



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 18th November 2025** in the Council Chamber,
Town Hall, Market Place, Ripley.

In Attendance: Cllrs M Allwood, R Ashton, C Bailey (Chair), A Burslem, S Carter, L Cox, R Emmas-Williams, M Hawkins, P Lobley BEM, P Moss, A Nicholls, K Smith, K Somers, N Weaving, P Weaving, and D Williams.
Plus: Hannah Curzon - Town Clerk & Jayne Simpson – Responsible Finance Officer.
Plus: Three members of the public and two representatives from the Ripley Safer Neighbourhood Team.

AGENDA

181125/1. To receive Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Freeborn, Holmes, Ward and Wilson.

181125/2. Variation of Order of Business

RESOLVED to discuss Agenda Item 17 (Discuss Thomas Hartland land) into confidential with the exclusion of the press and public.

181125/3. Declaration of Members Interests

Councillor Emmas-Williams declared a personal interest in Agenda Item 17 as an acquaintance of a resident of Cromford View, Ripley to which this agenda item refers. He remained in the meeting for the discussion.

181125/4. Public Speaking

A member of the public complimented on the winter floral displays in the town centre.

Cllr Hawkins remarked about the lost bus shelter adjacent to Elizabeth Mews in Marehay. It had been discussed in a recent Heritage, Environment and Regeneration Committee meeting and he is pleased that the committee are in support of getting it replaced.

PC Sadler reported that Anti-Social Behaviour in the town is currently low. There were no issues when the fair was in town at the end of October, nor at any local bonfires. Regarding the problematic residents in flats at the bottom of Oxford Street, the Police are in the process of closing them down and rehoming the residents elsewhere. Extensive refurbishment by the landlord is required before they are habitable again.

PC Sadler introduced PCSO Shaw and stated that the Safer Neighbourhood Teams are in the process of taking on new, experienced officers in the new year.

Cllr Williams reported that motorbikes and e scooters have been seen on Codnor Common. PC Sadler responded saying that member of the public should report them to the Police when seen and they will keep an eye on the situation, but unfortunately, they cannot sit and wait for them.

Cllr Somers asked if there is a local response by the Police to knife crime. PCSO Shaw responded to say that Operation Sceptre is currently underway in Amber Valley where the Police are going into schools to talk about knife crime and they have knife amnesty events going on throughout this week.

181125/5. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Town Council's Meeting on October 20th 2025 and accept the resolutions therein.

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

181125/6. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Heritage, Environment and Regeneration Committee Meeting on October 23rd 2025 and accept the recommendations therein.

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

181125/7. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Policy and Management Committee meeting on October 28th 2025 and accept the recommendations therein.

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

181125/8. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting on November 4th 2025 and accept the recommendations therein.

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

181125/9. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Allotment Committee meeting on November 4th 2025 and accept the recommendations therein.

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

181125/10. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting on November 11th 2025 and accept the recommendations therein.

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

181125/11. To confirm the Non-Confidential Minutes of the Community Engagement Committee meeting on November 11th 2025 and accept the recommendations therein.

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

181125/12. To determine which items if any part of the agenda should be taken with the public excluded.

RESOLVED In view of the confidential nature of item 17, to consider a resolution to exclude the press and public from the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1, in order to discuss the item.

181125/13. Mayor's Announcements.

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

21st October 2025 – Fair Dinner at The Excavator

22nd October 2025 – Opening of the 774th Ripley Fair

27th October 2025 - Ripley Hospital League of Friends Fish and Chip Supper Fundraiser.

9th November 2025 – Ambergate Remembrance Service and the Deputy Mayor attend the Ripley Remembrance.

