

Kirkby Fleetham with Fencotes Parish Council

Minutes of annual meeting of the Parish Council – 21 May 2026 at 7:55 pm.

Present: Parish Councillors: C Walker (Chair), R Henderson and M Wall. Parish Clerk/RFO: N Lowe. Public in attendance: Six

Members of the public didn't raise any issues before the meeting although many comments were raised in the Parish Annual Meeting immediately before this Parish Council meeting and they are recorded in those minutes.

1. Apologies

Cllr Lamperd, Cllr Alison and County Councillor Wilkinson. The Council accepted this apologies.

2. Election of Chairperson

Cllr Wall proposed Cllr Walker, which was seconded by Cllr Henderson and agreed upon unanimously.

The Councillors thanked Cllr Walker for his excellent work.

3. Election of Vice-Chairperson

For the time being, the Councillors have decided against appointing a Vice Chair, although this situation will be reconsidered in the coming months.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 16 April 2026

Were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting proceedings and signed. Acceptance was proposed by Cllr Walker and seconded by Cllr Henderson.

5. Matters to Report

Lime Tree, Todd Lane

The Council received an email explaining that Badgers and their setts are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992. Protection extends to damaging and destroying a badger sett, or obstructing access to it. If the holes described in the minutes are caused by badgers the blocking of them could be illegal under the Act.

It was advise that before any works are undertaken the Parish Council take advice. A member of the Glade Trust is going to inspect the damage for the Parish Council.

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

The Councillors all agreed to use the same plan as last year to complete the phased reviews of the Parish Council plans.

The plan outlines the current policies in place, when each policy was first published, the current author/owner and the impending review dates of policies.

7. Burial Grounds

a. Parish Cemetery

The Council will remind the grass cutter to leave the area at the back of the Parish Cemetery to grow out.

b. St Mary's Churchyard

The Chairman met with the grass cutting contractor and discussed a plan for next season. A working party will be arranged to help tidy the churchyard.

c. St Andrew's Churchyard

The Churchyard appears to be back on the market.

The Parish Council recently wrote to the current owner to point out that the sale of the building includes obligations stipulated by the Diocese of Leeds relating to limited public access to visit the gravestones which is currently impossible while the fence is in place and also to note that the grass is sorely in need of cutting. Subsequently part of the grass, but not all of it has been cut.

The Council will consider writing to the Diocese of Leeds in the future if access continues to be blocked.

8. Correspondence

YLCA Training (0105/26), YLCA Weekly News and Notifications (0205/26), Registration required for NYC recycling centres (0305/26), Black Horse Planning Application (0405/26), Planning application sent to KF but should be Scruton (0505/26), Great Fencote Parking (0605/26), St Andrew's Church.

These were all circulated via email.

Great Fencote Parking

The police recently received a report regarding vehicles being parked on the village green in Great Fencote, 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.

Following the visit, the police stated that it appears that the introduction of a physical deterrent may help prevent further instances of parking on the green and asked if this is a recurring or wider issue, would the council consider installing rocks or other decorative or preventive measures to restrict vehicle access.

The Parish Council also received a letter from a resident complaining of people parking on the Great Fencote Village Green. 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.

9. Finance

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

Chq	Amount	Payee	Service
BACS		N Lowe	Clerk's wages for May
BACS	£364.80	CE & CM Walker	Parish Grasscutting - Inv 26027
BACS	£60.00	AW Dick	Full grass cut of the Parish Cemetery
BACS	£52.50	K.Smith	Materials for Kirkby Fleetham bus shelter restoration
BACS	£80.20	HMRC	6 Apr to 5 May month 1 PAYE bill 2026 to 2027

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

b. Income:

The 1st precept payment of £4,200 and the Parish savings account has received £54.58 in interest.

10. Planning

a. Applications

ZB26/00563/FUL: Change of use of an existing summer house to a dog grooming room and run a dog grooming business on a part-time basis.

Location: 13 Lumley Lane, Kirkby Fleetham, Northallerton, North Yorkshire.

Applicant: Mrs Lesley Bottomley

The Parish Council agreed that they have no comments or objections.

b. Outcomes

The Parish Council has not received any outcomes on planning applications over the last month.

11. Community Transport and Social Care

Community Transport

There is the mid year meeting of Harbus to discuss the present and future bus operations with both The Combine Authority, North Yorkshire Council the various bus Operators throughout the county and bus users. This is to take place on Thursday 28 May. The venue is the in the offices of Hambleton Community Action, whose Chief Officer is the Chairperson.

Social Care

The Egg Box service continues to successfully operate 7 days a week.

12. Any Other Business

Burial Authority Committee

The Council voted to keep the Burial Authority Committee comprised of all members of the Parish Council and two representatives from the Church and a local resident. A separate meeting of the Burial Authority will be convened later in the year.

Signpost

The Parish Council were informed about a signpost located near the school that looks to have sunk into the ground. The Council will investigate and inform the necessary who responsible for the sign.

The meeting closed at 8:49 pm.

Date of Next Meeting: 18 June 2026.