

ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 19th May 2026.
Meeting held in the Oriel Room, St Ricarius Church, Main Street, Aberford,
commencing at 7.00pm.**

Present;

Councillors: Graham Bradley, Sarah Bradley (Chair), Nancy Griffiths
Chris Ibbotson and Ruth Reed,
Clerk to the Council; Barry Riley.
Ward Councillors Firth and Wallis.
1 member of the public

Councillor S.Bradley as the presiding Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance with an acknowledgement to the new Ward Councillor Angela Wallis.

Councillor S.Bradley requested nominations for the position of Chair.

1. Election of Chair.

Councillor S.Bradley was nominated as Chair by Councillor Reed it was seconded by Councillor Ibbotson.

1a. The Chair duly signed the Acceptance of Office

2. Election of Vice Chair.

Councillor Griffiths was nominated as Vice Chair by Councillor Reed it was seconded by Councillor G.Bradley.

3. Review attendance record (May 2024 to April 2025).

The record of attendance was duly noted.

4. To receive apologies and approve reasons for absence.

Councillor Baxter.

The reason for not attending was accepted.

5. Disclosure of Interests.

Councillor Ibbotson declared an interest in agenda item 9.a. as he had applied for a ticket.

6. Minutes.

The minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting, were approved and signed by the Chair Councillor S.Bradley.

7. Public Participation

a. See minute 7.c.

b. No agenda items received.

c. The Chair invited the member of the public to speak at agenda item 10.

d. Ward Councillors were made aware that speeding traffic and parking within the village was a major concern for the Parish Council which they wished to have resolved.

Comment was made about the amount of traffic redirected through the village due to the latest improvement works (see minute 10.).

Further comment about the placing of 4/5 rubber strips to collate speed data along Main Street, had been a request by previous Ward Councillor Robinson to Chris Proctor the Leeds CC Senior Traffic Engineer for the Aberford area, however it had not been progressed due to comments by Nick Hunt of Leeds CC Traffic Management about cost constraints, even though the Ward Councillors and the Parish Council were willing to provide funding.

Ward Councillor Firth acknowledged that speeding traffic was the number one issue in the village and the reason why there was an increased Police presence resulting in many speeding tickets being issued.

He commented that the Highway tracker introduced by Ward Councillors to deal with Highway matters specifically in the Harewood Ward, was being reviewed and all outstanding actions and those to be undertaken would be dealt with.

Ward Councillor Firth announced that he would Chair the meetings of Leeds CC Strategic Planning Committee and commented that the Local Plan was under review and would alert the Parish Council to any developments within allocated sites in Aberford.

8. Crime & Security.

a. The Clerk reported that the latest crime report on the Police.uk website for Leeds North-East, had shown ten crimes were reported for March 2026. One being a theft in the Parlington Estate, the others were for anti-social behaviour, burglary, violence and sexual offences and two other crimes not specified.

b. The Clerk informed members that the latest PACT meeting would be held on 04th June 2026 at Wetherby Police Station.

c. The link for reporting non-emergency crimes or Anti-social behaviour is

www.westyorkshire.police.uk

d. Community Alert scheme.

<https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/west-yorkshire-community-alert>

9. Projects.

a. Members discussed the arrangements for the following day's ticket ballot for the Leeds Festival and confirmed each Councillors role within the procedure.

b. A draft of the newsletter for the annual A5 booklet format (see minute 11. 17th March 2026), was circulated to members to invite any comments before the presentation of the document for proof reading, following which it would be issued to the printers for producing.

10. Traffic/Parking issues, Aberford Main Street.

a. Councillor Ibbotson had attended a meeting with the Balfour Beatty construction team to discuss the work being carried out to increase capacity on the A1(M) northbound. He was informed that the works were on plan and 5 lanes should be open by the Leeds Festival weekend and gantry/signage updates and surface improvements may take an additional couple of months. Councillor Ibbotson was given a tour through the works area on the motorway and was able to see the works in progress and was thankful for this being arranged.

A request had been made to the contractor to re-install the mobile electronic sign stating no through route via Aberford and position before J47 on the motorway and also to see if any changes can be made to the electronic gantry sign that regularly states 'Queue Caution ahead' which results in traffic exiting at J47 and travelling through the village when it would be quicker for them to stay on the motorway.

