MINUTES OF A MEETING OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, VICTORIA STREET, FEATHERSTONE ON WEDNESDAY 8TH JULY 2026 AT 7.00PM.

Present: Councillor P Belbin, Councillor S Haslam (Mayor), Councillor J Hutsby, Councillor M Isherwood, Councillor K Law, Councillor H Symons, Councillor C Tennant, Councillor M Tennant-King and Councillor S Vickers

In Attendance: Mrs. V Symons (Town Clerk), Leanne Murphy (Town Council Administrator) and one member of the public.

Prior to the meeting commencing a Mayor Says Thanks presentation was awarded to Ava, who had designed posters and arranged a litter pick at Purston Park.

146/26 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	**Action**	**Actioned By**
The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies from members with their inability to attend were received and accepted from Councillor D Longley, Councillor P McIntosh and Councillor R Taylor.		

147/26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	**Action**	**Actioned By**
The meeting is to be opened for the public to address Members on matters relevant to the business of the committee. However residents cannot take part in the main proceedings of the meeting, this is strictly limited to Councillors. No members of the public were in attendance.		

148/26 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	**Action**	**Actioned By**
None were declared.		

149/26 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960	**Action**	**Actioned By**
To consider, if thought fit, a resolution under the terms of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 that the press and public be excluded from any Agenda item by reason of the confidential nature of the business being transacted.	There were no items of a confidential nature	

150/26 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING	**Action**	**Actioned By**
It was: **RESOLVED:** To approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council MIN 56/26 to 78/26 held on the 10th June 2026 and approve the contents contained therein.	To be placed on the Town Council website	LM

151/26 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS	**Action**	**Actioned By**
Since the last meeting the Mayor has opened the Wheelfest event in Pontefract, Little Bakes for their re-opening,		

Normanton Civic Service, Active Minds session at the community centre, and Girnhill Lane Infants School to discuss various projects, one including a scarecrow festival. Upcoming events included attending Girnhill Lane Infants school fayre and Featherstone Male Voice Choir concert. The Mayor also attended The Prince of Wales Hospice in Pontefract. The Mayor was given a tour of the premises and he was able to hand over the grant cheque from the Town Council. The Mayor also will be attending a meeting with Farmer Copley's and Featherstone Male Voice Choir to try to hold a join event for the Mayor's Charity. Further details will be available in due course.		

152/26 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT	**Action**	**Actioned By**
To receive a verbal report from the District Councillors on any matters relating to the Town. No District Councillors were present, so no report was available. Councillor Vickers was extremely disappointed to not have members present. Councillor Vickers added that it was the perfect opportunity for the District Councillors to see how the Town Council works. Councillor Vickers asked if it would be possible to show members who are present on the Town Council website. The Clerk advised she would look into this. Councillor Tennant advised that they are representing the Town at District level and its disappointing that they aren't showing up. Councillor Isherwood added that if there are concerns that Town Councillors receive this would be the opportunity to relay them to the District Councillors.		

153/26 TOWN COUNCIL SURGERIES	**Action**	**Actioned By**
Councillor Vickers advised that he had responded to all casework received and there was only one outstanding which was received prior to the meeting. Councillor Tennant-King advised that she had received a complaint with regards to a crossing that is needed on Ackworth Road near Purston Park. Councillor Tennant-King had advised that there had been meetings take place in the		

past however informed the residents to speak with the new District Councillors as there is nothing more that the Town Council can do. Councillor Vickers had raised the issue of road signs being covered by trees/bushes. Photos had been taken of this and emailed to District Councillor Womack. Councillor Tennant-King advised that the new sign placed on Wilson Street car park had caused concerns by residents and business owners. Councillor Tennant-King had already requested clarification on the current situation. Councillor Isherwood advised that the Town Council should also send in the photos so that all members are kept informed.		

