

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF COLBURN TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 16th FEBRUARY 2026
IN COLBURN VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT

Mayor Akuila Tutora (Chair)
Councillors: **Colburn Town** – Angela Dale, Janet Emmerson, Rupert Hildyard, Colin Mincher & Maria Willetts
 Colburn Moor – Andrea Crowe (Albermarle – (Akuila Tutora))
Clerk: Philippa Graves

No members of the public attended

1. **APOLOGIES RECEIVED** – Cllr Paul Towers, Brigitte Martin & Jag Sharma
2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS** – Cllrs Crowe, Dale, Towers & Tutora were part of the new Community Sports Centre group, non-pecuniary, all acting as volunteer trustees of the organising group. Cllr Hildyard declared the ownership of sporting rights on land currently under planning application at Colburn Grange ZD25.00551 (102 houses) and 410 houses under consultation with Woodlawn Communications.
Cllr Dale – item 9b, non-pecuniary, BSG councillor

3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Mon 19th January 2026 and the Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 2nd February 2026 (both circulated with the agenda) were approved as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chair.

Matters arising – item 4 presentation and discussion with Woodlawn Communications on the proposed 400 plus houses on greenfield site, Colburn Grange

Councillors were disappointed with the performance and attitude of the team from the developers. It had been made clear that the meeting was public and parishioners were entitled to ask questions and after only 3 or so questions, the developers' team declined to take any further part. There was no further information different from the public consultation held previously and the event could have become bad tempered without good, strong chairing. The Town Council would be sceptical to repeat the experience.

Open Spaces matter which arose today concerning the planned winter clearance work on the Common Land in Colburn Village.

Cllr Hildyard had been unaware of the extent of clearance work that was planned for this area of land and had asked the Maintenance Contractor to stop work together with the use of the chipper. His point was that the Town Council had agreed to do a botanical survey of this land which has never been ploughed, gardened or sprayed and could contain plant species and fungal and bacterial life which cannot be replaced once obliterated. There was a discussion on the plan attached to minutes after a Play Park and Open Spaces Committee walkaround in August when the whole area from the Ford to the Bridge was entirely overgrown. The Committee wanted to clear out an old pathway and make the area safe.


After the meeting, the office circulated the original map of the Common Land dated November 1967 which showed that some of the area near the Ford being cleared was outside of the boundary.

The matter was left to the March meeting as a representative from the Glade Trust was attending to speak on community engagement for local conservation projects and await the results of the agreed May survey to be carried out by the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and Yoredale Natural History group.

4. **POLICE MATTERS** –

Report for 12th Jan to 11th Feb 2026 had been circulated by email and at the meeting.
Crime reported for the period **9 incidents**, crime report the same period 2025 was **17**.

5 Violence – Colburn 0, Woodside Chase 3, The Chase 0, Albermarle Drive & Cleveland Road 2
Colburn Village 0


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2 Assaults/Threats in Domestic settings, 0 Assaults, 3 Harassment/Threats, 0 Public Order

1 Dishonesty – Colburn 1, Woodside Chase 0, The Chase 0, Albermarle Drive & Cleveland Road 0, Colburn Village 0

0 Burglary Residential, 0 Burglary Other, 0 Business/Shop Theft & Attempt, 1 Theft, 0 Fraud, 0 Vehicle interference/theft

3 Other – Colburn 1, Woodside Chase 1, The Chase 0, Albermarle Drive, Cleveland Rd 1, Colburn Village 0

0 Criminal Damage, 0 Arson, 0 Dangerous Dog, 1 Hate incident,

0 Sexual offence, 0 Internet/sexual, 0 Drugs, 1 Breach of Bail/Order, 1 Malicious Communications

ASB – 6 incidents, crime report the same period 2025 was 9.

2 Nuisance, 4 personal

Colburn 3, Woodside Chase 3, The Chase 0, Albermarle Drive 0, Colburn Village 0

Traffic - 5

Colburn 1, Woodside Chase 1, The Chase 0, Albermarle Drive & Cleveland Road 2, Colburn Village 1

2 RTC damage only, 1 Highway disruption, 2 road related offences, 0 RTC Death/Injury

PCSO Katie Whitehead was unable to attend due to work commitments. It was noted that the crime figures for the last 2 months had shown an appreciable improvement which was well received.

5. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR KEVIN FOSTER ON COUNTY MATTERS

- **Council Budget** has been set at 4.99% increase with a 4.8% rise in council tax which I voted and spoke against. Opposition councillors are not involved in the Budget preparation, only the controlling group.
- Planning application **102 houses Old Recreation Field off A6136** has been refused on 8 grounds. An appeal may be made by the developer.
- **400 plus house Colburn Grange off A6136** – no planning application submitted to date,
- **A petition asking for a relief road was handed to the Mayor of North Yorkshire at the Combined Authority meeting.** The Mayor agreed to refer the matter to the transport department. Our MP has agreed to help facilitate a meeting with the MoD, the Leader of North Yorkshire Council and myself. I will keep the Town Council informed of the progress.

All decisions, agendas and information can be viewed on NYC website.

All communications should be made by email to cllr.kevin.foster@northyorks.gov.uk

6. TO REVIEW THE RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY FOR 2025-26 AUDIT

The policy had been circulated with the agenda.

It was agreed to accept the policy for the 2025-26 Audit.

