



KIRKBYMOORSIDE TOWN COUNCIL

Church House
7 High Market Place
Kirkbymoorside
YO62 6AT

Tel: 01751 432217

town.clerk@kirkbymoorsidetowncouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Kirkbymoorside Town Council held on 15 June 2026 at 7.30pm in Church House, 7 High Market Place, Kirkbymoorside, YO62 6AT.

Present: Councillors J Coughlan (Chair), C Dowie, D Grounds, A Moffat and A Riby.

Also Present: Town Clerk L Bolland and three members of the public.

Cllr Coughlan welcomed all present.

26024 Agenda item 1. Apologies for Absence

- a. Apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting were **received** from Cllrs Bettany, Shields and Woodhams.
- b. Reasons given for absence were **approved**.

26025 Agenda item 2. There were no Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda.

26026 Agenda item 3. Minutes and Matters Arising

- a. The minutes of the Annual meeting held on 18 May 2026 were **received** and **approved**.
- b. There were no matters arising.

Cllr Coughlan asked which matters the members of the public had an interest in and proposed to revise the order of the agenda to consider item 7a. as the next item of business, followed by the public session to receive representation on a matter not included on the agenda. **Agreed.**

26027 Agenda item 7. Grant Applications

- a. The grant application made by Kirkbymoorside Allotment Association in the amount of £500 towards the cost of replacement of machinery was considered.

Donna Rainey, Chair of the Allotment Association provided a synopsis of the organisations make up, finances and objectives and outlined the need for financial assistance to purchase replacement equipment for the site.

Cllr Moffat asked for clarification that surplus produce is offered to the Foodbank and praised the inclusiveness of this approach to avoid waste. As good practice, continued promotion/signposting of local produce to the Foodbank is encouraged.

The Council were satisfied with the information received. Cllr Dowie proposed approval of the grant application for £500. **Agreed**

The Association is invited to make representation at the next town meeting in May 2027 to account for the expenditure of the grant and to report on the impact this funding has had.

26028 Agenda item 4. Public Session – A member of the public explained that there had recently been another incident of anti-social behaviour affecting the properties near 42 Piercy End. The incident was reported to the police who arrived within 15 minutes, but after the offending individual had run away.

This has resulted in concern that this property, 42 Piercy End, will be targeted for anti-social behaviour because it is unoccupied and derelict. The situation poses significant safety concerns due to the condition of the property and particularly the risk of fire due to the volume of contents known to have been hoarded, that remain on the premises.

The member of the public appealed to the Town Council to make representation to the appropriate authorities to address these concerns and requested pursuit of a Compulsory Purchase Order by the appropriate authority.

Cllr Riby reinforced the concerns raised and referred to his own proposal that the Town Council make representation to North Yorkshire Council for a Compulsory Purchase Order of this property, in January 2025. In a personal capacity he has been advocating for something to be done about this property since before the family were evicted in 2021. To date there has been an overarching lack of support from every agency and residents feel unsafe.

The Town Council has referred this matter multiple times to North Yorkshire Council for attention but to date no action has been taken. In February 2025 a response was received from Steve Reynolds, Private Housing Standards Team Leader who confirmed that at that time the options for Environmental Health action at this address had been exhausted but they he would undertake a further inspection of the property to ascertain whether action under S215 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 may be applicable. This section provides a local planning authority (LPA) with the power, in certain circumstances, to take steps requiring land (including buildings) to be cleaned up when its condition adversely affects the amenity of the area. However, no further communication has been received from Steve Reynolds and the matter has been chased by the clerk seven times since, with no response. The most recent referral was made in April 2026 and confirmation was received from James Draper that the matter had been passed to Steve Reynold's colleagues. A response is still awaited.

Cllr Moffat considered it unacceptable that the subject has been raised repeatedly with North Yorkshire Council and no action has been taken and proposed that the matter should be referred to North Yorkshire Councillor White, as a priority. **Agreed.**

Cllr Dowie proposed that the matter should also be referred to Richard Flinton, Chief Executive Officer of North Yorkshire Council. **Agreed.**

Cllr Coughlan proposed that the Town Council request a multi-agency response, inviting participation by North Yorkshire Police, North Yorkshire Council, North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue to address the matter. **Agreed.**

26029 Agenda item 5. There were no discussions with Town Councillors in respect of questions already posed. In the absence of North Yorkshire Councillor Greg White, it was agreed to refer the matter regarding 42 Piercy End by email. In the absence of an adequate response by North Yorkshire Council to the concerns already raised, repeatedly, by the clerk on behalf of the Town Council, it was agreed to invite Cllr White to visit the property so that he may be better informed and equipped to pursue the matter with the appropriate agencies.

26030 Agenda item 6. Financial matters

- a. Reports of 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 31 May 2026 was **received**.
- c. The following payments authorised by the clerk in accordance with Standing Orders were **noted**:

I. Defibrillator Pads @ £82.95 + VAT

II. 1/4 page advert in The Handy Mag (Minute MR26009) @ £58.80 + VAT

26031 Agenda item 7. Grant Applications

- b. The grant application made by Kirkbymoorside Horticultural Society in the amount of £280 to purchase new staging materials for the annual show was considered. Cllr Moffat proposed approval of the grant application. **Agreed.**

26032 Agenda item 8. Moorside Room

a. Management and promotion

- I. The minutes of the Moorside Room Committee meeting on 13 May 2026 were **received**.

