

Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17 September 2026 at 7:00 pm at the Kirkby Fleetham Village Hall.

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

Public time

The Chair invited members of the public to make representations in respect of the business on the agenda, ask questions, or make any statements. The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed ten minutes unless otherwise directed by the Chair.

Great Fencote Parking

The police recently received a report regarding vehicles being parked on the village green in Great Fencote in front of St. Andrews Terrace, where they were informed a bylaw is currently in place. The Police Beat Manager, PC Crawford, attended the location earlier in May to assess the situation and observed a van parked on the green. A polite advisory notice was left on the vehicle to highlight the issue.

As this matter relates to a bylaw, there are no enforcement powers available to the police, and responsibility for enforcement rests with the local council, however it was agreed that invoking the bylaw is something that can only be realistically done in exceptional circumstances, particularly as the fine is limited to the original sum set at £5.00.

The Parish Council also received a letter from a resident complaining of speeding and people parking on the Great Fencote Village Green in front of St. Andrews Terrace. The Councillors agreed to look into the possibility of installing a limited amount of preventative measures but were clear that they must not interfere with the grass cutters activities.

The Council have checked and the road around the green and it's not adopted by NYC or Parish Council land. The Council will write to the residents.

Oak Tree

It was agreed to contact Highways to clear soil which is narrowing Lowfield Lane caused by badger activity in two setts. The soil covers part of the road on a blind bend causing danger from oncoming vehicles. It was agreed to arrange for the removal of a dead tree on the left-hand side of Kirkby Lane just after it leaves the village.

Elm Tree

The diseased and dead elm tree on the bend on Fleetham Lane just outside Kirkby Fleetham is not on Parish Council land. The Clerk will report the tree to Highways because if it falls it could be a significant safety hazard and block Fleetham Lane.

1. Apologies

County Councillor Wilkinson. These apologies were accepted.

2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 16 July 2026

The minutes were approved and accepted as an accurate record of the meeting proceedings and signed.

Signed.....

Chair

3. Matters to Report

30 MPH Sign, Lumley Lane

The Traffic Engineering Team have not been in touch with the Clerk about moving the 30 mph sign on Lumley Lane.

Black Horse Planning Application

The applicant has responded to Highways concerns and are waiting for North Yorkshire Council's arboricultural comments, that were lost in the move to the new system, before sending amended plans in.

4. Burial Grounds

a. Parish Cemetery

The Parish Cemetery maintenance continues. The Council will continue to monitor the mole situation.

b. St Mary's Churchyard

Following work by R Richards plus a separate working group from the village and the Church group, the grass is almost all now short. It was agreed by all concerned that it is preferable to keep it this way throughout the seasons and the PC will advise R Richards accordingly.

A fund raising heritage weekend based in the Church and Kirkby Fleetham Hall is planned for the weekend of 19th / 20th September.

c. St Andrew's Churchyard

There is no further news on the sale of St Andrew's Churchyard.

5. Correspondence

YLCA Training (0109/26), YLCA Weekly News and Notifications (0209/26), Parish Liaison notices (0309/26), NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR GROUPS IN YOUR AREA (0409/26), A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project (0509/26), Commercial waste (0609/26), PLANNED CLOSURE NOTICE (0709/26), Post Office Limited - Bedale - DL8 1EQ (0809/26), Concern at nuisance issues at The Close KF (0909/26), Dog breeding (1009/26).

These were all circulated via email.

Complaints about the wedding events at the Kirkby Fleetham Hall

Several residents have complained about increased noise levels and the rise in traffic associated with the wedding events at the Kirkby Fleetham Hall.

A resident reported that the Environmental Health Department is currently investigating the matter and has requested that noise incidents and event activity be recorded and submitted through the official noise-reporting app. Residents have requested access to the documentation and correspondence relating to the investigation.

Kirkby Fleetham Hall have received a number of complaints from neighbouring residents and were visited by the local council to discuss the incidences. The Hall has also been contacted by Environmental Health regarding these concerns.

A resident also noted that they may pursue other statutory remedies available under Section 82 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 if the issues remain unresolved.

Signed.....

Chair

The Parish Council is unaware of the power it has around noise issues, now the complaints have been made to a higher authority. The Council agreed for the Clerk to investigate its powers with the YLCA.

