



Beswick Parish Council

*Serving Beswick, Kilnwick, Lund Moor, Glebe Farm, Kilnwick Lodges,
Wilfolme and outlying homes and businesses of the Civil Parish*

2024-2025 Newsletter



Beswick Parish Council March 2025 including ERYC Ward Councillor: Back left Ward Councillor Jeremy Wilcock, Beswick PC Councillors Tony Corscadden, Chris Hill. Front Left Beswick Chair Sarah Beachell, Ben Jeffrey and Vice Chair Sarah Duncan. Inset, Clerk Julia Bugg.

Beswick Parish Council

Beswick Parish Councillors

Sarah Beachell	Tel: 01377 270230
Tony Corscadden	Tel: 01377 270912
Sarah Duncan	Tel: 07427 019812
Chris Hill	Tel: 07595 923828
Ben Jeffrey	Tel: 07841 868560

Clerk to the Parish Council

Julia Bugg	Tel: 01964 551720
	Email: beswickpc@hotmail.com

Community Police Support Officer

Sarah Freer	Tel: 101
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Footpath Warden

West End	
Babsie Combs/Ben Jeffrey	Tel: 07841 868560
East End	
Sarah Beachell	Tel: 01377 270230

East Riding of Yorkshire, Beverley Rural Ward Councillors. Please see ERYC website for contact details or call ERYC on 01482 393939:

Paul Smith
Diana Stewart
Jeremy Wilcock

WhatsApp groups are available for the current residents of Beswick Parish. Please contact Cllr Jeffrey to join the Kilnwick group and Cllr Corscadden to join the Beswick group.

A Message from our Chair - 2024/25

During 2024/25 work has been undertaken to ensure that footpaths are maintained and access ensured with both local farmers, parishioners and the Local Authority. Keeping footpaths clear that cross farmland has been made more difficult by the land being too wet to allow the necessary equipment to have access but ultimately all work has been undertaken.

The speed of traffic using the C59 as a rat-run continues to be an issue. The lamp post between School Lane and Church Lane in Kilnwick has still to be replaced by ERYC, who have had delays in providing a replacement. Temporary speed monitoring equipment on the C59 provided little help in obtaining a Speedwatch group as the average speeds were too low.

As a result of work by the PC, some actions have been undertaken to reduce the flooding from Beswick Heads, through Beswick and onto the A164. ERYC had assured us that their remaining work would be undertaken this financial year but, an enquiry of them to see when it would be done resulted in us learning that the monies have been prioritised elsewhere. We must wait for the allocation of the 2025/26 budget to see if it will be done in the next year.

A shock proposal to install a solar farm on the east side of the A164 between Watton and Scarborough and the issues this would have with Dalton Estates' tenant farmers has become of utmost importance in recent months, with the Clerk organising a meeting of all of the PCs affected in early January, which was very well attended. Further details appear later in this newsletter. We have also managed to arrange a meeting with Northern Powergrid to try and find a way to reduce the number of power cuts affecting Beswick and the outlying residences.

We would love to see more parishioners at the Parish Council meetings, please come along and join us. Also, we have very few parishioners on the PC's email list, to receive meeting documents etc. To be added, please contact the Clerk, who will be happy to add your details to the list. We don't inundate you with junk emails and do not pass your details on to anyone else.

The work of the Parish Council continues and I thank my fellow Parish Councillors, Ward Councillors and the Clerk for their work over the last 12 months.

Sarah Beachell

Chair, Beswick Parish Council 2024-25

Beswick Parish Council Meetings, Agenda & Minutes

Meetings of The Parish Council are normally held at 7.00 pm on the second Wednesday of alternate months between May and March, usually in Kilnwick Village Hall, School Lane, Kilnwick. Should matters demanding urgent attention arise during intervening months, Extraordinary Meetings will be held. If meetings are not quorate, rearranged meetings may have to take place. Venues of these as well as Extraordinary Meetings may vary and will be detailed on the Agenda, which are posted on the PC's website as well as in the village notice boards.

Scheduled Meetings in 2025-26:

7 May 2025
9 July 2025
10 September 2025
12 November 2025
14 January 2026
11 March 2026

Meetings' Agenda and unconfirmed Minutes are posted on the Council's Notice Boards in Beswick and Kilnwick villages and may be found on the Council's Website, <http://beswickparishcouncil.org.uk>. These are also distributed as email attachments. Parishioners wishing to receive Agenda and Minutes by email are invited to provide The Clerk with their email addresses. Providing contact information will signify that the provider gives permission for the Clerk to retain the information securely as per the General Data Protection Regulations.

