

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at The Rockingham Arms, Towton on Wednesday 8th July 2026 at 7.30pm.

The meeting opened at 7.28pm

Present: Cllrs T Fielden (Chairman), G Barlow, H Matthews, C Gallagher, P Fletcher, and D Goodrick and Mrs J Bedford, Clerk to the Council.

No members of the public present.

MINUTES

29/26 Apologies and approve reasons for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Wheeler

Resolution: To approve the reasons for absence

30/26 Declarations of Interest and to approve any Dispensation Requests *It is a requirement in law, Localism Act (2011s31) that Council members declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest*
None

31/25 To approve the Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on the 19th May 2026

Resolution: To approve the minutes as a true and accurate record

32/26 Matters of Public Participation

No members of the public were present

33/26 Reports from other Authorities - County Councillor, Police.

None received

34/26 **Planning**

a) Applications to be considered since the last meeting; acknowledged if date passed for consultation

None

b) To consider any planning enforcement issues

None

35/26 To receive Representative Reports - To receive updates and consider any further action:

1. Allotment Committee - to include an update on Towton treatment plant works

Cllr Gallagher provided an update on the ongoing Towton treatment plant works, advising that further works are still required.

It was noted that two allotment plots remain vacant and have proved difficult to let. Cllr Gallagher advised that the village Christmas Lights Group may submit a proposal for the use of the vacant plots. It was further noted that one allotment plot will shortly be returned, with a second plot also expected to become vacant, both of which will be re-let in due course.

Resolution: That a formal proposal be obtained for Council's consideration. Cllr Gallagher will review the current allotment tenancy agreement to identify any potential implications before the proposal is considered.

2. Village Field Committee

Council received an update from the Village Field Committee. It was noted that ongoing maintenance works continue, including the treatment and removal of ragwort, management of thistles and brambles, tree maintenance, watering of the newly relocated cherry trees, and fence maintenance. The Committee also reported that the wildflower areas have established well this year.

Resolution: That the Committee continue with the ongoing maintenance programme and investigate the installation of hedgehog houses, undertake clearance of the brambles and explore the use of a local farmer to flail the roadside edges.

3. Kirkby Wharfe Flood Group Committee

Resolution: That the Flood Group progress the final stage of the defence works, where possible, before the next Council meeting.

4. Defibrillator Guardians

Council received the Defibrillator Guardians' report and noted that both defibrillators had been inspected and were in full working order.



36/26 Matters for consideration

a) To consider adoption of the Data Protection Policy and Data Breach Reporting Procedures

Resolution: That the Data Protection Policy and Data Breach Reporting Procedures be adopted, subject to the establishment of a Council-owned cloud storage account.

b) To consider membership of the Fixed and Average Speed Camera Group

Resolution: To defer the item to the next meeting

c) To consider the quotation received for a maintenance and service contract for the Council's Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)

Resolution: That the quotation of £555.73 (excluding VAT) for a maintenance and service contract for the Council's Vehicle Activated Signs be approved in principle, subject to clarification that the quotation includes both VAS units.

37/26 Regulatory & Financial Matters

a) To note receipts, bank reconciliation and confirm DD/SOs.

Date	Cost centre	Payee	Net	Gross
30/04/2026	Precept	North Yorkshire Council		£3852.50
11/05/2026	VAT Refund	HMRC		£3381.71
15/06/2026	PWLB	Public Works Loan instalment		£2320.40

Resolution: Council received and noted the receipts, direct debit payments and bank reconciliation, which showed balances of £7,014.96 in the Community Account and £32,863.27 in the Premium Account as at the 28th June 2026.

b) To approve the Schedule of Payments to 2nd July 2026

Date	Cost centre	Payee	Net	Gross
08/07/2026	Salaries	Clerk – Q2		£355.94
		SWARCO if approved		666.87

Resolution: To approve the schedule of payments as presented

38/26 To note Correspondence received not discussed elsewhere on this agenda

Council received and noted the correspondence received, including the York & North Yorkshire Combined Authority Rural Bus Franchising Study and North Yorkshire Council bus service contract consultations.

Resolution: That a response be submitted highlighting concerns regarding the current level of bus service provision to the villages and the need for improved services.

39/26 To note agenda items: confirm date and time of next meeting

The date and time of the next meeting was confirmed as Wednesday 7 October 2026 at 7.30pm.

