



KIRKHAM

TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER 2025, 7.00 PM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, KIRKHAM

ATTENDEES:

Stewart Jones	Councillor (Cllr.) and Chair
Adam Brierley	Cllr.
Neil Byers	Cllr.
James Cameron	Cllr.
Julia Hesketh	Cllr.
Chris Hopkinson	Cllr.
Diane Ireland	Cllr.
Maggie Ledger	Cllr.
Tony Wellings	Cllr.
Joshua Roberts	Cllr. Lancashire County Council
Elizabeth Squires (Minutes)	Town Clerk and RFO

25/12/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To accept apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr. Peter Sutcliffe.

25/12/02 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 agenda item 25/12/06 and Cllr. Brierley declared an interest in agenda item 25/12/07.

25/12/03 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- (i) *To accept as a correct record the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 14 October 2025.*

The 14 October 2025 minutes were proposed and seconded. Members who had attended this meeting voted:

Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 3 abstentions.

25/12/04 MATTERS ARISING

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

(i) Community Centre Door

The replacement door for the Community Centre has been re-ordered due to supply issues.

25/12/05 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

(i) Events Attended

The Chair has attended a number of carol concerts at Kirkham Grammar School and has another event scheduled.

(ii) Milbank

Cllr. Roberts provided an update on the consultation.

Cllr. Hopkinson queried the questions asked within Lancashire County Council's consultation and considered them to be 'weighted'. Cllr. Brierley queried the number of responses to the consultation. Cllr. Roberts clarified. Cllr. Ledger asked how the consultation could be escalated to encourage a response. Cllr. Roberts outlined potential options for Milbanke.

Cllr. Hopkinson proposed that a letter be sent to Lancashire County Council, to be written on behalf of the council by Cllr. Brierley. This was seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 9 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(ii) NHS Health

The Town Clerk outlined an incentive for NHS Health Checks and asked if the provision of a room for the incentive could be provided. Members agreed that health incentives for residents should be supported. This was proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 9 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(iii) Boiler at the Community Centre

The Town Clerk outlined an offer from the supplier of the boiler in respect of compensation. A meeting to be held with the supplier to discuss the offer. This was proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 9 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(i) **MUGA Development**

Cllr. Hopkinson provided an update on the development of the MUGA.

(ii) **Cycle Pathway**

The proposed Cycle Pathway being developed by Lancashire County Council is progressing. Lighting was required to provide enhanced security.

ACTION: The Town Clerk to write to Lancashire County Council to clarify if lighting is included within the scheme.

(iii) **Tree Survey**

The tree survey has identified 7 'amber' rated trees. Quotes are being obtained. Members discussed potential costs and action to progress this work. If the cost excluding VAT was £6,000 or less that an order be placed. This was proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 9 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(iv) **Trees – Additional Work**

Work in the wood in Berkley Drive was discussed. Tree maintenance

(v) **Trees – 2026/27 Contract**

The Chair of LPAOS has had a meeting with Fylde Council about the 2026/27 contract (for all the work they currently provide). A breakdown of costs has been requested. Cllr. Hopkinson asked that given Local Government Reorganisation, the provision of services for grounds maintenance remains with Fylde Council. This was proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 9 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

Work in respect of the arbour element of the contract was discussed. Members discussed options, given the number of resident complaints and concerns about the quality of work. Options in respect of how this element of the contract could be managed was discussed and members also considered risk implications associated with this. Members agreed that this element be removed from the 2026/27 contract.

This was proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 8 for, 0 against, 1 abstentions (Cllr. Hopkinson did not vote as he had previously declared an interest).

A quote for work in the woods on Bentley Drive was presented. This was proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 9 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

25/12/07 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: 8 for, 0 against, 1 abstentions (Cllr. Brierley did not vote as he had previously declared an interest).

(ii) Decisions

An additional decision was presented. The decisions were noted.

25/12/08 FINANCES

(i) Ratification of the Payment of Invoices

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

Voting: 9 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(ii) Presentation of Bank Balance(s) 8 December 2025

Members noted the bank balance(s) as at 8 December 2025.

25/12/09 EVENTS

(i) Update

Cllr. Byers provided an update and members discussed future events and the Burns Night event to be held on 25 January 2026. Kirkham Pride CIC has its own bank account. Cllr. Hopkinson thanked the Town Crier for his work to promote the Thursday market on the Market Square.

25/12/10 BOOKINGS

(i) Update

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

25/12/11 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 13 January 2026 @ 7.00 pm, venue to be confirmed.

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