

THE MINUTES OF THE SCAWBY ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON WEDNESDAY 1st APRIL 2026 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

In the Chair: Cllr T Powell

Also Present: Cllr M Keyworth, , Cllr N Askew, Cllr J Chamberlain, Cllr J Frost, Cllr S Nabais, Cllr R Coleman, Cllr N Barlow, Cllr A Hall, Cllr R Holmes.

In attendance: Cllr J Lee, Mrs K Pickering – Clerk. Six members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES : Cllr L Griffiths, Cllr K Repton, Cllr G Siddall, Cllr C Ross.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman provided a comprehensive report of the activities of the parish council over the previous year. The report is detailed below.

Chair Report April 2025-March 2026

Once again I would like to express my thanks to the Parish Councillors, Clerk, Ward Councillors, local policing team and members of the public who have contributed to another successful, busy year in the life of Scawby Parish Council.

We were saddened to accept the resignation of Sheila Kemp and Mike Russell after many years of dedicated service as a Parish Councillors but were delighted to welcome new councillors, Kieran Repton and Seb Nabais. Richard Coleman was unanimously voted in as vice chair.

Update of the past year:

1. Public forum

Throughout the year we have welcomed visitors from the Sibelco quarry, Brockwell Energy and residents of Scawby parish regarding various local issues and groups/individuals commenting both positively and negatively on planning applications and bringing to our attention concerns and issues within the parish. Our Ward Councillors continue to be a vital part of our monthly meetings and give valuable feedback on NLC matters as well as many matters of local interest.

2. Planning Applications

We have continued to receive many planning applications, the vast majority of which were positively received. As a council our main consideration has been to consider the building line and what is best for the Parish. This has formed the basis of many of our decisions. The planning committee have started to liaise before meetings, when necessary, to discuss any planning matters and to bring comments to the meetings.

3. Reports and Meetings

Thanks must go to the Councillors who attend a variety of meetings representing Scawby Parish Council for their attendance and detailed reports to the council regarding issues affecting the parish.

4. Finance

We have given financial support to SAHS to continue their good work with the annual show. A small increase was made to the precept to accommodate any increases incurred with the introduction of the devolution of weed spraying.

We have received generous grants from UKSPF and the Techrete charity, Community Foundation Ireland. Some new play equipment has already been installed and the remainder of the improvements are ongoing. We also received grants from Merlin Renewables and NLC for "planting and developing our flower beds" which is gratefully received and is put to good use by the Planting Committee. We still have the S106 money to spend and hope to finally put it to good use along with the grants.

Income from the hire of the football pitches has contributed to the substantial costs of maintaining the pavilion and the pitches.

We are proud of the way our finances have been managed and that is reflected in a positive audit report and is a credit to our Clerk, Karen Pickering. Thanks should also be given to Councillor Frost for his monthly monitoring and presentation of finances to the council. We continue to use our funds for the upkeep of the parish as well as improving local facilities through planned future projects.

5. Police Matters

The council continues to monitor any police matters throughout the parish and to work effectively with our 2 Ward police officers.

6. Highway Matters

We continue to discuss the movement of HGVs through the parish and to work with the local quarries and our ward councillors. Alastair Logan from the Sibelco quarry attended one of our meetings and is keen to continue to work positively with us and maintain a good neighbourly relationship.

Potholes, road markings, speeding vehicles and pathways are regular issues within the parish so we continue to encourage all residents to report these on the NLC portal.

The ongoing problems on Brigg Road and in Scawby Brook continue so we regularly update and liaise with NLC and hope for speedy outcomes.

We have bought another radar speed sign. These seem to have been effective in slowing down all types of vehicles in the parish so we continue to discuss the progress of this, including the number and location of poles to mount the signs on.

NLC hope to install traffic lights at Broughton crossroads this year. We hope that this will have an immediate positive impact on the number of accidents and safety on this stretch of road.

6. General Village Matters

We continue to lobby for a lay-by at the cemetery and an improvement in the path from the village to it.

We have continued to support the following events – tallest sunflower competition, horticultural show, Remembrance Day, Christmas tree lighting and carols as well as the VE Day celebration last year.

The Garden Gnomes and associated volunteers have continued to work independently and with Andy Sissons to improve the landscape of the parish and the PC planting committee continue to meet regularly to keep abreast of matters and to further the community planting around the Parish. Their hard work resulted in us winning the CPRE Best Kept Large Village, Best Community Planting and Best Kept Playground in 2025.

Community litter picking sessions have been organised in conjunction with the Co-Op and are well supported by parishioners. There are also many times throughout the year when parishioners carry out their own litter picking which all helps to maintain Scawby parish as a lovely place to live.

The community coffee morning is still very well attended and supported. The parish council recognises the importance of this facility and tries to support it where possible.

Public transport remains an issue with very few buses in the parish. The Just Go bus service is a regular topic of discussion at the meetings as it doesn't always provide a comprehensive service but may be changed by NLC.

We hosted a free First Aid Training course which was delivered by LIVES. Unfortunately it wasn't very well attended but the people who turned up benefitted from it.

7. Playing Field Matters

Scawby residents, and those from further afield, are proud of our playing field and it has regular use. It is in a beautiful setting with many well maintained pieces of play equipment. We regularly monitor the park and are open to suggestions for any updates or changes. The MUGA is still well used and provides a safe play area for ball games and is freely accessible and the addition of the cycle track is still a huge boost for the younger residents. We hope that road safety will greatly improve with the new signs which will hopefully be completed soon. The recent works undertaken through the CFI grant already show an improvement to the appearance of the pavilion. A defibrillator is clearly visible if needed.

Thanks to the councillors who maintain the pavilion to keep it well stocked and clean for use. Even with their support the pavilion takes considerable maintenance. Councillors Frost and Coleman continue to give much of their time and plumbing and electrical skills to keep it functioning. We occasionally have to buy in professional help to remedy some issues but thanks to our Parish Council we manage to keep our costs down.

Future Projects

1. To continue to pursue the issues and problems at Scawby Brook with a view to resolving matters sooner than later.
2. Pursue a lay-by for the cemetery and improve the path leading to it.
3. Evaluate the success of our speed awareness signs and consider the provision of new posts.
4. Continue to liaise with NLC regarding the improvement of Brigg Road – white lines, edging etc.
5. Continue to support our devolved group of planters/gardeners financially and practically.
6. Encourage councillors and members of the public to develop ideas and projects to better our parish.
7. To update the PC committees to involve more councillors with more PC activity.
8. To complete the update of the PC website.
9. To continue to carry on as usual until May 2027 when the Government Plan will reduce us to 11 councillors from the current 14.

3. PUBLIC FORUM – Cllr Frost expressed his gratitude to Simon Green who looks after the football pitches and keeps the pavilion tidy after matches.

Cllr Coleman advised the meeting that the defibrillators are checked every 3 months.

Cllr J Lee thanked all the parish councillors for their hard work over the previous 12 months.