Parishioners wishing to raise issues for consideration as part of Council Meetings' Agenda should contact The Clerk in the first instance and at least three weeks before a scheduled meeting.

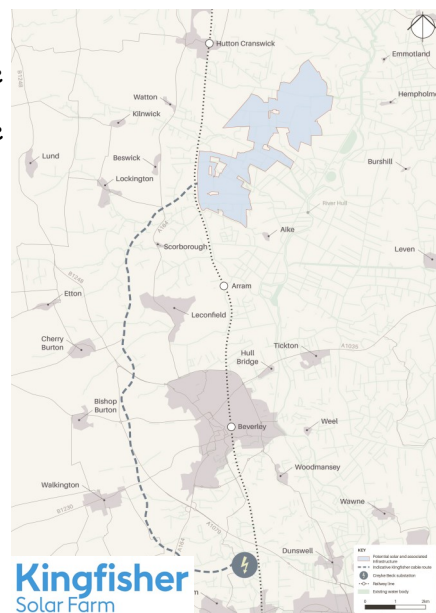
In Memoriam

The Parish Council offers condolences to relatives and friends of parishioners who have passed away in the past year, most recently Elspeth Bryers, a longstanding resident of the parish.

Proposed Solar Farm - Kingfisher Solar

In autumn 2024, it was brought to the attention of the PC that a proposal had been made by Orsted to create a solar farm or solar power station of between 2000 and 3000 acres of farmland east of the A164, south of Watton and north of Scarborough, with a lifespan of 40 years. The huge area was to incorporate privately owned land as well as land owned by Dalton Estate, with tenant farmers potentially losing between 50% and 85% of their acreage, with a small period of minimal compensation not amounting to the 40-year timeframe for the solar farm, nor covering the loss of income from this land. The Tenants would have their land until April 2027, when their management of it would be returned to the Dalton Estate, who would then receive payments from Orsted for their use of the land. It is understood that these payments will be substantial and therefore more profitable to landowners than renting or farming. Farmers owning their own land must decide if they wish to continue to farm it or lose it for this use but receive 40 years of payments from Orsted. After the 40 years, the land will no longer be viable for farming and therefore not worth returning to the tenants for their use. On 20 January 2025, the

proposal details were made public by Kingfisher in the form of a press release, with the details seeming to show that the size of the solar farm is reduced and the relocation of it to an area east of the main Hull to Scarborough railway line. The press release was posted to the parish notice boards and posted on the Kilnwick and Beswick WhatsApp groups. The map received as part of this press release is shown right and indicates that the majority of the acreage be based in Beswick and Watton parishes.



This change will see the number of Dalton Estate tenant farmers affected reduced but could still mean that a number will lose sufficient acreage to render their businesses untenable and therefore that they lose not only their business but their homes and futures.



Solar Farm Example.
Photo: Owner Unknown.

The knock-on effect to suppliers and buyers to these farmers was also acknowledged. The reason behind the need to propose a solar farm at this location may be that the number of wind turbines in the North Sea being erected as part of the Hornsea 4 Project has been reduced, thus capacity is now available in the infrastructure to be installed throughout East Yorkshire but most importantly on land close to the proposed solar farm. The change in the area of land of interest may be due to the original land being too close to the A164 and Beswick village but this is conjecture rather than fact.

Following the November meeting of Beswick PC, Ward Councillor Wilcock released a press release drawing attention to the proposal and putting it in the public eye. This resulted in the proposal being discussed locally and nationally but with no comment from either the Dalton Estate of our MP Graham Stuart. A

meeting was organised to bring together the Councillors and parishioners of Beswick, Leconfield, Lockington and Watton PCs in order to share information and discuss a combined response. As a result, a letter was sent to the CEO of Orsted and discussions started with Orsted's agent in relation to sharing information. Further meetings and actions were agreed, once some clarity had been received regarding the exact intentions of Orsted. An Extraordinary Meeting of BPC was arranged to discuss questions to be asked of Kingfisher at a meeting with them on 6 February 2025, which was held at Kilnwick Village Hall and included Ward as well as Parish Councillors and Parish Clerks. Kingfisher organised a Non-Statutory Consultation with four public meetings organised in Lockington, Hutton Cranswick, Cottingham and Beverley which the Clerk advertised widely. A parishioner organised an online petition, which again was shared widely and received a considerable number of signatures.

