

KNARESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL (KTC)

A Pulman
Clerk of the Council

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10 March 2026

To: **The Town Mayor and Members of Knaresborough Town Council**

Dear Councillors:

I hereby summon you to the ordinary meeting of **KNARESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL** to be held in the **Chamber, Knaresborough House** on:

Monday 16 March 2026

7:00pm

Please see the Agenda for the meeting below:

Yours faithfully

A Pulman

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Clerk of the Council

Any queries regarding this agenda should be addressed to the Clerk at
clerk@knaresboroughtowncouncil.gov.uk

COUNCIL AGENDA – Monday 16 March 2026

Two minutes silence to remember Peter Guest (Councillor and Mayor of Knaresborough in 2006 and 2007)

1. To receive Apologies and consider approval of the reasons for inability to attend the meeting.

2. To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest (not previously declared) on any matters of business and to consider any written requests for **dispensation**.

3. KTC Public Speaking Session

Any member of the public who wishes to speak about an item on this agenda, or any topic they wish to bring to council's attention, does not need to give notice but priority will be given to those who have given prior notice to the Clerk – *please see contact details on the front of this agenda*.

3a North Yorkshire Councillors to give verbal updating report on unitary authority matters.

4. To consider and, if thought fit, **approve** as a correct record, **the Minutes** of the **Council Meetings** held on:

4.1 Monday 15 December 2025 (ca)

5. Reports/Information from the Clerk.

5.1 To note the Mayor Elect for the civic year 2026/2027 (points chart attached).

5.2 That Knaresborough Town Council considers making a commitment to take over responsibility for the Wednesday Charter Market and further sets out a proposed time frame for this to take place, given the final outstanding matters currently being investigated by North Yorkshire Council. *(Presentation to be given by Market Working Group reps)*.

Note: *That in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted re **ITEM 5.2** pertaining to commercially sensitive information, the item be dealt with in private session and, subject to the provisions of Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as amended), the meeting be not open to members of the public.*

6. Correspondence

6.1 To consider the invitation to the next Community Festival and **decide** if KTC want to participate this year? If yes, in what way and for what purpose? (To note: the Town Guides have indicated they would like to attend in their own capacity) *(ca)*

6.2 To consider the request for Town Council support for the Town Crier competition in 2026 and the proposal to bring the Loyal Company of Town Criers British Championship to the Town in 2030 (ca)

6.3 To consider working with Network Rail to handle communications around a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order on Frogmire Lane Level Crossing due to the high risk that it poses to the public.

7. Reports from Committees and Working Groups

7.1 To receive and note the minutes of the KTC Planning Committee meetings held on 01 December, 12 January, 02 February and 02 March 2026 (draft). (*Please see website for details*).

7.2 To receive and note the minutes of the Projects, Community and Environment Committee meeting held on 02 February 2026 (draft) (ca)

7.3 To receive and note the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held on 19 January 2026 (draft) (ca)

7.4 To receive and note the minutes of the Staffing Committee meetings held on 12 January 2026 and 09 February (draft) (ca)

7.5 To receive and note the minutes of the Knaresborough Police and Community Liaison Meeting held on Wednesday 25 February 2026 (draft) (ca)

7.6 To receive and note the Tour Guides monthly records for January and February 2026 (ca)

8. Motions from Members

8.1 Councillor Hannah Gostlow (2nd Cllr Walker)

"Councillors Hannah Gostlow and Matt Walker note concerns raised by councillors and residents regarding vehicle speeds on a number of roads across Knaresborough, including Market Flat Lane, Scriven Road, Boroughbridge Road, York Road, High Street, Kirkgate, Hilton Lane, Chapel Street, the A59 between Bond End and Mother Shipton's, Ripley Road, Blands Hill, Eastfield, Blind Lane, Abbey Road, Waterside and many others.

Recognising the extent of these concerns, they believe that a piecemeal approach would be insufficient.

Therefore, Cllr Gostlow and Cllr Walker propose the following motion:

That Knaresborough Town Council resolves to request that North Yorkshire Council undertake a comprehensive review of speed limits across Knaresborough, with particular consideration given to:

- ***Roads serving new housing developments***
- ***Routes near schools and areas of high pedestrian activity***
- ***Residential streets currently subject to 30mph limits***
- ***Known traffic corridors where community concerns have been raised***

The review should assess where reduced speed limits, traffic calming measures, or 20mph zones may be appropriate in order to improve safety for residents, pedestrians and cyclists, and promote sustainable transport choices.”