10th November 2025 – Ripley Junior School Book Fair

15th November 2025 – Attended the Ripley Girl Guides Christmas Fair

16th November 2025 – Ripley Town Council Civic Service

181125/14. Town Clerk announcements:

a) Ripley Remembrance

The Clerk reported that it was yet again an amazing turnout from the community. The Air Cadet band was a welcome addition to the parade. Some tweaks will be made to arrangements for next year, including having barriers in the Coop car park to prevent vehicles trying to exit the car park onto Derby Road when the parade was lining up/ road closures were in place. Also coning off laybys throughout the town centre to prevent vehicles parking in them for the duration of the event. The council posted photos and videos of the parade on our social media channels, to which we had great interaction from the community. The RBL will let us know the total amount raised from the Ripley Poppy Appeal in due course.

Cllr Lobley reported that he had received complimentary comments from the League of Zeal bikers who were in attendance who said that being able to park on Ripley Market Place worked well for them this year.

NOTED

b) New RTC Office update

The Clerk reported that the lease is currently with the council's solicitor. The redecoration work will be starting week commencing 12th January 2026 and should take around 3 weeks to complete. When the room is ready, committee meetings will take place there. Until that time meetings will take place in the Council Chamber. Once the room is ready, we will work on organising the space to accommodate exhibitions and local information.

NOTED

c) Ripley Christmas Market and Lights Switch on

The Clerk reported that all plans are in place for the event this coming Sunday. There will be a carousel on Ripley Market Place as well as market stalls. Two children's rides, face painter and the Town Council gazebo will be on Oxford Street.

NOTED

d) Staffing update

The Clerk reported that she was pleased to announce that the Deputy Clerk will be returning to work on 1st December 2025, on a phased return, working two days per week until the new year. All staff appraisals have now been completed and was pleased to report that all our staff are thriving in their roles. Any necessary adjustments to staff pay will go to the December Finance Committee for approval.

Cllr Allwood stated that he has delighted that the Deputy Clerk is coming back to work.

NOTED

181125/15. Discuss the Citizen Advice Six Monthly report April-September 2025.

Cllr Allwood welcomed the report and praised the highly valued work and fantastic service the Citizens Advice service carries out.

Cllr Lobley remarked that the new service in Nether Heage has been welcomed and they are trying to encourage Futures Homes residents to use the service if they need to.

Cllr Williams reported that the new service is also going well in Waingroves.

NOTED

181125/16. Discuss the Ripley Township Tree Planting project.

The Town Clerk reported that Cllr Freeborn and our Admin Assistant, Lisa recently visited the possible tree planting sites with Matt Smith, the Woodland Creation Advisor, for Derbyshire's Heartwood Community Forest at Derbyshire County Council.

Matt advised that it would be best if we wait until the Tree planting season in late 2026 to start this project. We need to obtain permission from landowners to plant trees on their land.

Initially the Heart wood Community Forest said they would only be able to fund the larger areas where we would like trees planting, but they've now said they may be able to fund the smaller areas too, which is great news.

We will keep the Heritage, Environment and Regeneration Committee informed of future developments.

NOTED

181125/17. Discuss the Thomas Hartland recreation land at Cromford View, Ripley.

RESOLVED that Ripley Town Council approach Morris Homes with a proposal asking if they would consider transferring the Thomas Hartland Open Space at Cromford View Estate to Ripley Town Council so it can be maintained as a Public Open Space for the benefit of the community. If they agree to the free transfer of this land to the council, would they be willing to donate funds of £25,000 to assist the Town Council to take responsibility of the maintenance of the land.

181125/18. Planning applications

Planning application AVA/2025/0797 – Proposed full retail fitout of unit to a retail banking hub including the installation of new shopfront, brand signage, new ATM at front of property, new condensers to rear of property and associated internal works.

Location: Farm Foods, 24, Oxford Street, Ripley, DE5 3AL.
Applicant: Cash Access UK

RESOLVED that Ripley Town Council support this application as it will be for the benefit to residents and it will be making use of an empty shop on Oxford Street, Ripley.

181125/21. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the Meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted in Agenda item 17.

181125/22. Meeting Closed at 19:20

Date for the Next Full Council Meeting Tuesday 20th January 2026, at 7.00pm.

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