MINUTES OF A MEETING OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF FEATHERSTONE TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, VICTORIA STREET, FEATHERSTONE ON WEDNESDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2026 AT 7.00PM.

Present: Councillor P Belbin, Councillor S Haslam (Mayor), Councillor J Hutsby, Councillor M Isherwood, Councillor P McIntosh, Councillor H Symons, Councillor C Tennant, Councillor M Tennant-King, .

In Attendance: Mrs. V Symons (Town Clerk), Leanne Murphy (Town Council Administrator), Councillor J Mulligan, Councillor G Womack and three members of the public.

264/26 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 R Taylor and Councillor S Vickers.		

265/26 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. There were no questions from members of the public.		

266/26 MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	**Action**	**Actioned By**
Councillor Tennant declared an interest on Agenda Item 15 – Member of Featherstone Lions Committee		

267/26 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960	**Action**	**Actioned By**
RESOLVED: That under the terms of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 that the press and public be excluded from Agenda item 19, Pillar of the Community, by reason of the confidential nature of the business being transacted.		

268/26 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 203/26 to 223/26 held on the 9th September 2026 and approve the contents contained therein.	To be placed on the Town Council website	LM

269/26 MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES	**Action**	**Actioned By**
It was: **RESOLVED:**		

A) To receive the minutes of the Administration & Finance Committee held on Thursday 9th September 2026 MIN numbers 224/26 to 239/26		

270/26 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS	**Action**	**Actioned By**
Since the last meeting the Mayor has attended: 12th September - Normanton Town Council Gala 16th September – Grant Presentation to the PCC Friends of All Saints Church 26th September- Produce & Craft Show which included the new Scarecrow Festival in which the Mayor wished to thank Kestrel Estates. Attended St Giles Church for a concert with Featherstone Male Voice Choir 8th October – Attended a meeting with regards to the Interschools Competition Upcoming engagements include attending the Festival of Remembrance at Nostell Priory, Featherstone's Remembrance Services which are being held on Sunday 8th November and Wednesday 11th November. The Mayor presented Katie Walker with a Mayor Says Thanks Certificate for her assistance in the Produce and Craft Show. Her help was invaluable on the day and helped the event run smoothly.		

271/26 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT	**Action**	**Actioned By**
The Clerk advised that the District Councillors had requested that any questions be submitted 48 hours prior to the meeting. Four questions had been submitted within the requested timescale. Prior to the meeting, the Clerk had received notification that the District Councillors intended to provide a statement in response; however, the statement had been prepared by a District Councillor who was not in attendance and was therefore not presented. A question submitted by Councillor Vickers after the requested deadline was read to the meeting. The question related to a social media post made by Councillor Mulligan. Councillor Mulligan acknowledged the concerns raised, apologised for any offence caused and confirmed his intention to work constructively with Featherstone Town Council for the benefit of local residents. Councillor Womack also expressed a wish to work positively with the Town Council. Councillor Mulligan reported on activities undertaken over recent months, including engagement with local community		

organisations such as Featherstone Flyers and Featherstone Lions, and ongoing efforts to support Featherstone Rovers . Councillor Haslam welcomed the ongoing efforts being made to support Featherstone Rovers. Councillor Hutsby raised a query regarding old flags and cable ties remaining on lamp posts. Councillor Mulligan agreed to investigate the matter and provide an update. Councillor Belbin welcomed the District Councillors to the meeting and stated that, regardless of political differences, it was important for the Town and District Councils to work together and communicate effectively to help improve the town for residents. Councillor Tennant-King raised concerns regarding potholes at the junction of Victoria Street and Vicarage Lane. Councillor Mulligan advised that the previous repair work was not of a satisfactory standard and that he would pursue the matter further with the relevant authority. The Mayor, Councillor Haslam, thanked the District Councillors for their attendance and looked forward to welcoming them to future meetings.		

272/26 DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE	**Action**	**Actioned By**
Councillor Longley had submitted his apologies to the meeting however the Clerk could confirm that all checked were up to date and that the Buildings & Facilities Officer had undertaken some of the checks required.		

273/26 PRIDE IN PLACE	**Action**	**Actioned By**
Councillor Symons handed out the current consultation that is currently available for all residents of Featherstone to complete. There is currently a consultation in the Library should members wish to see the projects and information that is currently available. Councillor Tennant-King added that at the last meeting Ambition to Action was in attendance and gave some details on their work. She added that people seem to be engaging with the current consultation and that around 20 people attended today. Councillor Tennant-King added that a project on the footpath around Girnhill Lane School was being investigated to completed in the short term.	Place on next Council agenda	VS

The Mayor allowed Katie Walker to speak on this item as she is also a member on Pride in Place. Katie added that the footpath is due to be re-surfaced and once this work had been carried out it would be redecorated to make it a nice walk for the children coming into school. The Mayor thanked members for their update.		