Councillor Ibbotson had expressed his appreciation to the Balfour Beatty representative for having opened up communication lines with both the Parish Council and local residents.

Ward Councillors were informed that a meeting had taken place with Future Biogas (see minute 7. 21st April 2026) at their site involving the engineering and the farm input/output operations. An outcome of the meeting was that they were aware that the planning consent from Leeds CC does not allow haulage through local villages.

A resident commented that having not received a response about concerns submitted to Chris Proctor, the Leeds CC Senior Traffic Engineer for the Aberford area (see minute 4. 17th March 2026) he had, with assistance from Ward Councillor Stephenson, eventually received a response (which had been circulated to the Clerk and Councillor S. Bradley), which related to the Chief Officer's report (and the recent

collision on Main Street), and referred to the Legal Process and Consultation (Section 90c) and that the introduction of traffic calming is governed by the Highways Act 1980. The outcome of this statutory process and considering the three formal objections received, resulted in the decision to proceed with the scheme.

In response to comments made that the scheme had still yet to start, Ward Councillor Firth stated that several legal procedures would need to be completed first.

11. Correspondence received.

None received.

12. Planning Matters.

a. The following applications and appeals were received and noted.

Applications

| Planning Application /Appeal Reference | Address | Details |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| 26/02367/FU | Rein House Lotherton Lane | Demolition of outbuilding and stables to erect single storey dwelling. |

b. The following decisions and appeals were received and noted.

Decisions

| Planning Application /Appeal Reference | Address | Details |
|--|-------------------------------|---|
| 25/06451/LI | Wakefield Lodge Aberford Road | Listed building application for replacement of 8 timber windows. Refused 24.04.26 |

13. Finance.

a. The report and content of the receipts, payments and balances was **RECEIVED** and agreed for appropriate governance.

b. The bank reconciliations as at 30.04.2026 were **APPROVED**.

c. The following invoices for payment and charges received were **APPROVED**.

| Date prepared | May-26 | | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| EFT Type | Details | Net | VAT | Total |
| BACS | B Riley- Clerk Salary | £488.37 | | £488.37 |
| BACS | B Riley - Home Allowance /Mileage | £26.00 | | £26.00 |
| BACS | Oriel Room hire, St Ricarius Church | £20.00 | | £20.00 |
| D/Debit | Giff Gaff - Phone | £6.00 | | £6.00 |
| BACS | Brian Hopper - Internal Auditor | £150.00 | | £150.00 |
| D/Debit | Unity Bank Charges | £7.00 | | £7.00 |
| D/Debit | Nat West - Bank Charges | £2.80 | | £2.80 |
| | Total Payments | £700.17 | £0.00 | £700.17 |

d. The Internal Auditor's report was duly noted.

e. The Annual Governance Statement was considered, approved and accepted.

f. The Accounting Statements were considered, approved and accepted.

g. Having considered the information provided within the application; it was agreed to approve the grant to Garforth in Bloom.

14. To receive any new information from the Clerk or Councillors and consider for Inclusion on the next agenda.

The Clerk informed members that he had contacted Savills Plc to request an update (see minute 6. 21st April 2026) but had not yet received a response.

Councillor S.Bradley commented that she;

1. wanted to start progressing the new playground provision at Beckside, the Clerk had made arrangements for playground contractors to attend and needed a date for a meeting to take place.
2. was still progressing the provision of tennis coaching from Leeds CC (see minute 11. 17th March 2026).
3. would progress the introduction of social media (see minute 11. 21st October 2025) for the Parish Council by providing an out-facing platform, the Clerk would provide her with some social media guidelines for public authorities.

Councillor G.Bradley was thanked by the Parish Council for carrying out the work to enable better access to the new noticeboard on Parlington Lane.

15. Date of next meeting.

Resolved; that the next Parish Council meeting will be on 16th June 2026 at the Oriel Room, St Ricarius Church, Aberford.

16. Matters to be discussed at the exclusion of the public and press.

There were no matters discussed that required the exclusion of the public or press.

Signed
Chair Aberford & District Parish Council

Date.....

The meeting closed at 8.31pm.