8.2 Councillor Hannah Gostlow (2nd Cllr Walker)

“I propose that Knaresborough Town Council supports Councillors Hannah Gostlow and Matt Walker, in their capacity as an elected members of both North Yorkshire Council and Knaresborough Town Council, to pursue the installation of a bus shelter at the York Road bus stop.

This stop serves residents living in the surrounding community as well as those accessing the nearby supermarket and other local amenities. The provision of a shelter would improve accessibility, comfort, and safety for passengers and help encourage greater use of public transport as a sustainable travel option within our community. In line with the Council’s Biodiversity Policy, I also propose that the shelter incorporate a green roof where feasible, contributing positively to local biodiversity while aligning with the Council’s environmental commitments.

I further note that Knaresborough Town Council currently holds approximately £1,415 in Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding which could be allocated, either in whole or in part, toward the development of this small but meaningful piece of local infrastructure.

MOTION:

That the Council resolves to support the principle of installing a bus shelter at the York Road bus stop, endorse the inclusion of a green roof where practicable, and support Cllr. Gostlow and Cllr. Walker, in engaging with the relevant officers and partners at North Yorkshire Council to explore the feasibility, permissions, and potential use of available CIL funding toward its delivery.”

9. Information Exchange

Note: Members of the public and press are invited to attend the meeting as observers. Only Town Councillors are entitled to vote. A list of Councillors is available on the website or notice board at Knaresborough House. Agenda papers may be viewed on the website or purchased at the Town Clerk’s office.

A copy of the agenda in larger print is available on request.

Following the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014 the right to record, film and to broadcast meetings of the Council, Committees and Sub Committees is established but anyone wishing to do so should advise the Clerk or Chair of the Council to ensure compliance with KTC's adopted policy to effectively and lawfully manage this activity.

Emergency Procedures for Meetings – Fire

Details on fire evacuation procedures are displayed in the Council Chamber. Members and visitors are to familiarise themselves with these and the location of fire exits, in the building.

- Councillors Walker and Gostlow are meeting with Yorkshire Disability Action to look at access issues in Knaresborough with a view to presenting priorities to North Yorkshire Council (NYC).
- NYC is progressing with harmonising swimming pools and leisure centres throughout the county, but there is unlikely to be any significant change in Knaresborough, although parking at the facility is to be considered. Councillor Walker will keep members updated on progress.

Councillor Westmancoat arrived at this point - 7.30 p.m.

- A strategy to raise housing standards has been signed off which, when complete, will ultimately lead to an increase in the number of houses available to let.
- Baby changing facilities have been installed at some of the public toilets in the town.
- Both Councillors Walker and Gostlow are continuing to work on lots of case work covering a variety of topics including:
 - . Anti social behaviour
 - . Flooding of Bar Lane round-about
 - . Parking enforcement
 - . Flooding on Boroughbridge Road towards Bond End
 - . Flooding at York Place car park
 - . Standing water at Eastfield
 - . Street cleaning/leaf removal required around the Stockwell area
 - . Overweight lorries using Ripley Road
- Councillor Gostlow referred to a problem with the electrical supply in the market place resulting in several lights not working. The problem is also affecting KTC's Christmas lights in Butter Lane. NYC are looking into this and an alternative power source has been requested.

25/259 ITEM 4 - To consider and, if thought fit, approve as a correct record, the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on:

4.1 Monday 17 November 2025

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 17 November 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

25/260 ITEM 5 - Business Remaining

None for this meeting.

25/261 ITEM 6 – Reports/Information from the Clerk –

None for this meeting

25/262 – ITEM 7 – Correspondence

7.1 To consider how Town Council may wish to engage with Knaresborough and District's Community Wealth Building Project (following presentation given on 17 November 2025)

See 25/258 above

7.2 To consider Town Council's response to the information presented by representatives from Network Rail in relation to the risks at the Frogmire Lane level crossing.

