



**OFFICIAL NOTICE OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF RIPON**

**ANNUAL MEETING & MAYOR MAKING CEREMONY
WEDNESDAY 6TH MAY 2026 at 6:00PM**

**HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE TOWN HALL,
RIPON, HG4 1DD**

To Members of the Council.

You are summoned to attend a meeting of Ripon City Council for the purposes of determining the agenda items listed below.

Sally Taylor
Chief Officer
30th April 2026

**Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting prayers will be said
by the Mayor's Chaplain**

	Housekeeping note: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please ensure any mobiles are put on silent• There are no planned fire drills, if the alarm does sound please make your way downstairs and out of the building to the Market Place
77/26	To receive apologies for absence. To approve reasons for absence.
78/26	The Council to elect The Right Worshipful The Mayor of Ripon.
79/26	The Proposer and Seconder to make the Customary Search for the Mayor Elect, who is then conducted to the Council Chamber.
80/26	The Mayor to make the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as required by Local Elections (Declaration of Acceptance of Office) Order 2012 (SI 2012 No 1465), take the Oath of Allegiance; take the Ancient Oath of the Mayor of Ripon; signing accordingly in each case and then to sign the Ancient Roll.
81/26	The Right Worshipful The Mayor to take the Chair.
82/26	The Right Worshipful The Mayor to return thanks for their election.
83/26	The Council to elect the Deputy Mayor.
84/26	The Deputy Mayor to Make the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.



85/26	To propose a vote of thanks to the Retiring Mayor Cllr Brodigan and Former Mayor Cllr Crozier
86/26	The Mayor to give the following badges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Past Mayor Badge to Cllr Barabara Brodigan • Consort Badge to Mr R Brodigan • Past Mayor Badge to Cllr Jackie Crozier • Past Mayoress Badge to Linda Hawke • Note that a Past Mayoress Badge be presented to Lorna Fassnidge who cannot be here tonight due to work commitments.
87/26	The Mayor to notify the Appointment of their Chaplain.
88/26	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.
89/26	To note the dates of future Meetings of Full Council up to the date of the next Annual Meeting of the Council as per resolution 08/26. 1 st June, 29 th June, 13 th July, 7 th September, 5 th October, 9 th November, 7 th December, 18 th January, 8 th February, 8 th March, 12 th April.
90/26	To appoint Committees of the Council, nominate members to those committees and delegate powers and duties to such committees for the ensuing year in accordance with the Terms of Reference as agreed by Council. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Hugh Ripley Hall Committee ii. Events Committee iii. Alderman TF Spence Committee iv. HR Committee
91/26	To consider and approve the Minutes of the Meeting held: 13 th April 2026 as a true and accurate record of proceedings held. <i>(Pages 4 – 9 in Councillors pack)</i>
92/26	YLCA To consider and approve the subscription to YLCA for 2026/27 <i>(Pages 10 – 14 in Councillors pack)</i>
93/26	To propose that delegated authority is given to the Chief Officer to accept the best value quote for a Fire Risk Assessment for Hugh Ripley Hall.



Ripon City Council
Clerk's Office
Town Hall
Ripon
North Yorkshire
HG4 1DD
01765 604097

History of the Mayor

The post of Mayor is relatively young as it only dates back to the 1604 Charter of King James I which created the role from that of the Wakeman.

The Wakeman was the oldest post stretching back to the early Middle Ages, and is not to be confused with the Hornblower which was always a separate function and person, always a male.

The rules for the Wakeman were fortunately written down in the 'Ripon Towne Book' of 1598 and it is quite clear that "The Wakeman is to arrange for the horn blowing in the market place and for setting the watch until 3 or 4am during which time he is responsible for guarding premises from burglary and shall pay compensation to those who suffer loss".

Failure to do any of the tasks set out in the Towne Book resulted in a large fine, and this is alluded to in today's Mayor making ceremony each year when the Mayor elect is 'dragged' into the Council Chamber to be made the Mayor.

The fines were specific: - £20 for not providing a supper for fellow Aldermen and their wives between 10th June and 31st August; 20 shillings for using the common seal of Ripon without the consent of 4 Aldermen; £4 for failing to serve as Wakeman and another expensive fine of £20 was "The Wakeman is not to leave the town in his year of office except because of plague". The plague referred to is bubonic plague and was prevalent in the Middle Ages after 1347 and into the 17th century as the King's Court left London when there was an attack of the plague. Clearly a Wakeman must have left the town at some stage prior to 1598 for this rule to have been written down.