

**Annual Town Council Meeting
29 May 2025**

Present: Councillors Bates, Conway, Dodson, Fernie, Hardacre, Kendall, McGinnies, S Middleton, V Middleton, Ogunade, Rushmer Stephens, Whitehead and the town clerk.

Fifteen members of the public were in attendance.

This meeting was simultaneously broadcast and recorded via Zoom.

001 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Cllr Rushmer proposed Cllr S Middleton as chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Hardacre.

Cllr Whitehead proposed Cllr McGinnies as chairman. This was seconded by Cllr Bacon.

There being an equality of votes, the chair used his casting vote for Cllr Middleton.

Resolved that Cllr Shaun Middleton be elected chairman for the ensuing year.

002 CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The chairman's declaration of acceptance of office was signed and received.

003 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received.

004 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr S Middleton declared a pecuniary interest in item 7.

005 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr S Middleton proposed Cllr Rushmer as vice-chairman. This was seconded by Cllr V Middleton.

Cllr Whitehead proposed Cllr Fernie as vice-chairman. This was seconded by Cllr McGinnies.

There being an equality of votes, the chair used his casting vote for Cllr Rushmer.

Resolved that Cllr Rushmer be elected vice-chairman for the ensuing year.

006 VICE-CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The vice-chairman's declaration of acceptance of office was signed and received.

007 CHAIRMAN'S ALLOWANCE

Due to his pecuniary interest, Cllr Middleton took no part in the discussion or decision regarding this item and as such Cllr Rushmer assumed the chair.

Resolved that the amount of the chairman's allowance will be £2,000.

Cllr Middleton resumed the chair at this juncture.

Cllr Middleton stated that he would not be accepting the chairman's allowance.

008 COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

- a) Resolved that the committee structure consists of a finance committee and that the terms of reference presented to the council be approved.
- b) Resolved that the following members be appointed to the finance committee: Cllrs Bates, Fernie, Hardacre, Ogunade, McGinnies S Middleton, V Middleton Rushmer (chair) and Whitehead

009 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Resolved that the schedule of meetings be approved with the following amendments: The council meeting on 5 June 2025 be moved to the 12 June 2025, finance committee meetings be moved to the same dates as council meetings and any committees no longer in operation be removed from the schedule.

010 STANDING PANELS

Resolved that the respective standing panels for grievances/disciplinaries and complaints consist of Cllrs Hardacre, Middleton and Stephens, with Cllrs McGinnies, Rushmer and Whitehead as reserve members and Cllrs Fernie, Ogunade and V Middleton as appeal panel members.

At this point, Cllr Dodson left the meeting.

011 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS, STANDING ORDERS AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Resolved that the adoption of the council's financial regulations, standing orders and code of conduct be approved.

At this point, Cllr Bates left the meeting.

012 ASSET REGISTER

Resolved that the adoption of the asset register be deferred.

013 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Resolved that Cllrs Stephens and Rushmer be the council's appointed voting representatives to the Yorkshire Local Councils Association.

014 LEGAL ADVISORS/SOLICITORS

- a) resolved that Ramsdens Solicitors be appointed as the council's advisors on general legal matters.
- b) YHEA be appointed as the council's human resources advisors.

015 TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Resolved that the respective minutes of the council meeting held on 03 April 2025 and the extraordinary council meeting held on 08 May 2025 be approved.

017 COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Resolved that the minutes of the following meeting be approved and adopted:

Leisure and Recreation	19 December 2024
Leisure and Recreation	20 February 2025
Finance	23 January 2025
Finance	17 April 2025
Policy, Planning & Staffing	17 April 2025

Resolved that the following minutes be deferred:

Leisure and Recreation	20 March 2025
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018 BANKING/INVESTMENT SIGNATORIES

Resolved that all councilors be approved as signatories for Barclays bank and the CCLA deposit account and property fund.

019 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Members of the public raised the following matters:

- Discounted pitch hire at Sandygate.
- The financial regulations, standing orders and code of conduct.
- Income at Hemsworth Water Park.
- Improved standards at Hemsworth Water Park.
- Councillor cooperation.

The meeting closed at 19:55