7. TO ELECT A REPLACEMENT REPRESENTATIVE FOR MICHELLE DUNNING TO THE COLBURN, HIPSWELL & SCOTTON JOINT BURIAL AUTHORITY

3 members are required, Cllr Angela Dale & Maria Willetts current representatives.

Cllr Janet Emmerson agreed to join the Board and the clerk would forward her details to Bev Partridge, Clerk to the Burial Authority.

8. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES INCLUDING COLBURN COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE AND TO INCLUDE CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Community Sports Centre (CCSC)

Status report up to 5th Feb 2026 had been circulated and filed on the computer.

MUGA upgrade (Playzone) Kick off meeting held Tues 13th Jan, grant for upgrade formally accepted.

Work commenced on 26th Jan with a view to complete and handover in April. February promotion planned.

New lockdown procedures are being implemented. AGM was advertised and held on 27th January.

New Chair and Vice Chair voted in. New trustee has joined CCSC.



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Centre representative to attend meeting for BWSG Summer Event.

MuayThai club has begun 2 sessions per week and looks to be very popular.
New insurance policy running which allows unmanned access for over 18's.
Local company have agreed work to develop a sensory garden at the rear of the centre.
All trustees are involved with tasks to be ready for longer opening hours from 1st March.

Question on unmanned hours – will it make more revenue? Cllr Dale stated that the move was about future proofing the centre to make it into a viable business and greater flexibility was required by clients.

Full monthly report available on email request to the office.

Visiting councillors are most welcome to see the regular improvements but it would be appreciated if an appointment is made or speak to a Trustee in advance.

Any confidential financial questions should be covered within a Closed Session and will not be included in the Minutes.

Present membership –

Open Spaces & Play Parks Committee – Chair Cllr Andrea Crowe. Cllrs Angela Dale, Janet Emmerson, Paul Towers, Akuila Tutora & Maria Willetts.

Next meeting Mon 2nd March 2026, 5.30 pm in the Village Hall backroom.

Joint Burial Board – Cllrs Angela Dale, Janet Emmerson & Maria Willetts. Next meeting **Tues 24th March 2026** at Hipswell Village Hall, 6.30 pm.

Planning Committee – Cllrs Rupert Hildyard, Colin Mincher & Paul Towers.

Plan withdrawn –

Plans confirmed as Passed by NYC – none

Plans Refused by NYC – none

9. TO DISCUSS FINANCIAL MATTERS

- To approve purchase of **new office chair** at a cost of £149.99, online Viking (details attached to agenda)
It was **agreed for the office to purchase a new seat.**
- To ratify an agreement to put **£200 Section 137 payment** towards the proposed Brough with St Giles Family Fun Day 6th June 2026 (correspondence attached). The Fun Day was a joint enterprise between the Sports Centre and both parishes who had agreed to put up a small sum of money for items such as medals for a fun run or other activities which needed prizes to reward youngsters taking part.
- **To approve Payment/Receipt list from 20th Jan 2026 – 16th Feb 2026** (circulated at meeting and to be attached to the minutes for publication).
- **To receive January monthly figures with bank reconciliation** (circulated with agenda and to be attached to the minutes for publication).


It was **RESOLVED** to approve the two lists above as circulated.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Mon 16th March 2026 at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall

11. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA (at the Chairman's discretion –

A resident concerned about the discharges from the Colburn Sewerage Works had been in discussion with Save our Swale volunteer group who are doing Water Quality Monitoring. Would a collaboration between the Town Council and Save our Swale group be constructive?

There was a discussion about the issue of a 2018 major upgrade which did not take place and the problem of rain and foul water being allowed to be discharged in storm conditions. This has resulted in all the various streams becoming polluted and then running into the Swale. The Colburn plant also takes in additional tankers from sub-stations when they are overloaded, hence the additional traffic on Colburn Lane.


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Cllr Dale was keen to be involved in volunteering for Water quality monitoring. People could remember when the stream in the Village and Sour Beck contained fish and wildlife such as moorhens which have all disappeared due to the pollution. Dog incidents have been reported which required urgent veterinary attention due to the dogs having entered the water under certain conditions.

It was agreed in principle that the Town Council would support Water Quality Monitoring with a volunteer group and pay the cost of equipment for sampling. Suggested amount £250.
Agenda item for March 16th for full discussion and agreement.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm.


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Payments & Receipts for approval – list circulated by email and attached to minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments and receipts made since the last Town Council meeting held on 19th January 2026:

23.1.26	185	BACS – MANY Bookkeeping January payroll	£22.45
	186	BACS – Robertsons Garden Services 5 wks 15.12-23.2.26	£2496.00
	187	BACS - “ “2 tipruns 18 bags	£88.20
	188	BACS – Clerk’s salary January	£1382.46
	189	BACS – Dep Clerk’s salary January	£775.71
	190	BACS – Robertsons Garden Services tree surgery Albermarle Play park & Colburn Village Common Land path, removal of holly tree canopy	£500.00
30.1	191	DD – Bank of Ireland – bank charges	£3.27
30.1	192	DD – BT	£68.46
4.2	193	BACS – Agilico Technologies – copier charges	£36.00
	194	BACS – Dep Clerk – reimburse garage storage boxes for equipment	£38.95
	195	BACS – Clerk re-imburement – office mobile	£10.50

Receipts

3.2	37	CCLA interest	£193.58
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