



Ripley Town Council

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Contact: Hannah Curzon - Town Clerk

Derbyshire Council of the Year 2020 & 2018
Highly Commended 2019, 2022 & 2023



MINUTES of Thursday 29th January 2026 at 5.00pm RIPLEY TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Ripley Town Council, Town Hall, Market Place, Ripley, DE5 3BT.

In attendance; Cllrs: C Bailey (Chair), A Burslem, L Cox, M Hawkins, and P Weaving.
Also: H. Curzon (Town Clerk) and B. Farnsworth (Community Engagement Officer)
Plus: Mr. Chris Howarth – Head of Ripley St John's Primary School.

AGENDA

RESOLVED that Cllr. Bailey was elected as Chair of this meeting in the absence of Cllr. Holmes.

290126/1. To Receive Apologies for Absence – Cllr Holmes and Cllr Nicholls.

290126/2. Variation of Order of Business – None required.

290126/3. Declaration of Members Interests – None declared.

290126/4. Public speaking
None.

290126/5. Update from Ripley St. John's Primary School regarding their Community Arts Project.

Mr. Howarth (Head) attended the meeting to update the Committee on progress regarding their Community Arts Project. The location of the mural is still to be confirmed as the original building may not be suitable. The art part of the project is progressing well, and all local schools are involved. They would like to encourage The Springs of Living Water to take part in the project too.

The school would like to attend the Ripley Spring Market to sell the bags, and tea towels they have produced as part of the project.

Councillor Burslem requested that the mural did not have any reference to the bouncing bomb due to bombs being a sensitive issue.

The Town Clerk reported that the Responsible Finance Officer has submitted a grant application for the project to The National Lottery. Mr. Howarth will contact Linsey Farnsworth MP to enquire about further funding for the project.

RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL that the Community Engagement Officer send Mr. Howarth the Spring Market booking form, along with the Town Council's photo model release form so the council can use images in future newsletters and on social media.

290126/6. Discuss the Ripley Christmas Market and Lights Switch on 23rd November 2025.

The committee discussed this event and how changes can be made for the 2026 event. It was agreed that having part of the event on Oxford Street did not work as many shops did not open for the event and vehicles were parked on the road prior to the road closure and remained there all day, causing obstructions.

RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL that the 2026 Christmas event takes place on Ripley Market

Place and on Shirley Road car park. For the Community Engagement Officer to look for an attraction for teenagers to enjoy, such as a Fun House and to book the carousel as the main attraction again for 2026.

290126/7. Discuss and agree dates for the Ripley Town Council events in 2026.

RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL that the Ripley Town Council events take place on the following dates:

Event	Date	Time	Venue
Spring Market and Well Dressing	Sunday 17 th May 2026	10am – 3pm	Ripley Market Place
Ripley Outdoor Cinema	Sunday 7 th June 2026	2.00 – 6.00pm	Crossley Park, Ripley
Music in Crossley Park	Sundays: 24 th May 2026 14 th June 2026 28 th June 2026 12 th July 2026 2 nd August 2026 16 th August 2026 30 th August 2026 13 th September 2026	2.30-4.30pm	Crossley Park, Ripley
Christmas Market and Lights Switch On	Sunday 22 nd November 2026	Midday – 6.30pm	Ripley Market Place

290126/8. Discuss holding a Community Wellbeing Day in 2026.

The Community Engagement Officer spoke about the council organising an event to which we invite local groups, charities and businesses associated with health, wellbeing, safety, along to Ripley Market Place on a Saturday in Spring/ Summer.

RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL that Ripley Town Council holds our first Community Wellbeing Day for the community.

290126/9. Discuss the 2026 Ripley Spring Market and Well Dressing events.

The Community Engagement Officer reported that the event application for this event will be submitted to Amber Valley Borough Council this week and stall applications will open next week. Oxford Street will be used for some stalls and attractions, with children's rides at the bottom end. He will liaise with businesses on Oxford Street and encourage them to open the day of the event.

NOTED

290126/10. Date of the next meeting: 5pm on Thursday 19th March 2026.

290126/11. Meeting Closed: 5.45pm

The date for the next monthly Town Council Meeting is Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber at Ripley Town Hall.