



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 the MEETING OF RIPLEY TOWN COUNCIL

held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 16th September 2025 in the Council Chamber,
Town Hall, Market Place, Ripley.

In Attendance: Cllrs M Allwood, R Ashton, C Bailey (Chair), A Burslem, L Cox, R Emmas-Williams, S Freeborn, M Hawkins, T Holmes, P Lobley BEM, P Moss, A Nicholls, A Ward, N Weaving, P Weaving, D Williams and M Wilson.

Plus: Hannah Curzon - Town Clerk & Jayne Simpson – Responsible Finance Officer.

Plus: Five members of the public.

AGENDA

160925/1. To receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Jones, Somers, and Smith. Also, Cllr Wilson (Derbyshire County Council) and the Ripley SNT team.

160925/2. Variation of Order of Business

None

160925/3. Declaration of Members Interests

Councillor Allwood declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 16 as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council. He remained in the meeting for the discussion.

Councillor Burslem declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 16 as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council. She remained in the meeting for the discussion.

Councillor Cox declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 16 as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council and Agenda Item 15 as a member of the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust. She remained in the meeting for the discussion.

Councillor Holmes declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 16 as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council. He remained in the meeting for the discussion.

Councillor Lobley declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 15 and 19 as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council. He remained in the meeting for the discussion.

Councillor Williams declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 16 as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council. He remained in the meeting for the discussion.

Councillor Wilson declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 16 as a member of Amber Valley Borough Council. He remained in the meeting for the discussion.

160925/4. Public Speaking

A member of the public asked the council for an update on the petition they submitted last year regarding the need for double yellow lines on Jessop Street in Waingroves.

Cllr Freeborn thanked the member of the public for attending and explained to them that they would have submitted the petition to Derbyshire County Council, not Ripley Town Council. He advised them to stay to listen to the discussion in Agenda item 18 when this issue is going to be addressed.

Cllr Hawkins thanked the Town Council's Ground Maintenance Operative, Kevin King for the superb job he has done on clearing the footpath of weeds and litter between Bishops Close and Peasehill, Ripley. He also thanked Cllr Williams for his assistance in registering this footpath as a Public Right of Way.

160925/5. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Town Council's Meeting on July 15th 2025 and accept the resolutions therein. (previously circulated electronically).

RESOLVED to confirm and agree to sign the minutes as a true and accurate record.

160925/6. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Policy and Management Committee Meeting on July 21st 2025 and accept the recommendations therein (previously circulated electronically).

RESOLVED to confirm and agree to sign the minutes as a true and accurate record.

160925/7. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting on August 5th 2025 and accept the recommendations therein (previously circulated electronically).

RESOLVED to confirm and agree to sign the minutes as a true and accurate record.

160925/8. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Heritage, Environment and Regeneration Committee Meeting on August 5th 2025 and accept the recommendations therein (previously circulated electronically).

RESOLVED to confirm and agree to sign the minutes as a true and accurate record.

160925/9. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting on August 12th 2025 and accept the recommendations therein (previously circulated electronically).

RESOLVED to confirm and agree to sign the minutes as a true and accurate record.

160925/10. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Policy and Management Committee Meeting on August 26th 2025 and accept the recommendations therein. (Previously circulated electronically).

RESOLVED to confirm and agree to sign the minutes as a true and accurate record.

160925/11. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting on September 9th 2025 and accept the recommendations therein (previously circulated electronically).

RESOLVED to confirm and agree to sign the minutes as a true and accurate record.

160925/12. To determine which items if any part of the agenda should be taken with the public excluded.

None

160925/13. Mayor's Announcements.

The Mayor and Consort attended the following engagement since the last Town Council monthly meeting:

16th July 2025 – Hearing Help event

18th July 2025 – Ripley Junior School Summer Fair and Grow Outside CIC

19th July 2025 – Judging the Garden and Allotment Competition and Lons School Summer Fair (Deputy Mayor)

31st July 2025 – Music in Crossley Park event (Derby Hospitals Band)

15th and 16th August 2025 – VJ Days in Alfreton and Ripley (Deputy Mayor)

21st August 2025 – Amber Valley Alliance for Learning Difficulties
23rd August 2025 – Judged Scarecrow competition in Nether Heage
31st August 2025 – Heage Parkside Allotment
6th September 2025 – Marehay Show (Deputy Mayor) and AVBC Mayor Quiz
7th September 2025 – All Saint’s Church, Ripley.
13th September 2025 – Waingroves Show and 100th Anniversary of Ripley Morris in Ripley
15th September 2025 – Garden and Allotment Presentation at the Coop in Ripley

160925/14. Town Clerk announcements:

a) Staffing pay award

The Clerk reported the National Pay Award was announced in July and has been implemented for all staff. The annual staff appraisals will take place in November 2025.

NOTED

b) Staffing updates

The Clerk reported that Deputy Clerk, Fiona Barrett is now undertaking some additional, precautionary Chemotherapy meaning she won't be returning to work until the new year. However, should this change, she may be returning sooner.

Pleased to report that the Grounds Maintenance Operative, Kevin King has passed his 6-month probationary period. We are really pleased with the work he is undertaking out in the community.

Cllr Wilson asked the Clerk to pass on the Council's best wishes to the Deputy Clerk.

