



Skidby Parish Council Chairman's Report

May 2026

Parish Councillors for the 2025-26 municipal year were

P. Browning
G. Foster
K Haslam
T. Hasnip
S. Hooker
L Kendall
P. Roustoby
L. Varey

There continue to be three vacancies.

Parish Council Meetings

During the year the Parish Council has continued to meet on the first Tuesday of every month (apart from January 2026 when the meeting moved to the second Tuesday) and has held one extraordinary meeting to discuss a planning application. We have considered a range of local planning issues and our comments have been forwarded to ERYC. 16 planning applications have been considered including infrastructure associated with various renewable energy proposals. A recent proposal for a 1400 acre solar farm to the north of Skidby has caused particular concerns and the parish council has held a public meeting to ascertain residents' views. Letters of objection have been sent to local MPs and the Shadow Secretary of state for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, and we have contacted other parishes that will be affected to seek support for joint action.

In addition to the public meeting, a number of residents have attended our meetings to raise specific concerns, and we have received representations in relation to flooding, speeding on Riplingham Road, Raywell and Main Street, the safety of horses riders, overgrown hedges, fly tipping and fly grazing, dog fouling, progress with Skidby Mill, odours from Wastewise. And police driver training through the village. The Parish Council has welcomed this resident involvement and has done its best to address the concerns raised, liaising with other agencies where necessary. We have received presentations from National Grid about the new substation at Birkhill Wood and Clean Air Solar about their solar farm proposals.

The Parish Council has continued to press robustly for progress on restoring the sails to Skidby Mill and has received regular updates from the Director of Culture and Customer Services about Skidby Mill. The Parish Council has made its concerns about continued delays very clear and is hopeful that the sails will be returned during summer 2026.

In addition to issues raised by residents, we have responded to consultations on a wide range of topics including:

Department for Transport

Consultation on proposed changes to permitted development rights in relation to electric vehicle charging

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Housing Needs SPD

Call for Sites - East Riding Local Plan

Draft Planning Obligations SPD Consultation

Local Government Boundary Commission for England

Final Recommendations on ERYC ward boundary review

MHCLG

Remote attendance and proxy voting in local authorities: consultation results and government response

National Association of Local Councils

NALC Flooding Survey

National Grid

Birkhill Wood Substation Planning Application

SSE

Dogger Bank D - Statutory Consultation under section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act) and Regulation 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations)

The Parish Council liaises with various departments at ERYC on issues including maintenance of roads, footpaths and verges, flooding, speeding vehicles and parking. We have actively pursued the return of the sails to Skidby Mill and pressed for flood mitigation works across the parish. We also continue to pursue pupil safety issues and have liaised with Humberside Police to carry out speeding and parking monitoring outside the Primary School. During 2025-26 we have been successful in obtaining grant funding from KCOM to replace the community library box and from the ERYC VE DAY 80 fund towards the installation of a flagpole at East Green. We also received a generous donation from a resident to fund a memorial bench at Gallows Hill, and were gifted a new defibrillator from GRAHAM which will be located at the bus stop at the top of Main Street, ensuring that all areas of the village have easy access to this life saving equipment.

Members of the Council have welcomed ERYC Ward Councillors Gill and Meredith to our Parish Council meetings. The Ward Councillors have continued to offer their support and have provided valuable updates on a range of issues, including the combined authority, Wastewise, car parking charges, the ward boundary review and ERYC priorities. They also liaise with ERYC on our behalf and in particular this year we have worked with them to progress the installation of a formal parking area and speed enforcement at Raywell, address odour issues from Biowise, pursue the return of the sails to Skidby Windmill and to pursue solutions to highways issues at Skidby roundabout.

The Parish Council has also been pleased that representatives of Humberside Police have attended our meetings this year to report on crime, anti-social behaviour or traffic offences and have been able to reassure the Council about the generally low levels of crime in the parish. Police officers have monitored parking issues near the school to provide advice to parents and carers who were parking inconsiderately and have investigated evidence of drug use near the Mill.

