

Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes Parish Council

Minutes of meeting – 19 June 2025 at 7:00 pm.

Present: Parish Councillors: C Walker (Chair), A Edwards-Heathcote, J Lamperd, M Wall and R Henderson. County Councillor Wilkinson. Parish Clerk/RFO: N Lowe. Public in attendance: One

The member of the public didn't raise any issues before the meeting but took time to explain the situation relating to the school as detailed below:

Kirkby Fleetham Village School

The complicated ownership of the school and the schoolhouse is currently being looked into by the Leeds Anglican Diocese legal team. The Langton on Swale Educational Foundation trustees hold the title of the schoolhouse and feel it would be appropriate to seek unbiased legal advice so that an alternative use might be found to keep the school as a community asset. A separate public meeting is arranged in the Village Hall on 3th June to both explain the situation to interested local residents and also to seek any views or suggestions. The Parish Council agreed to look into the potential to register the school as an Asset of Community Value.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 15 May 2025, were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting proceedings and signed.

Acceptance was proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Wall.

3. Matters to Report

Parking Around Village Green

The Council have contacted the Village Green owners to enquire into the possibility of reinforcing a small section of the green and enquiries are still ongoing.

Signatories

The Clerk has completed the new signatory mandate application to include Cllr Henderson and Cllr Wall.

4. Burial Grounds

a) Parish Cemetery

A number of mole hills have risen in the cemetery. The Council will make some enquiries to get quotes for pest control treatment.

b) St Mary's Churchyard

St Mary's church is open again after some repair work has been completed.

The grass in the area from the gate to the Church entrance is getting overgrown at the Churchyard. The Council will contact the contractor to cut the grass short further back from its current limits.

c) St Andrew's Churchyard

St Andrew's church is being offered for sale by auction due to personal circumstances of the current owners.

The Church diocese has reassured the Parish Council that all the conditions that were carefully put in place when the church was sold will remain with the property through this and any future sales. These include the arrangements and restrictions for the churchyard, access for those wishing to visit memorials, and the permitted use of the building itself. Any prospective purchaser will need to comply with these conditions, and the Church Commissioners will continue to oversee any proposed changes to ensure they remain appropriate.

The planning consent that's already in place should help to facilitate the sale process and ensure that St Andrew's is not left unoccupied for too much longer.

5. Correspondence

YLCA Training (0106/25), YLCA Weekly News and Notifications (0206/25), North Yorkshire Council Parish Liaison: Parish Update May 2025 (0306/25), Neighbourhood Plans (0406/25).

These were all circulated via email.

Speedwatch

The North Yorkshire Police rep has taken the equipment back as they have new communities that need it.

The Council wish to continue the Community Speedwatch in the future, the Council may be able to obtain a sharing arrangement with another local council.

Overgrown hedge

A resident drew the Council's attention the overgrown hedge on the left-hand corner of Lowfield Lane and the bottom end of the Village Green. The resident raised a road safety concern due to the hedge encroaching on the road. The Council will contact the owner to inform them of the hazard.

GF Bus shelter

A car accidentally reversed into the back of the bus shelter and done some damage that needs to be repaired. The person responsible contacted the Council directly to apologise.

The Council will arrange the repairs as soon as possible.

Parking on Village Green, Great Fencote

A resident has contacted the Parish Council for temporary usage of village green for a private event in advance. The Council approved the request.

6. Solar Farm Grants

Following the completion of the Lychgate project, the Solar Farm Community Grant application has been updated with the final amount required. The final figure requested is now lower than the original one approved by the Parish Council, primarily due to the Council having been able to recover VAT on the spend from HMRC.

7. Finance

a) It was resolved to pay the following, and the payments were signed accordingly:

Chq	Amount	Payee	Service
BACS		N.Lowe	Wages for June
BACS	£340.80	CE & CM Walker Limited	Parish Grasscutting - Inv 25475
BACS	£255.00	R Richards	Mowing, strimming and hedge cutting of St Mary's
BACS	£25,000	Savings Account	Internal transfer to savings account from Parish account
BACS	£8,000	Savings Account	Internal transfer to savings account from the Burial Authority account

This was proposed by Cllr. Walker and seconded by Cllr. Edwards-Heathcote

b) Income:

The Parish has received zero income this month.

c) Financial Statements 2024/2025

i) To note, the Annual Internal Audit Report for 2024/25 is included on page 3 of the

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25

It was resolved that the Annual Internal Audit Report for 2024/25 is included on page 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25 be noted. This was proposed by Cllr Walker, seconded by Cllr Wall and agreed upon unanimously.

