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

Minutes of the Meeting of Ackworth Parish Council held at Ackworth Parish Council Community Centre, Bell Lane, Ackworth, on Monday 12th October 2026, at 7.15 PM.

Attendance
Cllr Martin Roberts – Chair
Cllr John Bell
Cllr Sarah Balfour
Cllr Andy Sherratt
Cllr Suzy Sherratt
Cllr Stephen Parker
Cllr Sharon Maiden
Cllr Sean Richmond
Cllr Amanda Cook

Clerk: J Nolan

2 Members of the Public in attendance.
District Councillors C Thomas & K Atcheson

A member of the public raised concerns over agenda item 94.2 planning application 26/01650/FUL.

87 Apologies

87.1: To receive apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.
87.2: To consider the approval of reasons given for absence.

87.1 It was **RESOLVED** that the apologies were **RECEIVED** in respect of Cllrs Hall, Moore & Maiden.
87.2 It was **RESOLVED** that council had considered and **APPROVED** the reason given by Cllrs Hall, Moore & Maiden.

It was noted that Cllr Bland was running late.

88 Declarations of Interests and Dispensations

88.1: 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.
88.2: To receive, consider and decide upon any written applications for dispensation for disclosable pecuniary interest.
88.3: To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.

88.1 / 88.2 / 88.3 NONE to **RECEIVE**

89 To receive available reports from the following:

89.1: WMDC District Councillors.
89.2: APC Council Representatives on outside bodies.

89.1 WMDC District Councillors Reports

District Councillor K Atcheson provided an overview on his current focus areas:

- Safety concerns on the Bell Lane overhead car park wall repairs, requesting capping stones are repaired.
- Raised within WMDC the condition of the road markings on Pontefract Road

District Councillor C Thomas provided an overview on his current focus areas:

- Varying highway concerns across the village which had been raised internally
- Advised his recent abseil achieved £3135 which was to be divided by the 4 groups selected, for Ackworth this was Ackworth Jaguars and Low Ackworth Community Association.

89.2: APC Council Representatives on outside bodies reports
No reports.

90 To consider for approval of the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14th September 2026, as a true and correct record.

90.1 The minutes had previously been circulated to all Cllrs. It was **RESOLVED** that the meeting minutes were **APPROVED.**

91 To receive applications for the Exclusive Rights of Burial.

91.1 It was **RESOLVED** that the exclusive burial rights for plot K35, K36 & K37 were **RECEIVED.**

92 Financial Matters

92.1: To receive and consider for approval the accounts including bank statements and petty cash account to the end of September 2026.
92.2: To receive and consider for approval payments to 12th October 2026.

Rialtas Cashbook Reports, Bank Statements, Copies of Bank, Petty Cash and CCLA Reconciliation, CCLA Statements, Petty cash payments & receipts, Rialtas YTD Income & Expenditure Budget tracking report and Rialtas Ear marked reserves report were previously circulated to all Councillors, along with a copy of the receipts and payments for the Petty Cash account. The list of payments to be approved was circulated during the meeting.

92.1 It was **RESOLVED** that the accounts & petty cash to the end of September 2026 were **APPROVED**.
92.2 It was **RESOLVED** that the list of payments to be made were **APPROVED**.

93 Committee Meetings

93.1 To receive the minutes of the Village Events & Communications Committee meeting held on 28th September 2026 and approve the recommendations within them.
93.2 To receive the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting held on 28th September 2026 and approve the recommendations within them.

93.1 The minutes had previously been circulated to all Cllrs. It was **RESOLVED** that the meeting minutes and recommendations were **APPROVED.** It was noted the Project name was to be included under agenda item 6.

93.2 The minutes had previously been circulated to all Cllrs. It was **RESOLVED** that the meeting minutes and recommendations were **APPROVED.** It was noted that Cllr S Sherratt's arrival time was to be amended to 19:45 as was noted as 20:45 in the draft minutes circulated for approval.

94 To consider a response to the planning authority on the following planning applications.

94.1 26/01621/TPO - 11 Denton Gardens Ackworth Pontefract WF7 7PA - T1 - Beech- crown lift to 5m above the garden ground level, draw back on the house side to achieve a 2.5m clearance from the house and projected wall height for the full height of the tree - No Deadline Date
94.2 26/01650/FUL - Ackworth Garden Centre Barnsley Road Ackworth Pontefract WF7 7BS - The demolition of the existing garden centre building and the erection of a replacement store, together with associated parking, landscaping and infrastructure – Deadline Date 15/10/2026
94.3 26/01732/TPO - 4 Wakefield Road Ackworth Pontefract WF7 7DE - T1 Sycamore, T2 Ash, T3 Sycamore - Crown Lift to 3m over the footpath and garden - No Deadline Date

94.4 26/01704/FUL - 20 Hillside Road Ackworth Pontefract WF7 7NJ - Single storey rear extension - Deadline Date 12/10/2026
94.5 26/01651/FUL - 1 Chiltern Drive Ackworth Pontefract West Yorkshire WF7 7DW - Demolition of existing conservatory to construct single storey extension – Deadline Date 07/10/2026
94.6 26/01724/FUL - 108 Wakefield Road Ackworth Pontefract WF7 7BQ - Outbuilding to front – Deadline Date 05/11/2026
94.7 26/01737/FUL - 2 Ackworth House Close Ackworth Pontefract WF7 7NX - Adding solar panels to an existing south facing roof in a conservation area – Deadline Date 21/10/2026

