

**A MEETING OF COPMANTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL was held on TUESDAY,  
8TH APRIL 2025 in the HOWELL HALL, SCHOOL LANE, COPMANTHORPE, YORK  
at 7.30 pm**

**PRESENT:**                    **COUNCILLOR GRAHAM AUTON**                    **Chairman**  
                                 **COUNCILLOR MIKE BIRTILL**  
                                 **COUNCILLOR STEVE JOHNSON**  
                                 **COUNCILLOR CHRIS STEWARD**  
                                 **COUNCILLOR MRS MEGAN TAYLOR**  
                                 **COUNCILLOR ROBERT WEST**  
                                 **COUNCILLOR DAVID WILCOCK**  
                                 **COUNCILLOR NEIL WILKINSON**

**Mrs P Diane Greenwell**                    **Clerk**

**1.        APOLOGIES**

Councillor Lars Kramm  
Councillor David Smith

**2.        DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST and DISPENSATIONS**

Cllrs Auton and Mrs Taylor each declared an Interest under Item 9 – as Trustees of the Youth Club.

**3.        MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on 11<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025**, had been previously circulated. A number of amendments to the Committee membership sheet were required, and Cllr Auton will circulate a revised sheet. The minutes were then AGREED as a true and correct record of that Meeting.

**4.        NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE**

No monthly report has been received.

Cllr Auton to investigate the possibility of amending the Village Design Safety leaflet to make some specific changes and explore the possibility of the leaflet being displayed by residents in their window to deter doorstep callers.                    Cllr Auton

**5.        ACTION REVIEW**

A dead rowan tree on Low Green will be replaced at a cost of £85. Cllr Johnson undertook to water this tree until it becomes established. Mr David Whiteman has undertaken to water the Irish oak trees recently planted on the grassed area on St Giles Way. Any future tree planting will require a maintenance plan.                    Cllr Johnson

**6.        REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

**a) Planning**

The Monthly Report has been circulated.

We have today been notified of an Approval for new loading arrangements at the Co-op which will extend the width of the footpath. The Parish Council had strongly objected to this proposal, whilst acknowledging the inherent difficulties of the road layout. We are extremely disappointed that our comments to CYC Planning seem to have been completely overlooked, which is once again a cause for major concern.

The occupant of 14 Drome Road, Cllr. Wilcock, seeks to formalise ownership of a piece of land between his property and 14a. The occupant of 14a has confirmed in writing, following a request from the Clerk, that she has no objection to this Highways land becoming part of number 14. The Parish Council has no objections to this, and is happy to confirm this to CYC.

Clerk

**b) Finance and Risk Management**

The budget forecast sheet needs to be updated, and a date for a meeting arranged.

Cllr  
Wilkinson**c) Environment**

A meeting will be held on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 4.00 pm in the Howell Hall.

**7. COPMANTHORPE WARD**

The works to repair the Bishopthorpe bridge are at last complete. This will hopefully result in a reduction of HGV's travelling through our village as more traffic uses the Bishopthorpe route. This will of course merely shift the problem which is far from ideal. The fundamental issue is still the location of such a large distribution warehouse. Awaiting progress reports from the Action Group.

CYC left it too late to do a full tender for the Park and Ride service.

It is acknowledged that too many planning decisions are being taken at Committee level. It is now intended that any development of less than 40 houses will be decided by officers, but individual Members will still be able to call in an application.

**8. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IN THE VILLAGE CENTRE**

The Working Party has not yet met. Suggestions for an Action Plan are needed. It was AGREED to await the return of Cllr Kramm, who is away for the rest of April.

**9. HOWELL HALL**

"Ambition", formerly the National Association of Clubs for Young people, are the owners of the land, registered at Land Registry, upon which Howell Hall stands and wish to transfer ownership. A 1962 Trust Deed requires that the transfer be to a charitable organisation for youth work, and the Parish Council does not fulfill this criterion. Howell Hall, funded by the Parish Council and village residents, replaced the old building occupied by Copmanthorpe YMCA Youth Club. The Hall was built for the community, including the Youth Club.

