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North Yorkshire Council

Thirsk and Malton Area Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, 13 June 2025 commencing at 10.00 am.

Councillor Nigel Knapton in the Chair plus Councillors Caroline Goodrick, Joy Andrews, Alyson Baker, Sam Cross, Dan Sladden, Gareth Dadd, Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff, George Jabbour, Steve Mason, Janet Sanderson, Malcolm Taylor and Greg White.

In attendance: Councillor Carl Les

Officers present: Harry Briggs - Head of Waste Operations and Streetscene, Dr Kevin Carr - Divisional Officer, Mark Codman - Parish Liaison and Local Devolution Manager, Richard Marr - Area Manager, Sophie Nicholson - Scientific Officer and Nicki Lishman - Senior Democratic Services Officer

Other Attendees: Sarah Robinson - Corporate Affairs Manager and Emma Brown, Manager of Strategic Partnerships from Yorkshire Water

Apologies: Councillors Lindsay Burr MBE and Keane Duncan

Copies of all documents considered are in the Minute Book

1 Election of Chair

Councillor Goodrick proposed and Councillor Dadd seconded that Councillor Nigel Knapton be elected Chair of Thirsk and Malton Area Committee until the first meeting of the Committee following the Council's Annual General Meeting in 2026.

Resolved

That Councillor Nigel Knapton be elected Chair of Thirsk and Malton Area Committee until the first meeting of the Committee following the Council's Annual General Meeting in 2026.

2 Minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2025

Resolved

That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Thirsk and Malton Area Committee held on 28 March 2025, having been printed and circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

3 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lindsay Burr and Keane Duncan.

4 Election of Vice Chair

Councillor Baker proposed and Councillor Knapton seconded that Councillor Caroline Goodrick be appointed Vice Chair of the Committee until the first meeting of the Committee

following the Council's Annual General Meeting in 2026.

Resolved

That Councillor Caroline Goodrick be elected Vice Chair of Thirsk and Malton Area Committee until the first meeting of the Committee following the Council's Annual General Meeting in 2026.

5 Declarations of interest

Councillor Alyson Baker declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 7 as a member of her family worked for Yorkshire Water.

For the purposes of transparency, with regard to Item 10, Councillors Gareth Dadd and Greg White declared that they were members of the Council's Executive.

6 Public questions or statements

There were no public questions or statements.

7 Update from Yorkshire Water

The Chair welcomed Sarah Robinson, Corporate Affairs Manager and Emma Brown, Manager of Strategic Partnerships from Yorkshire Water (YW).

Members of the Committee had previously submitted a number of questions, which the presentation would address. Members were advised that a written response may be required for any additional questions raised at the meeting.

Brawby scheme update

- The progress made in separating surface water from the combined system and the creation of a new surface water pumping station with a new delivery date set for winter 2025.
- Significant progress has been made, including the installation of a pumping station and a new rising main.
- Delays were caused by site circumstances requiring a complete redesign of the scheme. The new delivery date was set for winter 2025, with significant work planned for the summer period.

Bathing water quality

- Improving bathing water quality is complex due to multiple factors such as sewage system impact, agricultural runoff, trade effluents, birds, tidal conditions, weather patterns, and natural UV. Yorkshire Water works closely with the Environment Agency and local authorities to address these challenges.
- Yorkshire Water plans to invest over £100 million in Scarborough over the next five years to reduce discharges from storm overflows, in line with the Environment Act requirements.

Growth and planning

- Yorkshire Water reviews new development requests on a case-by-case basis, led by their town planning function. They work closely with developers and North Yorkshire Council planners to promote sustainable water management and minimise the impact on the existing sewer network.

- Conditions are set to minimise the impact on existing infrastructure, often related to flow rates and discharge rates. A full desktop review and collaboration with local operational teams help identify pinch points and risks within the existing catchment.

Combined sewer overflow programme

- The £1.5 billion programme aims to reduce spills from storm overflows across the region from 2025 to 2030. The programme includes hydraulic modelling, storage requirements, and surface water separation.
- Yorkshire Water targets 20% of the programme to utilise nature-based solutions, such as surface water separation and attenuation, to reduce environmental impact.

Wastewater tankering

- Tankers are used as a mitigation plan during sewage asset issues, such as rising main bursts, localised power loss, or site shutdowns for maintenance. The aim is to move effluent to a location where it can be treated and returned to the environment.
- Efforts are made to minimise the use of tankers due to their high cost and the disruption they cause to the local community. Operational teams and community engagement are involved in managing the impact.

