

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KNARESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL'S
PROJECTS, COMMUNITY and ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HELD AT KNARESBOROUGH HOUSE
on Monday 20 April 2026**

PRESENT: **Chair:** Councillor Pickard

Councillors: J Batt, A Bell, H Gostlow, K Lacey, S Oakes,
M Walker and H Westmancoat

Staff Present: The Clerk, Community Projects Officer and Town
Development Manager

Late Arrivals: None **Early Departures:** None

Absent: M Flood

26/027 **ITEM 1 - To receive Apologies and consider approval** of the reasons for inability to attend the meeting – none for this meeting.

26/028 **ITEM 2 – To receive** declarations of **disclosable pecuniary interests** (not previously declared) on any matters of business and to consider any written requests for **dispensation**

Councillor Gostlow declared that she was the Chair of Knaresborough in Bloom.

26/029 **ITEM 3 - KTC Public Speaking Session** - none for this meeting.

26/030 **ITEM 4 – To consider** and, if thought fit, **approve** as a correct record, **the Minutes** of the **Projects, Community and Environment Committee** Meeting held on:

4.1 Monday 02 February 2026

The Community Projects Officer asked if there was any update on the Town Map Shop Window project and Youth Council work on the Dog Fouling Campaign. Councillor Gostlow stated the Map project was ongoing but to ensure the image is of a high standard some rescanning work was needed. The Youth Council are currently extremely busy with their Colour Run project but hope to start work soon.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Projects, Community and Environment committee meeting held on Monday 02 February 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

26/031 ITEM 5 – Reports/Information from the Clerk

5.1 To note the Community Projects Officer and Town Development Manager will be attending a meeting, held by the Knaresborough Lions Club, looking at the future of the Bed Race. Details to be reported back to a future meeting.

RESOLVED: To note the above.

5.2 To note that the completed form has been submitted as Knaresborough's UK Town of Culture 2028 Competition Expression of Interest and formally thank all members of the community involved in the process.

RESOLVED: To note the above and thank those involved in the work undertaken to get to this stage.

5.3 To note that there is a potential opportunity for the Community Projects Officer to undertake IOSH/NEBOSH training, funded through Eventure (via the Mayoral High Street Fund). This would be a 4–5-day course so Council need to consider staff resource if it wishes to take up the opportunity.

RESOLVED: To note the above and await more details.

26/032 ITEM 6 - Correspondence

6.1 To consider the request, and motion from Cllr Westmancoat (Seconded by Cllr Pickard), to support the addition of an accessible public toilet facility at The Kiosk, Conyngham Hall by consulting with North Yorkshire Council on the proposed changes required to make this possible.

RESOLVED: That KTC support this proposal and ask Knaresborough's 2 North Yorkshire Councillors to request a site visit with NYC Officers to start a conversation as to how this might be achieved.

6.2 To consider the request from a local charity shop to make use of a Market Place Phone Box as a free book resource, the shop in question is happy to provide a named person who will be responsible for keeping the phone box tidy.

RESOLVED: That KTC support this idea but ask that the library is consulted and that Children's books are particularly highlighted.

Councillor Gostlow asked that the phone box on the right as you face them is reserved for a Knaresborough in Bloom project as this is the box that gets most light for planting, this was noted.

26/033 ITEM 7 - Reports from Full Council, Sub-Committees and Working Groups

7.1 To receive a verbal update from Councillor Gostlow re: 'Cycling UK's' 150th Anniversary and a potential celebration event in 2028.

Councillor Gostlow informed members this potential event was discussed at a recent North Yorkshire ACC meeting and was being brought to both Harrogate Town Council and Knaresborough Town Council at a future date.

7.2 To receive a verbal update from Councillor Gostlow re: Knaresborough in Bloom

RESOLVED: That KTC support Councillor Gostlow and will look to co-ordinate arrangements with the Cherry Blossom project.

7.3 To consider calling an informal meeting (during the summer period) with the Knaresborough Branch of the RBL to discuss to the organisation of the Remembrance Parade and Council's current requirements to fulfil event safety obligations.

RESOLVED: That KTC call an informal meeting during the summer to discuss this year's parade and future event organisation.

7.4 To receive verbal updates from any or all the following:

- (i) Castle Area Sub-committee

Councillor Batt suggested that arrangements for 2030 should be similar to the format used for the 2010 commemoration of the 800th Anniversary of the giving of the first Maundy Money.

- (ii) Climate Change Emergency Sub-committee

Councillors Oakes and Bell updated the group on the various projects, including the Solar Panel/EV Charger and Spring Clean event.

- (iii) Market Working Group

Next meeting with NYC to take place online on Tuesday 21 April.

- (iv) Commuted Sums Working Group

The consultation on King George V field is to go live for a 6-week period for the next couple of months. NYC are running the consultation with support from KTC.

- (v) Stage Working Group

There is still work to be done regarding hire agreements and equipment storage and this is ongoing.

(vi) Town Ranger

Excellent feedback being received and the Town Ranger continues to be extremely busy throughout the town.

(vii) Community Resilience Plan

Councillor Pickard to look at mapping with the Community Projects Officer.

(viii) Mayoral High Street Fund

Ongoing through Eventure, now looking at capturing footfall and how the group might evolve once this funding has been spent.

(ix) Boundary Signage

The design is being tweaked with the understanding that it must meet highways regulations.

7.5 To consider a recommendation to Full Council regarding Sub-Committees and Working Groups for 2026/27

Councillors went through the list and

RESOLVED: That the current list of committees and sub-committees reporting to the Projects, Community and Environment Committee should remain the same (see appendix 1) and this recommendation will go to Full Council.

Clerk to circulate the list to all members of Council to allow all councillors the opportunity to join a group should they wish to do so.

26/034 ITEM 8 - Information Exchange

- Councillor Pickard mentioned the Knaresborough Connectors Community Festival being held on Saturday 25 April and Councillor Walker asked all members to let him know when they would be available on the day.
- Councillor Oakes stated that the Knaresborough Civic Society's event at Knaresborough House was very well attended and it was hoped more information about the event and its findings would be circulated.

Meeting closed 8:46 p.m.

**Signed by the Chair
Councillor: J Pickard**

Appendix 1

Sub Committee Meetings set by Chair	Reporting to:	Current Members	Proposed Membership 2026/2027
Castle Area	PCE	Margy Longhurst Shan Oakes Helen Westmancoat John Batt David Goode Matt Walker	Margy Longhurst Shan Oakes Helen Westmancoat John Batt David Goode Matt Walker
Climate Change Emergency	PCE	Andy Bell Hannah Gostlow Kit Lacey Shan Oakes Mark Flood	Andy Bell Hannah Gostlow Kit Lacey Shan Oakes Mark Flood
Bright Friday	PCE	Hannah Gostlow Kit Lacey James Pickard Mark Flood	Hannah Gostlow Kit Lacey James Pickard Mark Flood

Working Groups Meetings set by Chair	Reporting to:	Current Members	Proposed Membership 2026/2027
Commuted Sums	PCE	Andy Bell Hannah Gostlow James Pickard David Goode	Andy Bell Hannah Gostlow James Pickard David Goode
Castle 900	PCE	Helen Westmancoat Shan Oakes John Batt	Helen Westmancoat Shan Oakes John Batt
Stage	PCE	Kit Lacey James Pickard Mark Flood	Kit Lacey James Pickard Mark Flood
Boundary Signs	PCE	Andy Bell Hannah Gostlow	Andy Bell Hannah Gostlow