

Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall, Green Arbour Road, Thurcroft, Rotherham, S66 9DD

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Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held Thursday 26th June 2025

Present Councillors: C. Walker (Chair), J. Richardson, V. Burford, D. Oxley, C. McCartan, R. Ridler, T,

Murphy, R. Butler, H. Bell

Apologies were received from Councillors: B. Clark, M. Wordsworth, A. Winnsborough, S. Hydes

Absent: D. Brown **Officers:** S. Wilkinson

There were no members of the public in attendance

The meeting started at 6.30pm

FC135. To receive and consider reasons for absence

The Council noted the apologies received from B. Clark, M. Wordsworth, A. Winnsborough and S. Hydes.

FC136. To receive declarations of personal and pecuniary interestⁱ for members and officers

There were no declarations of interest received

FC137. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

None received.

FC138. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

No requests to grant.

FC139. To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 29th May 2025

Resolved: - That the minutes be approved

Voting: 8 councillors present. 7 councillors voted in favour, 1 abstained.

FC140. To identify any agenda items which may be considered following the exclusion of the press and public, due to the confidential nature to be discussed. Under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, S1 (2))

Resolved: - No Items noted are confidential

FC141. Public Participation Session

No public present.

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FC142. To note the minutes for committee meetings held since the last ordinary meeting of the council

- a) Finance and General Committee held on Thursday 19th June 2025
- b) Facilities and Events meeting held on 1^{2th} June 2025
 Both noted.

FC143. To receive and approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 15th May 2025 at 6.30pm

Resolved: - That the minutes be approved

Voting: 8 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour,

FC144. To receive and approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15th May 2025 at 5.00pm

Resolved: - That the minutes be approved

Voting: 8 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour,

J. Richardson entered the room at 18.38pm

FC145. To receive an update regarding investing in the CCLA

Resolved: Clerk confirmed that the account is now open. £1 has been transferred over and invested. Clerk has an online log on to confirm this. Clerk and chair to go to branch shortly to transfer the money by CHAPS.

FC146. To approve the quote from recreation and environment for the roundabout at Brampton park

Resolved: - The winning quote belonged to Wicksteed for £8000. We have received a grant of £2000 from Rotherham Council towards the instillation of this roundabout.

Voting: 9 councillors present, all voted in favour.

FC147. To discuss reseeding the goalmouth at Thurcroft football pitch

Resolved: It was decided that it is too late in the season, and the weather is too hot and dry to reseed this year. Item to be deferred until the end of the 25/26 football season.

FC148. To approve the new combined media/social media policy

Resolved: - All voted In favour for the new Media, social media and recording of meetings policy, and to also adopt the civility and respect policy that forms part of this new policy. **Voting:** 9 councillors present, all voted in favour.

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FC149. To discuss the summer flowers

Resolved: - Council noted that the summer flowers have been planted, apart from the entrance sign from Laughton to Thurcroft and a flower bed in Brampton. The flowers look uncared for; some are dead already. The flowers were not watered when they were planted. We can only confirm watering of the memorial garden Monday 16th June, and watering of all the beds Tuesday 24th June. The weather was 27-29 degrees all week commencing 16/6, and the flower beds should have been watered every day at least once. We will monitor for the next month and discuss the flower beds again in July's meeting.

FC150. To approve replacing the air conditioning unit in the cellar for the bar

Resolved: Air conditioning unit has broken down, we have tried to fix it, but the unit needs replacing. Paul Wood to replace the unit urgently as we have a party requiring the bar on the 5/7, and our bar provider will not accept any new bookings until it is fixed. Financial regulation 5.9 to be suspended as only 1 quote was received due to the urgency of the repair. Unit to be fixed this weekend (28-29th June).

Voting: 9 councillors present. All voted in favour.

FC151. To discuss additional activities at the summer funday Friday 15th August 2025

Resolved: - Council voted for £500 to spend on additional items for the funday including hula hoops, skipping ropes, sand, hay bales, pop, crisps and wrist bands. Cllr H. Bell to request more information regarding the additional donut spinners, which will be discussed at July's meeting. **Voting:** 9 councillors present. All voted in favour.

FC152. To discuss cutting back the shrubs along the Mineral Line

Resolved: Imbetween producing the agenda and the meeting, the Mineral Line seems to have been cut back already. Cllr T. Murphy to take some photos to confirm this. If work needs doing Clerk will write to Sustrand, the owners of the Mineral Line, for them to carry out the work.

FC153. To discuss cutting back the trees/shrubs along Green Arbour Road

Resolved: - Clerk to contact RMBC to ask them to carry out the works as the land belongs to them. It will be raised at the next CAP meeting in July also.

FC154. To discuss using Scribe Cemetery to allow the cemetery records and administration to be actioned online.

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Resolved: - All councillors approved the use of Scribe Cemetery, along with Scribe for accounts and bookings at a cost of £420 annually with a £279 initial payment. Clerk to arrange with Scribe, Clerk and Admin to complete the changeover from paper to digital.

