

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KNARESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL'S
PROJECTS, COMMUNITY and ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HELD AT KNARESBOROUGH HOUSE
on Monday 06 July 2026**

PRESENT: **Chair:** Councillor Pickard

Councillors: A Bell, M Flood, H Gostlow, K Lacey, S Oakes,
and H Westmancoat

Staff Present: The Clerk and the Community Projects Officer

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

26/035 ITEM 1 – To elect a Chair (and Vice-chair if required) for the Civic Year 2026-27.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Pickard be elected as Chair for the Civic Year 2026/27 and that Councillor Lacey be elected as Vice-chair.

26/036 ITEM 2 - To receive Apologies and consider approval of the reasons for inability to attend the meeting.

RESOLVED: That apologies were received and reasons given approved for Councillors Batt and Walker.

26/037 ITEM 3 – To receive declarations of **disclosable pecuniary interests** (not previously declared) on any matters of business and to consider any written requests for **dispensation**

Councillor Westmancoat declared a non-pecuniary interest that she was a trustee for the Waugh Trust in relation to item 6.5.

26/038 ITEM 4 - KTC Public Speaking Session - none for this meeting.

26/039 ITEM 5 – To consider and, if thought fit, **approve** as a correct record, **the Minutes** of the **Projects, Community and Environment Committee** Meeting held on:

5.1 Monday 20 April 2026

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Projects, Community and Environment committee meeting held on Monday 20 April 2026 be approved, with a minor amendment, as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

26/040 ITEM 6 – Reports/Information from the Clerk

6.1 To consider, if Council deems it suitable, to adopt a policy/guidance for the use of brackets for flags and Christmas trees throughout the town. Whilst the brackets are not owned by Council, this might help local organisations co-ordinate their approach and remind them of health and safety requirements. It is also proposed that KTC co-ordinate a 'bracket audit' to log location, owner, condition and last physical safety check etc.

It was felt that an audit would be beneficial to the town and that a working group could be set up to look at this area in more detail.

RESOLVED: That the committee recognised the need for guidance in this area, but not a policy as KTC has no ownership over the infrastructure. It was recommended that all reference to compliance be removed to make the document advisory and establish a blueprint for the town to use.

6.2 To note that the Town Ranger has been asked to quote to make the planter/Hostile Vehicle Mitigation barriers for the town, funding would be through the Combined Authority Mayoral/Eventure Fund. Town Council events such as Remembrance and Bright Friday could benefit from this project.

RESOLVED: To note.

6.3 To note, following the last meeting, the Community Projects Officer will attend the Eventure funded IOSH training to be held from the 15th to the 17th September 2026.

RESOLVED: To note.

6.4 To note that Blachere will be on site on the 8 July to do a walk through prior to the infrastructure work and to discuss this year's lighting scheme.

RESOLVED: To note.

6.5 To consider the report from the Community Projects Officer regarding permission being sought to apply for funding for further printing of various town maps and the installation of interpretation boards.

The Community Projects Officer and Councillor Gostlow gave a summary of the proposed project and the thought behind the interpretation boards and the siting of such boards being agreed by NYC.

RESOLVED: That the Committee support the project and the submission of an application for funding.

6.6 To consider the updated agreement around the use of the phone box specifically around insurance requirements.

RESOLVED: That the Committee did not support that Council should be responsible for insuring the items put in the phone box or have liability for people using the items, although it did accept it was responsible for the phone boxes themselves.

The Committee asked for the phone box agreement to be deferred to a future meeting to look more closely at the use of the boxes and how this could be promoted to Community groups.

26/041 ITEM 7 - Correspondence

7.1 To consider a response to the 'Better Bus Services – What do Communities Need?' Survey conducted on behalf of the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Gostlow would complete the survey and circulate it to all Councillors, via email, to have their say before submitting.

7.2 To consider the email regarding the New Fund launched to Improve Access to Banking Across Rural Communities – York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority

RESOLVED: To receive and note.

26/042 ITEM 8 - Reports from Full Council, Sub-Committees and Working Groups

8.1 To receive the Town Guide monthly record for May and a report from Cllr Longhurst regarding Coach Friendly Status progress

RESOLVED: To receive and note

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

- (i) Castle Area Sub-committee – no update for this meeting
- (ii) Climate Change Emergency Sub-committee
 - Active North Yorkshire - Stockwell Efficiency rating improvement

The centre has now been reassessed to a Class B and recommendations have been made as to how this might be further improved.

A meter mix up has been resolved and KTC will now benefit from generating power for the grid.

- (iii) Market Working Group – dealt with in a previous full council meeting dated 06/07/2026
- (iv) Commuted Sums Working Group

NYC have collated all the consultations and are in the process of compiling a review which will be provided to KTC.

(v) Stage Working Group

Councillors Pickard, Lacey and Flood are working with the Town Development Manager to progress the hiring of the stage and equipment documentation.

(vi) Town Ranger

The Town Rangers work continues to be extensive and appreciated by members of the public. There is a better understanding within the community of the difference between the work the Town Ranger is doing, and the work NYC should be responsible for.

It was suggested that a post celebrating the Town Rangers work one year on was produced and circulated.

(vii) Boundary Signage

The Boundary signage designs are with NYC Highways and awaiting a response and next steps. It was suggested that Councillor Bell contact the NYC Corporate Director for Environment to ask why there is a delay.

(viii) Town of Culture Competition

The Community Projects Officer gave an update on the Town of Culture Competition and informed members of the postcard entry for the Town officially thanking a local photographer for stepping up to produce our entry and capture the vibrancy of our town within a very limited timeframe.

26/043 ITEM 8 - Information Exchange

- Councillor Oakes mentioned the success of the Green Futures Fair and the hope to build on this in future years.
- Councillor Gostlow gave Council detailed information about making the car park at the Stockwell Community Hub more user friendly with white lining. Initially this was just for the 2 EV charger spaces, but following discussion with the NYC contractor and the Clerk there is an opportunity to incorporate speed signage, clearer pedestrian routes and disabled bays. The centre manager has been fully briefed on plans.

Meeting closed 9:23 p.m.

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