

Pannal and Burn Bridge Parish Council

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Start Time: 7pm

Date: Thursday 14th May 2026

Held in the Function Room of Pannal Village Hall

All meetings of the Parish Council are open to the Press and Public

Minutes

Pannal and Burn Bridge Parish councillors warmly invite their parishioners' attendance to this meeting which is convened for you.

Welcome from Helen Hayes, Chair

Newly appointed chair, Cllr Hayes, opened the meeting and introduced herself

Councillors' introduction of themselves

The following Cllrs introduced themselves:

Cllr Steve Cobb, Vice Chair

Cllr Elatia Sharkey

Cllr Andrew Farrar

Cllr Andrea Rossi

Cllr Lucy Phipps

Cllr John Mann, from North Yorkshire Council

Summary report from Cllr John Mann

Cllr Mann provided a comprehensive update on several regional topics:

New Local Plan: A new plan for North Yorkshire is being developed to replace existing plans by 2028 or 2029, remaining in force until 2045. The "call for sites" for landowners

is open until 22nd June 2026. Cllr Mann presented maps showing suggested sites, including areas previously contested (Sites 18 and 19 near Leeds Road), though he clarified that these are only suggestions and have not yet been assessed.

Harrogate Spring Water: The planning committee recently rejected an application (over 1,000 objections), but an appeal or revised application is expected

Station Gateway Scheme: The Court of Appeal ruled in favour of the council; work is expected to start this summer and last at least 18 months

Tour of Britain: NYC has approved £200,000 to fund the race for this year and next.

Road Works & Speed Cameras: A new system will charge utility companies £2,500 per day for overrunning work on main roads. Additionally, £2 million has been allocated for fixed speed cameras across North Yorkshire.

Waste Disposal: Residents must now register to use council tips to prevent usage by those living outside the county, saving an estimated £400,000 annually.

NYC Political Changes: Cllr Mann noted significant personnel changes, including himself and two others joining Reform UK, leaving the governing group in a minority position. He expressed concerns regarding the council's £20–25 million budget deficit and spending on "net zero" targets

Items for presentation:

1) Changes within the Parish Council

The Chair stated the Parish Council is a transition period and formally acknowledged the departure of several members

Cathy Burrell: Retired after 10 years on the parish council and the previous Chair.

Jane Marlow: Former Clerk.

Neil Permain: Also stepped down this year in January as Vice Chair

2) Mill Pond

Cllr Phipps provided an update on the Mill Pond

Research indicates the pond was sold in 1970 to the **Mill Dam Association**, formed by five adjacent houses. However, as those people moved, the ownership wasn't passed to the new owners. Responsibility for the pond lapsed over the years.

The council is working to re-establish the association and establish legal ownership. Once ownership is clear, the council hopes to use public funds and

seek grants to restore the pond. Restoration will require significant silt removal, dredging, which will need access through Pannal Avenue

3) Local Plan

Covered in Cllr Manns summary

4) Yorkshire Water Update

The Chair addressed the ongoing construction of a new sewer pipe and storage tank behind Pannal Green. The Parish Council was not formally consulted on the project itself, as Yorkshire Water is using statutory powers. The council only had the opportunity to object to hedgerow removal, which they did strongly. The works are expected to last 15 months.

5) Resident Q&A

Overgrown Hedges: Residents were reminded that it is their responsibility to cut back hedges to the vertical line of the pavement. The council will include a reminder in the next newsletter and may conduct a survey to identify problem areas

Footpath Maintenance: Discussions were held regarding overgrown stinging nettles and collapsed fencing on footpaths near Spring Lane and Pinnacle Meadow. The council will investigate resurrecting previous maintenance arrangements and investigating ownership disputes regarding specific fence lines

Parking/Layby: A resident questioned the closure of the layby opposite the Village Hall, now double yellow lines. The council stated that parking is an ongoing issue within the village and they are trying to find solutions to the issue.

The Chair thanked the attendees for their engagement and reminded the public that monthly Parish Council meetings remain open to all