



KIRKBYMOORSIDE TOWN COUNCIL  
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## **Minutes of the Annual Town meeting in The Moorside Room at 7pm on Tuesday 28 May 2025.**

**Present:** Mayor Joe Coughlan, Councillors Moffat, Riby and Woodhams.

Also present: North Yorkshire Councillor Greg White (left at 7.55pm), PCSO Holly Hornsby (left at 8.15pm) and 17 members of the public.

### **1 WELCOME FROM THE TOWN MAYOR**

Councillor Joe Coughlan opened the meeting by welcoming everyone present.

### **2 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON 7 May 2024**

The minutes of the Annual Town meeting held on 7 May 2024 were **approved** and **signed**.

### **3 MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor's report was **received**. Full Report at Appendix A.

The Town Mayor summarised the Town Council's business interests and activities of the past 12 months:

- TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP there are currently two casual vacancies, expressions of interest are very welcome.
- FINANCIAL MATTERS - The Town Council remains committed to managing affairs in such a way as keeps the precept as low as possible.
  - 2023/24 AUDIT
  - 2025/26 BUDGET
- GRANTS - £8k allocated to an increased number of recipients. Revision of the Grant Policy with effect from 1 April 2025.
- CEMETERY – It was noted that there are no remaining burial plots in All Saints churchyard which has been declared closed. Responsibility for management of the churchyard grounds has been passed to North Yorkshire Council.
- PLAY AREAS Surfacing repairs to the wet pour at the aerotilt and basket swing, and application of fibrefall at the base of the fireman's pole, at Old Road play area have been instructed and will be carried out in the week commencing 9 June, weather depending.

The consultation for new play equipment at Ryedale View will be carried out at the Primary Schools where the four design options will be on display and the pupils will be invited to express their preference. Funding opportunities will then be explored as the next stage of the project.

- SPORTSFIELD DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT
- MANOR VALE
- WILDFLOWER VERGES
- PLANNING
- CHRISTMAS
- COMMUNITY SAFETY – Important to report all incidents to the police via 101 and 999 as

appropriate. There are regular scheduled police drop-in sessions at the Co-op, details on Town Council website and noticeboard.

- FLOODING – The response to Storm Darragh and recognition of Jean Illingworth and members of the Veterans Breakfast Club by nomination to attend the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.
- KIRKBYMOORSIDE HISTORIC STONE SIGN - Latest information from North Yorkshire Council regarding replacement of the town name plates on the stone wall signs and repainting of the back plate on the sign on approach from Helmsley is that the exercise has been passed to another team to progress. Chased again on 19 May 2025.

Works have been completed to instate a Yorkshire stone border to the flower bed of the Kirkbymoorside Town sign on approach from Pickering at a cost of £290, authorised by the Town Clerk in accordance with standing Orders

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- 2025 COMMUNITY AWARD 27<sup>th</sup> September 2025. Nomination forms available for collection and on the Town Council website

Cllr Coughlan invited North Yorkshire Councillor Greg White to make representation.

Cllr White summarised progress of the recent transition to one unitary authority.

Although the Councils have merged, there is a constituency sub-committee for each of the different areas within NYC (including Ryedale). Signage e.g. carparks referring to Ryedale District Council

etc will not be replaced wholesale but piece-meal over time. The migration to North Yorkshire Council includes changes to refuse collection arrangements and home to school transport.

He took further questions regarding the refuse collection arrangements, specifically clarification of the number of bins to be delivered to each household, options to return/have smaller bins, the decision to ask/expect residents to also keep their existing bins and re-purpose these, the challenge for households with limited space/terraced houses where the only route to the back of the property is through the house. In these cases, the residents are asked to contact NYC to discuss alternative arrangements. Cllr White explained the cost of the £7m investment in the new bins in relation to the cost savings, year on year of £1.5m and the break-even projection. Ultimately the new approach will mean that North Yorkshire Council will be able to recycle more and sell more of what it recycles.

#### **NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL MATTERS**

North Yorkshire Council in the unitary authority responsible for public services including:

Planning and Conservation; bins, waste & recycling; roads, parking and travel; council tax; benefits; housing and homelessness.

