Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Skipton Town Council held at Holy Trinity Church, Skipton on Thursday 16th July 2026 at 7.00 pm

Those Present.

Chairman: Councillor W Feather (Mayor)
Councillor K McIntyre, Councillor L Morgan, Councillor S Bentley, Councillor B McDaid, Councillor D Noland, Councillor A Heseltine, Councillor V Kettu, Councillor C Harbron, Councillor P Madeley, Councillor S Morton & Councillor J Woollacott.
Officers:
Mrs L Close (Chief Officer)
Mrs J Dean (Deputy Clerk)
Mrs H Marshall (Finance Manager)

2627/063 ITEM 1 – Chairman's remarks

Councillor W Feather opened the meeting and thanked everybody for being in attendance. He gave an update on events he had recently been present for.

2627/064 ITEM 2 – Reasons for absence

Councillors R Heseltine, M Pickard, A Higgins and C Nash, who all had prior engagements.

2627/065 ITEM 3 – Declaration of Interest

None declared.

2627/066 ITEM 4 – Dispensation requests

None requested.

2627/067 ITEM 5 – Representations from the public

None given.

2627/068 ITEM 6 – Minutes of Previous meetings

Proposed by Councillor P Madeley, seconded by Councillor K McIntyre, and resolved in favour to approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th May and the 11th of June 2026 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

2627/076 ITEM 14 – Skipton Community Santa Sleigh

Councillor W Feather, using Standing Order 10, moved Item 14 to this part of the meeting, and a presentation was given regarding the future of the Santa Sleigh volunteers and a request for help.

It was advised that 15 people were needed for 12 nights. The current organisers have given a deadline of the end of August to appeal for volunteers, and then a decision could be made as to the future of the Santa Sleigh visits. Councillor P Madeley advised that officers could advertise for volunteers through their media channels, and any Councillor wishing to volunteer could submit their name before the deadline.

2627/069 ITEM 7 – Reports and Minutes from Committee and Sub-committee meetings

Proposed by Councillor B McDaid, seconded by Councillor P Madeley, and resolved in favour of accepting the minutes of the Management & Staffing Committee meeting held on 16th April 2026.
Proposed by Councillor L Morgan, seconded by Councillor J Woollacott, and resolved in favour of accepting the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 16th April 2026.
Proposed by Councillor P Madeley, seconded by Councillor D Noland, and resolved in favour of accepting the minutes of the Market and Events committee meeting held on 25th March 2026.
Proposed by Councillor K McIntyre, seconded by Councillor L Morgan, and resolved in favour of accepting the minutes of the Public Services Committee meeting held on 23rd April 2026.

2627/070 ITEM 8 – Finance reports

Proposed by Councillor P Madeley, seconded by Councillor W Feather, and resolved in favour to approve the schedule of payments, receipts, bank reconciliation, and the budget to date.

2627/071 ITEM 9 – Internal Control Checklist

It was confirmed that Councillor S Bentley and Councillor A Heseltine are appointed as the 2 members to carry out the quarterly checklist.

2627/072 ITEM 10 – Internal Auditor

Proposed by Councillor P Madeley, seconded by Councillor L Morgan, and resolved in favour of appointing the internal auditor for the 2026/2027 financial year.

2627/073 ITEM 11 – Attendance at meetings

Councillor J Woollacott had placed a motion on the agenda to agree that the Clerk would issue a reminder of meetings on the day to determine if they are quorate and will be held. A few meetings last year did not go ahead as they were inquorate, and the motion was to try and avoid this.
Councillor P Madeley advised that this should go to the Policy Committee to decide and that Standing Orders would need to be changed. Councillor

Madeley proposed this action twice, and Councillor Harbron advised he would second it if needed, but Councillor Madeley, the original proposer of the motion, advised Councillor Harbron not to second it.
Lengthy discussions then took place, and the Chief Officer tried to give some direction and advice, but this was dismissed by Councillor Madeley.
After more discussions, it was decided to withdraw all motions for this subject, and the Chief Officer would circulate a reminder email on the day before the meeting.

2627/074 ITEM 12 – Training

Councillor Kettu presented some information on anti-bribery and corruption matters following a recent training course she had attended.
The Chief Officer advised of where members can refer to matters relating to this anti-bribery and corruption, and that a full list of training courses available to members would be brought to the next meeting.

2627/075 ITEM 13 – 5th Regiment Royal Artillery (The Yorkshire Gunners)

An invitation to attend a race day with the regiment was circulated.
Proposed by Councillor P Madeley, seconded by Councillor W Feather, and resolved in favour by 8 votes, to use £500 of the mayor's allowance for a contribution to funding for the regiment. It was also noted that this budget was not used as Councillor Feather does not claim expenses from it.
There were 4 votes against this motion, but with 8 in favour, it carried.

2627/076 ITEM 14 – See earlier minute

2627/077 ITEM 15 – Outside Bodies

It was confirmed that no written reports had been received in relation to this item.

2627/078 ITEM 16 – North Yorkshire Councillors

Councillor D Noland gave an update regarding the school transport policy and the motion to review it. This wasn't supported in North Yorkshire and fell.
Councillor Feather raised the issue of the Council chamber and not being able to use it; it was suggested that he write to the Chief Executive of North Yorkshire to raise the matter, which was supported by members.

2627/079 ITEM 17 – Skipton Gala Charitable Trust

It was confirmed that the Chief Officer had written to members at the beginning of the year to ask for expressions of interest to form a trust. A response hadn't been received. Invitations would be reissued to members and any stakeholders.

2627/080 ITEM 18 – Community Safety

Councillor B McDaid gave an update on the work of the Community Safety group.

2627/081 ITEM 19 – Notice Boards

The Chief Officer advised of the legislation for the placing of notices. It was confirmed that we currently include the office, the library, and the website, and it was suggested that social media could also be used. This was supported, and officers would place notices and agendas on them before each meeting.

2627/082 ITEM 20 – Notification of business for a future agenda

Finance Committee members – Members who are not on the Policy Committee are asked to support the Finance Committee.
Cllr W Feather – Road closure for a Saturday market.

With no further business transacted, the meeting was closed at 20.33 pm.