Members discussed and:

RESOLVED: To write to Network Rail giving support in principle for whatever action they feel is necessary to make that area safe but would request that they consider providing us with up to date data regarding use of the crossing, particularly in light of new housing development in the area.

FURTHER RESOLVED: That KTC writes to NYC requesting that they make good and then maintain the stretch of the pathway by the railway line which belongs to them and also urging them to work closely with Network Rail on this matter.

7.3 To consider a motion put forward by Councillor H Westmancoat on behalf of the Town Guides regarding a film location tour.

RESOLVED: That KTC agrees to support the move for the Mayor of Knaresborough's Town Guides to create a new film and TV programme tour of Knaresborough, to encourage visitors to come to the town and benefit local businesses.

7.4 To consider the email from Councillor Gostlow re a winter gritting partnership

RESOLVED: To register KTC's interest in participating in a winter gritting partnership and also requesting information regarding how many community grit bins are currently in Knaresborough and who has responsibility for them.

25/263 - ITEM 8 - Reports from Committees and Working Groups

8.1 To Receive a verbal update from the Market Working Group.

Councillors Pickard and Gostlow gave a brief update to members following an online meeting which had been held with NYC Officers last week. KTC is still awaiting further information from NYC, and Councillors Pickard and Gostlow will keep KTC members informed as discussions continue to progress.

8.2 To Receive and note the Knaresborough Town Guides Monthly record for November

RESOLVED: To Receive and Note the Knaresborough Guides monthly record for November.

25/264 ITEM 9 – INFORMATION EXCHANGE

- Led by Councillor Matt Walker, Councillors thanked the staff for all their hard work this last year and wished everyone a very Happy Christmas.

Meeting closed at: 8.25 p.m.

Signed by the Deputy Mayor:

Councillor A Bell

MAYORAL POINTS January 2026

	Liberal Democrats	Conservatives	Green	Labour	Total Points
Revised points at 01 January 2024 (without Independent R Aspin)	55	-11	-42	124	126
Deduct 120 points for having the right to nominate the Mayor 2024/2025 (M Longhurst – Lib Dems)	-120				
Sub Total	-65	-11	-42	124	
01 January 2025 allocate 10 points per serving councillor	+80	+20	+20		
Total points at 01 January 2025	15	09	-22	124	126
Deduct 120 points for having the right to nominate the Mayor 2024/26 (H Westmancoat – Lib Dems)	-120				
Sub Total	-105	09	-22	124	126
01 January 2026 allocate 10 points per serving councillor	+80	+20	+20		
Total points at 01 January 2026	-25	29	-2	124	126

Points system adds 10 points for each Councillor on 01 January each year (except in election year when points are added post election) 120 points are deducted each year for having had the right to nominate a Mayor. The Party with the most points is able to nominate a Mayor.



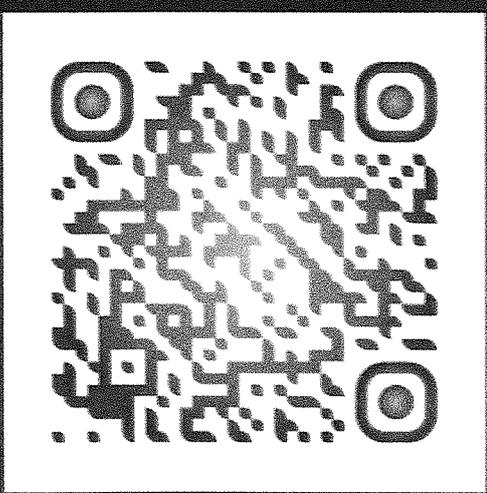
**SATURDAY
25TH
APRIL**

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

**Join us at the Henshaws and
showcase what you do!**

Sign up your community group for
a fun-filled day of activities,
connections, local pride, and great
opportunities to meet new people.

**Community Groups
scan here to sign up**



From: Mark Hunter  Knaresborough Town Council
Sent: 04 March 2026 14:02 Knaresborough House
To: Knaresborough Clerk High Street
Knaresborough North Yorkshire
HG5 0HW
Subject: USE OF KNARESBOROUGH HOUSE

Dear Angela,

I hope this finds you well.