Other major affects of this proposal being allowed are detailed below by Councillor Corscadden:

Birds - The UK Government has a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) intended to protect and support the recovery of the UK's wildlife, ecosystems and habitats. This BAP places all British bird species on a Red-Amber-Green List of decline and threat. Red List species numbers have declined by over 50% in the last 25 years or their breeding range in Britain has shrunk by over 50% in the last 25 years (and so they are in need of greatest protection), Amber list species declines are 50-25% and Green List species declines are less than 25%.

The proposed site is home to 11 Red List species* including Cuckoo, Curlew, Grey Partridge, Lapwing, Linnet and Yellowhammer and 8 Amber List species* including Kestrel, Stock Dove and Common (not any more!) Whitethroat.



Common Whitethroat

Furthermore, the proposed site is also a wintering ground for other Red and Amber List species such as Black-headed Gull, Common Gull (see Common Whitethroat comment above), Meadow Pipit and Skylark, is a migration stopover site for migrating Golden Plovers in spring and autumn and a year-round site for Barn Owls, an English Nature Schedule 1 List species. All the noted species will be permanently and irrevocably displaced.

* Based on 32 years continuous surveying and recording.

Farmland - The A164 marks the geological boundary in East Yorkshire between Cretaceous chalk to the west and glacial drift aka boulder clay to the east (sediment laid down as the Devensian glaciation ended approximately 11,000 years ago).

The construction and 40 year life of the solar power station will radically and permanently change the soil and therefore agricultural potential of the proposed site. Boulder clay is the most readily compactable of soils, the heavy construction machinery and power station equipment will compress the soil and change its structure to a platy one with a 'compaction pan' at depth. The compression will kill the soil organisms within or drive the surviving organisms away, soil organisms that decompose organic matter to produce

humus and plant nutrients. The photovoltaic panels will intercept 40+ years of rainfall robbing the soil of moisture (essential for soil-forming processes like chemical weathering and translocation processes like capillary action and leaching) and airborne nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphates, potassium etc and moisture for soil organisms causing further death and outmigration

The result of all this is once good grade arable fields capable of growing cereals and root crops can now only be used for rough pasture for foraging farm animals like sheep because the soil is now dry, acidic, low pH, empty of humus creating soil decomposers with a permanently platy subsoil structure.

Northern Powergrid and Power Cuts



During the last 12 months it has become clear that continuous electricity supply has been an issue in Beswick and the surrounding areas of the parish. As a result of this unacceptable level of service, the Councillors requested that the Clerk contact Northern Powergrid and arrange a meeting with them to discuss this. The Clerk was successful in arranging for one of the Engineers, Tom Siddington and Cathryn Harper - Regional Service Manager to meet with Sarah Beachell, Tony Corscadden and Mary Scaife (representing the parishioners in the east of the parish most affected by the power cuts). Tom Siddington brought with him to the meeting a schematic diagram of the power network and used this to help explain the reasons for outages and what had been done to help alleviate the issues. Whilst an aged network and ongoing work are to blame for the issues, he was very keen to assure us that they are working hard to improve supply, reduce the number of outages, replace the aged infrastructure and carry out works on overhanging trees and vegetation. Cathryn Harper answered questions posed regarding compensation and the provision on generators, torches etc to assist those suffering. Both Tom and Cathryn were eager to stress that the organisation is working hard to make improvements and asked that all residents call 105 to report power outages and seek support. Additionally, older and/or vulnerable residents are encouraged to register for Priority Services Membership in order to receive contact and support.

Northern Powergrid cannot promise that there won't be anymore power cuts but do hope that they will be minimised; please be patient during times of bad weather as they cannot control this. All of Beswick is now on the same feeder from Kirkburn (was Hayton at the time of the meeting, changed from Norwood, Beverley in December) including Beswick Mill along with Kilnwick, Lund and Bainton. The only exception is Wilfholme which is on a different feeder from Driffild. Feeder changes may occur again in an attempt to improve services.

Work is ongoing to maintain the network, which may result in planned power outages but Northern Powergrid will give at least 10 days notice if this is the case. The outage will be avoided even if notice is given.