Road works and traffic management

- Traffic management is handled by a specialist team with professional qualifications, while the dig work is done by a separate team with the relevant skills. This division ensures compliance with legislation and safety standards.
- Coordination with other utilities, such as high voltage electricity cables or gas, can cause delays. Waiting for parts, curing times, or access to other utilities' assets are common reasons for road works appearing inactive.

Malton and Norton flood risk:

- Investigations included CCTV surveys and cleaning significant blockages of fats, oils, and greases. Telemetry was installed in manholes to understand system impacts and support future resilience.
- Additional hydraulic modelling is being undertaken to understand the impacts on the system and the effects of climate change. This will help create a robust evidence base for long-term solutions.
- Yorkshire Water attends monthly multi-agency meetings in Malton and Norton to listen to concerns from local residents and councillors. This collaboration drives action planning and solution development.

Concerns in Topcliffe, Swinton, and Sessay

- **Topcliffe:** A temporary dosing unit was set up in Topcliffe in 2024 to control odour. A permanent solution is being considered, which would involve purchasing and installing permanent equipment.
- **Swinton:** Temporary pipework is being used in Swinton, with a trenchless method planned to install a new underground pipe. This work is expected to be completed by August, with two days of tankering required during the transition.
- **Sessay:** An infiltration reduction plan is in place to address groundwater and surface water entering the foul network. Investigations and lining work have been done, and further actions are planned to address land drainage and highway drainage issues.

In response, Members raised a number of other issues such as:

- Clear and swift communications with residents impacted by major projects, timelines etc
- Concerns regarding capacity at local facilities such as treatment works to cope with the additional development planned, due to ambitious housing targets. Members were concerned at the possible impacts of developments on pollution incidents, particularly considering a recent case on the protection of river ecosystems

- and the implications that raised when granting or refusing planning applications
- Concerns regarding traffic management during road works, coordination with other utilities etc.
- Members discussed land drainage concerns, if it is possible to enforce the direction of ploughing adjacent to the highway
- Sustainable land management, natural flood management and grey infrastructure for the future
- Water quality on the Scarborough, Filey and Hunmanby coast

Members also praised the schemes undertaken in local villages across the committee's area.

Actions

1. YW will arrange a meeting with all Councillors and the appropriate NYC officers to explain their development management processes and how YW works with local authorities.
2. Councillors to submit examples of roadworks that appear to be poorly managed.
3. YW to provide details of the permanent solution for Topcliffe
4. Councillors to provide YW details of those community groups which may be interested in updates from a local perspective
5. YW to feedback to Councillor Sam Cross on the wastewater tankers in Filey
6. Share the link to the real time CSO discharge information

The Chair thanked the officers for attending and for the comprehensive update provided.

Yorkshire Water presentation

8 Report of the Regulatory Services Scientific Team and answers to public questions from the meeting held on 28 March 2025

Dr Kevin Carr, Divisional Officer and Sophie Nicholson, Scientific Officer from the Regulatory Services scientific team provided an update on air quality in Malton.

The officers also addressed the issues that had been raised by a member of the public at the previous meeting of the committee.

The background to the creation of the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in Malton and the reasons for its revocation were explained and that, despite the revocation, a duty to monitor remained.

At the inception of NYC there were eight AQMAs in North Yorkshire and this has now reduced to four, with hopefully another being revoked in the near future.

Dr Carr advised that the air quality action plan was due to be updated, and this would reflect the World Health Organisation's (WHO) limits on pollutants. WHO limits were currently for guidance only and the Council based its reporting on statutory UK limits. It was hoped to produce an air quality strategy by the end of March 2027.

The weight restriction on County Bridge, Malton had contributed to the success of the AQMA and Dr Carr and the local Area Manager for Highways confirmed that there was no plan to remove the weight restriction. However, officers acknowledged that the weight restriction caused issues elsewhere and Highways were commissioning a more holistic traffic management study for Malton and Norton.

If there were any change in the weight restriction, it would be closely monitored for its impact on air pollution.

The Chair thanked the officers for their update.

Resolved

That the report be noted.

9 Highway matters

Richard Marr, Area Manager, Highways attended the committee to answer Members questions on a number of highway matters.

Members had questioned whether the prohibition on overnight parking by motorhomes on the east coast could be used to ban overnight parking by HGVs in locations across the committee's area.