I am writing to formally request the use of Knaresborough House as a base for the Knaresborough FEVA Town Criers Competition on Sunday 16th August 2026. This request is on behalf of the FEVA Committee, who will also be contacting you to confirm this and follows a recent meeting between Rowena Lloyd and the Knaresborough Town Criers, where it was agreed that Knaresborough House would be the ideal venue for the Town Criers to assemble and enjoy a buffet lunch before parading up the high street to the Market Square for the competition. Knaresborough House would also be the ideal venue for the competition itself should the weather prove particularly inclement on the day.

The competition timetable we are proposing as follows:

1230 Town Criers Assemble at Knaresborough House
1240 Lunch at Knaresborough House provided by Community Stars
1300 Competition draw at Knaresborough House to be organised by the Town Criers
1330 Parade up the High Street to the Market Cross
1400 Competition begins

Access to Knaresborough House would be required from late Sunday morning until approximately 5pm. As usual, it is envisaged that the Mayor of Knaresborough will be on the judging panel if they are available and willing to participate. As you may recall, I am hoping to bring the Loyal Company of Town Criers British Championship to Knaresborough in 2030 as part of the celebrations to mark the 900th anniversary of Knaresborough Castle. To achieve this it will be necessary to demonstrate that we have access to appropriate facilities and the backing of the Town Council to support my bid for this prestigious event. We have already significantly raised the profile of Knaresborough within the world of Town Criers and the FEVA competition this year will include criers from further afield than ever before.

I hope the foregoing is sufficient to take my request further, but please let me know if you require any additional information or clarification.

Thank you, as ever, for all your help.

Kind regards,

Mark

Mark Hunter
Knaresborough Town Crier 

KNARESBOROUGH TOWN TOUR GUIDES – MONTHLY RECORD FOR 2026

<u>DATE/MONTH</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DETAILS & Nos.</u>
<u>JAN 2026</u>		
JAN. 3	Helen Sanderson & Margy Longhurst	Sat. tour- 9
JAN. 7	Alex Bird & Jill Cutter	Wed. Tour- 9
JAN.10	Gerry Fitzmaurice & Andy Grinter	Sat. tour- 1
JAN. 14	Anne Richards & Alison Sykes	Wed. Tour- 7
JAN.17	Anne Richards & Margy Longhurst	Sat. Tour- 4
JAN. 21	Neil Muffitt & Gerry Fitzmaurice	Wed. Tour- 19
JAN. 24	Gerry Fitzmaurice & Margy Longhurst	Sat. Tour- 11
JAN. 28	Alex Bird & Gerry Fitzmaurice	Wed. Tour- 8
JAN. 31	Beverly Filippi & Alison Sykes	Sat. Tour- 13
TOTAL number		81 plus 3 dogs!

Details of each individual No. of weekday tours:

ML	3	AB	2	GF	4	AS	2
HS	1	NM	1	AR	2		
JC	1	BF	1	AG	1		

The availability of each guide varied due to holidays, health issues and other commitments, but everyone happy to stand in and provide cover as needed.

The provision of the walks has been a successful offer over the month, and the numbers attending, whilst varying due to the weather, has proved to be a welcome and well supported activity. Again, we have welcomed both residents and visitors to the town including some from America, Ireland, China and the Phillipines. The showing of the film “Tinsel Town” on 5th December provided a showcase for the locations filmed in Knaresborough and we have received feedback from some visitors that this was their motivation in coming to Knaresborough.

TRIP ADVISOR- Reviews have been received and all feature favourable comments e.g.

“Worth the time- Fabulous tour”

“Best introduction to Knaresborough. Made the town’s history come to life”.

“Excellent walking tour- guides knowledgable and very friendly”

“Get to know Knaresborough with these great tours- really impressed with the great presenters- Neil & Gerry were excellent storytellers. This is a MUST DO”

On the 31st of January walk, 5 people attended having read the Trip Advisor entries.

Facebook entries included:

“Fabulous tour with Beverley and Alison. Very knowledgeable guides. Highly recommend”.

Other comments received on the tour provided by Alex & Jill included one from an **American gentleman “You girls sure know your facts!”**

The Christmas Tree Festival entry also proved a successful initiative, and a large number of publicity fliers were distributed to visitors, hopefully generating future attendances on the weekly walks.

Other Activities.

