

Ashby St Mary Parish Council (ASMPC)
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 14th January 2026
at 19:00 at Ashby and Thurton Village Hall

In Attendance, J Goldring (JG) Chair, : C Powell (CP), A Ayres (AA)
Minutes: Tina Higlett (TH) – Parish Clerk.

1. To consider co-option onto parish council.
Clerk advised she hadn't received anything further from resident who had previously contacted council with a view to joining.
2. To consider apologies for absence.
Council had received a letter of resignation from H Roebuck. This was due to work commitments which was making it difficult to attend meetings.
Council acknowledged resignation and asked for thanks to be passed on for their valuable support.
3. To receive declarations of Interest for items on the agenda and to consider any requests for dispensations.
Nil.
4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th November 2025.
These were approved.
5. Public Forum
 - I. No Public in attendance.
 - II. County Councillor's report for January had been forwarded to members.
6. Matters arising from the previous minutes.
 - I. Restoration of village sign.
AA had obtained a quotation from The Village Sign People for £1957.00. The quotation stated the delivery of the sign would be in the region of 15 months from the date of order. Clerk had contacted District Cllr Thomson who had previously been approached regarding a grant towards the repainting of the signage. Cllr Thomson advised the clerk that grant funding had opened for a short time and asked for the quotation to be sent to him for consideration. AA advised there are not many companies carrying out this type of work and may have difficulties in sourcing another quote for comparison. Chair advised that the post may also be deteriorating and would seek a second opinion. CP stated she would ask Thurton Foundry if they installed the sign as they had manufactured the head and could possibly advise on the build at the time. A new sign is in the region of £6376.00.
 - II. Replacement of Perspex insert on public rights of way signage.
CP apologised for not obtaining a quote but will endeavour to bring one to the next meeting.
7. Administrative Issues
 - I. Bank Signatory
Chair advised she was now set up on the council's account. CP stated she would show

the Chair how to authorise payments online.

II. 2026-27 Meeting Dates.

Members asked for the March date to be moved to February 18th as two members of the council will be unavailable.

III. Assertion 10 Training

Clerk advised she would be attending the training and will update at the next meeting.

IV. Internal Control audit

AA to advise clerk on availability.

V. Omission from agenda

Clerk apologised for not including planning applications which had been commented on between meetings.

Application 2025/3669, Sunset, Mill Road, Ashby St Mary. Proposed side extension to detached dwelling, with pitched roof and flat roof (forming balcony space). Council stated they had no objection.

8. Finance

I. Councils account shows a balance of £2725.84 at 31st December 2025.

II. Approve payments.

a. T Higlett – clerks salary Dec/Jan £398.48

b. HMRC – clerks taxation period 9 & 10 £94.80

III. To agree on budget for 2026/27

Clerk spoke of additional hours to enable the parish website to be updated and proposed 1.5 hours per month.

Council's lap top is outdated and will require replacing. New one could be in the region of £300.00.

Members training increased as new councillor's will require training.

2026/27 Budget was unanimously approved.

IV. To agree Precept 2026/27.

The precept requirement was discussed and Council unanimously agreed to request £5,500.00.

AA proposed councils reserve's policy should be updated in May 2026.

9. Report from Village Hall Management Committee

CP advised the ladies toilets will be upgraded, however she felt that the shower room could be refurbished to use as a wellness room. The pre school has spoke of increasing their hours.

This would cause problems with hirers who have booked the hall following on from them.

The tidying away of play equipment is not a quick task.

A ceilidh is planned for the 14th February.

10. Items for next agenda

I. Meeting dates for 2026/27 inclusion of annual parish meeting

II. Village Sign

11. Date of next meeting – 18th February 2026

Meeting closed at 20:50