

ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 21st July 2026.
Meeting held in the Oriel Room, St Ricarius Church, Main Street, Aberford,
commencing at 7.00pm.

Present;

Councillors: Sarah Bradley (Chair), Karen Baxter, Graham Bradley,
Nancy Griffiths and Ruth Reed,
Clerk to the Council; Barry Riley.

1.To receive and approve reasons for absence.

Councillor Ibbotson.

The reason for not attending was accepted.

2. Disclosure of Interests.

No interests were disclosed.

3. Minutes.

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

4. Public Participation

a. No public in attendance

b. No agenda items received.

c. Although not in attendance a member of the public had presented a document for members of the Parish Council (which had been circulated by email earlier in the day), about his attempts to ascertain updates on the traffic calming design scheme for Aberford Main Street (see minute 4.a. 17th March 2026). Specifically he referred to the road humps, the new handrail at the end of the ginnel leading to the School, the removal of the two build out areas and the feasibility study for a pedestrian crossing between the Aberford Village Hall and School Ginnel.

d. No Ward Councillor in attendance.

Councillor S.Bradley informed members that she had contacted Ward Councillor Wallis earlier in the month about the excess of weeds growing around Aberford along the main roads and paths. She had asked who should be contacted to address the problem and had been informed that Leeds CC are reducing this type of work due to financial constraints, but would enquire what could be done.

5. Crime & Security.

a. The Clerk reported that the latest crime report on the Police.uk website for Leeds North-East, had shown four crimes were reported in Aberford covering the month of May 2026. Three were for violence and sexual offences and the other was an unspecified crime.

b. The Clerk informed members that the latest PACT meeting was held on Thursday 16th July 2026.

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>

6. Projects update.

a. The Clerk confirmed the playground companies that would be attending on Friday 14th August 2026 at the Beckside playground, members duly noted the information and the requirement to attend.

Councillor G.Bradley had attended at the playground and provided an update on his findings following the points of concern within the annual inspection report (see minute 6.c. 16th June 2026), but considered these of a minor matter.

b. Further to the information already circulated to members about the Community Orchard, Councillor Griffiths confirmed that she had met with Alan Thornton of the Fruit Works Co-operative, who had visited the field and had provided a sketch plan for the five trees (having been provided with the utility plans). The date for planting was likely to be November at which time local advertising of the planting session would be undertaken following which arrangements would be made for them to be watered until established.

c. Comment was made about the condition of the three seats on Pump Hill. As this was a focal point in the village members were in agreement that the cost to repair them would be met by the Parish Council, Councillor G.Bradley had inspected the condition of them and offered to replace the wooden slats, members thanked him for offering to do so.

7. Traffic/Parking issues, Aberford Main Street.

a. Having observed the frequency of tractors travelling through the village, heading to and from the Future Biogas plant on Ridge Road, Councillor Ibbotson had contacted the company and despite the business being aware of the planning stipulation of no hauling through Aberford, they had done just that bringing the rye harvest from a farm in Scholes back through Aberford via the huge tractors and trailers, this had been ongoing for 2/3 days (an 18 mile round trip). The tractors drove North through the village on to the A64 towards Leeds and into Scholes and back, one every 4/5 minutes travelling on Aberford Main Street. The official route should have been via the ELOR and Garforth, the road closure on Ridge Road having no impact.

Councillor Ibbotson had contacted the site Farm Manager and Leeds CC to complain (a local resident had also complained to Leeds CC) which resulted in a conversation with Sebastian Edwards, the National Agricultural Manager for the business.

Having been reminded about the planning rules (which he was aware of), he confirmed that no future hauling through the village would occur. He promised to send Councillor Ibbotson an email with details of potential funding for the community but this has not been received to date but he would remind him if not received.

To summarise, the situation is very frustrating, the trailers are bigger than ever, especially as the business knows full well the planning rules, they simply need to change their hauling approach and are apparently seeking to do so.

b. With the commencement of the 4-week northbound closures for the A1(M) widening scheme and the overnight closures, this had resulted in traffic coming through Aberford. Unfortunately, despite the overnight weight limit, many HGVs chose to rat run through the village throughout the night and continue to do so. Councillor Ibbotson had contacted the Highways Project Manager asking him to improve signage at the South end of the village and also the South end of Micklefield where most HGVs seem to travel through avoiding the diversion to Garforth. The Project Manager and his team, had made some adjustments but with a lack of policing (local Police being aware of the issues), there isn't much else he could do, but he was asked that the mobile electronic signs be used again to state, "No through route via Aberford". In summary efforts made to minimise the disruption had made a difference for the remaining 2½ weeks of closures ahead.