NOTED

c) Floral Displays

The Clerk reported that we have received many, many emails, comments, and people calling into the RTC office to compliment the council on the fantastic floral displays this year. The comments have been passed on to our contractor, Plantscape. They will be in situ until mid to late October, unless we get a frost before that time.

Cllr Freeborn congratulated Plantscape and asked the Clerk to write to them to pass on our gratitude.

NOTED

d) VJ Day event

The Clerk reported that back on 16th August the council organised a commemoration for VJ Day. The community was entertained with war time music, and a local resident brought along his collection of war time vehicles. The Ripley and District Royal British Legion were in attendance, and we worked with them to provide an activity for children. Our Admin Assistant, Lisa researched and put together a brilliant display with stories of local servicemen who were Prisoners of War in Japan. Their families were thrilled that we had shared their stories.

The Clerk thanked Councillor Williams and Councillor Nicholls for volunteering their time to support the event on the day.

NOTED

e) Music in Crossley Park

The Clerk reported that over the summer, we held six Music in Crossley Park sessions. We only had to move one performance due to bad weather but pleased that we were able to reorganise it for a later date.

Each performance was well attended by the community, and we would like to thank the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for supporting these events and local resident, Bruce Swanwick for opening and closing the bandstand for us each week.

Cllr Freeborn added that he hopes the Community Engagement Committee would consider adding more of these events to the events calendar in 2026.

NOTED

f) Update on Ripley Town Council office expansion

The Clerk reported that the Leader of Amber Valley Borough Council has now signed the Executive Order for us to acquire the office space adjacent to the current RTC office. We are just waiting to receive the draft Head of Terms for the Lease from the legal team at AVBC.

NOTED

g) Garden and Allotment Competition winners

The Clerk reported that the presentation for this competition took place at the Coop in Ripley yesterday evening. The Mayor presented winners and runners up with Coop vouchers and a certificate. We are grateful to Central England Coop for supporting this competition and for hosting the presentation event. The photos from the event have been posted on the council's social media platforms today.

Councillor Freeborn also thanked the Coop for their continued support and hope they will continue supporting this competition in future.

NOTED

h) Ripley Township Christmas Lights update

The Clerk reported that we recently went through the formal tender process for the new contract for the Christmas Lights. The Finance Committee recommended to award the contract to LITE. We will be providing six Christmas light displays in the township villages this year. These will be displayed on lampposts on main routes through the villages.

The Christmas light switch on will take place at the Ripley Christmas Market on Sunday 23rd November.

Councillor Freeborn added that LITE have be contract for the next three years. They were competitive with their pricing and overall, the best quality and importantly, their call out arrangements should there be a problem with a display, were the best.

NOTED

i) Fair Dinner Reminder – Tuesday 21st October 2025 at The Excavator, Sawmills

The Clerk reminded members that they have received an email inviting them to attend the Fair Dinner with the Showmen's Guild. Members should let the Admin Assistant know their meal choices and send payment by 3rd October 2025.

NOTED

j) Reminder regarding October Full Council meeting date (Monday 20th October 2025)

Due to the Fair Dinner taking place on Tuesday 21st October 2025, the date of the Full Council meeting next month will be Monday 20th October 2025.

NOTED

160925/15. Discuss the double yellow lines at Jessop Street, Waingroves.

RESOLVED for Ripley Town Council to formally support the aims and objectives of the petition of yellow lines

160925/16. Discuss the Amber Valley Borough Council Community Governance review – initial consultation.

RESOLVED that Ripley Town Council agree to the recommendations made by Amber Valley Borough Council, apart from the following where the council:

1. **OPPOSE** the recommendations to move Waingroves Hall and Waingroves Hall Farm (Codnor Denby Lane) from the Ripley parish to Codnor parish.
2. **SUPPORT** that the one property on Drovers Way, Ambergate should be removed from the Crich Parish and be incorporated into the Ripley Parish.
3. **SUPPORT** that the two properties on Main Road, Lower Hartshay, Ripley should be removed from the Pentrich Parish and be incorporated into the Ripley Parish.

160925/17. Discuss Waingroves Quarry

RESOLVED that Ripley Town Council contact the National Woodland Trust to seek their advice and support to ideally save the whole woodland corridor, but as a minimum to help ensure that the continuous water supply to Strelley Wood is maintained and secondly, to protect, through transplanting, the rare English Bluebells and Wood Anemones. Further resolve to contact Derbyshire Wildlife Trust to ask them to purchase the area yet to be quarried in order to protect this ancient woodland and all the rare species and wildlife that depend on it.

160925/18. Discuss the Public Right of Way Consultation from Derbyshire County Council regarding Knob Farm, Belper, DE56 0HJ (in the Parish of Ripley).

RESOLVED Ripley Town Council do not have any objection to this.

160925/19. Finance update from the Responsible Finance Officer.

The Responsible Finance Officer gave an update on the balance sheet as at 31st August 2025 which showed that the council are in a healthy position. She explained that the next part of the precept will be paid from Amber Valley Borough Council to Ripley Town Council by the end of September 2025.

Cllr Freeborn said he is delighted with the work Councillor Lobley as Chair of the Finance Committee and the Responsible Finance Officer are doing.

NOTED

160925/20. Planning applications
NONE

160925/21. Exclusion of Press and Public
NONE

160925/22. Meeting Closed at 19:34

Date for the Next Full Council Meeting Monday 20th October 2025, at 7.00pm.

Signed..... Date.....