94.1 It was **RESOLVED** that application 26/01621/TPO was **NOTED**.
94.2 It was **RESOLVED** that application 26/01650/FUL would be **OBJECTED** to based on the following material objection concerns with the co-op proposed position;

- Noise Disturbance
- Light Pollution
- Loss of Daylight & Overshadowing
- Fumes, Smells & Air Quality impact
- Impact on trees and biodiversity

A request would be included in the letter for a 14-day extension of the current review deadline date to ensure all residents can review.

It was **NOTED** that the Parish Council are in support of a new store however this would be better placed on the footprint of the existing garden centre building as opposed to a location against the inner treeline as per the proposed plans. It was **NOTED** that Cllr A Sherratt would approve the objection once drafted on behalf of the Council.

94.3 It was **RESOLVED** that application 26/01732/TPO was **NOTED**.
94.4 It was **RESOLVED** that application 26/01704/FUL was **NOTED**.
94.5 It was **RESOLVED** that application 26/01651/FUL was **NOTED**.
94.6 It was **RESOLVED** that application 26/01724/FUL was **NOTED**.
94.7 It was **RESOLVED** that application 26/01737/FUL was **NOTED**.

Cllr Bland arrived at 20:05.

95 To receive the external auditor's correspondence and interim report for year ending the 31st March 2026.

95.1 The external auditor's correspondence and interim report for year ending the 31st March 2026 which advised the reviewed had not yet been concluded.

It was **RESOLVED** that the interim report had been **RECEIVED**.

96 To receive a request to consider support with a donation to Ackworth Senior Citizens Fund under section 137 grants for the Annual Christmas Tea for the benefit of parish residents and decide a course of action.

96.1 It was **RESOLVED** that under section 137 a grant would be awarded to Ackworth Senior Citizens Fund for £1500.

97 To receive a request for a section 137 grant from Ackworth Library to cover the costs of refreshments at the Parish Council annual Santa Day Event for the benefit of parish residents, with any proceeds of sales to be applied to the charity's objectives and decide a course of action.

97.1 It was **RESOLVED** that under section 137 a grant would be awarded to Ackworth Library for £200.

98 To receive correspondence from Wakefield District Council relating to a proposed footpath upgrade at Carr Bridge Playing Field and decide a course of action.

98.1: A proposal from Wakefield District Council was received relating to upgrade the footpath through Carr Bridge playing field from Mill Lane entrance through to Barnsley Road in replacement of the current walked path. This upgrade will be for both pedestrians and cyclists. Ackworth School have already approved the upgrade.

It was **RESOLVED** that the proposed footpath upgrade was **APPROVED** with the following considerations, appropriate planning requirements considered and restriction for motorised vehicle access installed that does not restrict disabled access.

99 To receive correspondence from an allotments plot holder relating to pest control and decide a course of action.

99.1 It was **RESOLVED** that the correspondence would be considered as part of the upcoming village amenities committee meeting review of allotment rules and regulations on Monday 26th October 2026.

100 To discuss fire, lockdown and evacuation procedures for the Parish Council Buildings and decide a course of action.

100.1. A discussion took place.

It was **RESOLVED** that the new fire, lockdown and evacuation procedures would be introduced to each Parish Council building and that as part of the process bolt locks would be installed to the top of all function rooms. It was **NOTED** that the alarms would be changed to sound various chimes in line with the new procedures if possible.

101 Motions requested by Councillor(s)

101.1 To receive a proposal from Councillor A Sherratt that the Parish Council investigate costs and liabilities following the handover of Old Holes Quarry from Strata Homes Ltd, so these can be fully budgeted for within the 2027/28 budget setting process.

101.1. An amend was proposed to change 'Parish Council' to 'Village Amenities Committee'. The Chair processed the amend via the standing orders.

It was **RESOLVED** that the **AMEND** was **APPROVED.**

To receive a proposal from Councillor A Sherratt that the Village Amenities Committee investigate costs and liabilities following the handover of Old Holes Quarry from Strata Homes Ltd, so these can be fully budgeted for within the 2027/28 budget setting process.

102 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 CONFIDENTAIL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED ON THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETING ACT 1960)

102.1 It was **RESOLVED** to move to the private section of the meeting on the below agenda items.

103 To receive the minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on 5th October 2026 and approve the recommendations within them.

103.1 The minutes had previously been circulated to all Cllrs.

It was **RESOLVED** that the meeting minutes and recommendations were **APPROVED.**

104 To receive further vehicle quotations for a new company van and decide a course of action.

104.1. It was **RESOLVED** that the vehicle selected was a KIA PV5 Cargo L2 Electric 89 kW Essential Standard Range 52kWh van auto on a 5-year lease term at a cost of 1 x £1,045.33 and 59 x £348.44 through Autotrader.

Time Closed: 20:58