



KIRKHAM

TOWN COUNCIL

The Community Centre
Mill Street
Kirkham
PR4 2AN
Tel: 01772 682755

Email: townclerk@kirkhamtowncouncil.gov.uk
www.kirkhamtowncouncil.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 11 MARCH 2025, 7.00 PM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, MILL STREET, KIRKHAM

ATTENDEES:

Chris Hopkinson	Chair and Mayor
Neil Byers	Cllr.
James Cameron	Cllr.
Diane Ireland	Cllr.
Stewart Jones	Cllr.
Maggie Ledger	Cllr.
Michelle Welch	Cllr.
Tony Wellings	Cllr.
Elizabeth Squires (Minutes)	Town Clerk and RFO

25/03/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To accept apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Shaun Patchett and Peter Sutcliffe.

25/03/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest in an Agenda item. Members are reminded that in accordance with Section 94 of the Local Government Act, 1972, and the Council's Standing Orders, any direct or pecuniary or other interest should be declared.

The Chair declared an interest in the reimbursement for a payment made for a fridge freezer.

25/03/03 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To accept as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 11 February 2025.

The minutes were proposed and seconded by Cllrs. who had attended and they voted to accept as a true record.

Voting: 8 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

25/03/04 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Matters brought to the Town Council by residents. The Chair may limit a member of the public to 3 minutes of speaking in order to ensure the smooth running of the meeting. Overall, this section will typically be limited to 20 minutes, although the Chair may, at their discretion, extend this.

There was one member of the public in attendance. Cllr. Welch had asked a member of the public to attend the meeting to discuss their concerns with the Cllrs., however they did not attend.

25/03/05 LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY – POLICING MATTERS

There was no update.

25/03/06 MATTERS ARISING

Matters arising from the previous meeting were addressed as part of the agenda, except for:

(i) Market Square Lighting

The lighting at Market Square to be changed from the Christmas theme.

ACTION: Cllr. Byers to re-set the lighting scheme at Market Square.

(ii) Use of William Segar Hodgson Field

Cllr. Welch has had a request to use William Segar Hodgson playing field. Further discussion is required at the LPAOS Committee and ratification of any decision to be brought to the next Town Council meeting.

25/03/07 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

(i) Events Attended

The Deputy Mayor has attended the Lancashire Preparedness Day.

(ii) Mayoralty 2025/26

The Chair asked the Cllrs. for expressions of interest for the roles of Mayor and Deputy Mayor for 2025/26.

Cllr. Jones expressed his interest in being the Mayor for 2025/26. This was proposed and seconded. Cllrs. voted on the proposal. Note Cllr. Jones did not vote.

Voting: 7 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

Cllr. Byers expressed his interest in being the Deputy Mayor for 2025/26. This was proposed and seconded. Cllrs. voted on the proposal. Note Cllr. Byers did not vote.

Voting: 7 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

Cllr. Hopkinson informed the Cllrs. that the 8 April 2025 Town Council meeting will be the last that he will chair and from May 2025 meetings will temporarily be held at Wesham Community Centre.

(iii) Mayor Making

Mayor Making will take place on Friday 25 April 2025 at 7pm.

ACTION: Cllrs. Jones and Byers to provide a list of invitees to the Town Clerk.

(iv) IT Assets and IT Support

Cllrs. to return assets that are not being used.

The Town Clerk presented a quote for the provision of IT support. Acceptance of this was proposed and seconded. Cllrs. voted on the proposal:

Voting: 8 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(v) Boiler, Community Centre

Additional problems have been encountered, the supplier remedied this within one hour of reporting.

(vi) Lighting Memorial Way

The Town Clerk presented a quote for the replacement of lighting in Memorial Park, this will reduce energy costs. Acceptance of this was proposed and seconded. Cllrs. voted on the proposal:

Voting: 8 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(vii) Black Box Security System

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that annual servicing of the security system at the Community Centre has identified a fault with the fire alarm panel. An order has been raised for this work.

(viii) Property World

The use of Property World for Facebook and the website updates is working well.

(ix) Twinning

The Town Clerk raised the pending visit to Bad Brückenau in May 2025 and support for the cost of travel. This was proposed and seconded. Cllrs. voted on the proposal:

Voting: 8 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(x) Kirkham Juniors FC

Covered under LPAOS below.

25/03/08 LPAOS

Cllr. Welch raised a request made to the council from Kirkham Juniors FC. The request was discussed. The proposal to decline the request was seconded. Cllrs. voted on the proposal to decline the request.

Voting: 8 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

ACTION: The Town Clerk to write to Kirkham Juniors FC in respect of the Town Council's decision.

Cllr. Welch talked through issues appertaining to In Bloom and the quote received for railings in Memorial Park. Cllr. Ledger queried the thresholds within Standing Orders for obtaining tenders. This to be referred to the Finance and Events Committee for further discussion and a proposal to the Town Council meeting.

A request has been raised for a refreshments van to be sited on the Market Square. This was discussed. Consideration was given to existing businesses and pending retail offerings.

ACTION: The Town Clerk to discuss this with Fylde Council.

Cllr. Byers raised the need for a decision to be made about the site for the beacon.

The Town Clerk informed the Cllrs. of additional detail relating to the Memorial Park railings.

25/03/09 PLANNING

Fylde Council planning details are added to the Kirkham Town Council meeting agenda. These continue to be forwarded to the Cllrs. when they are received by the Town Clerk.

(i) Applications

None.

(ii) Decisions

The decisions were noted.

25/03/10 FINANCES

(i) Ratification of the Payment of Invoices

Cllr. Byers presented the invoices paid during February 2025. The payment of invoices was ratified, proposed, and seconded. Cllrs. voted, with the exception of Cllr. Hopkinson who had declared an interest:

Voting: 7 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(ii) Presentation of Bank Balance(s) 6 March 2025

Cllrs. noted the bank balance(s) as at 6 March 2025. The next VAT Return is due after 31 March 2025.

25/03/11 BOOKINGS

General Update

The Town Clerk informed the Cllrs. that all but two hirers of William Segar Hodgson Pavilion had been successfully moved to the Community Centre; this is a temporary arrangement while the pavilion is being used for the banking hub.

25/03/12 STAFFING

Part 2.

25/03/13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8 April 2025 @ 7.00 pm.

PART 2 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS DISCUSSION (IN COMMITTEE) *The proposal is for:*

Exclusion of Press and Public Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and defined in Paragraph 1, Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. It is proposed that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the press and public are excluded from the forthcoming items of business.

Councillors are asked to agree this action and this will be minuted.

Councillors agreed exclusion of the members of the public (no attendees), and no press were present.

No issues discussed. A Staffing Committee meeting is scheduled.

Signed

Cllr. Hopkinson, Mayor and Chair

Elizabeth Squires, Town Clerk