

Minutes of the Harworth and Bircotes Town Council meeting held on Monday 20th April at 6.30pm at the Town Hall, Scrooby Road, Bircotes, DN11 8JP.

Present: Cllr Evans, (Chair) Cllr James, Cllr Flynn, Cllr Harrison, Cllr Whitehead, Cllr Smith, Cllr Jones, Cllr Wratten and Cllr Sidwells

Others: W Davies (Officer), L Stewart (Deputy Clerk) and members of the public.

17996 To receive and consider any apologies and reasons for absence

Cllr James proposed to accept the apologies and reasons for absence from Cllr Schuller and Cllr Cobby; this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Council.

17997 To receive Declaration of Interest on any item on the agenda

Cllr C Sidwell Declared an Interest in the TENS applications - (item 18006)

At this point Cllr Horrocks joined the meeting.

17998 To suspend the meeting to hold a public session and receive reports from Police, District & County Councillors –

The Chair suspended the meeting to hold the public session. – No public in attendance

District Cllr Evans commented that parish/town council's Community Infrastructure Levy monies will NOT be affected by the impending Local Government Reorganisation.

The meeting was reconvened.

17999 To receive the Chair's report

The Chair gave her District Council Report as below:

Good news for the weekly luncheon club – Thank you for supporting the proposal that the Town Council becomes responsible for the Luncheon Club – this has been achieved, the chef is now a member of our staff, and life goes on as normal! Last week forty-six residents sat down and enjoyed their meal, so I am relieved that the temporary hitch has not affected numbers.

I also have to thank Lee our Deputy Clerk – he crunched the numbers and established viability of the scheme, and he spoke to the relevant parties involved.

The Town Council received a copy of a complaint sent to the local M.P about the state of the Village Institute; the Chair passed on information to the M.P.

The Chair commented on the lack of anyone interested in applying for the Caretaker role.

18000 To receive the cemetery's health & Safety inspections

Cllr Harrison confirmed that the Tickhill Road Cemetery has been inspected, and the cemetery is in a good condition with no actions required. Cllr Jones reported on the Styrrup Road Cemetery and no actions required.

18001 To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 9th March & 23rd March 2026

Cllr Jones proposed to accept the minutes if the meeting held on 9th March 2026 as a true record; this was seconded by Cllr Harrison and resolved by the Council. The Chair duly signed the minutes.

Cllr Jones proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting held 23rd March 2026 as a true record; this was seconded by Cllr Whitehead and resolved by the Council. The Chair duly signed the minutes.

18002 To consider planning applications as listed and any planning correspondence

Planning Application: 26/00316/FUL
 Proposal: Construct a dropped Kerb
 Location: 43 Styrup Road, Harworth, DN11 8LL

Cllr Harrison proposed not to make no objections on the above application; this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Meeting.

18003 To consider payments as listed and the financial reports as of 28th February 2026

The Officer circulated the list of payments for approval and copies of the financial reports as of 28th February 2026, the Bank reconciliations, bank statements, general and earmarked reserves, budget and balance sheet for the councillors to view.

Two councillors confirmed the above bank balances against the financial reports and signed the documents.

Cllr Harrison proposed to approve the payments as listed on the agenda; and approval of the reports as above; this was seconded by Cllr Sidwells and resolved by the Council.

Bank reconciliation 28.2.2026Bank Statement Balances on 28th February 2026

Natwest Current A/c	£240,002.25	
Natwest Deposit A/c	£134,780.73	
Unity Trust A/c	£078,290.00	
Unity Trust Deposit A/c	<u>£197,796.91</u>	
		<u>£650,869.89</u>

Less unrepresented payments	£000,000.00	
Plus receipts not on bank statement	<u>£000,000.00</u>	
		<u>£650,869.89</u>

Closing Cash Book Balances 28th February 2026

Natwest Current A/c	£240,002.25	
Natwest Deposit A/c	£134,780.73	
Unity Trust A/c	£078,290.00	
Unity Trust Deposit A/c	<u>£197,796.91</u>	
		£650,869.89

<u>Represented by:</u>	General Reserves	£334,558.97
	Earmarked Reserves	<u>£316,310.92</u>
		<u>£650,869.89</u>

18004 To consider additional Ear Marked Reserves for Christmas decorations/appointment of a Christmas decorator

After consideration, Cllr James proposed to Authorise an additional £5k to Ear Marked Reserves for Christmas decorations/appointment of a Christmas decorator this was seconded by Cllr Harrison and resolved by the Council.

18005 To consider renewal of HR service contract

After consideration, Cllr S Whitehead proposed to Authorise the renewal of the HR Contract with Workness for a further three years; this was seconded by Cllr Wratten and resolved by the Council.

18006 To consider TEMPORARY EVENTS NOTICE – (H&B Pride & Retro bike event)

Cllr Sidwells did not take part in the consideration for this item.

After consideration, Cllr Harrison proposed to approve the sale and consumption of alcohol inside the Town Hall exclusively; this was seconded by Cllr Wratten and resolved by the Council.

18007 To review the General Data Protection Regulations

After consideration, Cllr Jones proposed to approve the review of the General Data Protection Regulations with no adjustments; this was seconded by Cllr James and resolved by the Council.

18008 To receive an update of the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

The Neighbourhood Plan Referendum is now online and available to read in the Town Hall; the referendum election will take place on the 21st May 2026.

18009 To consider quotations for Tree management as previously discussed

After consideration of quotations, Cllr James proposed to Authorise the appointment of a tree management company Miltons Ltd this was seconded by Cllr Harrison and resolved by the Council.

18010 To consider quotation to replace faulty security camera in the Town Hall entrance

After consideration, Cllr Flynn proposed to Authorise the replacement of faulty security cameras this was seconded by Cllr Sidwell and resolved by the Council.

18011 To consider quotation to replace failing hall lights which are now obsolete. (replacement bulbs are no longer Manufactured)

After consideration, Cllr Smith proposed to Authorise the replacement of lights & emergency lighting in the hall, this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Council.

18012 To consider converting the Town Hall's water supply from tanks to mains water supply

After consideration, Cllr S Whitehead proposed to Authorise the conversion of the town hall water supply from tanks to mains to reduce the risks of Legionnaires disease & reduce maintenance costs, one drainage tank will remain to ensure no toilet blockages occur this was seconded by Cllr S Harrison and resolved by the Council.

18013 To review the Town Hall and Information Centre Fire risk assessments

The Officer reported that fire risk assessments for the Town Hall and Information Centre took place on the 8th January 2026. The Town Hall had no actions to carry out. The Information Centre – the assessor noted that one of the police station Dorgard was not working and the cleaner’s door had a hole in it where someone had removed a door handle. After the assessment, batteries were put in the Dorgard, and the hole was covered up. No further actions required.

After consideration, Cllr S Harrison proposed to accept the report this was seconded by Cllr S James and resolved by the Council.

18014 To receive items for information –

- It was noted that no one has shown any interest in the vacancy for a caretaker; meanwhile, Cllr Harrison has volunteered to cover Caretaking duties until a Caretaker can be appointed – this was greatly appreciated
- Cllr Whitehead advised that there may issues with developers encroaching on to woodland and that enquires will be made to Bassetlaw Planning dept

18015 Time and date of the next scheduled Town Council Meeting

The next Town Council meeting will take place on the 18th May 2026 at 6.45 at the Town Hall, Scrooby Road, Bircotes, DN11 8JP. The Annual Parish Meeting will be held prior to the Council meeting at 6.30pm.