



Bilton Parish Council

Clerk: Miss Carris Mallinson

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Minutes of a meeting of Bilton Parish Council held on Tuesday, 13th January 2026, in the Village Hall, Bilton

Councillors present: Lynsay Shuttleworth, Ann Etherington, Brian Gill, Carl Mallinson, Elizabeth Fairbank, Alan Brooke, Nigel Lord, Sally Griffin-Smart

Ward Councillors: None

Members of the Public: 1

Clerk: Carris Mallinson

Apologies: Jannine Clayton, Lee Sims

Declarations of Interest: None

87/2026

Apologies:

Apologies from Cllr Clayton and Cllr Sims were given. Cllr Clayton has informed the Council that she may be away from Council meetings for some time due to health issues and had requested special dispensation for the foreseeable future.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Clayton be granted dispensation from attendance requirements for the foreseeable future due to health reasons.

88/2026

Councillor Vacancies:

Mr Nigel Lord applied for one of the current councillor vacancies and was invited to address the Council. Mr Lord spoke briefly, outlining his interest in serving as a Parish Councillor.

Cllr Gill proposed that Mr Lord be co-opted to the Parish Council. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Griffin-Smart and agreed by the Council.

Mr Lord duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, and the Register of Members' Interests (Pecuniary Interest form) was completed and signed. Mr Lord then joined the Council for the remainder of the meeting as a serving councillor.

89/2026

Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2025 were approved as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair, Cllr Mallinson.

90/2026

Chair's Report:

The Chair, Cllr Mallinson, welcomed the newly appointed councillors and commented on how nice it was to see the Council growing in members.

91/2026

Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reported that the Flood Alleviation Team was unable to attend the meeting.

The Clerk advised that one burial is scheduled.

The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received regarding vehicles parking on Lime Tree Lane during school drop-off and pick-up times. Complaints included concerns about obstruction, vehicles parking on kerbs, parking in front of driveways, and noise from car doors.

The Clerk confirmed that repeated correspondence had been responded to, advising that enforcement of parking and noise matters falls within the remit of East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC). Relevant reporting links and contact details had been provided to the complainant. It was noted that the complainant remained dissatisfied with this response.

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council is unable to progress the matter further until ERYC provides an update regarding the potential introduction of parking restrictions on Lime Tree Lane. A follow up email had been sent to ERYC for an update on the potential parking restrictions.

The Clerk further reported that a complaint had been received regarding an ongoing dispute relating to the hedgerow on Lime Tree Lane, which would be considered under the Highways agenda item.

Action: Clerk to await response from ERYC regarding potential parking restrictions on Lime Tree Lane.

92/2026

Financial Budget:

A meeting of the Finance Working Group was held on 6 January 2026 to review the previously drafted budget, following concerns that the budget was overly constrained.

The Working Group identified several issues within the draft budget, including the absence of provision for village maintenance. Amendments were therefore made and an alternative budget was presented to the Council. The revised budget totalled £42,095.00 compared with £36,288.00 in the original draft.

Members expressed concern that the revised budget continued to represent a false economy and did not fully reflect the true costs associated with the Parish Council's statutory duties and ongoing responsibilities. Further amendments were agreed resulting in the final budget of £42,445.00.

RESOLVED: That the amended budget be approved by full Council.

93/2026

Precept:

The Council considered the impact of burial ground income on the precept, noting that income from burials had reduced significantly compared with previous years. It was acknowledged that burial income could no longer be relied upon due to external factors, including the availability of larger nearby burial grounds and the increasing preference for cremation.

The Council also noted that the precept had not been increased significantly in recent years, resulting in limited general reserves to support the ongoing running of the Council, that paired with the growing cost of pension payments, national insurance, burial ground maintenance and administrative costs, meant an increase was needed.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the precept should be increased by 48 pence per week extra per band D household.

RESOLVED: That a precept of £40,000 be set for the forthcoming financial year. All members present voted in favour. The Precept Demand was signed by the Chair and the Clerk.

