

PRESENT:	Chair:	The Deputy Mayor – Councillor Andy Bell	
	Councillors:	K Davies, D Goode, M Flood, H Gostlow, K Lacey, S Oakes, M Walker and J Pickard	
	Staff Present:	The Clerk and the Deputy Clerk	
	Absent:	Councillor J Batt	
	Also Present:	The Chair of Scriven Parish Council	
	Late Arrivals:	K Lacey 7.55 p.m.	Early Departures:

- There has been a re-shuffle in the Executive Committee at North Yorkshire Council with Councillors Mark Taylor and Richard Foster taking up new appointments.
- North Yorkshire Council's Strategic Planning Committee has recommended approval for an asphalt plant at Allerton Waste Recovery Park.

Councillor Walker:

- Reference was made to the Harrogate Outer Policing Team which has reported that anti-social behaviour is down in Knaresborough.
- NYC does not currently have a Local Plan with which to guide future development and conservation in the area; this will make it more difficult to refuse planning applications in the area.
- Missed waste collections are still being experienced by some residents following the re-organisation. If any Members know of any missed collections, please inform Councillor Walker.
- Mention was made of the important part that Highways had played in the success of the Bed Race on Saturday 14th and Councillor Walker expressed his thanks.

25/230 ITEM 4 - To consider and, if thought fit, approve as a correct record, the Minutes of the Council Meetings held on:

4.1 Monday 12 May 2025

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 12th May 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4.2 Monday 19 May 2025 (extraordinary)

This item was deferred until the end of the meeting.

4.3 Thursday 22 May 2025 (Annual Meeting of the Town Council)

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 22 May 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

25/231 ITEM 5 - Business Remaining

None for this meeting.

25/232 ITEM 6 – Reports/Information from the Clerk

6.1 To approve the finance figures for March 2025 **and note** the checks by the nominated councillor against the bank statement are up to date

RESOLVED: To approve the finance figures for March 2025 and note the checks by the nominated councillor against the bank statement are up to date.

6.2 To approve the amended Asset Register

RESOLVED: To approve the amended Asset Register

6.3 To consider the detailed Year End Internal Audit Report and its recommendations numbered 1 to 6

RESOLVED: To accept the Year End Internal Audit Report and its recommendations numbered 1 to 6.

6.4 To consider the **Annual Internal Audit Report 2024/25**

RESOLVED: To receive and note the Annual Internal Audit Report 2025/25

6.5 To complete the **Annual Governance Statement 2024/25** points 1 – 9

RESOLVED: To agree 'yes' in response to the statements detailed in points 1 to 9 on the Annual Governance Statement

6.6 To consider the **Accounting Statements 2024/25**

RESOLVED: To approve the Accounting Statements 2024/25

6.7 To consider re-appointing Internal Audit Yorkshire for the financial year ending 31 March 2026.

RESOLVED: To re-appoint Internal Audit Yorkshire for the financial year ending 31 March 2026.

The Deputy Mayor moved to take – **ITEM 7 – Correspondence - 7.1 To consider a response** to an email received from a resident regarding the Supreme Court judgment ruling made on the 16 April 2025 relating to the interpretation of the protected characteristic of sex in the Equality Act 2010

It was noted that Knaresborough Town Council's (KTC) policies are written in line with legal policy, principally from the National Association of Local Councils/ Yorkshire Local Council Association. KTC is committed to the Equality Act and is committed to ensuring that all its practices and policies are legally compliant.

RESOLVED: To respond to the resident stating that KTC fully complies with the law when developing new policies and procedures and when reviewing its existing policies and procedures.

6.8 To review and adopt the following policies:

- i) Sexual and General Harassment Policy and Procedure (for employment)

RESOLVED: That with one minor amendment in 18.1 adding the wording 'or not', to adopt the Sexual and General Harassment Policy and Procedure (for employment)

It was noted that it is now mandatory for all Members to complete the appropriate training related to Sexual and General Harassment or be prepared to sign to say that they understand and will comply with the Policy.

ii) Dignity at Work Policy

RESOLVED: To adopt the Dignity at Work Policy

Councillor Lacey arrived 7.55 p.m.

25/233 – ITEM 7 – Correspondence

7.1 To consider a response to an email received from a resident regarding the Supreme Court judgment ruling made on the 16 April 2025 relating to the interpretation of the protected characteristic of sex in the Equality Act 2010

See 25/232 above.

25/234 - ITEM 8 - Reports from Committees and Working Groups

8.1 To Receive and Note the Minutes of the KTC Planning Committee meetings held on 12 May (report format – meeting inquorate) and 02 June 2025 (see KTC website for details)

RESOLVED: To receive and note the minutes of the KTC Planning Committee meeting held on 12 May (report format) and 02 June 2025.

25/235 ITEM 9 - Motions from Council Members

9.1 Cllr Hannah Gostlow (as KTC representative from Community Centre Committee)

“That KTC sources appropriate signage for the Stockwell Community Centre car park indicating that the car park is for users of the centre only and that the speed limit is 5mph. once sourced, the Clerk is given delegated authority to purchase the signage and arrange for installation”.

RESOLVED: That KTC sources appropriate signage for the Stockwell Community Centre car park indicating that the car park is for users of the centre only and that the speed limit is 5mph. Once sourced, the Clerk is given delegated authority to purchase the signage and arrange for installation.

9.2 Cllr Shan Oakes

‘North Yorkshire Council has announced a ‘Call for sites’. The announcement states that:

“Sites can be put forward for any use or designation and this can include, but is not limited to, housing, employment and commercial development, retail and leisure,

renewable energy generation and biodiversity or other environmental enhancement schemes.”

The consultation will run **until midnight on Tuesday 15 July 2025**

National discussions around planned legislation suggest that the environmental protections in existing policies may be overridden. For example, land has been acquired by a housing developer within the greenbelt, presumably in the expectation that restrictions to housing may soon be removed.

In previous years, KTC has committed time and expenditure making clear its views in the Neighbourhood Plan. Therefore, the Council should consider responding to the call for sites by reaffirming the relevant sites in the Neighbourhood Development Plan for protection from environmental damage’

Councillor Oakes spoke in favour of her Motion. Members discussed and it was

RESOLVED: To defer this item to the Planning Committee meeting on 30th June.

The Deputy Mayor moved to take **25/230 ITEM 4 - To consider** and, if thought fit, **approve** as a correct record, **the Minutes** of the **Council Meeting** held on:

4.2 Monday 19 May 2025 (extraordinary)

RESOLVED: That in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted re **ITEM 4.2** 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.

RESOLVED: That KTC does not proceed with the public consultation as detailed in the Minutes of 19 May.

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Monday 19 May, 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Out of confidential session.

25/236 ITEM 10 - Information Exchange

- Councillor Pickard referred to the new Town Ranger and the excellent work that he is doing throughout the town. He asked members to notify the office of any tasks which they might come across which would likely fall under the Ranger remit.
- Councillor Pickard informed members that he had been approached by All Britain Fleadh Folk Festival (festival of traditional Irish music and culture) with a view to Knaresborough hosting the event in 2028.
- Councillor Walker mentioned complaints against a licensed establishment in the town and noted that there is to be an inspection by the police and the

North Yorkshire Licensing Team.

- Councillor Flood referred to the abundance of temporary traffic lights around the town and NYC Councillor Walker confirmed that the Area Committee of NYC will be investigating.
- Councillor Oakes spoke about the poor condition of pavements throughout the town and NYC Councillor Hannah Gostlow asked for a more specific break down and she would investigate.

Meeting closed at: 8.30 p.m.

Signed by the Deputy Mayor:

Councillor A Bell