

ARKENGARTHDALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting
held at St Mary's Church, Arkengarthdale on
Monday 2 March 2026 at 7.15pm

MINUTES

Present: Cllr. S Atkinson; Cllr. N Barningham; Cllr. P Harker (Vice Chair) and Cllr. S Stubbs (Chair).

In attendance: S Dray (Clerk)

86-25/26 Audio/visual recording

The Chair reminded all present of the council's expectations for audio or video recording of the meeting.

87-25/26 Apologies and reasons for absence

- 87.1 Apologies were received from Cllr. R Stones.
- 87.2 Reasons for absence were considered and approved.

88-25/26 Declarations of interest

- 88.1 Cllr. Barningham was unsure if she should declare an interest in the wind farm project on Hope Moor. At this stage it was agreed that it was not an interest at the present time. There were no declarations of interest.
- 88.2 No applications for dispensation were received.

89-25/26 Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on 5 January 2026 were confirmed as a true and correct record by the Council, and signed by the Chair.

90-25/26 Public session

No requests from parishioners had been received.

91-25/26 Arkengarthdale Community Emergency Group (ACEG)/CEP

- 91.1 It was noted that no updates had been received from the ACEG on the recruitment of a vice-chair and finance officer for the ACEG, and that the group had until the Annual Parish Council meeting on 11 May to be quorate.
- 91.2 It was noted that the radios, funded by a NYC Locality Grant, had been purchased, and submission of the Grant Completion form was considered. It was agreed to postpone this until the next meeting.

92-25/26 "Wuthering Heights" Film trip

It was noted that the bus trip for Arkengarthdale residents to see the new "Wuthering Heights" film at The Station Cinema in Richmond had gone ahead on Saturday 14 February.

93-25/26 Authority-owned gov.uk domain

It was noted that VisionICT had been sent the new email addresses but that they had not advised of any progress in setting up the domain. It was agreed to contact them again in order that the new domain would be functioning by April.

94-25/26 Clerk's report

- 94.1 It was noted that no police reports had been received since December 2025, and that this could have been caused by difficulties they were having in updating their mailing list. It was agreed to wait until the new email address was active before contacting them.
- 94.2 It was noted that the damaged bench at Whaw Lane Top had been removed, and that funds had been received to mend it. The work to mend it would begin once the weather improved. Mr. Goodyear was thanked for agreeing to do the work.
- 94.3 A request, and subsequent query, from Mr S. Moses regarding the replacement of a bench on High Green in memory of Pat and Gordon Moses was considered. In the absence of Cllr. Stones, who was familiar with the bench, it was agreed to ask Mr. Moses to contact the Chair in late March, after he had returned from holiday and had had a chance to look at the bench.
- 94.4 To note apologies had been sent to the YLCA Richmondshire Branch meeting held on 5 February.
- 94.5 An invitation from the Rotary Club of Richmond to enter the Best Kept Village Competition 2026 was considered. It was agreed not to enter.
- 94.6 It was noted that confirmation had been received of the Yorkshire Dales Rally taking place on 29 March 2026, along with confirmation of the associated road closures in the area, including the Bouldershaw road.
- 94.7 An invitation to nominate two representatives to attend meetings of the Hope Moor Community Liaison Group (HMCLG), organised by Fred Olsen Renewables / the Hope Moor Wind Farm project team was considered.
- 94.7.1 The following points were noted:
- that the first meeting of the Hope Moor Community Liaison Group was on 3 March 2026 at Barningham Village Hall and that nominations for community representatives had needed to be considered and submitted prior to the current parish council meeting in order to meet the deadline imposed by the Hope Moor Project Team;
 - that Cllrs Harker and Barningham had been nominated by the Parish Council to represent the Arkengarthdale community at the Hope Moor Community Liaison Group. Cllr Stubbs indicated that he would also like to attend future HMCLG meetings after 3 March;
 - that the clerk would also attend on 3 March to ensure notes were taken;
 - that if any councillor subsequently stood to benefit financially or otherwise from the Hope Moor Wind Farm development, they should declare an interest at the earliest opportunity.
- 94.7.2 It was proposed that a community meeting should be arranged to gauge the feeling in the parish towards the development of the Hope Moor Wind Farm so that the parish council representatives attending the Community Liaison meetings were able to accurately represent the community. It was agreed not to hold a meeting for the time being.
- 94.8 An invitation to attend an online Planning Training Session organised by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority on 18 March 2026 was considered. It was agreed that Cllrs Barningham and Stubbs would attend.