<u>Voting:</u>: 9 councillors present. All voted in favour.

FC155. To review the fees for the hire of the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall

Resolved: The 2025 effective 1st September fees are what we currently charge for the hire of the Gordon Bennett. The proposed changes are as follows:

Council proposed to keep the prices for regular users the same for financial year 25/26.

A recommendation was put forward for adhoc bookings as follows:

Hourly rate to increase from £20 to £25, with a minimum of a 3-hour booking.

Bar service to increase from £20 to £25

Bouncy castle electric to remain at £10

Full day booking to increase from £150 to £170. A full day is 8 hours, any extra hours £15

Full week booking to increase from £500 to £600 + £120 per extra day

Elections to remain at £400

Hire of the council chambers to increase from £10 to £15

No additional free time will be granted before and after the party for set up and tidy up. **Voting**:- 9 Councillors present, all voted in favour

FC156.To review the fees for the 25/26 football season from the events meeting 12/6

Resolved: The football fee changes are as follows:

To remove adult hire as the pitches are not marked out for adult pitch sizes

To increase junior hire from £280 per season to £310

To increase junior single game hire from £25 to £30

To increase noncontract hire from £45 to £55

Voting:- 9 Councillors present, all voted in favour

FC157. To review the cost of the plaques at the Cemetery from the events meeting 12/6

Resolved: The obelisk fees are as follows:

The plaques will be £150 on the obelisk, and £180 for the bench, and will stay on the obelisk/bench permanently. The council will decide where the plaque will be placed, and we will not save a space, and you cannot prepay for a plaque. The obelisks will be completed in order. Clerk to design a form, based on the current memorial form that will be completed, checked and signed off, then an invoice will be sent, paid, then the plaque requested and installed. All plaques will have the same font style (D4), size and colour (gold) and a maximum number of words. No pictures will be allowed. Cllr C.

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Walker will be the first to purchase a plaque, so we can assess the process and make amendments, if necessary, before we launch the service.

Voting:- 9 Councillors present, all voted in favour

FC158. To note accounts for payment and note contractual payments made under the clerk delegation

Payments and Receipts for May shown to council and noted.

Resolved: - That the payments and receipts be noted.

FC159. To note expenditure outside of the meeting between the Clerk and the Chair in line with Financial Regulation 4.1

Nothing to note.

FC160. To receive and consider any grant applications received by the council

Proposal received from Shaz Biggin at Youth Work Works:

12-week program mixed gender age 11 to 19yrs. We do work with a range of ages, 11-19years is our target groups. 2 x youth workers, 1 Engagement officer through RMBC. To work with young people who are at risk of disengagement, not in education training or employment. To improve relationships between young people and the community, and partners. To identify vulnerable young people and refer to the relevant agencies or the early intervention team to identify specific needs of the young people. This will include any resources and admin to support the session. Cost £1,800.00.

Resolved: - That the proposal be accepted but paid as community funding instead of a grant. **Voting:** 9 councillors present. All councillors voted in favour.

FC161. To receive an update regarding Whitestone solar farm

It was agreed that when the Clerk receives any information regarding Whitestone and any other solar farm it would be shared to all councillors.

Resolved: - Council approve Whitestone Farm using the Gordon Bennett for a community consultation event 3rd October 2025.

FC162. To receive an update from the clerk (information only)

- The payback team have completed the Brampton Park refurbishment.
- The payback team have painted the skatepark white, in preparation for Zoe Potter to graffiti with ideas from kids from the youth club w/c 30th June.
- The memorial stone is complete. Photos of the unveiling are on the Rotherham Advertiser website.

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- The cemetery has been resurfaced and looks fantastic!
- The Gordon Bennett car park will be resurfaced on Tuesday 15th July. The football container will be moved in preparation for this.
- We are due a £1088 refund from PHS due to overpaying in 2024.
- We are due a £3888 VAT refund as a VAT refund was not requested in Quarter 2 of 2024.
- We have a meeting with Thurcroft Hubstars FC to discuss them renting Hangsman Lane on a long-term basis
- We have a meeting with South Yorkshire Police and RMBC regarding moving the hut.
- We have had trouble obtaining a written quote from the electrician. We have instructed another electrician to provide a quote to compare prices. It has taken a month to obtain the written quote with prompting, and we are not confident that he would fulfil this contract in a timely manner.

FC163. To consider relevant planning applications as published on RMBC's weekly lists (40-47) along with any associated submissions received and any reports on previous planning applications/issues.

Resolved: - No objections have been raised to planning applications: RB2024/1420, RB2025/0702, RB2025/0785, RB2025/0806 and RB2025/0766

FC164. To notify the clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting

A MOP has requested a plaque in recognition of Frank Wright, for his work with the Thurcroft Cadets.

FC165. To confirm the date and time of the next ordinary meeting of the council on Thursday 31st July 2025 at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber of the Gordon Bennett Memorial Hall

The meeting closed at 20.13pm

Chairperson Initial: