



# KIRKHAM

## TOWN COUNCIL

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### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 13 JANUARY 2026, 7.00 PM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, KIRKHAM

#### ATTENDEES:

Adam Brierley	Councillor (Cllr.)
James Cameron	Cllr.
Diane Ireland	Cllr.
Maggie Ledger	Cllr. (Chair for this meeting)
Peter Sutcliffe	Cllr.
Tony Wellings	Cllr.
Elizabeth Squires (Minutes)	Town Clerk and RFO

#### 26/01/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

*To accept apologies for absence.*

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Byers, Hesketh, Hopkinson and Jones. Lancashire County Cllr. Josh Roberts has also given apologies.

#### 26/01/02 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.*

No declarations.

#### 26/01/03 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(i) *To accept as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 11 December 2025.*

The 11 December 2025 minutes were proposed and seconded. Members who had attended this meeting voted:

Voting: 5 for, 0 against, 1 abstention.

#### 26/01/04 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 were three members of public in attendance. No issues were raised.

**26/01/05 LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR (FYLDE EAST) AND CABINET MEMBER (RURAL AFFAIRS, ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITIES)**

**(i) Update**

An update provided by Cllr. Roberts and communicated by the Town Clerk was provided on Milbanke, pot holes and reimbursement for works undertaken in the Peoples' Park.

**26/01/06 MATTERS ARISING**

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

**(i) Boiler at the Community Centre**

The Town Clerk updated the members that a meeting is being arranged with the supplier of the boiler and reiterated that costs relating to the boiler repair would not have been incurred had the supplier arranged for examination of the boiler when installed. In essence this would have provided a 5-year warranty, lack of action by the supplier has resulted in a 2-year warranty.

**(ii) Milbank, Letter to Lancashire County Council**

Cllr. Brierley updated the members on Milbank. Social media will be used to communicate the ongoing petition against closure.

**(iii) Cycle Pathway**

The cycle pathway is progressing.

**(iv) Trees**

The work on trees is progressing.

**(v) 2026/27 Contract with Fylde Council**

The contract with Fylde Council was discussed.

**(vi) Twinning**

The 2026 visit will commence Friday 22 May 2026. The signage for renaming the park and refreshments to be organised.

Cllr. Wellings asked if the Town Council will support the Twinning event, to pay towards the cost of a coach. A £1,000 contribution to costs was proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

## **26/01/07 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **(i) Events Attended**

Deferred.

### **(ii) Holocaust Day**

The Mayor will attend, members were also invited.

### **(iii) 2026/27 Projects**

Members were asked if there were any projects that they considered needed to be included in the precept for 2026/27.

Cllr. Wellings asked that £10,000 be allocated to cover the cost should a by-election be called. Projects were discussed, including events expenditure, CCTV and LPAOS related areas.

The precept to be agreed at the 10 February 2026 meeting.

## **26/01/08 LEISURE PARKS AND OPEN SPACES**

### **(i) LPAOS Issues**

The Bowling Club lease has transferred to the Town Council. Problems with an electricity supply are being addressed by Fylde Council.

Tree maintenance is underway at St. George's Park and Wrangway Wood, following the tree survey. Additional work on ditches is also in progress. Routine maintenance is covered in the precept for 2026/27.

United Utilities are working in Wrangway Wood, installing the pipework. A grant has been awarded to the Town Council by United Utilities.

The lease on Peoples' Park is due for renewal, to be discussed at the next meeting.

### **(ii) In Bloom Update**

No update.

## **26/01/09 PLANNING**

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

### **(i) Applications**

Agenda reported applications were discussed. A further application was presented. The applications were proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

### **(ii) Decisions**

An additional decision was presented. The decisions were noted.

## **26/01/10 FINANCES**

### **(i) Ratification of the Payment of Invoices**

Cllr. Byers presented the invoices paid during December 2025. The payment of invoices was proposed, and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

### **(ii) Presentation of Bank Balance(s) 8 January 2026**

Members noted the bank balance(s) as at 8 January 2026. The Town Clerk informed the members that the third quarter VAT return had been completed. The Events account will be reduced as Kirkham Pride CIC now have their own bank account.

### **(iii) Members Expenses Policy**

The Town Clerk walked through the changes to the draft document so that this version can be ratified. The policy was proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 5 for, 0 against, 1 abstentions (Cllr. Wellings had not been able to view the policy so did not vote).

Cllr. Ledger asked that a register of gifts and hospitality be maintained, this to be included within the expenses policy. This was proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 1 abstentions.

## **26/01/11 EVENTS**

### **(i) Update**

Deferred until the next meeting.

## **26/01/12 BOOKINGS**

### **(i) Update**

The Town Clerk provided an update. Members discussed William Segar Hodgson post departure of the banking hub.

## **26/01/13 STAFFING**

Part 2 if discussed. Nothing to note.

## **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.*

**26/01/14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 10 February 2026 at 7.00pm, Kirkham Community Centre.

**Signed**

**Cllr. Jones, Mayor and Chair**

**Dated:**

**Elizabeth Squires, Town Clerk**