clerk noted that Cllr Edwards had subsequently clarified that it was the road markings which needed to be redone – this had not been advised to him previously and he had now clarified this with Dunnington PC. He was waiting for a response but advised that this was likely to be the responsibility of City of York Highways rather than Dunnington PC.

8.2 PROW Matters – *Cllrs to be updated on various matters including i: Damaged riverside crossings ii: Concerns for accessibility of footpaths in Scoreby state of the bridle way from the start of the Parish Boundary (end of Intake Lane) through Hagg Farm which forms part of Route 66*

Cllrs noted the response from CYC, which can be found as *Appendix 1*

Resolved Cllrs accepted the responses from CYC and agreed that at this time the minute would be removed from the agenda and the various issues would be monitored and updated where appropriate

8.3 Highways Matters – *Cllrs to be updated on various matters including: i: state of CYC owned roadside verges at Scoreby ii: resident concerns for road safety and vegetation issues on the A1079 iii: new road signage 'No Through Road' at the A166 end of Scoreby*

Ongoing Clerk noted that he had not received any response from Highways with regard to the issues listed above. He was currently chasing a response and if none was received in a reasonable amount of time, he would recommend escalating to the Head of Service / Director responsible

iv: building at the fishing lake/old brick ponds south of Kexby village on Dauby Lane

Resolved Noting that CYC had responded on this issue that following investigation by an Enforcement Officer, the owner of the site had advised they would be submitting a planning application to allow residential occupancy, Cllrs agreed no further action was required at this time and the Parish Council would wait until any planning application was received.

8.4 New flagpole at the Memorial site - *Cllrs to be updated on installation of the new flagpole*

Cllrs noted that the cheque for payment (to Harrison Flags) would be approved and signed off at the meeting and the pole would be delivered shortly after this. Discussion took place regards installation, and it was advised that such work had been previously undertaken by Ward Cllr Mark Warters and Cllr Kevin Daniels at no cost to the Parish Council. Clerk advised that it was his experience that anyone completing work for the Parish Council should provide copies of their insurance liability cover in order to ensure the Parish Council was protected in the event of any accident.

Ongoing Cllrs agreed that the Clerk should proceed to ask for these documents in preparation for the delivery of the flagpole and once received proceed with the installation

8.5 Migration to .Gov.uk email domain - *Cllrs to be updated on requirements for Parish Council to have a secure email domain and PC migration away from personal emails*

Clerk advised that he had received absolutely no response from VisionICT (who currently provided the website for the Parish Council) regarding migrating to a .gov email as required now as a matter of governance. Clerk continued that he felt the current website was not user-friendly and difficult to navigate, alongside the very poor customer support – Cllrs noted information sent to them on an alternative website provider which also included the required email domain.

Ongoing Cllrs were asked to consider the information and costs (which would be subsequently to be sent to them), with a view to discussing further at the next meeting.

New Issues

8.6 Cllr Vacancy - *Cllrs to discuss any update on matters relating to vacancy due to the recent resignation of Mr Andrew Cole*

Resolved As a point of procedure, Chair welcomed and instated into office Mrs Jill Edwards as a co-opted Cllr – Cllrs noted that no other applications had been received and that Mrs Edwards had previously served as a Cllr for many years, it was considered that there was no requirement for a formal interview as her experience and qualification for the role spoke for themselves. This was agreed unanimously by all Cllrs.

8.7 Frequency of Meetings - *Cllrs to discuss the frequency of Parish Council meetings and a recommendation that meetings are held bimonthly to ensure matters are addressed in a timely manner*

Clerk advised that he felt that the Parish Council needed to meet more frequently than the current quarterly schedule. Although a small parish, as could be seen by the lengthy agenda for June, there were many issues requiring the attention of Cllrs, and the issue of the sale of the Church estate alone would likely require attention for many years to come.

