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**Kirkbymoorside Town Council**

**Information for the meeting on Monday 17 November 2025**

**10. Kirkbymoorside Gateway to the Moors Music Festival 2026**

- a. To receive correspondence from Kirkbymoorside Community Support Group**
- b. To consider support of the event by application to North Yorkshire Council for temporary closure of Church Street**
- c. To consider the approximate cost of traffic management of £467.75 + VAT and appropriate cost code allocation**

For consideration by the Town Council

The 2025 Kirkbymoorside Gateway to the Moors Music Festival was a great success, putting Kirkbymoorside on the map, bringing people into the town and boosting the local economy. It was enjoyed by visitors and local residents alike, and there is overwhelming support to make it an annual event, part of the town's calendar of social offerings. The inaugural festival was kindly funded by the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority, but is not eligible for similar funding next year, so, although there is a desire for the festival to be 'bigger and better' in 2026, funds to do that will be very tight. The festival covered a wide range of different music genres and dance, intentionally to appeal to a wide audience, with something for everyone, and we plan to widen that further in 2026.

In 2025, the wonderful Kirkbymoorside Town Brass Band made a small appearance, and the only complaint the organisers received was that the band wasn't on for long enough! For 2026, we plan a full hour of brass band performance, free, in the town centre, but this year, when the band performed outside the Spar we had some concerns about audience safety as some people were standing in the road. Dance was very popular in 2025, and we plan to extend that in 2026; I'm meeting with the Sarah-Lousie Ashworth to discuss a 'flash mob' street dance performance by her students.

Therefore, we would like to request a road closure be put in place in Church Street for Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August, between the hours of 10 am and 4 pm to allow these performances (and possibly more) and for the safety of performers and audience alike.

We would be very grateful if the Town Council would support the 2026 Music Festival by applying for, and funding, this road closure, in a similar way that you kindly supported Bandamonium this year. The road closure will be included in the Event Safety Plan we submit to NYC and in the event risk assessment.

Many thanks in anticipation,

Jean

Jean Illingworth

Festival Director, Kirkbymoorside Gateway to the Moors Music Festival 2026