



Copmanthorpe Parish Council

www.copmanthorpe-pc.gov.uk email: clerk@copmanthorpe-pc.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COPMANTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL HELD on TUESDAY, 11th AUGUST 2026 in HOWELL HALL, SCHOOL LANE at 7.30 pm

Cllr. Taylor agreed to take the minutes of this meeting.

PRESENT: Cllr. G Auton
Cllr. C. Steward
Cllr. N. Wilkinson
Cllr. D. Wilcock
Cllr. M. Taylor
Cllr. C. Quin
Cllr. S. Johnson

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Robert West
Cllr. David Smith
Cllr. Lars Kramm

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None were declared.

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on 14th JULY 2026,

Proposed by Cllr. Taylor, seconded by Cllr. Johnson. Approved.

4. ACTION REVIEW

Cllr. Quin updated the meeting on the noise nuisance caused by Network Rail's train warning alarm. Ian Gray of CYC is arranging a meeting with the City's legal team in order to determine how this issue may be taken forward.

Cllr. Wilcock's article on the Horseman Meadows will be included in the September newsletter to inform, and reassure, residents of our intent and future management.

5. NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE

A report from NYP listed a theft from the Coop store and an instance of anti-social behaviour at the Recreation Centre.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

An email had been received suggesting that a 'wind telephone' be installed somewhere in the village so that bereaved people could have a dedicated place to go in order to talk to a dead loved one. Cllr. Auton is to respond as it was agreed that, in principle, it was a nice idea, but the consensus was against it.

Action: Cllr. Auton

Cllr. Auton is to respond to a recent FOI request.

Action: Cllr. Auton

Mr. David Whiteman had proposed planting trees at the village entrances. As each entrance already has trees, and any more trees would need to be managed and maintained, it was agreed that this request be denied. Cllr. Taylor will speak to Mr. Whiteman about this.

Action: Cllr. Taylor

It was agreed that it would be sensible to have names and contact phone numbers of councillors' emergency contacts in case of any emergencies that might arise. Councillors will send these details to Cllr. Taylor to be included on the spreadsheet of contact details and to be kept entirely confidential.

Action: All councillors

7. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

i. Planning

A resident has emailed with concerns over any future tree planting on the Manor Farm development. As this is part of the conditions of approval, it will be entirely a matter for the resident to negotiate with the new owners when the time is right.

Cllr. Taylor is to respond, explaining the situation.

Action: Cllr. Taylor

ii. Finance and Risk Management

There was no report due the death of the clerk.

iii. Environment and Place

Cllr. Wilcock discussed the comprehensive report received from Flowers of the Forest. This will be discussed fully at the next Environment Group meeting.

The allotments were discussed and Cllr. Taylor explained that an Allotment Policy was in place, as were letters to be sent to owners of plots showing signs of neglect. Cllr. Wilcock will search for these and also for an allotment map and a list of current plot holders.

Action: Cllr. Wilcock

Cllr. Quin has ascertained that Persimmon Builders are seemingly responsible for the management of part of Yorkfield lane. Dan Calvert of CYC is ready to be involved in a discussion over this issue.

Action: Cllr. Quin

8. TREES IN THE BURIAL GROUND

Cllr. Taylor reported that the left-hand side of the Burial Ground is extremely overgrown and will need a lot of remedial work. It will also require an on-going management and maintenance plan.

This has been deferred to next month's agenda and Cllr. Taylor suggested that the Environment group be involved. This was agreed.

In the absence of a Clerk, Cllr. Taylor will deal with any matters arising with the Burial Ground on a temporary basis.

Action: Cllr. Taylor

9. BURIAL GROUND CENTENARY

This has been deferred to next month's agenda as the Environment Group will need to visit the Burial Ground and provide a report and recommendations.

10. COPMANTHORPE WARD

Cllr. Steward reported that cross-party talks are being held on the future provision of social houses.

There are also to be cross-party discussions on the S106 monies processes.

A Ward Meeting was held on Monday, 3rd August in Howell Hall, which was well attended. Residents had brought various queries and concerns to Cllr. Steward's attention and he is dealing with these as appropriate.

11. COPMANTHORPE CARNIVAL 2027

It was agreed that having the Council gazebo at the Carnival had not been successful over the past few years and it was suggested that having a presence in the Scout Hut, which is busy with refreshments being served, would render councillors more visible and approachable. This is to be investigated.

Action: Cllr. Kramm

12. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Cllr. Johnson reported that it would cost approximately £4,000 to wrap the trees on Memorial Green and St Giles way to the ground.

The trees on Manor Heath and Tadcaster Road would need pillar access for power, which will take time to investigate and receive approval.

Cllr. Auton proposed that we start on the process now, ready for next year and to complete the trees on Memorial Green and St Giles way this year.

Proposed by Cllr. Auton, seconded by Cllr. Johnson. All in favour.

Action: Cllr. Johnson.

13. CHRISTMAS GROTTTO

Cllr. Taylor reported that this year's Grotto was in hand and will take place on Saturday, 4th December. Emails are to go out the elves this month to check their availability and also to previous helpers. The Methodist Hall has been booked, as has Andy Northfield to erect the maze. We have two Santas; one from last year and a new one, an ex-police officer. New helpers will need to be recruited and Cllr. Taylor is to approach the Wombles for this.

Action: Cllr. Taylor

14. HOWELL HALL WORKING PARTY

Cllr. Auton reported that the Youth Club has £10,000 in hand and costs are £8,000 per year so the Youth Club can continue for another year with no other income. A prospective renter has approached Cllr. Auton about renting the hall for children's craft activities but will need storage space. As the large storeroom is now empty and required for our own storage as the loft needs to be emptied, it was suggested that a large cupboard be built, or bought, and installed in a corner of the hall to meet the renter's needs. This is to be investigated. Transfer of ownership of the hall to the Parish Council is to be put on the agenda for the September meeting.

Action: Cllrs. Auton and Taylor

15. GRANTS POLICY DOCUMENT

This has been referred to the Finance committee and to be put on the agenda for next month.

Action: Cllr. Wilkinson

16. TADCASTER ROAD SITE

No concerns were raised but one of the ponds in the development seems to be overflowing despite the drought conditions.

17. MOOR LANE SITE

Cllr. Quin reported that the site office at the Barretts development have erected a notice board for new residents and requested any information on village activities to add to it.

Action: Cllrs. Quin and Steward.

18. ACCOUNTS

None available

19. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Yorkfield Lane
Burial Ground
Burial Ground Centenary
Christmas lights

Christmas Grotto
Howell Hall
Grants Policy
Tadcaster Road site
Moor Lane site
Appointment of Clerk

20. TO CONFIRM DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Tuesday, 8th September 2026 at 7.30pm in Howell Hall. This will be preceded by a Meeting of the Planning Committee at 7.00pm.

An Interim Meeting of the Planning Committee will be held on 25th August 2026 at 7.30 pm.

Signed _____ Date _____

GRAHAM AUTON
Chairman
Copmanthorpe Parish Council