Resolved Chair suggested that the Parish Council met every two months for the foreseeable future and the motion was passed unanimously

8.8 Audit Matters - *Cllrs to discuss any matters from the internal audit and sign off the annual accounts report*

Cllrs noted the completion of the audit and that the annual accounts report had been sent to them by the Clerk – the Parish Council had limited spend in the previous financial year, and it was confirmed that the Council would be applying for exemption from full audit.

Resolved The relevant paperwork was approved by the Parish Council, signed by the Chair and Clerk, and would now be submitted to PK Littlejohn, the external auditors, for processing

8.9 Graveyard at Kexby – *Cllrs to discuss concerns for tidiness of the area which is maintained by Wilberfoss PC*

Resolved Cllrs noted that the current poor weather had prevented work, but it was understood that work was scheduled including removal of a large stump and bench and fence painting – Cllrs were happy to monitor the situation but remove from the agenda

8.10 Old A1079 road – *Cllrs to discuss concerns for some farmers using the road to access the (new) A1079 road.*

Resolved Cllrs discussed and agreed that that there was nothing illegal in what was happening and therefore there was nothing that could be done

8.11 Facebook - *Cllrs to discuss creating a Parish Council Facebook page to improve communication with residents*

Resolved Cllrs discussed how a social media platform would help with communications with residents - there were already several existing Facebook pages in the area so there was some evidence to suggest people did use social media. It was noted that other Parish Councils used social media and some were controlled by prohibiting or restricting public comments. Cllrs unanimously agreed that the Parish Council should proceed with a social media page and monitor its success and operation

8.12 Ward Cllr Grant - *Cllrs to discuss recommendation of purchasing 'unknown Tommy' statues from the Royal British legion to be placed at the memorial*

Ongoing Cllrs discussed and unanimously agreed that this was a worthwhile project and that the Clerk should proceed with this - Clerk to contact CYC to discuss funding this using the Ward Cllr grant - Clerk noted that the finances of the Parish Council were in a good state to finance this, even if the grant was not available.

8.13 Land Sale in Parish - *Cllrs to be updated on developments following the Extra-ordinary meeting in May to discuss the proposed sale of land by the Church Commission and letters sent to various bodies raising concerns over the proposal*

Point of Procedure: Chair, Cllr Wilkinson left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or decision reached and recorded herein. Deputy Chair, Cllr Mackfall assumed the chair of the meeting.

Noting that the Parish Council had not received any response to the letter sent to various bodies, including the Bishops of York and Canterbury and the Church Commissioners, Chair, Cllr Mackfall referred Cllrs to the recommendation that the Parish Council should now escalate this matter by contacting the press and BBC.

Resolved Cllr Mackfall directed Cllrs to a draft press statement sent to them previously and it was unanimously agreed that the Clerk should progress this - a copy of this is provided as **Appendix 2**.

Resolved Cllrs also unanimously agreed that Cllr Wilkinson should be the nominated spokesperson for the Parish Council in any subsequent contact with the press. Cllrs noted Cllr Wilkinson's interest in the matter, however it was felt there was no conflict with him speaking to the press as he would be giving facts and where required agreed details of Parish Council decisions, already made.

Resolved Noting the comments made by a member of Dunnington Parish Council during the public session that Dunnington was looking to issue an application for an Asset of Community Value (ACV) for Hagg Wood and requesting that Kexby PC supports them in this application. Cllrs discussed and felt that there were greater priorities in this matter, namely the protection of families and homes and preservation of farming in the area and instructed the Clerk to respond the Parish Council would not support this application

8.14 Grass Cutting - *Cllrs to discuss responsibility for cutting the grass along the bridleway from Kexby to Scoreby Road*

Resolved Cllrs noted that the work had now been completed and there was no further action required

Closing of the Meeting	There being no further business, the meeting was closed by the Chair at 2115
Date of Next Meeting	12 th August 2026

