

**Town Council Meeting
Thursday, 1 February 2024**

Present: Councillors Bacon, Bates, Dodson, Fernie, Hardacre, Kendall, McGinnies, S Middleton, V Middleton, Ogunade, Rushmer, Stephens, Whitehead, and the Town Clerk.

Thirteen members of the public were in attendance.

This meeting was simultaneously livestreamed and recorded via Zoom.

236 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

237 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest other than those already declared in members' respective register of interests.

238 TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

The minutes of the council meeting 18 January 2023 as detailed in the minute book (2023-24) were approved as a true and accurate record.

Cllr S Middleton requested a recorded vote on all subsequent items.

226 INTERNAL AUDITOR

Resolved to appoint Karen King as the internal auditor for 2024-25 and the scope of the internal audit shall be the adequacy and effectiveness of the systems of accounting, internal control, and risk assessment (unanimous).

227 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2024/25

Resolved that the band D will be increased by 8% and that the Town Clerk is authorized to issue the formal precept request for £864,600 to Wakefield Council (unanimous).

228 ANNUAL MEETINGS

Resolved that the annual council meeting will be held on the 16th May 2023 and the annual town meeting will be held on the 23rd May 2024 (unanimous).

229 ALLOTMENTS

Resolved that the request from Springfield Community Allotments to take over the land adjacent to their plot at Springfield allotments be approved (unanimous).

230 WAKEFIELD COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN

Resolved that the update be noted (unanimous).

09 HEMSWORTH PRAM RACE

Resolved that the request to support Hemsworth Pram Race by providing printing and laminating for signage be approved (unanimous).

The vice chairman, Cllr McGinnies took the chair for the following item.

10 VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE – CHAIRMAN

During the discussion of this item, Cllr Whitehead raised a point of order for the
Visit Hemsworth Water Park and Playworld for a great family day out

behaviour of councillors and Cllr Middleton raised a point of order for the discussion of staffing matters in public.

Cllr Rushmer proposed a motion of no confidence in the chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Kendall.

For – Cllrs Hardacre, Kendall, Oldroyd, S Middleton, V Middleton and Rushmer.
Against – Cllrs Bacon, Bates, Dodson, Fernie, Conway, McGinnies, Ogunade, Stephens and Whitehead.

Resolved that the motion failed.

231 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Members of the public raised the following matters:

- Councillors visiting staff working areas
- The fire door at the Lakedside
- Councillor chat groups
- The precept
- The pram race
- LP21

The meeting closed at approximately 20:00.