



KIRKBYMOORSIDE TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of Kirkbymoorside Town Council held on 20 July 2026 at 7.30pm in Church House, 7 High Market Place, Kirkbymoorside, YO62 6AT.

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

Also Present: Town Clerk L Bolland, PC Chris Hudson and Police Inspector Martin Dennison, and three members of the public.

Cllr Coughlan welcomed all present.

26042 Agenda item 1. Apologies for Absence

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

26043 Agenda item 2. There were no Declarations of Interest.

26044 Agenda item 3. Minutes and Matters Arising

- a. The draft minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 15 June 2026 were **approved** and **signed**.
- b. There were no matters arising.
- c. A report on progress of the multi-agency response regarding 42 Piercy End pursuant to referral by the Town Council to North Yorkshire Police, North Yorkshire Council, North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue. It was **noted** that due to subject sensitivity the report is not suitable for public disclosure.

In his absence the clerk explained that the immediate response by Cllr Greg White (who was abroad at the time) resulted in escalation of the matter at North Yorkshire Council and provision of the responses by the various departments.

PC Hudson confirmed that there have been no reports made to the police relating to the property since 19 June 2026.

Cllr Riby voiced his continued concern about the safety of the building and considered that the responses by associated agencies offered little assurance of resolution. In the absence of any information specific to a strategy and timescales for any action to address the issue the response merely offers acknowledgement by the respective agencies of the situation.

Cllr Moffat agreed with Cllr Riby and proposed that the Town Council, through the clerk, establish a dialogue with Cllr Greg White and the various departments at North Yorkshire Council to ascertain what procedures will be involved and timescales etc. **Agreed.**

26045 Agenda item 4. Public Session – Cllr Coughlan invited Inspector Dennison and PC Hudson to make representations and provide an update on local policing and community safety. PC Hudson reported an incident of property damage at All Saints church involving a can of paint thrown through a widow pane. The incident took place at approximately 10am on

Sunday 19 July 2026 and investigations are in progress to identify those involved. Cllr Shields offered access to recordings from CCTV at the White Swan on Church Street, which might have captured the movements of the culprits.

PC Hudson provided the crime statistics since the last meeting attended and explained that there are no worrying trends. Reports of anti-social behaviour have reduced significantly.

Inspector Martin Dennison provided an overview of Neighbourhood Policing in the area and his expectations of his Officers. There are increased high-visibility patrols of the Neighbourhood Policing teams, in a bid to ensure residents feel safe. All officers are tracked and their movements logged to record routes and patrol times, which provides additional information when referencing incidents and collaborating reports, for example.

Cllr Coughlan thanked Inspector Dennison and PC Hudson for taking the time to attend the meeting and for the information and assurances offered.

26046 Agenda item 5. There were no matters raised for discussions with Town Councillors and the North Yorkshire Councillor in respect of questions already posed, and any new matters.

26047 Agenda item 6. Financial matters

- a. The accounts paid since the last meeting of the Council were **reported** and cheque payments **approved** according to the list provided.
- b. The Financial Summary to 30 June 2026 was **received**.
- c. Submission of the 2025/26 VAT Reclaim of £10,525.40 was **noted**.
- d. Works authorised by the clerk in accordance with Standing Orders were **noted** as follows:
 - i. Emergency works to clear fallen tree in Manor Vale (Minute 18199)
 - ii. Acceptance of estimate for sign writing of The Moorside Room logo @ £175 (pursuant to Minute 26032)
- e. Information regarding the Precept 2027/28 arrangements were **received**.

26048 Agenda item 7. Policies & Procedures

- a. The draft Asset Register Policy was considered and adoption **agreed**.
- b. The revised parish/town council Register of Interests form template and supporting guidance in light of recent legislative changes effective from 29 June 2026 was **noted**.

26049 Agenda item 8. A report on progress of arrangements for the Lewis Creighton exhibition at The Moorside Room was **received**. The exhibition, on 31 July to 2 August, will feature approximately 36 paintings loaned by local residents and businesses.

26050 Agenda item 9. Phase I Build - Machinery Store at Sports Field

- a. Withdrawal of application ZE26/00211/AMEND was **noted**.
- b. Submission of FUL application at a cost of £610 + VAT (50% discount for local authority applied) was **noted**.

26051 Agenda item 10. Play Areas

- a. The award of £19,706 from the National Lottery Community Fund for the 'Revitalising Ryedale view Play Area' project was **noted**. Cllr Moffat offered congratulations and a vote of thanks to the clerk for the work involved in securing the grant funding.
- b. Expenditure of £21,785.88 for the balance of project costs (£21,491.88 earmarked from reserves Minute 25129 plus £294 balance from cost code 7) was **agreed**.

