

Clerk to the Council: Jessica Bedford
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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at The Rockingham Arms, Towton on Tuesday 19th May 2026 at 7.30pm.

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr T Fielden (Chairman) and Mrs J Bedford, Clerk to the Council and four members of the public.

MINUTES

1. To receive apologies for absence

No apologies were received

2. To approve, as an accurate record, the Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 20th May 2025 as a true and correct and record.

It was resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record

3. To receive a report from the Chairman regarding the Parish Council's work over the past year.

The Chairman presented a report outlining the Parish Council's work and activities undertaken over the past year. A copy of the report is attached at Appendix 1

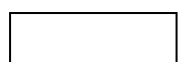
4. To consider any matters raised by the registered electors present at the meeting.

No matters were raised

The Meeting closed at 7.33pm

Chairman's signature: _____

Date: May 2027



Appendix 1

Report to the Parish Council for Towton, Grimston and Kirkby Wharfe with North Milford

The Parish Council has built on its 2025 priorities during 2026.

The Village Field, purchased by the Parish Council with wide support from public subscription, is in regular use and the community woodland is maturing well. During the year the stabilisation posts required for the saplings on planting were removed, as were a small number of dead trees. The Parish Council would welcome any community groups wanting to organise appropriate events on the field.

The Parish allotments have a low vacancy rate and a strong group of longstanding users. The water supply installed by the Parish Council in 2025 is now in active use and is valued by allotment holders.

The Parish Council Flood Group completed the most significant stage of the Kirkby Wharfe Flood Defences in summer 2025, completing protection for Kirkby Wharfe Cottages. The work was delivered within budget allowing an extension to the protection to be planned for 2026. The extension will complete the flood defence for Kirkby Wharfe. During the past year there has been no deployment of the Parish Council Flood Group's temporary defences.

The Parish Council has worked with Yorkshire Water to safeguard the integrity of the Towton Waste Water Treatment Plant, which had suffered some technical failure. The Parish Council continues to monitor Yorkshire Water's rectification of these issues and hopes that the work will protect Towton's foul water systems for the long term.

The Parish Council continues to support road safety in Towton, with particular attention to traffic on the A162. County-wide speedwatch programmes are being monitored to see whether Towton can be included in future speed reduction measures. North Yorkshire Council continue to prevent any additional speed reduction measures and, despite Parish Council protest, removed additional speed limit signs from the village during the year.

The Parish Council continues to operate a balanced budget, applying careful stewardship of public funds and limiting unnecessary expenditure of Council Taxpayers' money. The largest single outgoing is the 50-year loan repayment relating to the purchase of the Village Field. Where possible, one-off expenses are met by one-off grants.

The Parish Council continues to support the communities within the Parish with beneficial initiatives at extremely low cost.

Thomas Fielden
Chairman
May 2026

