



KIRKBYMOORSIDE TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Kirkbymoorside Town Council held on 15 July 2024 at 7.30pm in Church House, 7 High Market Place, Kirkbymoorside, YO62 6AT.

Present: Councillors C Bettany, J Coughlan (Chair), C Dowie, J Illingworth, A Moffat, H Shields and S Woodhams.

Also present: Town Clerk L Bolland

Cllr Coughlan welcomed all present.

24038 Agenda item 1. Apologies for absence

- a. Apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting were **received** from Cllr Riby and North Yorkshire Councillor Greg White
- b. Reasons given for absence were **approved**.

24039 Agenda item 2. There were no Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda.

24040 Agenda item 3. Minutes and Matters Arising

- a. The draft minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 17 June 2024 were **received** and **approved**.
- b. Matters arising

Information regarding local healthcare provision, was **received** pursuant to concerns raised under Questions to the Chair, Minute 24036. Cllr Illingworth explained that she will be meeting with practitioners at Tinley Garth surgery in August. The Surgery have confirmed that concerns regarding Malton hospital cover have been highlighted to the Integrated Care Board (ICB) by all the local practices as they share the Town Council's worries. York and Scarborough Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust manage the urgent care provision for the Malton Urgent Treatment Centre and a response is awaited from their Care Group. Additionally, information is awaited from NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) in respect of the NHS Strategy and local patient consultation structure.

The subject will be included on the agenda of the next appropriate meeting once information is made available.

24041 Agenda item 4. Public Session There were no members of the public present.

24042 Agenda item 5. There were no discussions with Town Councillors in respect of questions already posed and County Councillor Greg White was not in attendance.

24043 Agenda item 6. Financial matters

- a. Accounts paid since the last meeting of the Council were **received** and cheque payments **approved** according to the list provided.
- b. The Financial Summary to 30 June 2024 was **received**.

- c. Submission of the VAT 126 Reclaim for the period 01.04.2023 - 31.03.2024 in the amount of £6,247.03 was **noted**.

24044 Agenda item 7. Membership for committees, delegated teams and representatives was **reviewed** and the following appointments **agreed**.

Staffing Committee	Cllr Chris Bettany
Disciplinary Panel	Cllr Simon Woodhams
Internal Control – Councillors’ Audit	Cllr Hilary Shields and Cllr Simon Woodhams
John Stockton Trust Foundation	Cllr Jean Illingworth

24045 Agenda item 8. Community Celebration Event - 12 October 2024

- a. A report on progress of arrangements to date, including design of the awards and certificates, was **received** from Cllr Woodhams.
- b. Cllr Coughlan and Dowie were **appointed** judges of the Window Dressing Competition.

Cllr Coughlan, on behalf of all Members, expressed profound thanks to Cllrs Illingworth, Moffat and Woodhams for the considerable amount of time and effort that they continue to dedicate to arranging the event.

24046 Agenda item 9. Moorside Room

- a. Revisions to the Moorside Room Policy Position Document were **considered**.

Cllr Illingworth had provided revisions to the original document, with the following additions/amends:

‘Background’

- The majority view in the community led plan that the project should be self-sufficient was deliberately sought in order to qualify the previous impression that citizens wanted the building to remain in public ownership regardless of cost.
- The improved building is an enhancement to Kirkbymoorside, and has been utilised since 2015 for a broad range of events, including Open Studios, 10K Race HQ, private and public meetings.

‘Current Position’

- Whilst the Moorside Room is not making a notable profit, they are, year on year, broadly breaking even, taking into account ongoing maintenance as the need arises.
- The inability to use the space during COVID restriction affected the income for that period, and effort is now needed to promote the building and remind residents of Kirkbymoorside (and others) of its availability for hire.

‘Ongoing Actions’

- The clerk and Councillors to seek opportunities for practical uses for the Moorside Room and to actively promote its use.
- As far as is practical / appropriate, the Town Council to use the Moorside Room for Council Meetings and other Council led initiatives.
- Profits made from hire of the Moorside Room should be ringfenced for future costs, maintenance and promotion of the Moorside Room.
- If at any point the Moorside Rooms are making an annual loss greater than X% of running costs for a period of X consecutive years, consideration should be given to the sale of the property.

