

MINUTES FOR HEWICK & HUTTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday 5th February 2026, Copt Hewick Village Hall at 7 pm.

Those present: Chair Cllr S Harrison, Cllr R Maguire, Cllr S Mayes, Cllr N Woolfenden,
In attendance: Clerk C Gledson, 10 parishioners

1. Apologies for absence: None
2. Declarations of interest: Cllr Woolfenden declared an interest in item 8d.
3. The minutes of meeting held on 6/11/25 were confirmed as a true and correct record.
4. To receive information and decide further action on the following ongoing issues:
 - a. Copt Hewick common – Cllrs Mayes and Woolfenden have planted young hawthorn plants in the space as agreed. It was noted that the rest of the hawthorn has been severely cut back by persons unknown. The Clerk will arrange for the sign to be fixed.
 - b. Hewick Bridge – the situation is improved with clearer vision following tree trimming but the clerk will follow up with Highways.
 - c. Bench on Copt Hewick green – the village group is proposing to do this work in the Spring
 - d. Councillor vacancy – a parishioner has expressed an interest and this will be pursued.
5. Financial matters: to receive and approve the following at as 4th February 2026
 - a. Current account £5286.52, Deposit account £5013.53
 - b. The bank reconciliation and budget comparison was received and accepted.
 - c. Auditor: it was agreed that Cara Williams will continue as auditor for the end of year accounts.
6. Dishforth road closure and impact on Copt Hewick residents: Yorkshire Water and Highways have assessed the situation. The situation has currently eased and Yorkshire Water has indicated they may help with reparation of the verges once work is complete.
7. Planning: the following responses made by the council were noted:
 - a. West View, Hutton Conyers – option C, neither supported nor opposed.
 - b. Pilates studio, Manor Farm, HC – option C, neither supported nor opposed.Planning: the following applications were discussed:
 - c. Land west of Holly Howe, Copt Hewick – a village meeting regarding the proposed development has been held with a unanimous feeling of objection. After a discussion on the flooding and sewerage issues it was decided to submit option B objecting to the development, with Cllr Maguire preparing a document to accompany the submission outlining the grounds for objection.
 - d. Low House, Hutton Conyers – it was decided to submit option C, neither supported nor opposed.
8. It was agreed that the council had no comment to make on the local planning enforcement plan consultation.

9. Electoral boundary changes – it was noted that the whole parish will come under Dishforth and Topcliffe under the electoral boundary changes..
10. The annual playground report was received and it was agreed that Matthew Bowdin will be asked to attend to the 2 minor defects found.
11. Athelstan Lane signs, Hutton Conyers – following the request to adopt the 3 road signs, the clerk wrote to Highways for guidance as advised by YLCA. Highways has advised that the signs do not conform and the top sign near the A61 will be removed and replaced. In light of this it was agreed that the council will not adopt the remaining 2 signs.
12. The quote for Copt Hewick grass cutting from Farm & Land Services was accepted.
13. Cllrs Mayes and Woolfenden gave feedback from the forum meeting held on 27th January.
14. The need for public transport for older residents in Copt Hewick was discussed. The clerk will compile a list of available transport links for the villages and investigate the opportunities for increasing the bus services in light of the proposed DVLA changes.
15. Open forum –The clerk advised that the new garden waste licences are now available and the link will be placed on the website. A parishioner advised that a new lamppost has been erected to replace a damaged one although the old post has not been removed, and another parishioner asked whether the council had received notice of change of use in relation to a property being used for AirBnB.
16. Date of next meeting – Thursday 7th May 2026 at 7pm.