



KIRKHAM

TOWN COUNCIL

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

Email townclerk@kirkhamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Website www.kirkhamtowncouncil.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2025, 7.00 PM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, WESHAM

ATTENDEES:

Stewart Jones	Councillor (Cllr.) and Chair
Neil Byers	Cllr.
James Cameron	Cllr.
Chris Hopkinson	Cllr.
Diane Ireland	Cllr.
Peter Sutcliffe	Cllr.
Tony Wellings	Cllr.
Elizabeth Squires (Minutes)	Town Clerk and RFO
Kirsty Reader	Administration Support Officer

25/09/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To accept apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Maggie Ledger and Shaun Patchett.

25/09/02 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.

Cllr. Hopkinson declared an interest in item 25/09/2025 (iv) Shop Local. Cllr. Wellings declared an interest in item 25/09/08 (i) Bowling Club. Cllr. Hopkinson proposed that 25/09/08 (i) be moved to Part 2. This was approved.

25/09/03 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

(i) *To accept as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 10 June 2025.*

The 10 June 2025 minutes to be ratified at the 14 October 2025 meeting.

- (ii) *To accept as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting on 8 July 2025.*

The 8 July 2025 minutes were proposed and seconded. Members who had attended this meeting voted:

Voting: 3 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

25/09/04 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.

Lancashire County Members (LCC) Joshua Roberts and Cllr. Slater joined the meeting.

One resident raised issues around Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) and a lack of information presented by Fylde Council relating to HMOs. They went on to say how concerned they were about safety issues as they had been followed from the Bierhaus and they raised concerns about media postings highlighting photos being taken of young girls.

Cllr. Roberts asked if another LCC attendee Cllr. Slater could talk about the People's Park as he had another engagement. This was agreed.

An update was provided by Cllr. Slater in respect of LCC's stance on the People's Park, Town Council Cllrs. challenged this. A resident also asked questions relating to People's Park. Cllr. Slater left the meeting.

LCC Cllr. Roberts reported about HMO registration and raised concerns about the record keeping relating to applications. There are various reasons why Fylde Council do not have up to date records and they have no duty to keep records relating to HMOs.

A resident asked if Fylde Council attended the Town Council meetings. Another resident raised concerns about the money collected through domestic rates for policing and how was this being used in Kirkham and Wesham. Cllr. Hopkinson provided a response in respect of changes to policing within Kirkham.

25/09/05 LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR (FYLDE EAST) AND CABINET MEMBER (RURAL AFFAIRS, ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITIES)

- (i) Update

Cllr. Roberts reported that the Love Clean Streets app is being updated. A progress report was verbally presented confirming action to address issues such as potholes.

The Chair raised the need for the regular cleaning of gullies.

The three members of the public left the meeting.

An update on Local Government Reorganisation was provided.

Cllr. Roberts informed the meeting how he was going to allocate the Local Member Grant.

Cllr. Roberts left the meeting.

25/09/06 MATTERS ARISING

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

(i) Primary Care Network

Refer to 25/09/07 (i) below.

25/09/07 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

(i) Primary Care Network

The Primary Care Network drop in sessions at the Community Centre have been booked and a discussion about supporting them ensued. Members agreed that the room hire is provided without charge, as the sessions benefit residents. A proposal to provide the room hire without charge was proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 8 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(ii) Events Attended

The Chair has attended the Scouts Annual General Meeting and has also visited Home Start. He provided an update on these events.

(ii) Hire Charges

The cost of room hire to be discussed at the Finance and Events Committee.

(iii) Community Centre Door

An intruder at the Community Centre has damaged the main door. The door may need to be replaced. A quote for this work has been requested.

(iv) Shop Local

Cllr. Hopkinson had declared an interest in this item and would abstain from voting.

Members discussed the benefits of sponsoring the quarter 3 Shop Local scheme. Cllr. Sutcliffe agreed to sponsor quarter 4. This sponsorship for quarter 3 was proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 2 abstentions.

(v) Flag

To be discussed in Part 2.

(vi) Town Council Meetings

As the banking hub have extended their hire of William Segar Hodgson Pavillion there is an option of temporarily moving the Town Council meeting to a Thursday evening.

This was rejected on the basis that not all members can attend a Thursday. The December 2025 meeting will be moved to Thursday 11 December 2025.

(vii) **Members Expense Policy**

The Members Expense Policy to be discussed at the Finance and Events Committee.

(viii) **Social Media Statistics**

The Town Clerk reported that media statistics are improving, the Administration Support Officer is developing Instagram to attract younger people and is also working on developing the website.

25/09/08 LPAOS

(i) **Bowling Club**

To be discussed in Part 2.

(ii) **Tree Survey**

Two quotes have been obtained for a tree survey. Members voted on the preferred supplier:

Voting: 8 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

Fylde Council are also undertaking some work in the St. George's Park wooded area.

(iii) **Trees Wrangway Wood**

The Town Clerk has met with the Community Engagement Officer (Treescapes) from Lancashire County Council. A plan of action to deliver diversity within Wrangway Wood is being developed.

In respect of the United Utilities work on The Coppice six trees will be planted to recompense for those that will need to be removed to facilitate this essential work. A community grant will also be utilised.

The Town Clerk is working with Cllr. Ledger and Network Rail to address ash die back along the fence near the railway line.

(iv) **In Bloom**

Cllr. Hopkinson informed the meeting that the current Chair of In Bloom will change after January 2026.

25/09/09 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, two additional applications were presented. All of the applications were proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 8 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(ii) **Decisions**

The decisions were noted.

25/09/10 FINANCES

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

Cllr. Byers presented the invoices paid during July and August 2025. The payment of invoices were proposed, and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 8 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(ii) **Presentation of Bank Balance(s) 4 September 2025**

Members noted the bank balance(s) as at 4 September 2025. The second precept payment has been received.

25/09/11 EVENTS

The Soul of the Square event was well attended. Facebook is being used to poll residents for what type of event they would like to attend.

25/09/12 BOOKINGS

The Administrative Support Officer provided an update on bookings.

25/09/13 STAFFING

Deferred until the October meeting.

25/09/14 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14 October 2025 @ 7.00 pm, venue Wesham Community Centre.

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.

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

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

Signed

Cllr. Jones, Mayor and Chair

Elizabeth Squires, Town Clerk