Cllr Auton has had several length phone calls with "Ambition" who believe themselves to be the owners of Howell Hall, on the basis of a Trust set up in 1962. They wish to transfer ownership to the Youth Club, and Cllr Auton now believes that this is the best way forward. If the Youth Club should cease to exist, then ownership of the Hall would pass to the Parish Council. Cllr Auton PROPOSED that ownership be transferred to the Youth Club, and that this transfer be notified to the Land Registry. SECONDED by Cllr Steward. ALL IN FAVOUR. Cllr Auton

#### 10. TADCASTER ROAD SITE

The Parish Council has been asked to comment on proposed street names for this development. We feel that references to the Knights Templar, and the Manor, are not relevant to this side of the village. We would suggest York Field, Becketts and Cherry Trees. Clerk

There has been a problem with lorries delivering aggregate queueing on Tadcaster Road, and also coming through the village via Hallcroft Lane and Top Lane.

#### 11. MOOR LANE SITE

Delivery lorries are often driving along the footpath, and the Parish Council trusts that the resulting damage will be repaired. The dog bin has also been moved many times but it is still being emptied. Cllr Auton will ask Barratts, again, to fix the bin back in its previous position, rather than being constantly moved around and risking damage. Cllr Auton

#### 12. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

At last, this has finally gone out to consultation. Every house in the village has been notified, and Cllr Auton has written a piece for the Newsletter urging residents to respond by the closing date, 17<sup>th</sup> May.

#### 13. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Electro-test in Bishopthorpe have looked after the village Christmas lights for many years, at a cost of several hundred pounds each year. The existing lights are now starting to fail, and Cllr Mrs Taylor PROPOSED that we investigate the options for replacements, such as battery operated LED string lights. SECONDED by Cllr West. ALL IN FAVOUR.

#### 14. COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING

After some discussion, members felt that such planning should be left to those whose job it is to deal with emergencies. They already have detailed plans in place to deal with any foreseeable eventualities. The Parish Council will, however, draw up a list of useful local contacts, and put this in the notice board. Cllr Auton/  
Clerk

**15. HERITAGE BOARD**

The final version of the information sheet to go in the Heritage Board on Memorial Green should be delivered tomorrow.

**16. NOTICE BOARD**

It was AGREED that members' photographs should be placed in the Notice Board. Photographs will be taken at the next Parish Council meeting.

Cllrs

**17. CORRESPONDENCE**

We need to check that the defibrillator in the phone box on Horseman Lane is being regularly checked for availability.

Clerk

**18. ACCOUNTS****Balances at the Bank**

Business Current Account	£	5,930.68
Business Money Manager Account		58,864.00
	£	64,794.68

**Credits to the Account this Month**

CYC – Ward Grant	£	1,380.00
Interest on Business M/Mgr a/c		267.33
Allotments to 7 April 2025		150.00
Re: Jean Brough		100.00
	£	1,897.33

**Accounts to be Paid this Month**

YLCA – annual subscription	£	920.00
City of York Council – ½ year allotment rent		523.50
City of York Council – burial ground rates		164.67
YLCA – Councillor Training		70.20
Information Commissioner's Office – Data Protection		52.00
Ink cartridges		44.02
P D Greenwell – salary		500.92
HMRC – PAYE		486.80
	£	2,762.11

**Bank charges for month to 24 February 2024 - £13.00**

The adoption of these Accounts was PROPOSED by Cllr Mrs Taylor.  
SECONDED by Cllr Wilcock. ALL IN FAVOUR.

**19. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Heritage Board  
Copmanthorpe Online Archive

**20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.30 pm in the Howell Hall.

This will be preceded by a Meeting of the Planning Committee at 7.00 pm

An interim Meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7.30 pm in the Howell Hall

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Signed ..... Date .....