Parish Priorities

The Parish Council agreed a number of priorities for 2025-26 including completion of the flood works, improvements at the cemeteries and repairs to assets.

During 2025-26 the Parish Council has progressed proposed works to mitigate flooding on Riplingham Road and has funded the recreation of ditches on the north side of Riplingham Road. This seems to have been effective and significantly reduced the flow of water along the road during winter storms. The Council is maintaining a watching brief on this issue before determining whether additional work is required.

Cemeteries

Minor improvements have continued to be made in the Cemeteries during the year with the removal of a redundant shed and additional hedge planting. Further work has been identified and will be prioritised in 2026-27.

Playing Fields

The Parish Council has continued to invest significantly in the Playing Fields. The new natural play area was opened for the summer holidays in 2025 and has benefitted from the installation of additional junior gym equipment and a table tennis table during the year.

Bransholme and Kingswood Cricket Club continues to be based at Skidby along with Hull Zingari 3rd XI, with two further cricket teams playing a number of games on mid-week evenings. We continue to host Beverley Town Football Club’s youth teams at the Playing Fields who play regular games at weekends.

Events

We helped celebrate VE 80 with an event at East Green involving the raising of the first flag on our new flagpole by children from Skidby Primary School and a Deputy Lieutenant of the East Riding of Yorkshire. The Deputy Chairman talked to the pupils about the importance of remembrance and each child was given a memento of the occasion.

In November, Councillors attended the Remembrance Service held at the War Memorial at St. Michael’s Church in the presence of a Deputy Lieutenant. Councillor Varey laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

We held our annual Christmas lights switch on event at the end of November to coincide with the Christmas Craft Fair at the Village Hall and enjoyed excellent entertainment from Skidby School Choir, members of the East Riding of Yorkshire Band and Elsa and Albert Hardy. We were kindly hosted by volunteers from St Michael’s church who presided over the mulled wine and mince pies.

Committees

Detailed work is carried out through a number of Committees and I would like to thank members for the work they have done this year driving the Council’s work forward.

Finance Committee	Playing Fields Committee
Cllr P. Browning (Chair) Cllr G. Foster Cllr K Haslam Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr P. Roustoby Cllr L. Varey	Cllr S. Hooker (Chair) Cllr P. Browning Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr K Haslam Cllr L. Kendall Cllr P. Roustoby Cllr L. Varey
Cemeteries Committee	Personnel Committee
Cllr T. Hasnip (Chair)	Cllr P. Browning (Chair)

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Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Events Working Group
Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr S. Hooker Cllr L. Varey	Cllr P. Browning Cllr K Haslam Cllr T. Hasnip Cllr S. Hooker Cllr L. Kendall Cllr L. Varey

Cllr T. Hasnip represents the Parish Council on the Skidby Village Hall Committee and he has also undertaken the role of defibrillator guardian, checking and resetting the after each use.

Cllr L Varey and Cllr P Browning represent the Parish Council on the ERNLLCA District Committee.

Cllr L Varey represents the Parish Council on the Dogger Bank Liaison Groups

Cllr K Haslam represents the Parish Council on the Biowise Liaison Group

Administration

During 2025-26 we have continued to review policies and have ensured that our policies on data protection and IT are up to date and compliant with current requirements. We also encourage and support members to undertake training.

Although no applications were received this year, our small grants scheme remains open to support local projects.

We have retendered our grounds maintenance contract for 2026-2030 and continue to receive an excellent standard of service from our contractor.

Audit reports were submitted during the year for the 2024-25 financial year with the accounts found to be well maintained with only minor errors that have been addressed to the satisfaction of the external auditor.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to my Vice Chairman, Councillor Paul Browning, to all my fellow councillors, and to our ERYC Ward Councillors for their continued support throughout the year. My thanks also go to our Clerk, Jane Price, for her hard work and dedication in supporting the Parish Council.

Councillor Lynda Varey, Chairman
May 2026