



Mrs J Nolan  
Clerk to the Council

The Parish Council Community Centre  
Bell Lane, Ackworth  
Pontefract, WF7 7JH

Tel: 01977 611583

E-mail: [clerk@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@ackworthparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## Minutes of Village Amenities Committee held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025 @ 6PM

### Attendance

Cllr John Bell – Chair  
Cllr Sharon Maiden  
Cllr Nathan Bland

Clerk K Batty

0 Members of the public in attendance

### 1. Apologies

- 1.1 To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting
- 1.2 To consider the approval of reasons given for absence

- 1.1 Apologies were **RECEIVED** in respect of Cllrs Roberts, Balfour & S Sherratt.
- 1.2 The committee had considered and **APPROVED** the reason given by Cllrs Roberts, Balfour & S Sherratt.

### 2. Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

- 2.1 To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Council's Code of conduct or a member's Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on items on the agenda
- 2.2 To receive, consider and decide upon any written applications for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interest
- 2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

2.1/2.2/2.3 None to **RECEIVE**.

### 3. To note the minutes for the Village Amenities Committee meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2025.

- 3.1 The minutes had previously been circulated. The committee **NOTED** the meeting minutes.

### 4. Allotments

- 4.1 To receive any updates from Brackenhill Allotment Association.
- 4.2 To consider the future of the tenant representative role and make recommendation.
- 4.3 To receive an update on the waiting list and new lets.
- 4.4 To receive a report following the monthly plot inspections and number of letters.

#### 4.1 The following updates were **RECEIVED**:

- The grant application from Wakefield Council for the wooden shelter had been approved with support from all three District Councillors. Thanks was also expressed to the Parish Council for their support.

- The Pie and Pea supper was a success.
- The condition of some of the roadway is poor and a request was made for scalplings
- A request was made for a skip

The following was **RECOMMENDED** from the allotments budget:

- A skip is ordered
- Scalplings are ordered, delivery as per previous years.

**4.2** It was **RECOMMENDED** that the role of Tenant Representative was no longer required and that members of the Allotment Association Committee would be invited to future meetings of this committee.

**4.3** It was **NOTED** that there were 4 new lets and 3 vacant plots, to which offers had been sent. There are 4 residents and 9 non-residents on the waiting list.

**4.4** It was reported that following the inspections on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1 letter had been sent and 2 plots continue to be monitored. Report **RECEIVED**.

## 5. Community Centres

**5.1** To receive a draft copy of the new 'User Guide Handbook' and provide feedback for planned implementation from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026.

**5.2** To note Bell Lane Community Centre Christmas 2025 opening hours.

**5.3** To consider the creation of a new Ackworth Quarries Community Centre website page to enable the staff team to provide community updates relating to the opening of the new community centre and make recommendation.

**5.4** To consider the requirement of a pram shelter at Bell Lane Community Centre and make recommendation.

**5.1 RECEIVED.** The following feedback was received for implementation by the office:

- improved photographs of the rooms within Bell Lane Community Centre
- the use of electrical equipment is investigation with the Parish Council's insurance company.
- No electrical equipment without prior approval.

**5.2 NOTED.**

**5.3** It was **RECOMMENDED** that a new page is created and populated with community updates relating to the opening and future hiring space.

**5.4** It was **RECOMMENDED** to investigate a secure lockable unit for pushchairs.

## 6. Public Open Space

**6.1** To receive a proposal from the Clerk on Low Ackworth pitch use changes for 2026 and make recommendation.

**6.2** To note the requirement of planning permission to raise the crown of the Willow Tree on Carr Bridge.

**6.3** To consider options and make recommendation to Council regarding the £1000 donation towards a new community bench.

**6.4** To receive an update from Wakefield District Council relating to a request to install additional public lighting in Low Ackworth Playing Field and make recommendation to Council.

**6.5** To consider the installation of children's play equipment on the Strata Estate as per the Council deferred agenda item from October (Agenda item 89).

**6.6** To receive correspondence in relation to fundraising requests and make recommendation.

**6.1** It was **RECOMMENDED** that the existing goalposts and pitch are removed and a series of u7s pitches are created, in line with new grassroots regulations on junior football 3v3 and current kickabout team usage.

**6.2 NOTED.**

**6.3** It was **RECOMMENDED** that a resin bench is purchased and sited at the top of Station Road, to replace the deteriorating blue bench. The colour to blend with the surroundings and a plaque installed to commemorate VE DAY.

**6.4** The land belongs to Vico Homes, not Wakefield District Council. It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Clerk explores any available lighting options with Vico Homes, confirmation of authority responsibility on installation/maintenance and to explore any funding options available.

**6.5** It was **RECOMMENDED** that this item is deferred until the full handover is complete.

**6.6** It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Parish Council supports both community events

- Support with fundraising for stem cell treatment, to be held in conjunction with the next Parish Council coffee morning
- Support for several fundraising events for resources at a hospital ward. Events to be held at Low Ackworth Play Area.

<p><b>7. Cemetery</b></p> <p><b>7.1</b> To receive an update on the insurance Cemetery wall repair.</p> <p><b>7.2</b> To receive further update on the Cemetery toilet window replacement.</p>
<p><b>7.1 RECEIVED.</b> Repairs have started.</p> <p><b>7.2 RECEIVED.</b> Broken window has been bricked up. This work has been carried out free of charge by Jordan Development Ltd whilst working on the cemetery wall.</p>
<p><b>8. TO CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL THAT THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC BE EXCLUDED FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING ON THE GROUNDS THAT PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED ON THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETING ACT 1960)</b></p>
<p><b>8.1</b> It was <b>AGREED</b> to move to the private section of the meeting.</p>
<p><b>9. Cemetery</b></p> <p><b>9.1</b> To receive quotations relating to layby changes to the Cemetery lay-by layout for consideration of the 26/27 budget.</p>
<p><b>9.1</b> Still awaiting quotations.</p>

Time Closed: 19:35