Details of all the services are available on the North Yorkshire Council website [www.northyorks.gov.uk](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk)

The most effective way to report highway issues/defects such as pot holes, faulty street lights etc, is via the North Yorkshire Council Customer Portal . [Do it Online 24/7 www.northyorks.gov.uk](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk)

#### **SCHEDULED HIGHWAYS WORKS FOR KIRKBYMOORSIDE 2025/26**

Surface Dressing 2025 (programme in progress)

- A170 New Road to Kirkdale Lane from Welburn Cross roads to surfacing joint near 40mph limit.
- Feversham Drive, Kirkbymoorside (completed)

#### **Market Place, Kirkbymoorside – Footway Resurfacing 9 June – 8 August**

North Yorkshire Council will be undertaking footway resurfacing works at the above location. The works are currently programmed to commence on 9th June 2025 to 8th August 2025 and will be carried out under a footway closure from 07:30 to 17:00, weekdays only. A plan showing the extent of the works is enclosed for your information.

## 4 PUBLIC SESSION

Cllr Coughlan invited members of the public to bring to the meeting's attention issues and concerns about Kirkbymoorside.

### MANOR WOODS ESTATE ISSUE

Although the properties are complete the children's play areas, public footpaths, traffic calming, bus stop etc are incomplete and the developers have effectively left the site circa 18 months ago. Residents have made every effort to pursue these issues with the developers directly but there has been no progress made. North Yorkshire Council is the appropriate authority with regard to highways agreements, planning control and building regulations.

In a personal capacity, Councillor Andrea Moffat, as a resident of Manor Woods, offered to liaise with those residents present at the meeting and NYC via Cllr Greg White in order to resolve the issues.

**STORM DARRAGH** The emergency response to Storm Darragh was discussed and efforts of the local community were further acknowledgement and commended. The following information was shared in response to observations made by members of the public relating to matters affecting the community:

### FLOOD RISK – KIRBY MILLS

For the avoidance of any doubt, the "Community Resilience Plan" documents information specific to the locality e.g. helicopter landing sites, nearest airstrip, location of defibrillators, buildings considered appropriate for designation as an emergency response base etc. This document was formulated from the North Yorkshire Resilience Forum template and is logged with the Resilience Authority (North Yorkshire Council) in order to assist the respective authorities and agencies in the event of an emergency. It is not a procedural document or step by step guide on how to respond in the event of an emergency. Participation by members of the community (which includes members of the Town Council) in any emergency recovery efforts is entirely voluntary. The Resilience Authority is equipped to respond to emergencies. The Town Council is not.

### FLOOD CONTINGENCY EFFORTS

The clerk has been exploring options for siting of a facility to store equipment in Kirby Mills, to be readily available to the properties affected by flooding. The exercise is not without complications as it requires landowner permission and compliance with highways regulations. To date 5 locations have been investigated.

When more information is available the affected residents and representatives of the associated agencies will be invited to a meeting. This will provide the opportunity to explain progress to date and generate interest in putting together a community flood response strategy specific to Kirby Mills and Keldholme.

With regards to the £3000 funding made available to the Town Council from the Two Riding Community Foundation grant following Storm Darragh, herewith details of expenses to date and allocation of remaining funds:

£142.54 Cleaning supplies for Flood affected properties

£19.61 Sundries for the Resilience & Emergency Base

£704.40 Hire of dehumidifiers

£480 costs associated with the use of the Moorside Room in Kirkbymoorside for flood response activity

The balance of £1,654 has been allocated to the following expenses:

- Costs associated with securing storage facilities at Kirby Mills
- Purchase of flood prevention supplies and equipment (e.g. sand bags) upon recommendations of the NYC Resilience and Emergencies

Specific to an emergency response plan, any constructive suggestions/recommendations on how a community response should be managed would be very welcome.

