

Scackleton Action Group Report – January 2026

Last Action Group Meeting 20th January, 2026 in Scackleton Church. Next meeting is 21st April, 2026.

Promoting a cleaner & healthier village

- For 2026, we would like a similar number and type of grass cuts provided by Circle Garden Services as we had in 2025 – mix of some full cuts of the whole village and some partial cuts, with the option to change this depending on the weather in 2026.
- Dog fouling is still occurring on all lanes. The shoot has made efforts with the gun dogs and beater dogs to limit dog fouling, but still occurring. Just 3 shoots left. The Middleton hunt has been through twice with the hounds leaving a mess. The game keeper has usually been tasked with clearing up the mess following the shoots & hunts. Residents have also been reminded that if they walk their dogs off lead, to keep an eye on where they are defecating and to pick it up. Also been an issue with the dog poo bins not being emptied and/or not leaving a bag in the bin. It has been reported to the NY Council and Streetscene have stepped in a few times to sort it. We think the usual collector has retired.
- Wild Scackleton – Manor Farm dew pond is complete and is now waiting for Spring to see what plants come up naturally and what plant additions are needed. Work on the pond at Highfield House has started but has since stalled due to the poor weather and the area filling up with water from the natural springs. Will resume once conditions are better.
- The Wild Scackleton talk also mentioned several other initiatives which residents at the meeting expressed an interest in – Dark Skies project (night biodiversity & lights), Bird feeders project & Village Green / Verges project. Discussed at the January meeting. Awaiting more specific information from Ellie Hook & Nick Burrows.
- Gritting & Grit Bins

Discussion re residents, where able, gritting the areas outside of their properties with grit from the grit bins in the village. Scackleton Lane was like an ice rink a few weeks ago making driving a challenge until the main road was reached.

Identified that the slope at the North end of the village between Arncliffe Cottage's garden, Highfield House & Townend Farm is particularly treacherous. Used to be a grit bin on the slope outside Highfield House which got removed by BT as it was sat on their concrete cover for their wires. Agreed that a small green bin should be purchased to be located on the grass slope. Nicole will enquire whether the Parish Council can pay for this or not.

- Bleed Control Kit

Resident suggested purchasing one. Mixed views on whether needed one or not - whether there would be time to get to it in an emergency / people can improvise with clothing to hand. To be discussed again at the next meeting.

- Post Box refurbishment

Requested the cleaning & repainting of our post box in the village. The job has been allocated to a Royal Mail engineer.

Defibrillator & kiosk

- The kiosk awaiting the repair to the glass. Currently taped up to avoid more glass falling out. Planned for April 2026.
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Communication within the village

- Circulating the weekly Hovingham & Scackleton Village Diary by email & WhatsApp. Occasionally on the notice board.
- Neighbourhood watch emails are being emailed out & shared on the village WhatsApp Group.
- Share & update key Parish Council issues at the Action Group Meeting.

Community Events & Fund Raising.

- Carol Service – 21st December at 3pm was well attended and enjoyed by all.
- Spring Clean, leaf collecting, graveyard maintenance, etc for the church have been pencilled in for residents to help out with.
- Safari Supper is to happen again in August 2026. Sue John to organise.

Hovingham Market & Cafes

- May & November dates are for Scackleton Action Group & St George's Church respectively in 2026.