154/26 DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE	**Action**	**Actioned By**
This item was deferred to the next meeting.	Place on next Council agenda	VS

155/26 PURSTON PARK GARDENS AND FOUNTAIN	**Action**	**Actioned By**
The Town Clerk had requested meeting with WMDC Officers to find out the current situation with regards to the fountain. This was sent on 20th June and no response had been received. The **RESOLVED:** That Councillor Vickers is Featherstone Town Council's Armed Forces Champion.		

156/26 PRIDE IN PLACE	**Action**	**Actioned By**
Members received a verbal update on the recent public consultation from Councillor Symons. There had been numerous events taking place over the Town and surrounding areas. Following this further stage of public engagement, the Board, working with their partners, will prepare and submit a report and business case to Government in November. Members of the Town Council would be kept update following on from the next meeting which is scheduled to take place in September.		

157/26 AGE FRIENDLY – TOWN & PARISH COUNCILS	**Action**	**Actioned By**
The Clerk, Administrator and Councillor Isherwood attended an online meeting with Centre for Aging Better arranged	To be placed on the Town Council website	LM/VS

through the YLCA. Attached are the slides provided on the day. An overview of the meeting will be provided verbally to members. Members are asked to consider if they would look at the possibility of setting up a Memory Café in the community centre. If so the office staff will look into this and bring further information to the next meeting. Councillor Tennant felt that this was a great idea and would open the use of the toilets on a Tuesday to anyone shopping in Station Lane. Councillor Tennant-King added that if permission was sought, photos could be used from Irvin Saxton which would help jog memories and for people to reminisce. Councillor Belbin added that music is another avenue for this and could be incorporated in some way. Councillor Haslam requested that the Town Clerk contact Ann Marie Maguire as she is the community connector and could possibly help in some way. The Town Clerk advised that there would be minimal cost to the Council and the Community Centre budget could be used to set this up.		

158/26 SCULPTURE WALL	**Action**	**Actioned By**
The Town Clerk advised that there was no further update available, however would keep this on the Town Council agenda.	Place on next agenda	VS

159/26 PLANNING AND LICENSING MATTERS	**Action**	**Actioned By**

APPLICATION NUMBER	**ADDRESS**	**PROPOSAL**	**WMDC DECISION (if applicable)**
26/00257/FUL	1 Stretton Close	Two storey side & single storey rear extensions	Approved
26/00676/ADV	Cross Keys Hotel	Erection of illuminated and non-illuminated signs to the exterios of the building	Approved
25/02382/FUL	Land Off Geroge Street	Demolition of existing garage and erection of 4 flats (use class C3) car parking and all works	Approved
26/00776/AGR	Ravensknowle Farm	An agricultural building	Prior approval not required
26/00961/CPL	95A Station Lane	C3 residential dwelling to C4 HMO Certificate of proposed lawful development for the conversion	

		of a residential dwelling (Use Class 3) to a HMO (Use Class 4) with five bedrooms	
26/00625/HHN	Featherstone Sports Centre	High Hedge Complaint	Approved

Members wished to make an objection on application 26/00961/CPL

b) ANY OTHER PLANNING MATTERS RECEIVED AFTER THE DATE OF THIS AGENDA

c) LICENSING MATTERS (IF ANY)

None

160/26 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED		

Date	**FROM**	**COMMENTS**
15-06-26	Rebecca Maindonald	Email following attendance at last meeting
25-06-26	St Thomas Junior School	Outcome of consultation
Any other correspondence received		

161/26 URGENT MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION NO DECISIONS CAN BE MADE	**Action**	**Actioned By**
None		

162/26 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS TO BE ADVISED TO THE CLERK	**Action**	**Actioned By**
Councillor Vickers requested an item on displaying the union flag in the Graham Isherwood Suite. Councillor Tennant-King requested an item on the Diversity Champion.		

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL		

163/26 CLOSURE AND NEXT MEETINGS	**Action**	**Actioned By**
The next meetings of the Town Council will be as follows: Communications Committee – Wednesday 9th September at 5.30pm Events Committee – Wednesday 9th September to follow the Communications Committee Admin & Finance – Wednesday 9th September to follow Events Committee Full Council – Wednesday 9th September at 7.00pm		

Closure: 8.10pm