The full details of when you may expect to be able to claim compensation as well as other documents supplied by Northern Powergrid, are posted on the PC's website. If you are not able to access this, please telephone the Clerk and ask for a printed copy and she will arrange this for you.

None of the Doggerbank or Orsted developments are part of the Northern Powergrid network and are not connected to it.

Recent power cuts in and around Kilnwick are also being addressed with work to be done on upgrading the supply and thus making it able to meet demand.

Avian Flu Outbreak

The parish has once again been hit by Avian Flu, which resulted in Beswick Footpath No 17 being closed. Please do not use this footpath until the closure notices have been removed. As other adjacent areas have also been affected, roadside signage and footpath closure notices have been appearing across the area. As the East Riding is in 'lockdown' we respectfully ask that all bird owners keep them indoors, do not move them and ensure appropriate biosecurity measures are in place as per government guidelines. For full details see the DEFRA website.

Return of the Tuesday Club

October 2024 saw the return of the Tuesday Club, all be it now being held on a Thursday! Following discussion with Tony Beddows, those previously in attendance and the current parish councillors, it was agreed that the club would now be held on the last Thursday of each month from 10 am to 12 noon at the Kilnwick Village Hall. Tea, coffee, cake and biscuits are provided free of charge along with the opportunity to chat, perhaps enjoy a game or two and generally enjoy the company of friends and neighbours. You do not need to book-in or pay for attendance as this is open to all older parishioners across the parish. The first meetings saw a good number of attendees and we hope to see you join us when we meet again on the following dates in 2025:

27 March, 24 April 29 May, 26 June, 31 July, 25 September, 30 October and 27 November.

To receive updates and information electronically, please let us know your email address when you come along, email us at beswickpc@hotmail.com or give your details to one of the parish councillors who will pass them on. The PC would like to express its thanks to Tony Beddows for his help in getting the club up and running again and for his and Elaine's continued support in running the club.

Pub Night

Kilnwick Village Hall is the location of a pub night once a month, generally on the first Saturday of the month, which sees a community led gathering to participate in the odd drink or two and spend time with other locals. Any profits made are used for the maintenance and upkeep of the village hall. All parishioners of Beswick Parish (Beswick, Kilnwick and Wilfholme including residents from outside the villages) are welcome.

Christmas Wreath Making

Sarah Beachell offered the opportunity for parishioners to make their own Christmas wreaths prior to Christmas 2024, at St Margaret's Church in Beswick. The sessions were well attended, resulting in some beautiful and unique wreaths being displayed around the villages. All profits were donated to St Margaret's. Sarah will be offering the sessions again in 2025 for anyone who is interested and may be able to offer additional venues if there is enough interest.



Christmas Wreath Making
Photo: Sarah Beachell

Yorkshire Country Women's Association

The Country Women meet on the first Wednesday of each month in the Kilnwick Village Hall at 7.30 pm. A range of activities, including guest speakers and demonstrations are all included during the year. Contact Linda Appleyard on 01377 275320 for more information.

A Small Glimmer of Hope

In the face of the growing tidal wave of photovoltaic glass likely to engulf East Yorkshire there are some efforts to help wildlife keep a toehold in our beautiful county.

The River Hull valley is widely recognised by conservationists and environmental scientists as an important wildlife habitat and bird migration corridor. Various independent projects intended to enhance wildlife habitats exist in the valley and an informal alliance between them is developing. This is not a UK Government backed scheme, Kier Starmer seems happy for his reckless renewable energy policy to drive a bulldozer through the UK Government's Biodiversity Action Plan, the proposed Kingfisher Solar Power Station between Watton and Aike alone will destroy the habitats of nine UK Red List* and eight UK Amber List* bird species rendering them locally extinct.

Between Driffield and Hull there are six conservation projects currently underway: Skerne Wetlands (YWT) Nature Reserve, Tophill Low (Yorks Water) Nature Reserve, Dumble Farm private rewilding project, Leven Carrs (Albanwise Environment) Wetland Project, Pulfin Bog (YWT) Nature Reserve and High Eske (YWT) Nature Reserve. The alliance is trying to counter the islandisation of habitats meaning species aren't left stranded amongst an ocean of concrete and glass. The projects will also provide a migration corridor with safe stopovers.

A glimmer of hope for some of our local wildlife habitats... No thanks to your elected politicians who give no thought to human welfare! *For an explanation go to www.bto.org 'Birds of Conservation Concern'.

Tony Corscadden licenced BTO bird ringer.