274/26 ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2026	**Action**	**Actioned By**
PKF Littlejohn LLP External auditor have issued their certificate and report 2025/26 in their opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. The notice of conclusion of audit has been placed on the notice board and website. Councillor Isherwood wished to thank the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk for their work in ensuring that the Town Council is complying with all rules and regulations. It was **RESOLVED**: That the Council approves and accepts the report as attached.		

275/26 DIVERSITY CHAMPION	**Action**	**Actioned By**
Councillor Tennant-King wished to inform members that Reclaim the Night would be taking place on 26th November this would start and finish at Wakefield College. Everyone is welcome to attend. Unfortunately, some funding had been withdrawn. If any member wished to attend if they could let Councillor Tennant-King know.		

276/26 INTERSCHOOLS COMPETITION	**Action**	**Actioned By**
The Mayor, Councillor Scott Haslam, provided a verbal report on the recent Inter-Schools Meeting. Members were advised that discussions had focused on the development of an annual inter-school sporting programme involving local primary schools, with consideration being given to a range of sporting and recreational activities across different age groups. The importance of ensuring inclusivity was emphasised, including the potential provision of a dedicated SEND event	Town Clerk to contact other companies to obtain quotes.	VS

and recognition of participation, teamwork and sportsmanship alongside competitive achievement. Discussions also covered potential funding opportunities, transport arrangements and partnership working with local organisations. A number of next steps were identified, including engagement with schools, development of an event programme and exploration of suitable venues and funding streams. Members noted the report and would be happy to explore the possibility of setting a budget to assist with the programme.		

278/26 OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSURE	**Action**	**Actioned By**
The Town Clerk seeks permission from Members to agree to the office closing at Christmas on Friday 18th December at 1.30pm and reopen again on Monday 4th January 2027 at 9.30am. These days will come out of the holiday entitlement of all members of staff. The Town Clerk will have access to the emails during this time for any urgent matters. It was: **RESOLVED:** That members approved the request.		

279/26 PLANNING AND LICENSING MATTERS	**Action**	**Actioned By**

APPLICATION NUMBER	ADDRESS	PROPOSAL	WMDC DECISION
26/00772/FUL	Rosemount	Change of use of commercial out building to residential annex in connection with existing dwelling with external alterations	
26/01533/CPL	64 Nunns Lane	Proposed garage conversion and fenestration alterations	
26/00770/FUL	Rosemount	Removal of existing conservatory, single storey extensions to side (western and eastern dormer to rear	Approved
26/01070/FUL	Jayscreen House	Extension to side, canopy to side, re-clad of existing building and works to yard area	Approved
26/01332/CPL	24 Lidgett Green	Single storey extension to rear	Approved
26/01308/CPL	23 Thistle Hill Drive	Garage conversion, extension to rear and addition of soil vent pipe	Approved
26/01490/FUL	Featherstone Lions Community Club	Erection of drinks bar	
26/01612/FUL	Coach House, New Road	Kitchen extension	
26/01576/COU	Millennium House	Change of use of former offices to 13 apartments	

b) PLANNING APPLICATION 26/01576/COUMA – Ratification of Objection

To ratify the objection submitted on behalf of Featherstone Town Council to Planning Application 26/01576/COUMA, in accordance with the comments previously circulated to Members and submitted to the Local Planning Authority prior to the consultation deadline. Members approved.

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

d) LICENSING MATTERS (IF ANY)

280/26 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED		

Date	**FROM**	**COMMENTS**
Any other correspondence received		

281/26 URGENT MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION NO DECISIONS CAN BE MADE	**Action**	**Actioned By**
None		

282/26 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS TO BE ADVISED TO THE CLERK	**Action**	**Actioned By**
No items were raised.		

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL		

283/26 PILLAR OF THE COMMUNITY AWARD	**Action**	**Actioned By**
There has been an application received for the Pillar of Community award. This was presented to members at the meeting. **RECOMMENDATION:** That members approved the award, however would like to see this as a reoccurring item on the agenda and the application form to be sent to all members of the Town Council.		

284/26 CLOSURE AND NEXT MEETINGS	**Action**	**Actioned By**
The next meetings of the Town Council will be as follows: Events Committee – Wednesday 11th November 2026 at 6.00pm Community Centre Management Committee – Wednesday 11th November 2026 following the Events Committee at 6.00pm		

Administration & Finance Committee – Wednesday 11th November 2026 following the Community Centre Management Committee Full Council – Wednesday 11th November 2026 at 7.00pm		

Closure: 8.19pm