KIRKHAM
TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2026, 7.00 PM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, KIRKHAM

ATTENDEES:

Neil Byers	Councillor (Cllr.) and Chair
James Cameron	Cllr.
Julia Hesketh	Cllr.
Chris Hopkinson	Cllr.
Chris March	Cllr.
Peter Sutcliffe	Cllr.
Elizabeth Squires (Minutes)	Town Clerk and RFO

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
26/09/01	**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** *To receive and accept apologies where valid reasons for absence have been provided to the Town Clerk prior to the meeting.* Apologies for absence were received from Adam Brierley, Diane Ireland, Stewart Jones and Maggie Ledger.	**Chair**
26/09/02	**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.* No declarations were made.	**Chair**
26/09/03	**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** *To accept as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2026.* The 14 July 2026 minutes were proposed and seconded. Members who had attended the meeting voted: Voting: 5 for, 0 against, 1 abstention. *Cllr. Sutcliffe was not in attendance at the 14 July 2026 meeting.*	**Chair**
26/09/04	**MEETING WITH LANCASHIRE CONSTABULARY** The police attend when circumstances allow. No report at this meeting.	**Jan Unsworth**
26/09/05	**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – KIRKHAM RESIDENTS** *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 no attendees.	**Limited to 20 minutes**

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
26/09/06	**LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR (FYLDE EAST) AND CABINET MEMBER (RURAL AFFAIRS, ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITIES)**	**LCC Cllr. Josh Roberts**
	(i) Update (this will depend upon the availability of the LCC Cllr.)	
	No attendance.	
26/09/07	**FYLDE COUNCILLOR UPDATE**	**Cllr. Adam Brierley**
	Deferred until the 13 October 2026 meeting.	
	The Town Clerk informed the members that the waste bins that were donated by Glasdon are now in situ.	
26/09/08	**MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**	**Brief update Town Clerk**
	There were no matters arising from the 14 July 2026 meeting other than a planning application where the members had raised concerns in respect of the impact on resident parking.	
26/09/09	**MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**	**Chair**
	(i) **Events Attended**	
	The Chair has attended The Hillside, the opening of 1860, Kirkham Pride, Soul on the Square and the 80s vs 90s event.	
	(ii) **Legal Services**	
	The Town Clerk raised the use of a local company for legal services. This was proposed and seconded. Members voted:	
	Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.	
	(iii) **Declarations of Interest Forms**	
	Members were asked to update their Declaration of Interest Forms for publishing.	
	(iv) **Digital Notice Board on the Market Square**	
	Fylde Council have agreed to provide a digital notice board for the Market Square.	
	This was proposed and seconded. Members voted:	
	Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.	
	(v) **Memory Clinic – Venue**	
	The Memory Clinic have requested a venue for their services as their current venue is small. Members discussed this however they did not agree that this be provided free of charge. A free of charge venue was not agreed, this was proposed and seconded. Members voted against the provision of a free of charge venue:	
	Voting: 5 for, 1 against, 0 abstentions.	
	(vi) **Trees on Brückenau Park**	
	The members discussed a resident request for the removal of two poplars near their property on Brückenau Park. The members disagreed with the removal of the trees but agreed that the trees be reduced and carved to create a ‘feature’; this was proposed and seconded. Members voted:	
	Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.	
	(vii) **Appointment of Accountants 2026/27**	
	The Town Clerk asked the members to approve that Rawcliffe’s provide accountancy services for the year ended 31 March 2026/27. This was approved and seconded. Members voted:	
	Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.	
	(viii) **Audit of Accounts 2026/27**	
	Members discussed the independence of the internal auditor. Resulting from this, the Town Clerk asked the members to approve that Rawcliffe’s provide the internal audit service for the year ended 31 March 2026/27. This was approved and seconded. Members voted:	
	Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.	

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
26/09/10	**LEISURE PARKS AND OPEN SPACES**	**Chair of LPAOS/Town Clerk**

(i) **LPAOS Issues**

- **Contract with Fylde Council**
  The members discussed the contract for open spaces. Members agreed that for 2027/28 they will retain the services of Fylde Council. This was proposed and seconded. Members voted:
  Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.
- **Kirkham Juniors Football Club**
  The members discussed the improvements made to the William Segar Hodgson playing fields during the summer months, ahead of the footballing season.
- **Bowling Club**
  The Bowling Club have had the bowling green verti-drained. The grant from Fylde Council has been received.
- **Allotments**
  Inspections continue. The hot summer has been instrumental for rats breeding. The allotment association are discussing options with the tenants for the safe removal of rats.
- **Remembrance Sunday (inc. War Memorial poppies)**
  The poppies near the War Memorial will be re-painted. The railings for the top of the steps are a work in progress. A commemorative order of service will be printed to mark the centenary of the opening of the Memorial Gardens.

(ii) **In Bloom Update**

The Town Clerk provided an In Bloom update. The results of the In Bloom judging will be made available in October 2026.

26/09/11	**PLANNING**	**Chair**

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. An additional planning application was presented. The applications were proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(ii) **Decisions**

The decisions were noted.

26/09/12	**FINANCES**	**Chair of the F&E Committee**

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

The Chair presented the invoices paid during July and August 2026. The payment of invoices was proposed and seconded. Members voted:

Voting: 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

(ii) **Presentation of Bank Balances 3 September 2026**

Members noted the bank balances as at 3 September 2026.

26/09/13	**EVENTS**	**Chair of the F&E Committee**

(i) **General Update: Forthcoming Events**

- The Scooter Meet is scheduled for Sunday 13 September 2026.
- Pumpkin carving is scheduled.
- Cllr. Hopkinson asked if the car show could be re-arranged.
- The Blessing of the Crib to be scheduled for Thursday 3 December 2026 depending on the availability of St. Michael's Church. The event food will be sponsored by the Kirkham Bierhaus.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
26/09/14	**BOOKINGS** (i) **Update** The Town Clerk informed the members that a youth club is being proposed. A survey is being conducted to ascertain if there is enough interest. Members discussed how this venture could be supported. The members agreed that this be discussed at a pre meet.	**Town Clerk**
26/09/15	**STAFFING** Nothing to raise.	**Chair of the Staffing Committee**

PART 2 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN COMMITTEE (IF APPLICABLE)

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 only this will be minuted.

26/09/16 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on 13 October 2026 at the Community Centre, Kirkham at 7.00 pm.

Elizabeth Squires
Town Clerk