



**COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIPON
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
ALDERMAN T F SPENCE
COMMITTEE**

Date: 2nd February 2026
Time: 2:00pm
Location: Council Chamber, Town Hall, Ripon.

Present:

Cllr Martin-Long (Chairman)
Cllr Duncan
Cllr McHardy
Cllr Hardisty
Cllr Horton
M Stanley (non-voting member of the Cttee)
T Bahrouni (non-voting member of the Cttee)
J Geddes (observer)

In attendance:

Locum Town Clerk
Simon Warwick [Lower Ure Conservation Trust]
Administrator

01/26	<p>1. To receive apologies for absence.</p> <p>Cllr Flatley</p> <p>2. To approve reasons for absence.</p> <p>APPROVED.</p>
02/26	<p>To request any disclosure of an interest in relation to any matter under consideration at this meeting (financial or otherwise) & to consider any written requests for dispensation.</p> <p>None.</p>
03/26	<p>Members of the public are invited to question, seek clarification or make representation to members of the Committee on any agenda item as listed below.</p> <p>None.</p>
04/26	<p>To receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1st December 2025</p> <p>APPROVED.</p>
05/26	<p>To receive an update on Financial and Governance Matters:</p> <p>1. To receive payments and receipts report 1st October 2025 to 31st December 2025</p> <p>DEFERRED.</p>
06/26	<p>To receive the following reports and agree appropriate action:</p> <p>1. Clerk's verbal report, including outcome of grant request and update on constitution for charity.</p> <p>It was noted that funding was not approved by the grants panel due to the funding being allocated only for public buildings.</p> <p>RECEIVED.</p>

	<p>2. Warden's reports [to be tabled at the meeting]</p> <p>It was noted that future reports be emailed to members ahead of meetings.</p> <p>RECEIVED.</p>
07/26	<p>To receive an update on 'The Hut' refurbishment</p> <p>It was noted that 21 Royal Engineer Regiment had carried out the inspection of the building and concluded that the building has serious structural issues and that they will not be able to assist in repair. It was also strongly advised that an emergency roof repair be conducted.</p> <p>Cllr's Martin-Long & Duncan are pursuing alternative avenues.</p> <p>RECEIVED.</p>
08/26	<p>To receive any update on Natural England and SSSI matters, including Higher-Level Stewardship.</p> <p>It was reported by the Administrator that the RPA is now aware of the Higher Stewardship application and is awaiting a current map from Natural England so that the parcels can be allocated to the map. Funding should be awarded pending the allocation and in a timely course.</p> <p>RECEIVED.</p>
09/26	<p>To receive an update of tree felling license</p> <p>The Administrator reported that a license did not need to be in place to attend to trees that are posing as a health and safety issue to local residents and would be attended to pending an on-site visit with the contacted tree surgeons. Site visit to commence on 5th February 26.</p> <p>The trees that have previously been assessed and a license placed against them until 2029 will be tended to imminently.</p> <p>The trees by the car park wall will be taken out for safety reasons due to anti-social behaviour. It has been stated by the Forestry Commission that a license is not required for this work.</p> <p>RECEIVED.</p>
10/26	<p>To receive a report from LUCT</p> <p>It was noted that a considerable amount of brambles have been cut back. Volunteers have worked for 23 days. Further cutting back to continue in March.</p> <p>RECEIVED</p>
11/26	<p>To note the position on the various matters on the site and agree appropriate action:</p> <p>1. Overhanging trees.</p> <p>As per item 09/26 overhanging trees to be attended to.</p> <p>RESOLVED.</p> <p>2. Dog Fouling.</p> <p>The Administrator commented that a competition be set up with Greystone School for pupils to create signage to make people aware of picking up after their pets. A prize to</p>

be sourced by Cllr McHardy and the Administrator to contact the school to discuss further.

RESOLVED.

3. **Broken fences.**

Ownership of land/deed/borders to be ascertained before fencing is addressed for repair.

RESOLVED.

To note the time and date of the next meeting – Monday 9th March 2026 at 2.30pm.

Signed _____

Dated _____