As a matter arising, Cllr Dowie referred to the re-application of the Moorside Room artwork to the interior wall, above the entrance doorway. Unfortunately the decal has not adhered to the wall and is peeling off. The artwork will need to be replaced and Cllr Dowie proposed that the Town Council explore the possibility of a local signwriter painting the logo, as a matter of urgency. **Agreed.**

- II. The recommendation of the Committee to host an Open Evening with refreshments to promote the venue was **considered**.

Cllr Coughlan proposed that the Lewis Creighton exhibition offers an ideal opportunity to showcase the venue and would conveniently serve as the relaunch event. **Agreed**

Cllr Dowie explained that the official opening of the exhibition will be at 2pm on 31 July and a shortlist of community stakeholders could be invited to the event. **Agreed.** Cllr Dowie also proposed that the Town Council invite all local groups and organisations to the exhibition, over the course of the weekend. **Agreed.**

- III. Pursuant to recommendation of the Moorside Room Committee expenditure of £58.80 + VAT for a quarter page advert in The Handymag, was **noted**.
- IV. Pursuant to recommendation of the Moorside Room Committee it was **noted** that the advert is also featured in the latest edition of The Moorsider

b. Lewis Creighton Exhibition

- I. An update on progress of arrangements for the Lewis Creighton exhibition was **received**. The official opening of the exhibition will be at 2pm on 31 July. Cllrs Grounds and Moffat and the clerk provided apologies for absence in advance of the event. Cllrs Coughlan and Riby confirmed their availability to assist Cllr Dowie with the event.

- II. The cost of £55.52 for the insurance endorsement applicable to loaned art works was **agreed**.

- III. A budget of £100 for associated expenses was **agreed**.

- IV. Purchase of a Lewis Creighton painting for the town was considered. Cllr Riby proposed a budget of £300 for purchase of a painting, to be chosen by the Town Council. **Agreed.**

26033 Agenda item 9. The cost of £6,120 for works in Manor Vale woodland, identified as immediate on the tri-ennial tree safety report, was **agreed**.

26034 Agenda item 10. Phase I Build - Machinery Store at Sports Field

- a. An update on progress of the Phase I Build was **received**.

Unfortunately the project is complicated by changes in legislation since the original application (23/00146/FUL) was determined in 2023 and therefore the non-material

amendment is not straight forward. It may be necessary to submit a new application for the Phase I Build project to replace the machinery store only.

Cllr Coughlan considered the costs detailed in the fee proposal to be excessive for the scope of the project and, in the interest of expediting matters, proposed to delegate authority to the clerk to engage in discussions with the architects to negotiate the charges.

Agreed.

Further, in order to avoid costly delays, Cllr Coughlan proposed that the clerk report progress of the planning & design element of the project to two Councillors with delegated authority to approve the Form of Appointment once the fees have been negotiated.

Agreed. Cllr Coughlan and Cllr Riby were appointed as designated representatives.

- b. The allocation of funds to cover the cost of hire of the storage container for temporary use as the machinery stores for the duration of the Phase I Build was considered. It was **agreed** to allocate £159.32 per month from funds received from WaterTight payable to Kirkbymoorside Football Club as reimbursement.

26035 Agenda item 11. Kirkbymoorside Town Signs

- a. Designs of the town signs with the new town brand were **received**. The final design choice was **agreed**, clearly indicating the direction of the town from the roundabout, on approach from both directions on the A170.
- b. A ceiling budget of £1000 for costs associated with the relocation of the sign, on approach from Helmsley was **agreed**.

26036 Agenda item 12. The notification of change from North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Services for emergency response to Automatic Fire Alarm (AFA) activations at Commercial Premises was **received**.

26037 Agenda item 13. Reports from Members representing the Town Council at meetings of outside bodies and on delegated matters

- a. On 28 May Cllrs Coughlan and Moffat, and the clerk participated in a Teams meeting with Lee Brayford, Emergency Planning Manager, North Yorkshire Council Resilience and Emergencies Team. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the capabilities and resources available for an emergency response and how North Yorkshire Resilience and Emergencies can support Kirkbymoorside in being prepared and having a plan for the worst. The details already collated by the Town Council provide emergency responders with good local intel. It is important to manage expectations and the Town Council must be careful not to take on responsibility that it is not equipped to deliver. People see the Town Council as the first point of contact as it is best placed to convey the concerns of local people and the emergency services.

A desk check exercise and scenario planning session was suggested.

Cllr Dowie, as delegated representative, extended thanks on behalf of Kirkbymoorside Environment Group to Cllr Coughlan for judging the Nature Day poster competition. The event itself, on 13 June was very well attended.

26038 Agenda item 14. The Town Clerk's report was **received**.

Repairs to the town clock are scheduled to be carried out on Tuesday 16 June.

Repairs to the net climber at Old Road play area are scheduled to be carried out on 30 June.

The National Lottery grant application for new play equipment at Ryedale View play area has yet to be determined. Deliberation is beyond the 12 week period and no negative feedback has been received.

Meeting with Andy Knowles, Chief Executive of York Against Cancer on 17 June 2026.

YLCA Ryedale Branch meeting at Sinnington Village Hall on Tuesday 16 June 2026

Compliments received regarding the appearance of The Pound which is boasting a colourful display of foxgloves, deliberately left when weeding last year.

26039 Agenda item 15. The Town Mayor reported on judging of the Nature Day poster competition. The next engagement will be the opening of the Lewis Creighton Exhibition and relaunch of the Moorside Room on 31 July and Yorkshire Day celebrations on 1 August 2026.

26040 Agenda item 16. There were no Questions to the Chair.

26041 Agenda item 17. The date of the next ordinary meeting of the Town Council on 20 July 2026 at 7.30pm in Church House was **agreed**.

The meeting ended at 9.09pm.