Mr Marr explained that the prohibition at the coast was based on the impact on the visual amenity of the location.

Issues associated with overnight parking in the committee's area may be enforced by other means such as by the Environmental Health team but there were difficulties with "catching people in the act".

Mr Marr suggested that specific locations where there are problems should be submitted to the local area Highways office, when the impacts can be assessed and usable, practical and enforceable solutions may be identified.

During the discussion Members;

- Raised concerns about the possible displacement of motorhomes to other areas as a result of the prohibition.
- Asked if there were lessons to be learned from other areas around the country?
- Requested an explanation of the difference between a Traffic Regulation Order and a bylaw. The officer confirmed that the highway authority does not manage bylaws.

The Chair thanked Mr Marr for the update and information.

10 Double devolution - pilot business case

Considered – report of the Assistant Chief Executive Local Engagement.

Members were asked to note the double devolution proposal for the transfer of the Market Place Public Conveniences at Malton together with the one-off grant of £57,000 to Malton Town Council to support the Town Council's ongoing operation of the facilities and, subject to an in principle decision from the Corporate Director of Resources and negotiation of suitable heads of terms for the asset transfer and subsidy control compliance, to agree in principle to the transfer and grant.

As part of the submission to government for reorganisation and the establishment of North Yorkshire Council in April 2023, it was agreed to pilot a number of double devolution pilot schemes, which would support more localised service delivery and ownership of services currently delivered by North Yorkshire Council.

This proposal would see the town council take over the responsibility for the operation of the public toilets in Malton Market Place. A one-off grant to the town council of £57,000 would support the town council's ongoing operation of the facility.

It was proposed to permanently close the public toilets in Wentworth St, Malton, on successful transfer of the site at Market Place.

Councillor Michelle Donohue-Moncrieff read a statement on behalf of the Division Member, Councillor Lindsay Burr, who was supportive of the proposal.

Recommendation

That the Executive agrees in principle to the transfer and grant of the facilities to the Town Council and authorises the closure of the Wentworth Street public toilets upon successful transfer of the site at Market Place.

11 Work programme

Members considered a report by the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) which contained the Committee's current work programme for the municipal year (2025/26).

Members requested more information on the following:

- the impacts of bank closures across the committee area
- the amount of S106 funds available in the local community

Concerns were raised that some Parish Councils were experiencing difficulty contacting or getting responses from some service areas. Members asked that the matter be referred to the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Resolved

That the work programme be noted and the agreed additions be included in the work programme for future consideration.

12 Any other items

There were no items of urgent business.

13 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 2pm on Friday, 29 September 2026.

14 Reports circulated for information only

Members were advised to contact the report authors directly if they had any comments or queries.

The meeting concluded at 12.10 pm.

Yorkshire Water: Thirsk and Malton

Emma Brown, Manager of Strategic Partnerships
Sarah Robinson, Corporate Affairs Manager

13th June 2025



Agenda

1. Brawby surface water separation scheme
2. Bathing waters
3. Growth and planning
4. Combined Sewer Overflows
5. Tankering
6. Road works and traffic management
7. Malton and Norton update
8. Topcliffe and Swinton updates
9. Sessay update

Brawby

Surface water separation scheme

- Contract partners Mott MacDonald Bentley are working to instal 300m of new surface water sewer in the village, alongside a surface water pumping station within the current wastewater treatment works, and a rising main to pump the surface water directly into the river.
- Introducing the surface water network should also improve flood resilience in the village. The project is expected to complete in winter 2025.
- A change in the design has changed the completion time frame.

1 Cabin Delivery – November

2 Duct Diversion – December

3 Pump Station Installation – January 2025

6 New Rising Main Install – March 2025

5 Petrol Interceptor Install – March 2025

4 New Surface Water Sewer – February 2025

7 New MCC Installation – April 2025

8 Relay of Existing Combined Sewer – Summer 2025

9 Aim Completion – Winter 2025

Bathing Waters

(in North Yorkshire Council's area)

Bathing Water	2024 Classification
Roswick Bay	Good
Sandsend	Excellent
Whitby	Excellent
Robin Hoods Bay	Sufficient
Scarborough North	Sufficient
Scarborough South	Poor
Cayton Bay	Excellent
Filey	Good
Reighton	Excellent
Knaresborough (Inland)	Poor

- North Yorkshire currently has 4 excellent, 2 good, 2 sufficient and 2 poor Bathing Waters.
- Bathing Water is complex and many things can impact the quality of the water, for example CSO discharges, agricultural run off, trade effluent, seabirds, tidal conditions and rainfall events.
- Due to the many influences on bathing water quality, we work in partnership with North Yorkshire Council, the Environment Agency and other stakeholders to collaboratively investigate and improve Bathing Waters.
- Over the next 5 years we will be investing over £100m in Scarborough to reduce discharges from sites affecting Bathing Waters. In addition to this we will be continuing to work in Partnership to investigate poor water quality and identify opportunities for improvements with our partners at other locations.

