



Tadcaster Town Council

The Ark, 33 Kirkgate, Tadcaster LS24 9AQ

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Open Monday to Thursday 9.30am to 12.30pm

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting of TADCASTER TOWN COUNCIL

Date: Tuesday 4 November 2025

Time: 6pm

Venue: The Ark, 33 Kirkgate, Tadcaster, LS24 9AQ

In attendance: Cllr G Butcher (Chair), Cllr G Lodge (Vice Chair), Cllr D Bowgett, Cllr J Chiswick, Cllr F Greig, Cllr C Stephenson, Cllr R Sweeting

Officers: J Crowther, Town Clerk.

Late arrivals: Cllr R Sweeting 18:01

early departures: none

The meeting opened at 6pm

Minutes of the Meeting

F/26/14	APOLOGIES a) To receive and record apologies for absence. b) To resolve to approve reasons for absence. Resolution: to accept and approve the reasons for absence received in advance of the meeting from Cllr S Cobb and Cllr Poskitt. Unanimous. No apologies were received in advance from Cllr D Mackay, Cllr Stephenson.
F/26/15	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATION REQUESTS a) To note any written requests for dispensation the Clerk may have received from members. None b) To consider any new dispensation requests. None c) To receive Declarations of Interests from members not already declared under the members Code of Conduct or members Register of Interests, in any business to be transacted. None
F/26/16	PUBLIC SESSION – Suspension of Standing Orders To allow members of the public and representatives from other organisations are invited to speak on any matter as it relates to the town – Members of the public are requested to submit any questions in advance of the meeting to the Clerk. Standing orders will be reinstated on the closure of this agenda item. No members of the public present
F/26/17	To NOTE as a true and correct record, the MINUTES of the Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 8 July 2025. Resolution: to note the last Minutes of the F&GP Committee meeting held on Tuesday 8th July 2025 as a true and accurate record. Unanimous.
F/26/18	EVENTS MANAGEMENT a) To receive an update on the Remembrance Sunday event 9 November 2025 & Community Poppy Tree. A verbal update was received, all things going to plan for the event on Sunday. The Clerk was thanked for all her hard work.

ASSET MANAGEMENT

a) To consider the following memorial applications for Tadcaster Cemetery

Grave section	Grave number	Request
AIV	K38	Plaque and Kerbs
AIII	D7	Plaque
AIV	K44	Plaque and kerbs
AIV	K14	Plaque and kerbs
BIV	D1 and D2	Replacement
AIV	K42	Plaque and kerbs
AVI	C16	Headstone
AIV	L7	Plaque and kerbs
AIV	D16	Add inscription
AIV	K37	Plaque and kerbs
AVI	J15	Headstone
AIV	H46	Add inscription
AIV	K41	Add inscription
AVI	I15	Headstone

Resolution: to accept and agree the above memorial applications for the memorial cemetery. Unanimous.

b) To consider a quotation for bins at Tadcaster Cemetery.

Resolution: to continue the contract with the current supplier.

c) To consider a quotation for a repair to the Ark porch door.

Resolution: to accept the quotation of £165 to repair the Ark porch door.

Unanimous.

d) To receive a report following the Cemetery Inspection on 4 November 2025. An update was provided and included: high level of soil pile and the possibility of signage, gaps in the path requiring repair and the kissing gate would benefit from repainting. Lead councillor to update the risk assessment for the loose soil pile and bring to the F&GP meeting 17 March 2026. David Bowgett

Resolution: to obtain a quote for removal costs for the soil pile, in due course.

Unanimous.

e) To receive and update on the potential of rewilding in the Cemetery. Move this item to the next F&GP meeting 17 March 2026.

f) To consider the Cemetery Fees for 2026/2027.

A lengthy and in-depth debate took place, consideration to be given to the ongoing and increasing costs of the Cemetery.

Resolution: to increase the Cemetery fees by 10% for 2026/2027. Unanimous.

g) To receive a report on the War memorial following the inspection 20 October 2025. No major issues reported however, it was noted the need for improved disabled access (drop kerb), one of the chains requires repainting, part of the copper had leaked onto the stone and some weeding was required.

h) To consider the exclusion of the press and public by virtue of the Public (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. - **No members of the public present**

i) To receive an update on the Cemetery trees.

A verbal update was given by the Clerk.

j) To receive an update on Cemetery fees for Stutton Parish.

An update was provided by a lead councillor.

Resolution: to progress with the situation regarding a neighbouring village.

Unanimous.

F/26/20	FINANCE a) To approve the Balance Sheet, Bank Reconciliation, Bank Statement and Income and Expenditure to 30 September 2025. Resolution: to approve the Balance Sheet, Bank Reconciliation and Income and Expenditure to 30 September 2025. Unanimous. b) To note the Internal Audit report received up to 30 September 2025. Noted Thanks and appreciation were expressed to the Clerk. Budget Setting 2026/2027. c) To receive an update from the Business and Efficiency Group (BEG) Meeting held on 1 October 2025. Costs to date had been reviewed. Upcoming expenditure was noted including the viaduct survey and maintenance, and the ongoing cemetery shortfall over the last few years. Proposed 5% increase which would relate to £4.15 per year increase to council tax bill. Resolution: for the budgeting documentation and explanatory paper to be presented at the December full meeting (with minor amendments). Unanimous. d) To consider projects for budgeting process during 2026/2027. To arrange a meeting of the Community Projects Working Group. e) To consider and approve the financial budgeting plan for 2026/2027 Resolution: to present the financial budgeting plan for 2026/2027 to the December full council meeting. Unanimous. f) To consider the parish precept calculator 2026/2027. Resolution: to accept the 5% increase. Unanimous. g) To note the Band D Equivalent for 2026/2027 is £2145.40. Noted h) To note correspondence from North Yorkshire Council regarding parish precept arrangements 2025/26 and 2026/27. Noted i) To consider any applications to the Town Council Grant Aid - None
F/26/21	POLICY & GOVERNANCE - None
F/26/22	STAFFING a) To note the NJC Salary Increase from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026. Noted
F/26/23	CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED - None
F/26/24	To consider agenda items for next meeting. Rewilding in the Cemetery, Cemetery soil heap.
F/26/25	To note date, time and location of next meeting. 2 December 2025, 6pm, The Ark

The meeting closed at 18:44