

RYHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 10th February 2026

Present: **Councillors** **C Bashforth (Chair), A Atherton, T Staves, K Fretwell and A Morley**

Clerk **C Greaves**

District Councillors **M Cummings and U Ali**

MINUTES

2526 125 Apologies for absence

Cllrs R Caley G Booth, L Booth, B Burnage and DCllr F Heptinstall sent their apologies.

2526 126 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 127 To approve the minutes of the council meeting held on the 13th January 2026

Approved.

2526 128 To receive updates on ongoing issues

- (1) Missing Planters from Nostell Lane**
Noted – The claim is still with Wakefield Housing’s insurer.
- (2) Planning application – Mill Lane Estate**
Noted – The application has not yet been re-submitted.
- (3) Closure of Barclays Bank account**
Noted – The account is now closed.
- (4) Allotment changes**

Noted – The Clerk has thanked Mr & Mrs Welch on their retirement from the Cemetery Road allotments.



2526 129 To receive items of correspondence

(1) Highways 3 year notice – Chapel Street

Noted – Wakefield council has placed a s58 3 year restriction on planned utility works on Chapel Street. This is normally done after a road resurface.

(2) WYPF Pension contribution rate reduction 2026/27

Noted – the employer contribution rate will reduce from 17.3% to 15.1% of salary.

(3) Precept confirmation £53,450

Noted – Wakefield Council have confirmed the precept arrangements.

(4) West Yorkshire Mass Transit consultation

Noted – Details have been shared with councillors so they can make a direct submission should they wish to do so.

(5) YLCA Training session on Website accessibility

Noted – Cllr K Fretwell attended and will feedback to the council at item 133.

2526 130 District Councillor's comments on local issues (for information only)

D Cllr M Cummings reported that the Cemetery gates were still outstanding, that the Church Lane traffic lights were planned for spring 2026, that a planning application for 2 houses behind Mill Lane had been submitted and that an application had been submitted to alter the approved extension to the Bennion's mobile mast.

D Cllr M Cummings asked for support from Rycroft Leisure and Ryhill and Havercroft councils in order to secure some funding from Wakefield Council for improvements to the path from the Beachill estate. She asked for location details for where the new Christmas trees were to be planted so that she could check it out with Wakefield Highways

DCllr U Ali reported that Mount Dental practice were still trying to recruit a dentist for the Ryhill surgery.

Ryhill Councillors expressed their support for the footpath works, and concerns were raised over potholes on Charles Street and at Churchfields. Cllr C Bashforth will send on location details for the trees.

2526 131 WY Police – Safe Scheme

Noted – the summary report is on the website.

2526 132 Christmas provision

Resolved – the council will look to plant Christmas trees on Nostell Lane (near Lakeside) and on Station Road. Approval is needed from Wakefield highways and location details will

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be sent on. Both locations have deep verges and it is hoped to plant two 6-foot high trees, each at a cost of £350 delivered (supplied by Newstead Nurseries).

2526 133 Website and Email Review

Cllr K Fretwell reported that the training session covered the importance of presenting web pages and the information on them in a way that works for people with disabilities and for those who use assistive technology. It highlighted screen reader issues, formatting and “sub-titles” as areas to look into, and raised queries around WCAG 2.2 compliance, GDPR, IT policy and the new AGAR provision. All of which Ryhill Parish Council have recently addressed. Cllr Fretwell has undertaken an initial scan of the website and identified that there were some tweaks that may be needed to how the website is presented.

Resolved – Cllr Fretwell will share the full feedback from the session with all councillors and make minor amendments to the website’s presentation, and discuss any unresolved concerns with Craig at the website company.

Noted – all councillors confirmed that they were now using the new email system and that they had no issues with it. The Clerk’s old email has now been “switched-off”.

2526 134 Allotment water rates

Approved – the Clerk has calculated what the water cost at Cemetery Road allotments has been for the 2025 season and it is approximately £16 per plot – though the outstanding bill was just 93p. The charge is based on supply and usage and £16 is a rounding of the estimated total amount for the 2026 season. This £16 water charge will be added to the renewal fee of £30 for each of the Cemetery Road plots.

2526 135 Planting and Biodiversity on the Stray

Cllr A Atherton reported that only 1 of the 15 trees that had been planted on The Stray had survived the drought, mowing and vandalism. He also suggested that timber tree guards would help to protect them whilst they get established.

Approved – Replacement trees will be planted with more mature ones, possible from the Woodland Trusts free provision. The Stray will only be mown around the edges and with a path across for every cut, including the last one of the season. More wild flower seeds will be added to the ones recently planted.

2526 136 Unity Trust Bank

(1) Change of email address

Approved – the forms were completed and signed for the Clerk to submit.

(2) New Deposit account

Approved – the forms were completed and signed for the Clerk to submit.

(3) New Savings account

Approved – the forms were completed and signed for the Clerk to submit.

2526 137 Rycroft Leisure

Noted – no report was available due to absence.

2526 138 Account Payments (see monthly list)

Approved.

2526 139 Items for the next agenda

Approved – Website review, Christmas provision, Planting & Biodiversity, Policy Review and Allotments would be addressed.

2526 140 Date, Time and Venue for the next meeting of the council (10/03/26)

Approved – Next meeting to be held at St Paul's Methodist Church, Chapel Street, Ryhill on the 10th March 2026 at 6pm

C R Greaves

**Charles Greaves
Clerk to the Council
Ryhill Parish Council**



Signed as a true record

10.3.26
Date

Account payments for 10th February 2026

Payee	Description	Date	Amount £	VAT	A/C	Approver	Submitter	
Unity Trust Bank	Account Service Charge	31/01/26	6.00		UT			Auto
Wakefield Council	Station Road rent	13/02/26	150.00		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
John Hope	Caretaker work	13/02/26	82.50		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
Charles Greaves	Relmb - 2 nd Class stamps x 50	13/02/26	43.50		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
Pro Lec	Christmas electrical works	13/02/26	120.00		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
YLCA	Web accessibility training	13/02/26	10.00		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	Clerk Mandate
Charles Greaves	Clerk Salary & Expenses	13/02/26	506.68		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	£30 minus 2xDec Exp
WYPF	Pension	13/02/26	152.84		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
HMRC PAYE	Income Tax	13/02/26	126.80		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	
HMRC NIC	Employers NICs	13/02/26	38.00		UT	C Bashforth	C Greaves	

Transfers	Description	Date	Amount £	Paid to
UT Instant Access a/c	Transfer to Current a/c	13/02/26	3,000.00	Unity Trust Current account

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10.3.26