- 95-25/26 Annual Parish Meeting**
Arrangements were considered for the Annual Parish Meeting which would take place before the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 11 May 2026. It was agreed to keep the same format as last year and advertise to residents accordingly.
- 96-25/26 Matters requested by councillors**
- 96.1 Little White Bus (SS)
It was noted that there was a possibility that the Little White Bus was considering running a bus service between Hawes and Reeth via Keld, West Stonesdale and Arkengarthdale in the warmer months on a Friday, but the feasibility of this was still to be determined.
- 96.2 Rishi Sunak MP visit (SS)
It was noted that Rishi Sunak would be coming to Arkengarthdale to talk to parishioners this spring.
- 97-25/26 Planning**
TPO and Conservation Area Planning: the following application was noted:
F106200 - Braeside, Arkle Town: Crown reduce by 25% and thin 7 sycamores and 1 silver birch.
- 98-25/26 County Councillor's report**
There was no report on account of Cllr Peacock's absence.
- 99-25/26 Highways**
- 99.1 Eskeleth Road: It was noted that the poor state of Eskeleth road had been reported again, following a request from a resident for the council to re-report the pot holes on the Eskeleth-Seal Houses road in support of a complaint that they had submitted to NYC, and also a subsequent complaint from another resident about the worsening state of the same road due to heavy water run-off during the recent wet weather. It was agreed to re-visit this at the next meeting if no repairs had been undertaken.
- 99.2 Missing grit bins on Whaw Lane: It was noted that a Highways Officer had been scheduled to visit the site in January and assess the need for the replacements of the two missing grit bins, and that they had not yet been replaced. It was agreed to ask for an update on the decision about these bins.
- 99.3 Damaged cattle grid above CB Yard: It was noted that the dangerous state of the cattle grid above CB Yard had been addressed by Highways in January following direct communication with an NYC project engineer.
- 99.4 Arkengarthdale Road carriageway patching: It was noted that Highways had been contacted for information about why the carriageway patching work had stopped in January and when it was expected to resume, but no reply had been received.
- 99.5 NYC payment for cutting visibility verges: An offer of payment from NYC/Highways Asset Management of £11.82 for the year 2026/27 for the Parish Council to undertake 5 cuts of the 3 visibility verges in Arkengarthdale (at a rate of 8.27p/m²) was considered. It was agreed to decline the offer, and to let NYC cut their verges.
- 100-25/26 Financial matters**
- 100.1 The bank balances as at 25 February 2026 were noted as follows:
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Current account | £2554.60 + radios £173.98 |
| Community Emergency (CEP) account | £ 781.89 – radios £173.98 |
| Seat Maintenance account | £ 20.09 |
| Liquidity Manager Seat Maint. account | £1208.06 |
- 100.2 Payments made since the last meeting were noted as follows:

S Dray	salary Jan	£273.80
S Atkinson	IT services	£120.00
S Dray	back pay for October	£ 8.60
S Dray	reimbursement for Norton	£ 19.99

100.3 The following payments pending were noted and approved:
 P Goodyear materials and labour, Whaw bench repair c.£320.00

100.4 The following receipts at 25 February 2026 were noted:

Cost of repairs to Whaw bench	£320.00
Interest on CEP account for Dec & Jan	£ 1.28
Interest on Seat Maint. account for Dec & Jan	£ 0.04
Interest on Liq Mgr Seat Maint. account for Dec & Jan	£ 5.75

101-25/26 Date of next meeting: Monday 11 May 2026 in St Mary’s Church
 Annual Parish Meeting at 7.15pm
 followed by
 Annual Parish Council Meeting at approx. 8.00pm

 The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

102-25/26 Interviews for the position of Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer
 Interviews were held during the meeting. These were closed to the public.