

Minutes of the Public Services Committee meeting, Held on Thursday 8th May 2025, at 6.30pm at the Town Council Offices, Otley Street, Skipton.

Present: Councillor McIntyre (Chairman), Councillor C Nash, Councillor P Madeley, Councillor L Morgan. Councillor S Bentley, Councillor A Heseltine & Councillor M Pickard
Mrs Louise Close, Chief Officer
Mrs Helen Marshall, Finance Manager
1 member of the public.

2425/064 ITEM 1 – Chairman's Remarks

Councillor McIntyre welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked those who had attended.

2425/065 ITEM 2 – Apologies for Absence

Councillor B McDaid had a prior commitment; reasons accepted.

2425/066 ITEM 3 – Disclosures of Interest

None

2425/067 ITEM 4 – Dispensations

None

2425/068 ITEM 5 – Representations from the public

The Broughton Road allotment association secretary spoke to members and advised that she had held a recent meeting with staff regarding the allotments, which was very positive. She also suggested that she could see the agenda item requesting a discount for plot holders that had water butts and advised that if this was passed, she would hope this would be for all plot holders and not just the Middletown association who had requested it.

A request had been received from a resident on Neville Street, this was read out and would be an agenda item at the next meeting.

Councillor P Madeley spoke to members regarding the sad passing of Mr P Whittaker and expressed the Council's condolences to his family for such a sad loss.

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2425/069 ITEM 6 – Minutes

Proposed by Councillor P Madeley

Seconded by Councillor L Morgan

Resolved in favour that the meeting minutes held on the 27th of February 2025 were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

2425/070 ITEM 7 – Budget

The finance manager gave an overview of the budget. This was received and noted.

2425/071 ITEM 8 – Estate Team update

The Estate team update was received and noted.

2425/072 ITEM 9 – Holy Trinity Church Wall

It was received and noted that the contract for the monitoring of the wall continues with the additional points added.

2425/073 ITEM 10 – Raikes Road burial ground tree

Proposed by Councillor C Nash, seconded by Councillor L Morgan and resolved in favour for the delegation to the Chief Officer for the approval of the contractor and report back to the next meeting when the work is completed.

425/074 ITEM 11 – Health & Safety

Information was received from a company called Worknest regarding proposals for a Health and Safety audit and control for the Council. Members asked for more information. How could performance be measured? was there a presentation available for members, or a Zoom call for questions to be asked? Is there a break clause?

It was confirmed that, in principle, members agreed with the proposal.

2425/075 ITEM 12 – Cenotaph

Councillor P Madeley addressed the meeting regarding the proposal presented for a survey to take place of the cenotaph to establish what cleaning and work was required.

Proposed by Councillor P Madeley, seconded by Councillor L Morgan, and resolved in favour to go ahead with the quotation and to vire the funds from the churchyard and burials budget heading.

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2425/076 ITEM 13 – Carleton Road Grazing Land

Members considered a request from AMCO to use Carleton road grazing land as a storage and rest facility whilst conducting work on behalf of net work rail.

Members raised the following queries.

Safety concerns for accessing the site as a very busy road.

Have NYC Highways been consulted? This is a commercial business, so need to pay commercial rent.

Had discussions with residents been held?

How would the stream be protected from any potential damage or pollution?

These questions would be asked and reported back.

2425/077 ITEM 14 – Allotments – Water butts

Proposed by Councillor P Madeley, seconded by Councillor M Pickard and resolved in favour to give a £5 reduction for all plot holders that have a water butt on their plot for all sites starting next year.

2425/078 ITEM 15 – Allotment tree policy

Proposed by Councillor C Nash, seconded by Councillor P Madeley, and resolved in favour to adopt the tree policy for allotment tenants.

2425/079 ITEM 14 – Notification of Business for a future agenda

The meeting closed at 19.13pm

Date of next meeting – to be confirmed