Signed as a true record... **Andrew Wilkinson** **John Mackfall** Date... **August.26**

Cllr Andrew Wilkinson - Chair

Cllr John Mackfall - Deputy Chair

Appendix 1: Minute 8.2 – Response from CYC PROW regarding right of way issues in the Parish

i: Damaged riverside crossings

Re the damaged river crossings, I am presuming you are referring to the closure of the 2 bridges on the footpath that follows the river Derwent? The bridges are two of a number of bridges that are currently on our list to be replaced. Our contractors have recently been asked to inspect the bridge and give us an estimate of the cost of replacing them. Unfortunately however, it is likely that the bridges and therefore the path at this location will remain closed for safety reasons for an additional number of months as we work towards getting the funding together to replace them. At this time we are unable to advise when this might be.

ii: Concerns for accessibility of footpaths in Scoreby

Could I ask specifically which paths are of concern in regard to their accessibility? If any of the concerns relate to the stile on the footpath leading from Hagg Farm into Hagg Wood, I am afraid the council does not have any powers available to it to ensure the stile is either removed or replaced with an accessible gate. To enable this to happen there would have to be a change in the legislation and I am not aware of any changes in the pipeline. If the parish council's concerns relate to a different footpath in Kexby, let us know and we can look into the matter.

iii: state of the bridle way from the start of the Parish Boundary (end of Intake Lane) through Hagg Farm which forms part of Route 66

Re the state of the bridleway that carries Route 66 through Hagg Farm, could you please give us some more details? Do the concerns relate to the surface of the path or something else? Give

Appendix 2: Press Release regards the sale of Church Lands in the Parish

To BBC Look North (North Yorkshire) / York Press / Yorkshire Post
From Kexby & Scoreby Parish Council
Re: Sale of Church of England Land in the Parish of Kexby & Scoreby

Kexby Parish Council would like to make you aware of plans by the Church Commission (and ergo the Church of England) to sell thousands of acres in our Parish, affecting tenant farmers, some of whom will not only lose their farms and livelihood but in some cases their homes as well. We understand that those affected have only received initially 4 months' notice of the proposal now extended to 7 months meaning those having to leave their homes will literally be out of house and home in January. A major concern is that all this is taking place 'under the radar' - the Parish Council (or indeed any elected officials as far as we are aware) has not been consulted or advised on this matter and has not received any response to urgent letters of concern sent to the Offices of the Bishops of York and Canterbury and the Office of the Church Commissioners.

In our letter the Parish Council asks the question of "where is the morality of the actions of the Church Commission" and questions if these actions align with the Christian principles of the Church of England. Frankly we feel that the lack of notice and consultation and arbitrary and unilateral actions of the Church Commissioners are more akin to Victorian Landlords acting with no regard for the wellbeing of people impacted – to quote from our letter, the actions of the Commissioners are "simply neither principled, responsible nor ethical".

There is also a serious concern as to the future purposing of the land in question, ancient woodlands and farming traditions which date back centuries. Many of the farmers affected have family links to the land dating decades long, and to be treated in such a manner surely has to be questioned and opened up to scrutiny and transparency. There are obvious fears at a time large parts of the country are being concreted over for housing development, the land will suffer the same fate, thousands upon thousands of ancient acres lost for ever, with all the consequences this has for wildlife and food security, a real issue facing the country at the moment.

The Parish Council has sought the help of local political figures, MPs Luke Charter and Racheal Maskall and David Skaith the Major of York and North Yorkshire and Mr Charter's office is the only one who has responded to date.

As 'grass root' representatives of our residents, Kexby and Scoreby Parish Council are fighting for a minimum expectation of someone from the Offices of the Church Commission to engage in a proper consultation and to stop ploughing ahead with no regard to the feelings of people, the ethics of their actions and the possible devastating consequences for the future of this lovely and historical part of the county.

Based by unanimous resolution at the Parish Council Meeting of 17th June 2026