- c. Completion of the repairs to the Net Climber at Old Road play area were **noted**.
 - d. Details of a complaint regarding dogs off the lead in Old Road play area was **received**. Installation of new, larger signs at each of the entrances and within the play area was **agreed**.
- 26052** Agenda item 11. Consideration of requests by the Kirkbymoorside Community Support Group to:
- a. transfer ownership to the Town Council of flags and flagpoles used to promote and enhance the town and town events, approximated asset value of £4,000.
 - b. transfer of responsibility for the seasonal installation and subsequent removal of flag poles and flags, approximated annual cost of £600
 - c. storage of flags and flagpoles between seasons
- Cllr Coughlan proposed to defer consideration pending further information, in line with grant policy. **Agreed**. Additional information regarding the group's Constitution and membership, accounts and forward plan to evidence contingency for management of ongoing projects (costs and logistics).
- 26053** Agenda item 12. Submission to the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Rural Bus Franchising Study was **noted**.
- 26054** Agenda item 13. Information was **received** regarding A64 resurfacing works from Hopgrove to Grimston Bar 6 July-7 August.
- 26055** Agenda item 14. Information regarding the change of venue for Sarah-Louise Ashworth School of Dance to the former Co-op site on Piercy End was **received**. Councillors voiced congratulations to Miss Sarah for securing a suitable site for sole occupancy within the town and wished every success in the new premises.
- 26056** Agenda item 15. Support for the campaign to Save Cauwood Day Centre in Malton was **considered** and **not agreed**.
- 26057** Agenda item 16. Councillor Riby was **appointed** to the online training session on carbon emission monitoring provided by North Yorkshire Council's Climate Change Team via Teams on 11 August 10-11am.
- 26058** Agenda item 17. Information on the North York Moors National Park Local Plan Review was **received**.
- 26059** Agenda item 18. Reports from Members representing the Town Council at meetings of outside bodies and on delegated matters.
- Cllrs Coughlan and Cllr Dowie attended the Rural Bus Franchising Study Workshop on Wednesday 9th September. The workshop was focused on 'Options and Proposals' for the bus services across 'The Moors and Vale of Pickering' (North York Moors national park and links along and to the Vale of Pickering). Kirkbymoorside was well represented with members of the Moorsbus and active campaigners for public transport (former Northern Ryedale Transport Group) in attendance.
- 26060** Agenda item 19. Completion of the clerk's mid year performance review/appraisal by Councillors Moffat and Woodhams on 13 July was **noted**.
- 26061** Agenda item 20. The Town Clerk's report was **received**.
- Town Farm Car Park WC's Complaints about the public toilets at Town Farm car park, both cleanliness and working order, were referred to North Yorkshire Council. The following action is in progress:

Public Conveniences Operations - a deep clean of the toilets and efforts to remove the mould on the tiles.

Property Department – replacement of the Wallgate hand washing facilities with a standard sink and hand drier and provision of manual soap dispensers. This eliminates the potential for any issues with an automated system and will make them much easier and quicker to maintain in the future.

Additional works include making good the entrance area where the tiles are broken / missing and repainting the woodwork.

The Shambles The clerk explained that the cobbled area of the shambles needs to be cleared following the weed spraying by NYC as part of the footpath spraying schedule. Cllr Riby volunteered to make arrangements for the work to be completed, at no cost/liability to the Town Council.

Kirkbymoorside town sign on approach from Helmsley Arrangements have been made, by kind agreement of the landowners, to relocate the town sign to the corner of the field at Broad View. A site meeting has been arranged on 21 July to agree the new location and determine the extent of works necessary to install the supporting posts at the new location.

Old Road play area – trim trail Works have been authorised by the clerk for the contractor to remove all rotten stepping posts and use the healthy timber removed from the net climber repairs, to replace any uprights. The cost of £350 for works already authorised (Minute 25206). The cost of any new posts, will not be in excess of £250 (delegated authority of the clerk).

Moorside Room The signwriter will be painting the logo on the interior wall on 22 July 2026.

- 26062** Agenda item 21. The Town Mayor will be attending the Yorkshire Day Celebrations in Goole on 1 August 2026.

With regret the Chair confirmed receipt of Cllr Shields' resignation.

Notice and subsequent advertisement of the vacancy will be issued to North Yorkshire Council accordingly.

Cllr Coughlan offered thanks to Hilary, on behalf of the Town Council.

- 26063** Agenda item 22. Questions to the Chair

With now two vacancies on the Town Council and anticipation of new members Cllr Moffat suggested that this might be an ideal time to consider a reset of expectations and training requirements for Councillors and asked for an item to be included on the September agenda.

Councillors were encouraged to share and promote the Restoring Nature Conference on 18 September 2026 and asked to attend, if available.

- 26064** Agenda item 23. The date of the next ordinary meeting of the Town Council on 21 September 2026 at 7.30pm in Church House was **agreed**.

The meeting concluded at 8.27pm