8. Correspondence received requiring discussion.

No items to consider.

9. Planning Matters.

a. The following applications were received and noted.

Applications

Planning Application /Appeal Reference	Address	Details
26/03215/OT	Lotherton Hall, Lotherton Lane	Outline application with matters reserved (appearance) for erection of a Single storey building to house ring tailed lemurs
26/03397/LI	Parlington Lane Cottage Parlington Lane	Listed building application for internal and external works and repairs including installation of heat pump to rear; replacement of roof slates and septic tank; refurbishment and replacement of windows and roof slates.
26/03396/FU	Parlington Lane Cottage Parlington Lane	Alterations and repairs to dwelling including installation of heat pump to rear; replacement of roof slates and septic tank; refurbishment and replacement of windows and roof slates
26/03791/LI	Dark Arch Parlington Lane Parlington Estate	Listed building application for repointing to soffits, portals, and walls, consolidation of SW Portal and ventilation shafts, replacement of spalling and missing stones.
26/03645/OT	Land To The West Of Aberford Road Garforth	Outline application for proposed employment development consisting of storage and distribution (Use Class B8) and/or general industry (Use Class B2), restaurant/coffee shop with drive thru facility (Use Class E/sui generis), associated access roads, service yards, car parking areas, landscaping, blue infrastructure and associated advanced infrastructure and earthworks. Detailed approval being sought for vehicular access into the site. A I other matters reserved.

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

Decisions

Planning Application /Appeal Reference	Address	Details
26/02367/FU	Rein House Lotherton Lane	Demolition of outbuilding and stables to erect single storey dwelling. Refused 19.06.26
25/07426/FU	Windsor Farm House Windsor Farm York Road	Demolition of existing single storey side extension, erection of single storey side extension, roof alterations including raising of eaves to front and side and new chimney, fenestration alterations to front and side, replacement windows throughout, replacement cladding throughout, removal of existing render, patio to front and side. Approved 30.06.26

10. Finance.

a. The report and content of the receipts, payments and balances were received and **APPROVED** for appropriate governance.

b. The bank reconciliations as at 30.06.2026 were **APPROVED**.

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

Date prepared	Jul-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	TW Garden Services	£233.00		£233.00
BACS	Autela Payroll Services	£60.00	£12.00	£72.00
BACS	HMRC	£453.20		£453.20
D/Debit	Nat West - Bank Charges	£5.05		£5.05
	Total Payments	£1,291.62	£12.00	£1,303.62

Although not listed the Clerk presented an invoice for payment from Yorkshire Office Group Ltd for stationery that he had purchased.

d. The quarterly budget report was accepted.

e. Having received and reviewed the grant application from Aberford in Bloom, it was agreed to award the amount requested.

11. Information from the Clerk or Councillors.

Councillor S.Bradley wanted to solve the problem of unsightly, overgrown vegetation (see minute 4.d.), on land owned by the Parish Council and those areas owned by Leeds CC that were not being attended to. A previous discussion about engaging a

Lengthsman to keep these areas neat and tidy, would address the problem, she and the Clerk would progress how this could be achieved.

Members commented about the overgrown hedges around the village and how this matter could be dealt with, in the first instance residents should contact Leeds CC to report the problem using the following link

<https://services.leeds.gov.uk/OvergrownVegetation>.

Following comment by a resident about replacing the worn goal nets (noted in the Annual playground inspection), on Jubilee Field, these would be replaced.

Councillor Reed informed members that she had received many compliments on the new format newsletter that had been distributed.

Councillor Reed reported that once again, the defibrillator cabinet was open with no signs of forced entry (see minute 11. 21st April 2026), the Clerk stated that he would expect to be informed of this by 'The Circuit' (the National Defibrillator Network), but had not been, Councillor Reed would contact the Community Defibrillator Co-Ordinator for YAS (Yorkshire Ambulance Services), to enquire about changing the code.

12. Date of next meeting.

Resolved; that the next Parish Council meeting will be on 18th August 2026 in the Oriel Room, St Ricarius Church, Aberford.

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

Councillor S.Bradley provided members with an explanation of how the Parish Council supports the organisers of the Christmas Lights event, CIA (Community Illuminations Aberford), via road closures, Christmas light provision and funding. A request to provide additional motifs to the lampposts had been received but the cost to provide this would exceed the budget provision agreed by the Parish Council. Councillor S.Bradley was asked to confirm what the cost was for CIA to provide the event and the level of funding they gave, this would then be discussed at the next Parish Council for a decision to be reached on whether to increase the number of existing lights/motifs.

Signed
Chair Aberford & District Parish Council

Date.....

The meeting closed at 8.22pm.