- a) **CPD event-** A viewing of the Knaresborough 2000 Pageant video was enjoyed by 7 of the guides and thanks are extended to Jill for holding the event for us.
- b) **Future CPD events-** Visit to Ampleforth Abbey is being planned for February, and several guides will be joining the Yorkshire Blue Badge Guides for this event. Thanks to Margy for organising this visit and for extending an invitation to the White Badge Guides to join this event.
Several guides also attended the talk on **Knaresborough Pubs and Inns on 27th January organised by the Library Service**
- c) **Media and Film tour-** We were delighted to hear the application to the Town Council for this tour was successful, and Andy & Alex have commenced on the first draft of the content. which has been shared with colleagues. A small working group will progress this over the next few months.
- d) **Tour Guide January Team meeting-** a productive team meeting was organised by Margy and Hannah, and this provided an opportunity to reflect on a successful and enjoyable first year as Tour Guides, and for highlighting the programme of consolidation of the tours, together with new plans and opportunities for 2026 e.g. coach tours. Individual volunteer meetings have also been held with Margy as Volunteer Co-ordinator.
- e) Engagement with the proposed protocols linked to the coach tours was shared, and additional comments were feedback for consideration and incorporation in the final documentation.
- f) Article on **Blind Jack featured in the Knaresborough Post** following earlier preparatory work **carried out by Andy Grinter** which also assists in raising the profile of the town and its rich history.

KNARESBOROUGH TOWN TOUR GUIDES – MONTHLY RECORD FOR 2026

<u>DATE/MONTH</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DETAILS & Nos.</u>
<u>FEB. 2026</u>		
FEB. 4th	Alison Sykes & Beverley Filippi	Wed. tour- 20
FEB. 7th	Alex Bird	Sat. Tour - 8
FEB. 11th	Anne Richards & Gerry Fitzmaurice	Wed. tour- 4
FEB. 14th dog	Beverley Filippi & Anne Richards	Sat. Tour- 7 + 1
FEB. 18th	Neil Muffitt & Beverley Filippi	Wed. Tour- 4
FEB. 21st	Anne Richards & Alison Sykes	Sat. Tour- 2
FEB. 25th	Alison Sykes & Jill Cutter	Wed. Tour- 12
FEB. 28	Helen Sanderson & Neil Muffitt	Sat. Tour- 6
TOTAL number		63 plus 1 dog!

Details of each individual No. of weekday tours:

ML	0	AB	1	GF	1	AS	3
HS	1	NM	2	AR	3		
JC	1	BF	3	AG	0		

The availability of each guide varied due to holidays, health issues and other commitments, but everyone happy to stand in and provide cover as needed.

Once again it proved that there is demand for the Tours even in wet and cold months, and the numbers attending were positive. We have welcomed both residents and visitors to the town including one from Hawaii, and 1 American lady who has been at last 3 times! A group of 4 on the last Saturday had turned up specifically because there was a walking tour, and enjoyed challenging our guide Neil on facts, they had gleaned from other tours they had been on! A group of 18 from the Harrogate NHS Retired Staff Walking group also thoroughly enjoyed their tour with Alison and Beverley.

TRIP ADVISOR- 2 more Reviews have been received and all feature favourable comments e.g.

“The walk was excellent and we all enjoyed it. The leaders paced it well and made it interesting and informative. An hour worth spending.”

“WOW what a beautiful town. Our guide Beverley was fantastic, and we now know more about Knaresborough and its people”.

“Everyone commented on how good the tour was”.

Other Activities.

- a) **CPD event-** 5 Guides attended the event organised by Margy at Ampleforth Abbey, and subsequently shared the experience and information, with colleagues. One guide also attended an English Heritage talk and tour at Scarborough Castle on Edward 11 and Piers Gaviston and will be sharing this later.
- b) **Media and Film tour-** A small working group of the guides met to discuss the draft ideas, and together with all the guides, will be progressing this over the next few months.
- c) **Tour Guide February Social meeting-** an informal team meeting was held which enabled colleagues to meet up and discuss opportunities for the next few months.
- d) There has been individual engagement with the proposed **Town of Culture** bid by 2 guides partly in that role, but also as local residents with a wider cultural input.
- e) Donations of £20 and £11.60 have been received and have been passed on for the Mayor’s Charities.

ab/ktgreport- FEB. 2026