The Parish Council will encourage the Hall to notify wedding guests of the noise and the tight roads when driving to the Hall and hope that all parties can reach an amicable solution to prevent future problems. The Council will investigate the possibility of setting up a Quiet Lane project to improve safety for all non-motorised users of Kirkby Lane. The Clerk will ask highways about signage and mirrors for residents reversing out of drives.

Defibrillator, Little Fencote

A resident raised that there is no short code on the box for the location for someone to give to the phone operator to get quick access to the defibrillator in the event of an emergency.

The Circuit now no longer needs location codes, and they state they are now obsolete. The reason for this is that the 999 operator will identify the caller's location automatically. This will normally be done using the landline location or, where appropriate, the GPS location from a mobile phone.

The 999 operator will then identify the nearest registered defibrillator and provide the caller with its location and the access information needed to obtain the defibrillator once they have confirmed that a cardiac arrest is occurring.

The Parish Council agreed to put the What3Words address on the cabinet as a precaution. The Council provide the Circuit the What3Words address of the cabinet as all ambulance services now use this. What3words gives every 3 metre square on Earth its own unique 3 words. If there is any doubt over the location of the caller, if they are at the cabinet, then they can read that out to the call handler and they can pin point the location.

BT Telegraph Pole Replacement

Following a request for PC approval a BT telegraph pole was replaced at the junction to Fleetham Lane, Kirkby Fleetham.

6. Finance

National Joint Council salary increase for the year 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027

The National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC) has agreed on and published the new rates of pay, effective April, 2026. The Parish Council is to implement the pay awards immediately and to pay the Clerk's due back pay for the period from April to August.

a. It was resolved to pay the following payments:

Chq	Amount	Payee	Service
BACS		N Lowe	Clerk's wages for September, plus back pay
BACS	£182.40	CE & CM Walker	Parish grass cutting - Inv 26164
BACS	£648.00	R Richards	Mowing and strimming of St Mary's. Hedge cutting of yew hedges.
BACS	£58.40	HMRC	6 Jul to 5 Aug month 4, PAYE bill 2026 to 2027
BACS	£155.00	AW Dick Farming	Grass cutting at the Parish Cemetery

The BACS payment signatories will be Cllr Walker and Cllr Edwards-Heathcote.

Signed.....

Chair

b. Income:

The Burial Authority account received £615.00 and the savings account has received £107.96 in interest.

7. Planning

a. Applications

26/04136/FUL: Redevelopment of existing bungalow to make dwelling accessible for wheelchair user occupant and provide additional accommodation for assisted living carer. Redevelopment works include: new side and rear extension, garage conversion, new roof and associated landscaping works to existing dwelling.

Address: Kenton, 15 Lumley Lane, Kirkby Fleetham, North Yorkshire, DL7 0SH.

Applicant: Mr Rob May

The Council had no objections or comments.

26/04642/FUL: Erection of side extension of existing storage buildings.

Address: High Garth, Lumley Lane, Kirkby Fleetham, North Yorkshire, DL7 0SL.

Applicant: Kirby Fleetham Haulage Ltd

The Council had no objections or comments.

ZB26/00563/FUL: Planning application for the construction of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Fence Dike Lane, Scruton

Balance Power has now submitted its proposals for Fence Dike, and have requested the opportunity to meet the Parish Council to answer questions raised throughout the consultation process. The Clerk will arrange the meeting.

b. Outcomes

There have been no planning outcomes over the last two months.

8. Community Transport and Social Care

Community Transport

The Village Bus Service continues to run according to its schedule.

The Mayor of York and North Yorkshire has delivered a Consultation Draft of his Local Transport Plan. The Council have received a copy for consideration and prepared a view on how it will affect the village Bus service.

Social Care

Hambleton Community Action attended this year's Feast and they received numerous enquiries. They will be invited to participate in the 2027 Feast.

The Village Egg Box service continues to thrive and there was no reported problems during Feast.

Signed.....

Chair

9. Any Other Business

30 MPH Sign

It was noted that the 30 mph sign on Fleetham Lane entering Kirkby Fleetham can't be seen due to foliage. The Council will make the owner aware and ask for the hedge to be cut.

The meeting closed at 8:48 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: 15 October 2026.

Signed.....

Chair