Growth and planning

New developments are assessed on a case-by-case basis by our Town Planning Team.

However, YW are not a statutory consultee.

We work with developers and the NYC as the planning authority to encourage sustainable water management, using SUDs and storage techniques and surface water separation to limit the impact on our network.

The planning process is not linear and we will enter discussion with developers to ensure the best water management. There will be certain conditions set, such as pass flow rates, that the developer must meet.

A desktop study is undertaken to review the impact on YW assets. Should the study highlight the development proposal indicate a network detriment (e.g. flooding) and planning is granted we refer this to the YW asset sponsors to investigate further and develop a re-enforcement scheme.

Combined Sewer Overflows

From April 2025 (new regulatory period), we're delivering our biggest ever environmental investment, which includes £1.5b to be spent over the five-year period to reduce discharges from our combined storm overflows (CSO) and £98m to invest in water quality monitoring.

These projects include building brand new surface water sewers and underground storage tanks, as well as nature-based solutions and sustainable drainage systems, to support our sewer network, and help us better treat the waste of our 5 and a half million customers.

We will be in touch about schemes in your ward shortly before they start on site.

Wastewater Tankers

HGV tankers are used by YW as mitigation when we suffer operational failures at sewage pumping stations or associated rising mains, localised loss of power, or require full site shutdowns to maintain equipment.

Recovery times can differ depending on the complexity of the failure and/or repair required. This form of mitigation is expensive, and we work hard to minimise the use and operational recover as quick as possible.

We use the tankers to transfer the sewage from the pumping station, which under normal operation do the work for us, for treatment at the local wastewater treatment works.

Sewage pumping design all differ in size and storage capability hence why when we run into operational issues, we must mitigate to prevent any environmental impacts.

Clean water tankers

During periods of high demand we undertake tankering to support the water supply network and ensure no customers have low pressure.

To do this we use a Hydrant located in Kirbymoorside as this is the closest possible for refilling the tankers as this give us the best flow and pressure. We understand this is inconvenient and for this we apologise.

This is only during certain conditions, so should be relatively infrequent.

We are looking into delivering longer term solutions.

However, due where the hydrant is, there is nowhere else we can do it.

Road works and traffic management

We appreciate temporary lights and road closures can be very frustrating, but they are essential to ensure everyone's safety.

We work with NYC's highways team collaboratively on all TM/road closures.

When considering road closures and traffic management it is imperative we comply with the Safety at Street Works: A Code of Practice (known as the Red Book). It provides details on best practices, specifications, and standards for signing, lighting, and guarding on highways and roads. For example, it includes details such as how much width must be available in the remaining lane if we close one side, and that if this cannot be maintained we must close the entire road.

We use specialist traffic management companies to ensure we comply with the Red Book as they have the best, most up-to-date working knowledge of which traffic management systems to set up for any given work or site.

Road works may in place when colleagues are not actively work on site for a number reasons, for example we are waiting for a part to be delivered, we are waiting for another utility to assess their assets (high voltage electrical cables, gas pipes, etc.), we are waiting for materials to cure/dry, a new solution for the repair needs to be designed due to complexities.

We understand people may wish to see the site backfilled during this time, but this would extend the length of time the works take and increase the cost significantly.

Malton and Norton

St Nicholas / Church Street

A full clean-up of the properties on St Nicholas Street was completed by field teams and partners in early January after the December 2024 flooding incident. Subsequently, CCTV surveys were conducted on Church Street, Derwent Terrace, and the Car Park Sewer behind the garage to ensure a clear network. Significant blockages of fats, oils, and grease have been identified and are being cleared by the operations team. A campaign is being discussed with the Network Health team to raise awareness among residents about the proper disposal of these substances and others such as wet wipes.

Telemetry for accurate network monitoring has been installed in manholes on Derwent Terrace and St Nicholas Street to support future resilience.

