

EAST COWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday 13th October 2025 at 7.30pm

2510.01

Present

Councillors: E Simpson (ES) (Chairman), J Green A Wragg (Awr), (JG), J Shields (JS),
Clerk: J Walker (JW) 16 Members of the Public

Apologies for Absence

Councillor A Wilkinson (AW)

2510.02

Disclosure of Interests

None

2510.03

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council (PC) held on 8th September 2025

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th September 2025 are approved, and the Chairman duly signed them in order to verify approval

2510.04

Chairman's Formal Announcements

None

2510.05

Planning Applications

ZB25/01134/FUL- The installation of ground mounted solar photovoltaic array with associated infrastructure, security fence, CCTV, cable route, landscaping, and onsite biodiversity net gain, Land East of Frigidale Wood Great Smeaton North Yorkshire – Jonathan Thompson (CEO Green Nation) shared a presentation regarding the outline plans for the solar farm and suggestions for mitigating the impact of the project in the community. Questions from the public had been shared in advance of the meeting but time constraints meant not all could be responded to. Questions were posed by members of the public at the meeting although some could not be answered on the night. Mr Thompson agreed to provide a written response to the advance questions previously circulated together with answers to all the concerns raised at the meeting that remained unanswered. It was resolved the Clerk would email Alpaca Communications to follow this up

2510.06

Police Report

Cllr Shields provided Councillors with a verbal report :

- a) Nothing local
- b) A man from Guisborough has been jailed for 15 years for forcing entry to a home in Brompton and stabbing the occupier
- c) Remain vigilant as cold callers selling cleaning products or offering to carry out maintenance have been active in the area
- d) Appeal for any witnesses and/or dashcam footage of an accident near Northallerton on 5th September at Cross Rein bank in which a motorcyclist was seriously injured.

Chairman signed.....10th November 2025

Police are also trying to trace the driver of a KIA Ceed GT Line who may be able to help with enquiries

- e) Be aware of a telephone bogus Police Officer scam making the rounds. The recipient receives a call stating a person has been arrested in possession of a clone of your (recipients) bank card(s) and that a 'courier' would be sent to their home to collect the original card(s) to assist in the investigation. Recipients are being told not to engage or part with any information and just hang up
- f) Police ask parents to be aware on the run up to Christmas that eScooters are legal to own but are not legal to ride in public areas
- g) A £500k cannabis farm has been found in Sessay near Thirsk. This has since been dismantled and 7 men from West Yorkshire have been arrested
- h) With the onset of the darker nights, which usually sees an increase in burglary type crimes, Police are urging all residents and farmers to be mindful of this and to ensure garages, outbuildings and sheds are locked and secured

2510.07

Financial Accounts

- a) It was resolved that the payments below be authorised as regular payments

Invoice Date	Description	£	Authority
11/10/2025	Clerk's wages – Oct	164.78	Local Government Act 1972, s112(2)
06/10/2025	C E & C M Walker - Grasscutting	312.00	Highways Act 1980, s115B and Open Spaces Act 1906, s10(b)
18/06/2025	Safety Matting Play Area – reimburse ES	49.90	Open Spaces Act 1906, s10(b)
10/09/2025	ICO GDPR Fee	47.00	Local Government Act 1972, s111(1)
17/09/2025	ROSPA	96.00	Open Spaces Act 1906, s10(b)

- b) The accounting statements were approved

2510.08

Village Hall Trustees

ES provided a verbal update that the village hall are looking to recruit Charity Trustees from groups using their facility. After discussion it was resolved that the Clerk would respond to advise that ECPC would not be providing a nominee

2510.09

Waste Bins

ES provided a verbal update to confirm that a review of bins had been undertaken on a walk with the refuse team who were unaware of the location of some bins and acknowledged lots of them are dilapidated. A discussion took place regarding the replacement/relocation of some bins and it was resolved a final proposal would be added to the agenda of the November meeting. The refuse team confirmed they are trialling a new design of bin that allows them to be emptied mechanically and ES agreed to request a trial for East Cowton to replace the broken bin opposite the entrance to Wycliffe Road. Provision of a bin outside the cricket field was approved and the parish council will fund this

2510.10

Community Website

JS provided a verbal update to advise that Purple Creative have been given the outline specification for the community website and we await a quotation for the work. It was resolved that JS would circulate links to Purple Creative and that the Clerk would check the terms of the grant received to confirm if there is an expiry date for work to be completed and the funds to be claimed

Chairman signed.....10th November 2025

2510.11

Chair's Updates

- a) ES provided a verbal update on the proposed road closure on the main street for drainage works. The developers are securing the licence for the street works which has now been passed to the council and they await approval and confirmation of the dates
- b) A resident has agreed to fund one of the new village benches in memory of a loved one. It was resolved the Clerk will provide them details of the bank account for payment and provide a copy of the Memorial Policy

2510.12

Parish Councillor Co-option

ES confirmed there have been no applicants for the vacancies

2510.13

Public Participation

- a) The Clerk has received a further complaint from a resident about inconsiderate parking opposite the village pub. Es agreed to contact the proprietor to ask for support and in particular on bonfire night where access for emergency vehicles is required
- b) ES has received the ROSPA safety report and no major issues were raised, the report has been circulated to Councillors
- c) The Clerk has been contacted by the contractor who maintains the play area with regards to pruning the hedge. It was resolved ES would speak with him and arrange the works

2510.14

Date and time if the next meeting

10th November 2025 at 19:30 was agreed

2510.15

Meeting Closed

There being no further business, ES closed the meeting at 21:35

Chairman signed.....10th November 2025