In this eventually, the views of the public must be sought before any such action is taken.

Cllr Dowie thanked Cllr Illingworth for the proposed changes to the Moorside Room Policy document. She explained that one of the barriers to more extensive use of the Moorside Room is the inefficient heating system. The two electric heaters do not heat the room to a comfortable temperature in the winter and the recent increase in electricity prices means the heaters are very expensive to run. Technology has moved on since the renovation was carried out and Cllr Dowie proposed the Town Council explore the feasibility of a more sustainable heating system, for example an air source heat pump and underfloor heating. It would be necessary to ascertain if there are any funding opportunities or grants that may be available to cover the project costs.

Cllr Illingworth clarified that the rationale for the expense of changing the heating system is to make the property more suitable/user-friendly for community use which would result in increased income to offset any running costs.

In respect of the proposal to use the Moorside Room for council meetings, in the past committee meetings were held in the Moorside Room and it would be cost effective to hold Council and committee meetings during periods of milder weather. Currently the fees paid to hire a room in the Community Library for the monthly meetings is an important income of Kirkbymoorside Community Library, which helps to retain a library in the town.

Finally Cllr Dowie suggested removal of any reference to the possibility of selling the Moorside Room and instead resolve to review the revised policy at a date to be agreed.

Cllr Coughlan thanked Cllrs Dowie and Illingworth for their contributions and proposed that investigations be carried out to determine the options available for alternative heating systems and insulation of the building. Additionally, funding opportunities available to Local Council's to cover the project costs will be explored, with the intention of reporting the information gathered to the Council for further consideration at the September meeting. **Agreed.** The exercise was delegated, by agreement, to Cllrs Bettany, Coughlan and Dowie.

b. Promotion of the venue was **considered**.

Cllr Dowie suggested inviting proposals from anyone interested in running events there, for example a film club to make use of the AV screen and sound system. She also suggested making enquiries of Leeds Art Gallery which has a scheme to loan out artworks to individuals, and organisations in Yorkshire. Consideration could be given to join the scheme at a cost of £33 per month, which would allow the Town Council to display five artworks at a time in the Moorside Room. An invitation could then be extended to local individuals and groups to participate in curating an exhibition around the artworks.

Cllr Woodhams suggested that it would be worth considering an event to relaunch the Moorside Room in order to showcase its potential locally.

Cllr Moffat suggested a series of monthly events to try to appeal to a wider audience within the community (some with modest entry fees to cover costs) to raise awareness of the venues suitability for a wider variety of functions.

Cllr Illingworth proposed an agenda item for the September meeting to consider formation of a Committee focussed on the promotion of the Moorside Room, pending completion of any works necessary. **Agreed.**

Cllr Dowie proposed an agenda item for the September meeting to consider taking part in the Leeds Gallery scheme. **Agreed.**

Cllr Coughlan proposed an agenda item for the September meeting to consider holding the Town Council meetings in the Moorside Room during the warmer months of the year. **Agreed.**

24047 Agenda item 10. Play Areas

- a. The annual play area inspection reports were **received**.

The clerk explained that she is liaising with Sovereign Play with regards to the multi climbing frame details at item 1. on the report. Subsequent to remedial repairs carried out by the Town Council's contractor as a result of unsuitable fixings having been used in the construction of the equipment, an inspection will be carried, at no charge, by Sovereign Play to determine status of the warranty. The inspector has been provided with the annual inspection document and requested to report on the surface compliance issue identified at the sliding pole.

Cllr Illingworth questioned the findings of item 5. in respect of the Playdale Bay Swing with 2 cradle seats classified as very low risk, and proposed that she contact the Inspector directly as a qualified Health & Safety Practitioner, to seek clarification. **Agreed.**

- b. The report recommendations were **considered** and it was **noted** that quotations are being sought for all recommended remedial repairs that cannot be carried out by the Town Council's appointed contractor.
- c. It was **agreed** to delegate authority to the clerk to instruct any immediate repairs, as appropriate, within the scope of the Financial Standing orders and Play areas budget.