Data and Evidence Led

The network and catchment dynamics in Malton are very complex; therefore, much greater detailed hydraulic modelling is necessary to understand the risks and interdependent impacts on our system under various climate scenarios. Discussions are underway to develop a more robust evidence base and stronger integrated model to simulate extreme events and enable better decisions for the whole Derwent catchment.



Malton and Norton (cont)

Future investment – AMP8

YW plans a £2.1 million investment at Malton Helmsfield CSO by March 2030 as part of AMP8. This project will upgrade storm overflows, improve river quality monitoring, and review upstream rainwater management solutions.

Supporting and Listening

YW has attended monthly Flood Risk Drop-ins at Norton town hall to gather insights from residents and Councillors. We've integrated this local knowledge with input from the EA, YW asset planners, and our engineering partners to better understand risk and impact. Our engineers have developed outline solutions, including work on the Church Street CSO and overflow, aiming to expand the Saint Nicholas Street sewer capacity, and introducing rainwater management strategies.

YW delivery partner (MMB) is currently investigating possible solutions, which may take 6-12 months depending on required additional work. The team has coordinated with Network Rail and NYC local highways authority to plan surveys for June, aiming to begin onsite work in August. MMB (the contract partner) is investigating the detailed route based on ground conditions and survey results.

Partnership working with the EA and NYC

The YW partnerships team collaborate bi-weekly with the NYC flood risk team at Northallerton County Hall, enhancing partnership efforts for North Yorkshire, Malton, and Norton. This included a recent meeting with the Highways Manager on surface and groundwater risks at Castlegate and sharing input from councillors and residents.

Dye testing of the surface water network on Castlegate/County Bridge is now underway as a result, to better understand network dynamics and design solutions.

YW continues to support local flood and highways authorities to find mutually beneficial solutions. On May 8th, the YW partnerships team met with the NYC Regen team at Ryedale House to discuss future and long-term opportunities. Councillor David Jeffels, Flood Risk Champion, has also inquired about our progress and a meeting is scheduled for June 16th, 2025, to provide a comprehensive update.

Topcliffe Mill Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) is running on the temporary dosing unit and will continue to do so. This was installed in 2024 to improve the odour issues within the village.

We have logged on our internal processes a need for a permanent solution for sewage pumping station. This would most likely be purchase of the hire equipment or similar and then a fixed installation.

The scheme is on with welding the pipe together and are due to start drilling by the end of the month. It's not a standard dig job where a trench is dugout and the main laid in it. They are using a horizontal directional drill which is a trenchless method of installing an underground pipe. Essentially it creates a path underground without disturbing the surface and in this case the racecourse. Work is expected to be completed by the start of August.

There will be 2 days of tankering when the scheme makes the new connections and swaps over from the temporary main to the new pipe work.

Sessay has an ongoing Infiltration Reduction Plan (IRP)

Actions already completed include:

- Completed investigation on full gravity foul water sewers in Sessay and all areas connected to the network. This was completed year end 2023 into early 2024. Investigation using CCTV cameras and inspections of manhole chambers checking flows that could be overloading the SPS pumps
- Points of ground water infiltration found in connecting T2011 shared sewers from properties. Ground water entering sewer through joints of sewer pipe. Sewer lining work raised and completed to seal.
- Issues found on highway drainage with blockages and ground water run-off in places. These have been passed back to the council to rectify. If highway surface water isn't draining through the system, this would add to ground water that would likely be infiltrating into YW foul water sewer.

Outstanding work on the plan:

- Surface water run-offs from fields at Hutton Sessay flow into area of Low Lane Hutton Sessay SPS and YW combined sewer overflow. Concerns of these flows entering the foul/combined water network. This may require more highway drainage. Issues found on YW surface water where the overflow from CSO connects. Likely surface water backing up overflow and overwhelming foul/combined system. Non return valve fitted on overflow to prevent this.
- Work to be raised to clear YW surface water system to outfall down to watercourse.
- Further investigations can take place to identify all properties that have connected surface water to the foul sewer. This would give YW a measure of flows in rainfall. All this information will be added to plans. The work could take some time to complete and is extensive.
- Land drainage found to be connected to foul water sewer at Little Hutton which connects to Sessay and SPS. We are working with local authorities and YW legal to look at options to have this unapproved connection removed. This may require an 80m relay into highway drainage.
- Groundwater survey to be completed to understand the effect on the network. (Partnership Ground Water Study and Advisors Programme)