

HAXBY TOWN COUNCIL

The Memorial Hall, The Village, Haxby YO32 3HT

Minutes of a meeting of the Amenities Committee held on 5 October 2026 at 8pm in Oaken Grove Community Centre, Reid Park, Haxby.

Present: Cllr. E. Pearson - Chair
Cllr. L. Henley
Cllr. R. Pearson (*remote attendance - not applicable to quorum*)
Cllr G. Stow

Also present: Two members of the public and Alan Draper (town clerk).

A40/2026 Apologies for absence

RESOLVED that apologies and the reasons for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs C. Layfield, R. Pearson and J. Secker.

A41/2026 Chair's welcome

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

A42/2026 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED to note there were no declarations of interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000 Part III and the Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

A43/2026 Public question time and participation

The ostensibly vacant plots and the waiting list for the allotments were raised. It was noted that a walkabout with councillors on the allotments will take place in the near future and that these matters will be investigated.

A44/2026 Minutes of the previous meetings

RESOLVED to approve the respective minutes of the previous meetings held on 6 July 2026 and 7 September 2026.

A45/2026 Ethel Ward playing field and pavilion

a) Sports court

RESOLVED that Cllr L. Henley will apply for potential external grant funding to enhance the site's security.

b) Summer bookings/use

RESOLVED that this matter be referred to the full council.

c) Signs

RESOLVED that:

- A new sign be procured for the toddlers' area
- The other new signs be put on hold for the time being, pending the new security measures for the site.

A46/2026 Volunteer gardeners

RESOLVED to publish a request for any residents who can volunteer some time as gardeners for the planters and flowerbeds.

A47/2026 Planters

RESOLVED that:

- Bulbs be procured for the two painted planters.
- A plaque be procured for each of the two painted planters.

A48/2026 Trees

a) Request regarding an overgrown tree

RESOLVED to defer this item, pending a site visit by Cllr R. Pearson.

b) Request to reduce or remove a tree adjacent to the sports court at the Ethel Ward site

RESOLVED that:

- The request to remove the tree be approved.
- Confirmation be sought on the two quotes that stump grinding is included.
- The matter be delegated to the town clerk to conclude.

c) Tree inspections - 2027

RESOLVED that:

- Tree inspections be procured from City of York Council for 2027.
- Following the receipt of the tree inspection reports, a walkabout will be held by the committee.

A49/2026 Allotments

a) Cutting brambles along the pathway

RESOLVED that:

- Cutting the brambles be approved in principle, pending the receipt of quotes.
- During the next walkabout, consideration be given to including the removal of brambles from some plots.

b) Review of the decision to allow a chicken coop with three hens (minute no. A117c/2025)

RESOLVED that as it is believed that the coop has not actually been constructed, the matter be reviewed in six months' time.

c) Update on the allotments

RESOLVED that:

- Allotments updates be placed on the allotments noticeboard for allotment holders to see.
- A walkabout on the allotments is to be arranged in the near future, including looking at the sycamore tree on plot 10c.

A50/2026 Walkabout with City of York Council

RESOLVED to note that the walkabout with officers and members from City of York Council will take place on 8 October 2026.

A51/2026 Bus shelters

RESOLVED that a draft design for a stamp (upon which will be council information) be obtained and referred back to the committee for consideration.

A52/2026 Snickets

RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

A53/2026 Benches

RESOLVED to approve in principle the procurement of two new benches, pending receipt of quotes.

A54/2026 York Cares

RESOLVED that Cllr L. Henley will contact York Cares with suggestions for community work.

A55/2026 Greenspace – junction of Moor Lane and The Village

RESOLVED to support the naming of the greenspace at the junction of Moor Lane and The Village as “Jacob’s Island” in memory of Mr Jacob Verhoef.

A56/2026 Road gutters and road sweeping

RESOLVED to note that recent road sweeping requests to City of York Council have been acted upon promptly.

A57/2026 Budget 2027-28

RESOLVED that the following items be referred to the Finance Committee for consideration in the budget for 2027-28:

- Sports court maintenance and sinking fund.
- New play equipment.
- Maintenance of extra/further snickets.
- New benches.
- Renovation of the band stand.
- More trees and planters.

A58/2026 Next meetings

RESOLVED that the next two meetings of the committee will be held on 2 November 2026 and 14 December 2026.

The meeting closed at 10pm.

Signed Date
Chair