

ABERFORD & DISTRICT PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 18th August 2026.
Meeting held at Aberford Albion FC Clubhouse, Aberford LS25 3DF,
commencing at 7.00pm.

Present;

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

1.To receive and approve reasons for absence.

Full attendance.

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. With regard to agenda item 7; a member of the public commented that he had still received no response to the email sent to Chris Proctor, the Leeds CC Senior Traffic Engineer for the Aberford area (see minute 4.c.21st July 2026), to ascertain updates on the traffic calming design scheme for Aberford Main Street.
- b. No agenda items received.
- c. The Chair invited the member of the public in attendance to speak, following which comment was made about the container (and the gas bottles within it), on the private land behind the Village Hall. He had noted that youths were gathering on and around the container which presented a danger due to the overgrown vegetation being a trip hazard and with the dry conditions prevalent at present. He had contacted the owner so that he was aware should there be an incident, also noted was that the field was a mess, with damaged fencing and parts of it held up by industrial strapping to a tree on the Village Hall land and the public footpath crossing to it was barely passable. The Clerk commented that the matter was originally reported to him by a concerned resident following information given to her by her child that the container was being used for drug use. The resident had been advised to report it to the Police for them to investigate.
- d. No Ward Councillor in attendance.

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 June 2026. These were for burglary, a violence and sexual offence and a theft.
- b. The Clerk informed members that the Harewood PACT Meeting scheduled for Thursday 27th August 2026 had been cancelled. The next meeting would take place on Thursday 8th October.
- 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, Councillor S.Bradley and Councillor Griffiths, had met with the

playground companies on the prior Friday morning, to discuss the requirements and options available for a new playground at Beckside. They were to supply a design and cost for the project, but each pointed out the cost to remove and repair the existing surface would be a major cost.

7. Traffic/Parking issues, Aberford Main Street.

Comment was made about the latest email communication from National Highways about the widening scheme on the A1(M) between junctions 43 and 44.

Significant progress had been made over the last few months, with the widening and carriageway surfacing now complete and that the new fifth lane would open on Saturday 22nd August 2026 prior to the Leeds Festival.

There would be further overnight closures to enable the installation and commissioning of the updated technology and signage resulting in signed diversions being placed and a weight restriction applied through Aberford, to discourage traffic through the village.

Diversion routes were available via the following link;

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/1/edit?mid=1O4s4R-K54LKrNepA4SwY_45jVHUv3kg&usp=sharing

Further updates would be shared on;

<https://nationalhighways.co.uk/roads-and-travel/road-projects/yorkshire-and-north-east/yorkshire-and-north-east-maintenance-schemes/>

It was noted that the weight restriction was not a permanent feature and though welcomed, it was noted that vehicles were still travelling through the village.

Councillor S.Bradley informed members that following communication with the Leeds Festival organisers, that the road closure for Aberford would be from the 26th August, also that a village liaison officer had been appointed to deal with enquiries during the event. Comment was made that the signage was not definitive enough to deter people entering the village and then realising there was no access.

8. Correspondence received requiring discussion.

No items to consider.

9. Planning Matters.

- Nothing to report.
- Nothing to report.

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 31.07.2026 were **APPROVED**.

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

Date prepared	Aug-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	PKF Littlejohn	£210.00	£42.00	£252.00
D/Debit	Nat West - Bank Charges	£3.15		£3.15
	Total Payments	£753.52	£42.00	£795.52

d. Due to the summer holiday season it had not been possible to arrange a meeting with CIA (Community Illuminations Aberford) and Leeds Lights (Leeds CC

organisation), about the provision of the Christmas Lights event and whether to increase the number of existing lights/motifs.

11. Information from the Clerk or Councillors.

It was acknowledged that the Parish Council had instigated an alleged breach of planning control concerning non-compliance with plans and conditions under 11/03955/FU, for land adjacent to White House Farm on Bunkers Hill, as the boundary wall had been removed and the verge damaged.

Councillor Reed commented that having inspected the defibrillator cabinet, it had to be physically opened to access it rather than the cabinet having a faulty lock, she was still awaiting instruction from YAS (Yorkshire Ambulance Services), on how to change the code.

Councillor G.Bradley informed members that there would be provision of a defibrillator at the Bowling Club and that he had completed work on the benches at Pump Hill (see minute 6.c. 21st July 2026), members thanked him for doing so.

Councillor Baxter stated that despite reporting the overgrown hedge at the bridge by Yew Trees House (see minute 11. 21st July 2026), no action had been taken. To bring about action, members were encouraged to also report the matter using the following link <https://services.leeds.gov.uk/OvergrownVegetation>.

Councillor S.Bradley reported that the recent tennis provision during August had proved a success.

12. Date of next meeting.

Resolved; that the next Parish Council meeting will be on 15th September 2026 at Aberford Albion FC Clubhouse, Bunkers Hill, Aberford LS25 3DF

13. 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 8.13pm.