24048 Agenda item 11. Ryedale View Play Area

- a. The project to replace the play equipment at Ryedale View play area to be financed by application for grant funding was **considered**.
- b. Proposals for new play equipment at Ryedale View play area were **received**.
- c. It was agreed to carry out a public consultation over the school summer holidays to determine support of the project. The initial consultation will be focussed on residents in proximity to the play area as the target audience. Consultation will then be expanded to the wider community as a secondary consultation. **Agreed.**

24049 Agenda item 12. The latest update on progress of the River Dove Natural Flood Management project was **received**.

24050 Agenda item 13. Information on North Yorkshire Council's 'Let's Talk Rubbish' consultation, being held between 8 July and 16 September 2024 was received. It was agreed that clarification is required about the number of receptacles that the proposal will require and the associated implications of an increase to the number of bins left out on the streets.

24051 Agenda item 14. Information of attendance by the Deputy Mayor's Office, Police and Fire services at Great Yorkshire Show on 12 July was **received**.

24052 Agenda item 15. Consideration was given to updating the Kirkbymoorside Directory. Cllr Illingworth proposed the Town Council adopt this responsibility from the Environment Group which has previously published directory in the Shopping Guide. **Agreed.**

It was acknowledged that compilation of a directory by the Town Council would necessitate compliance with GDPR. This requirement has the potential to make the exercise excessively time consuming. The clerk offered to look into what might be involved in order to get an idea of timescales so the Town Council can consider the project and associated costs at the next meeting. **Agreed.**

24053 Agenda item 16. Reports from Members representing the Town Council at meetings of outside bodies and on delegated matters.

Cllrs Illingworth and Woodhams attended the Manor Vale Management Committee meeting on 12 July 2024. The Management Plan was reviewed and a subsequent meeting has been scheduled on 5 September to further consider the revised plan which will be received by the full Council at the Ordinary meeting on 16 September.

Cllr Dowie reported that Ryedale Environment Group will be holding the 'Restoring Nature' conference on 27 September at Kirbymoorside Village Hall and encouraged attendance by Councillors and all members of the public.

24054 Agenda item 17. The Town Clerk's report was **received**.

In response to concerns raised by Cllr Shields to the clerk, on behalf of residents, enquiries have been made concerning the issue of water pooling on Howe End. North Yorkshire Council is the appropriate authority as the issue affects the highway and a public footpath. Information provided to North Yorkshire Council explained that Yorkshire Water attended Howe End to investigate a water leak but determined that the absence of a trace of chlorine is indicative that the water is not coming from any of their pipes and is therefore fresh water. It is possible that the water is running off from the fields at the top of the hill above Old Road play area and draining down the course of the public footpath and collecting on Howe End.

The matter has been logged with North Yorkshire Council Public Rights of Way ([CAMS issue number 75606 –Ryedale\Kirbymoorside\25.54.11.1](#))

The clerk is in the process of determining options to replace or refurbish the Kirbymoorside nameplates in the walled stone town signs. Information will be provided at the next appropriate meeting.

The 2024/25 levies have been issued to the sports clubs and a report on status of all invoices will be received at the September meeting. An exercise of energy analysis of the sports field utilities is in progress.

Cllr Moffat and the clerk will carry the exercise of weeding the Pound in the next fortnight.

24055 Agenda item 18. The Town Mayor's report was **received**.

Following a meeting with Martin Brampton the Town Mayor explained that arrangements are in progress with HSBC to release to the Town Council, a modest sum of money, approximately £400 previously assigned to 'Kirkby Digital'. The funds had been designated for 'things digital' in Kirbymoorside, including the Raspberry Pi club.

The Town Mayor managed access to The Moorside Room for the biannual Fire Alarm and Emergency Lighting Service on 2 July 2024

Briefing of Town Council administration including cemetery procedures in order to ensure business continuity during the clerk's absence for annual leave in August.

On 1 August the Town Mayor will attend the Yorkshire Day celebrations hosted by the City of York.

24056 Agenda item 19. There were no Questions to the Chair.

24057 Agenda item 20. The date of the next Ordinary meeting of the Town Council on 16 September 2024 in Church House was **agreed**.

The meeting concluded at 9.02pm