**ROAD & COMMUNITY SAFETY** Discussions around car parking, speeding vehicles and other anti-social behaviour. Jean Illingworth, Kirkbymoorside Community Support Group, referred to the

key recommendation of the 'Kirkbymoorside Feasibility Study and Action Plan 2025' report, commissioned by North Yorkshire Councillor Greg White. One such recommendation is that Kirkbymoorside needs support re car parking in order to enable and encourage shoppers to frequent the town in order to support the positive but still fragile retail community. There is a need to balance the case for on street car parking with safe crossing points.

In response to traffic safety concerns involving speeding vehicles and other anti-social behaviour PCSO Holly Hornsby reinforced the need to report incidents formally (101 and the North Yorkshire Police website). She stressed that Facebook is not an appropriate platform for this. She also addressed the fact that what the police are able to report back to the public in terms of action can be limited particularly when the matter involves a minor, where safeguarding is a priority. Although this can be frustrating for the public, they should be reassured that the police take a multi-agency approach, working with partner agencies including North Yorkshire Council, and Housing Associations.

The necessity for CCTV to capture any anti-social and criminal behaviour in the town was suggested. Cllr Coughlan explained that the Town Council has pursued this matter and explored the feasibility of installing CCTV for connection on the lighting columns in the town centre. It was determined that the lighting columns are only able to support one item of street furniture, which makes the project unviable. However, many of the local businesses have their own CCTV.

## **POLICE & NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNCIL SAFER COMMUNITIES**

Reporting and tackling anti-social behaviour.

The North Yorkshire Council Safer Communities hub co-ordinates and facilitates a multi-agency problem solving approach to tackle anti-social behaviour issues. The responsibility is shared between a number of organisations including the police, North Yorkshire Council and social landlords.

Report any incidents or concerns through the North Yorkshire Council portal <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/community-and-volunteering/community-safety/anti-social-behaviour>

Regular Community Safety Drop-ins are being held at the Co-Op, attended by the Police and North Yorkshire Council Community Safety Officers, and will provide an opportunity to raise any community safety concerns. The next drop-in will be on Thursday 29/05/2025.

**REPORT IT.** Report non-emergency crime online or call 101. If a crime is in progress dial 999.

Non-emergency reporting, if you've witnessed or been the victim of crime that isn't an emergency, please report it to the police online via [www.northyorkshire.police.uk](http://www.northyorkshire.police.uk) or call 101. Your report will be sent direct to the police control room.

## **5 REPORTS FROM CHARITIES AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS**

MOORSBUS Bill Breakell spoke on the purpose of the Moorsbus, offering a friendly service allowing affordable accessibility to the Moors and surrounding areas. His report referred to financial implications and recent successful application to NYCC, Hull City Council & East Riding for funding. However there are also challenges securing bus contractors each season. Bill shared insights from customer surveys in relation to the average spend in the local communities. The Moorsbus contributes to the community economically, environmentally and socially.

Thanks all round to Kirkbymoorside Town Council for its support and the support of the community.

MEMORIAL HALL Sheila Ridley spoke about how the Memorial Hall and market are inter-related and central to the community. The committee has recently appointed new members strengthening the team, inviting enquiries for bookings and for more market stalls, and reiterated willing to play its part in the Local Resilience Plan.

### KIRKBYMOORSIDE COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP

Jean Illingworth reported on the progress to date of formalising the action group into a CIO, on past and upcoming activities including the community kitchen garden, Christmas dinner, the Music Festival and the town website with its wealth of information.

### RYEDALE CARERS

The new CEO acknowledged the work of the former, now retired CEO in 2024 after 30 years, described the work of the charity as a befriending service which in turn brings relief to carers. Ryedale Carers have also taken on the management of the Whitby service and have two new members of staff. Activities include walking group, music events, drivers, 1:1 befriending through approximately 180 volunteers, approaching schools re music events to do more inter-generational work. Their work is community led rather than service led. The impact of Ryedale Carers was reinforced by insights and experiences from Councillors Coughlan and Riby as volunteers.

The Town Mayor thanked participants for the reports given and offered congratulations on their hard work and achievements to date and well wishes for this coming year.

CLlr Coughlan concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for their time and active participation and announced that nominations are now open for residents of Kirkbymoorside to put forward local groups and individuals for the Community Awards.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm.