

EASINGWOLD TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, the Galtres Centre
16th December 2025 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: P. Nottage (Chairman), C. Barnes (Vice-Chairman), N. Madden, K. Butcher, C. Bilson, D. Bream, K. Colwell, R. Varney, F. Johnston-Banks, E. Whiteside and County Councillor N. Knapton

Clerk: Mrs J. Bentley

25/138	APOLOGIES No apologies were received
25/139	It was resolved to adjourn the meeting for up to 15 minutes to take questions or comments and representations through the Chairman in respect of the business on the agenda. 5 members of the public were present. Q1. Why is the lighting in Millfields not as it was presented in the consultation, and can you reassure us that this misrepresentation won't happen in future consultations. Q2. The lights are bright not 50% of the normal streetlamp lights that was promised, are you aiming to get to where you should be getting to? Q3. If the lighting cannot be reduced to the previous promised levels will there be a lighting impact assessment and environmental impact assessment? Q4. Why are the lights on in the morning also?
25/140	MINUTES The minutes of the meeting of the Council of 18 th November 2025 were received and approved.
25/141	CLERK'S PROGRESS REPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An email was sent to NYC to request clarification for responsibility of the bus stop; a reply has been received, and a site visit will take place with Councillor Varney, the Clerk and a representative from NYC A donation has been made to EDCCA The Clerk has informed Welcoms that Easingwold Town Council wish to close the account An email was sent to approve Easingwold Town Council's 10k and family fun day, Councillor Bream provided an update on his meeting with the organisers An email was sent to approve Barclays Bank's request to attend Light Up A Life Light Up a Life has taken place successfully
25/142	NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE An update was received from North Yorkshire Police. It was AGREED that the Clerk should write to the Inspector to ask how NYPC will officially cover the PCSO's extended leave and how the police are going to recruit a replacement PCSO, it was AGREED that the Clerk should cc the Police and Crime Commissioner and Sir Alec Shelbrooke. It was AGREED that CCTV should be put on January's agenda and that the Clerk should investigate NYC's CCTV plans.
25/143	ACTION PLAN The action plan was received and updated.
25/144	NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL An update was received from Councillor Knapton on North Yorkshire Council. The budget is being updated currently. There is a new officer dealing with the Redrow Linden Home link project and a site meeting is being arranged. Waste management and the associated staff recruitment is an issue. EV charging is ongoing. There has been no further update on the parking survey, but Councillor Knapton will follow it up.
25/145	TOILETS 145.1 Quotes were received for the gent's toilet door, and it was RESOLVED to delegate the decision to Councillors Varney and Nottage following receipt of further quotes, provided that the quotes did not exceed Healthmatic's quote for £3,557.00 145.2 It was AGREED to defer the baby change item to January's agenda and get clarification of the quote.
25/146	COMMITTEE REPORTS & MATTERS 146.1 The minutes of the Recreation & Open Spaces Committee meeting from the 17 th November were received and approved and the minutes of the Social & Events Committee meeting on the 15 th December 2025 were received. It was AGREED that a notice should be put on Facebook to confirm that there are issues with accessing the website but that they are being dealt with as a matter of urgency.

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	146.2 Councillor Bream provided an update on the Chase Garth Working Group. Councillor Colwell provided an update on the Long Street Working Group.																
25/147	<p>MILLFIELDS LIGHTING</p> <p>This item was brought to the start of the meeting. Correspondence was received from members of the public and Councillor Nottage, whilst noting that there had been a lot of positive comments about the lights, recognised the legitimate concerns expressed that the lighting was brighter than as described in the public consultation but provided assurance that the consultation had been carried out in good faith. He explained that the fittings recommended for the professionally designed lighting system approved prior to the consultation had become unavailable in the subsequent years by the time the project was ready for installation. The alternative fittings sourced have been brighter than anticipated and he acknowledged that a mistake had been made in this regard. Remedial steps have been put in place; e.g. retrofitting cowlings, improving alignment and reducing outputs on some of the fittings which had made a significant improvement. However, we propose to contact the original design consultant and ask him to assess the lighting installed and make recommendations for further practical improvements. Once the report is completed the council will review it and make decisions on the way forward. Councillor Nottage re-affirmed that the ETC had acted in good faith throughout and that it was important that the council retains the confidence of the public. It was AGREED that the Clerk would send the report to those members of the public who have requested it. Councillor Bream expressed a wish to be involved with the design assessment. It was AGREED to keep the lights on in the interim but to produce the report as soon as possible.</p>																
25/148	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>a) Correspondence for decision</p> <table><tr><th colspan="4">Correspondence for Decision: December 2025</th></tr><tr><th>No.</th><th>Date Received</th><th>Request From</th><th>Request</th></tr><tr><td>1.</td><td>19/11/2025</td><td>M E Willis</td><td>Quote for a new lawnmower; request approved for £749.</td></tr><tr><td>2.</td><td>03/12/2025</td><td>Furry Tails Dog Training</td><td>Request to run dog training at Millfields; request refused since Millfields should not be used for commercial enterprises, however Councillor Bilson agreed to be copied in on the response and contacted for possible alternative venues.</td></tr></table> <p>To note – was circulated prior to the meeting.</p>	Correspondence for Decision: December 2025				No.	Date Received	Request From	Request	1.	19/11/2025	M E Willis	Quote for a new lawnmower; request approved for £749.	2.	03/12/2025	Furry Tails Dog Training	Request to run dog training at Millfields; request refused since Millfields should not be used for commercial enterprises, however Councillor Bilson agreed to be copied in on the response and contacted for possible alternative venues.
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25/149	<p>EMERGENCY EXPENDITURE</p> <p>No emergency expenditure was actioned by the Clerk since the last meeting.</p>																
25/150	<p>FINANCE MATTERS</p> <p>150.1 The proposed budget and precept for 2026/27 were received and it was RESOLVED to approve the precept for £209,000 (two hundred and nine thousand pounds) and the budget for 2026/7.</p> <p>150.2 The income from previous month and the Income & Expenditure Report for 30th November 2025 were noted.</p> <p>150.3 The accounts for payment were approved:</p> <p>EASINGWOLD TOWN COUNCIL LIST OF PAYMENTS DECEMBER 2025</p> <table><tr><th>Payee Name</th><th>Reference</th><th>Amount Paid</th><th>Transaction Detail</th></tr><tr><td>J Hudson</td><td>BP251201</td><td>1750.00</td><td>Market stall erection</td></tr><tr><td>SSE Energy Solutions</td><td>BP251202</td><td>248.71</td><td>Electricity toilets</td></tr><tr><td>PHS Group plc</td><td>BP251203</td><td>1032.53</td><td>Public toilets annual invoice</td></tr></table>	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid	Transaction Detail	J Hudson	BP251201	1750.00	Market stall erection	SSE Energy Solutions	BP251202	248.71	Electricity toilets	PHS Group plc	BP251203	1032.53	Public toilets annual invoice
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25/151	PLANNING MATTERS <u><i>This item was taken at 8.00pm</i></u> 151.1 To consider Town Council response to planning applications received (see list attached). <table><tr><td></td><td>Ref No</td><td>Application details</td><td>Address</td></tr><tr><td>a</td><td>ZB25/01710/MRC</td><td>Variation of Condition 2 and 3 to previously approved application ZB25/00087/FUL for the construction of a single storey detached garage, to be build close to an existing building Easingwold Town Council’s original objections to the initial planning application still stand; but regarding this application we wish to see permission withheld until the objections from neighbours regarding inaccuracies of measurements in the planning application and legalities around trespassing are addressed.</td><td>4 Lime Tree Avenue, Easingwold</td></tr></table> 151.2 Planning applications considered North Yorkshire Council were noted and total of applications for new dwellings approved.				Ref No	Application details	Address	a	ZB25/01710/MRC	Variation of Condition 2 and 3 to previously approved application ZB25/00087/FUL for the construction of a single storey detached garage, to be build close to an existing building Easingwold Town Council’s original objections to the initial planning application still stand; but regarding this application we wish to see permission withheld until the objections from neighbours regarding inaccuracies of measurements in the planning application and legalities around trespassing are addressed.	4 Lime Tree Avenue, Easingwold																																																			
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25/152	TOWN REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE Requirements and actions to be taken included the birdmouth fencing outside the co-op and the flood water outside the Galtres.																																																													

The meeting finished at 8.30