

RYHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 8th July 2025

Present: **Councillors** **C Bashforth (Chair) A Atherton, G Booth,
L Booth, R Caley, K Fretwell and B Burnage,**

Clerk **C Greaves**

District Councillors **M Cummings and U Ali**

MINUTES

2526 35 Apologies for absence
Cllrs A Morley, T Staves, and DCllr F Heptinstall sent their apologies.

2526 36 Declarations of interest

(1) Cllrs G Booth, L Booth and B Burnage in respect of the Caretaker.

(2) Cllrs A Morley, K Fretwell and L Booth for Rycroft Leisure.

2526 37 To approve the minutes of the council meeting held on the 10th June 2025
Approved.

2526 38 To receive updates on ongoing issues

(1) Allotments

Noted - Letters have been sent to six untended plot holders, two have replied. One stating that they are unwell but will get started soon, the other surrendering their plot. Offers for 2 vacant plots have been issued to residents.

(2) Planning Appeal Farm access 24/01027/FUL – Appeal 3363904

Noted – the case is ongoing.

(3) Cleaning of memorial stonework

Noted – advice is to use a cloth, soft brush and soapy water.

CAB

(4) Cost of paint for dog fouling stencils

Approved – the caretaker will purchase £80 of stencil paint. Members will give further thought to what other measures can be undertaken to help reduce dog fouling.

2526 39 To receive items of correspondence

(1) Highways re lamp column brackets

Noted – Wakefield council have asked for the old brackets to be removed. The basket company have quoted £1,320 inc VAT to do the work. A working party will look into how easily the brackets can be removed and report back to the council.

(2) Roadworks in Ryhill

Noted – Gas works near on Cow Lane 14th July 2025 and road works on Churchfields from 30th September to 5th October 2025.

(3) Havercroft and Ryhill CLP – Christmas event grant request.

Approved – The council agreed to pay a half share of the traffic management costs with a grant of £1,449.

(4) Wakefield Town & Parish Council meeting 8th July 2025.

Noted – Emergency planning arrangements were discussed and details have been sent onto Rycroft Leisure as the most suitable venue in the area. Wakefield Council's "Our Year 2024" programme update was presented and Electoral Services have offered to give indicative costs for the 2027 elections along with sessions for Clerk's on how to deal with a mid-term (casual) vacancy.

2526 40 District Councillor's comments on local issues (for information only)

The following points were noted.

DCllr U Ali reported that he had received a reply from the WYCA Mayor saying that they will raise it with the SYCA Mayor following the lobbying for additional buses to be set on to travel into Barnsley.

He had also received details of drug dealing that had been passed onto the Police to deal with.

DCllr M Cummings reported that she was chasing the repairs for the Cemetery gates.

She also said that there had been resident complaints about the weekly access of large vehicles to Benyons yard and that they were looking at what they could do to address the problem.

582

2526 41 WY Police – Safe Scheme update

Noted - the Chair shared an update and a summary is on the website. Members were reminded that Operation SNAP allows dashcam footage to be submitted to WY Police through their website. The WY Safety Camera Partnership Strategy explains how speeding is tackled and now offers more flexibility on deployment of the camera vans. This had then opened up the "Community Concern" route for camera deployment whereby residents can raise issues on the WY Police website, that if supported by other residents, would then allow the camera van to be deployed onto additional roads.

2526 42 Newsletter

Approved – the draft was approved with typo amendments and photos to be added. It will then be sent to the printers.

2526 43 Biodiversity

(1) Seeding of wild flowers

Approved – Planting took place in spring and additional planting will be undertaken in autumn.

(2) Update of Good Allotment tenant guide

Noted – this is ongoing but close to completion.

(3) Update of action plan – hedgerows, trees, wildflowers, mowing and restoration

Approved – a working party will be established in September to outline a review of the policy and strategy and to consider the next steps for the council.

2526 44 Policy Review

(1) Policies to be amended and updated

Noted – The Clerk has updated the new and amended policies onto the website.

(2) Changes to the website

Approved – a working party will be established to review the website.

(3) Risk Management policy updated

Approved – the two red indicators have now been downgraded to amber following the successful implementation of the control measures.

2526 45 Access to wellhead and maintenance of St James' hermitage

Noted – the contractor has been instructed and will start work presently.

CAB

2526 46 AGAR 2024-25 and Internal Auditor

Noted – the Internal audit raised two concerns regarding the AGAR (VAT treatment and Valuations). The Clerk responded to that the treatment reflected the proper practices for a small council and that the main asset had been recently valued. The council had considered the cost/benefits of paying a surveyor to estimate values for the other assets (most of which have no clear value) but had determined it would not be a good use of council funds to do so. The Internal Auditor accepted both responses and no further action is required.

2526 47 Account Payment authorisations (see monthly list)

(1) WYPF change in contribution rate and top-up payment

Approved – The Clerk has updated the employer contribution rate to the new amount and calculated the arrears to be £54.65 which will be paid into the fund in August.

(2) Authorisations (see monthly list)

Approved.

2526 48 Clerk Pay review and grade increase (to s21)

Approved – The Clerk advised that the annual review increase should be in April when the main pay review is due, and not on the anniversary of appointment. The national pay award is pending. The council had agreed an interim increase of 5%, but the clerk reported that changing this to 3.2% would address the late grade increase as well as being closer to the likely award whenever it is agreed. The council approved both actions.

2526 49 Items for the next agenda

Approved – Website review, Newsletter, Maintenance of St James' hermitage, Xmas provision, Rycroft Leisure, Dog fouling and the Lamp columns would be covered in September. Business Continuity Planning and Biodiversity would be addressed in October.

2526 50 Date, Time and Venue for the next meeting of the council (09/09/25)

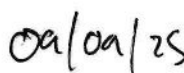
Approved – Next meeting to be held at St Paul's Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Ryhill on the 9th September 2025 at 6pm

C R Greaves

Charles Greaves
Clerk to the Council
Ryhill Parish Council



Signed as a true record



Date

RYHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Account payments for 8th July 2025

Payee	Description	Date	Amount £	VAT	A/C	Approver	Submitter	
Unity Trust Bank	Account Service Charge	30/06/25	6.00		UT			Auto
Charles Greaves	Printer paper	08/07/25	16.99	2.83	UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
Charles Greaves	Clerk Salary & Expenses	08/07/25	536.88		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
WYPF	Pension	08/07/25	146.81		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
HMRC PAYE	Income Tax	08/07/25	126.60		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
HMRC NIC	Employers NICs	08/07/25	38.00		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
John Hope	Caretaker work	08/07/25	675.00		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
Charles Greaves	Clerk Salary & Expenses	15/08/25	536.68		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
WYPF	Pension	15/08/25	152.84		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
HMRC PAYE	Income Tax	15/08/25	126.80		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
HMRC NIC	Employers NICs	15/08/25	38.00		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
WYPF	Top-up contribution	05/08/25	54.65		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	

Receipt	Description	Date	Amount £	Paid to
Interest	Unity Trust to 30 June 2025	30/06/25	325.97	Unity Trust Instant Access account

C D R