- ii) **To approve Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 for Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes Parish Council on page 4 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25**

It was resolved that Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes Parish Council approve Section 1- Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 for Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes Parish Council on page 4 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25. This was proposed by Cllr Walker, seconded by Cllr Wall and agreed upon unanimously.

- iii) **To approve Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2024/25 for Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes Parish Council on page 5 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25**

It was resolved that Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes Parish Council approve Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25 for Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes Parish Council on page 5 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25. This was proposed by Cllr Walker, seconded by Cllr Wall and agreed upon unanimously.

- iv) **To approve the publication of documents required by Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, The Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities**

It was resolved that, in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, The Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities, Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes Parish Council will publish the following documents on a public website:

- Annual Internal Report 2024/25
- Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2024/25
- Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25
- Notice of the period for the exercise of public rights and other information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

This was proposed by Cllr. Walker and seconded by Cllr. Wall and agreed upon unanimously.

It was agreed that the Notice of the Period of Public Rights would be placed on the notice boards, as there is insufficient space for everything. This would be accompanied by a note to say that full financial information would be on the website.

8. Planning

a) Application

ZB25/01028/FUL: Proposed two storey side extension to create ground floor lounge/utility with first floor bedroom, en-suite and bathroom. Solar panels to south elevation roof.

Location: Moorhills Lumley Lane Kirkby Fleetham Northallerton

Applicant: Mr and Mrs Bowe

The Council raised no objections.

b) Outcomes

ZB25/00739/FUL: Proposed construction of a porch over the front door and conversion of the existing outbuilding to create a kitchen with a pitched roof to replace the existing flat roof.

Location: 2 Penfold Terrace Fleetham Lane Kirkby Fleetham Northallerton

Applicant: Mr And Mrs R And R Fairbairn

The application has been granted.

ZB25/00591/FUL: Application for proposed porch canopy and a side canopy.

Location: The Old Workshop Lumley Lane Kirkby Fleetham Northallerton

Applicant: Mr D Garner

The application has been granted.

9. Community Transport and Social Care

Community Transport

A Harbus meeting was held at Hambleton Community Action's offices on Thursday, 12th June, which was attended remotely via Zoom. Unfortunately, significant technical issues with the Zoom platform—such as voice duplication and camera problems—made it difficult to follow the proceedings, and the session proved largely unproductive. The minutes of the meeting are awaited and will be circulated once available.

The meeting was intended to cover the extensive network of bus services across North Yorkshire, which includes over 30 routes, including our own. Attempts to gain updated information following the meeting have been hindered by the unavailability of some Harbus members due to holidays.

The primary aim of attending was to understand the planning of future bus services across North Yorkshire. Responsibility for these services has now shifted from North Yorkshire Council to the newly established Combined Authority, which has received £485 million from the previous government to manage and develop the region's transport services.

Social Care

There are ongoing discussions with Hambleton Community Action regarding their range of social support services for villagers and how we can best communicate with them.

The next Fleetham & Fencotes Outings Group outing takes place with a visit to some private gardens, covering five and a half acres. Outings have been booked throughout the remainder of the year.

The Parish Council will continue to spread news of social care initiatives and encourage residents to pass information on to elderly residents.

10. Review of the Council's policies, procedures and practices

The following had all been circulated for consideration before the meeting:

- a) Standing Orders** – Cllr Walker proposed that the updated Standing Orders as of June 2025 be accepted and adopted by the Parish Council immediately, and Cllr Wall seconded this. It was resolved to adopt the Standing Orders.
- b) Terms of Reference - Burial Authority** – Cllr Walker proposed that the updated Terms of Reference - Burial Authority as of June 2025 be accepted and adopted by the Parish Council immediately, which Cllr Wall seconded. It was resolved to adopt the Terms of Reference - Burial Authority.
- c) Terms of Reference - Parish Council** – Cllr Walker proposed that the updated Terms of Reference - Parish Council as of June 2025 be accepted and adopted by the Parish Council with immediate effect, and Cllr Wall seconded this. It was resolved to adopt the Terms of

Reference - Parish Council.

11. Any Other Business

Flag

The new Yorkshire flag has arrived, but the flagpole lanyards are jammed. The councillors will agree a date to attend and lower the pole, remove the top finial and see if it can be freed up.

The meeting closed at 9:13 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: 17 July 2025.