94/2026

Planning:

The Council considered planning application Ref 25/03494/PLF 7 Quilter Drive. Bilton.

RESOLVED: That the application be supported.

Clerk reported that they are still awaiting update regarding hardstanding development in Ganstead East.

Action: Cllr Gill to submit a letter of support via the planning portal.

95/2026

Burial Ground:

Flood Alleviation Scheme members were unable to attend this meeting and so the flood alleviation is to be put on the next agenda.

The Council discussed an ongoing issue with the cemetery gates, which are remaining open which has temporarily been fixed.

Cllr Gill reported that he had inspected the gates and identified a fault with the UPS system. It was noted that the gates are currently operational; however, repairs will be required in due course, which would cost around the amount of £187.00, potentially in the new financial year.

Issue with Church yard wall and the possible cost of fixing of the wall due to damage by nearby tree root system. It was stated that it was unsure if the Council took on responsibility of the Closed Churchyard in an official capacity or where it could be given to the unitary authority to be maintained.

Quotes were obtained regarding the electricity for burial ground gates with use of a compare website. The cheapest being that of £30.08 with Smartest Energy. The Council resolved for the clerk to go ahead and get contract for the electricity that was no more than £34.00 and no longer than a 2-year term as the quotes for the comparison site change each day. It was also stated that an option could be to get electricity from one of the local solar farms and see if a deal could be made, however, this was resolved to be investigated after a new contract had been taken out due to the urgency and high price of the current out of contract cost.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk be authorised to enter an electricity supply contract for the burial ground gates at a cost not exceeding £34.00 per month and for a term not exceeding two years.

Action(s): Clerk to investigate possibility of relinquishing closed churchyard.

Clerk to take out electricity contract for electric gates in burial ground.

96/2026

Highways:

The Council considered an issue relating to an overgrown hedgerow on Lime Tree Lane. East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) has advised that responsibility for the hedgerow lies with the adjacent residents, despite residents' deeds indicating that the hedge is not within their ownership.

Members discussed the potential difficulties of requiring residents to assume responsibility, including the likelihood of inconsistent maintenance standards. The Council also considered the implications and potential costs should the Parish Council assume responsibility for maintenance.

Cllr Fairbank agreed to obtain an indicative cost from a local contractor for annual maintenance of the hedgerow.

Cllr Brooke reported that, in his capacity as a resident, he had met with ERYC to raise concerns regarding flooding and the lack of street cleaning on Lime Tree Lane. ERYC has advised that these matters are under investigation.

Action(s): Cllr Fairbank to speak to local contractor regarding maintenance cost of hedge row.

97/2026

Neighbourhood Watch

It was reported that a vehicle registration plate had been stolen within the parish.

98/2026

Finance

Bank Reconciliations

HSBC Business Money Manager: **£10,626.57**

HSBC Current Account: **£3,890.23**

Payment Schedule for January

<i>Company/Person(s)</i>	<i>Reason</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Starboard Systems Limited (Scribe Accounts)	Accountancy Software (Annual Fee)	£702.72
The One Point	Website Domain and Hosting (Annual fee)	£179.99
The One Point	Office 365	£52.85
HMRC	Clerk's PAYE	£112.77
Carris Mallinson	Clerk's Salary	£1,034.88
NEST Pension	Clerk's Pension	£76.32
Business Stream	Water for Burial Ground	£23.37
SSE Energy Solutions	Electricity for Burial Gates	£111.68
KCOM	Internet/Broadband	£71.98
The One Point	Office 365 (December – Invoice received late)	£52.85
<i>Bank Charges</i>	Jan Bank Charges	£5.00
Total:		£2,424.41

Credits

<i>Type</i>	<i>Amount</i>
GOR282	£120.00
Bank Interest	£38.56
Total: £159.00	

99/2026

Any Other Business:

No matters arising.

End of Meeting: 9:30pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday 10th February 2026