

MIRFIELD
TOWN COUNCIL
ANNUAL
REPORT
2024/2025



Prepared by
Lisa Staggs – MTC Clerk

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MEMBERS OF MIRFIELD TOWN COUNCIL 2024/2025

BATTYEFORD WARD	
Cllr Martyn Bolt (Conservative) elected	Tel: 01924 496129 Martyn.Bolt@kirklees.gov.uk
Cllr Mark Hamilton (Conservative) elected	Tel: 07970130347 mark.hamilton59@icloud.com
Cllr Imran Ali (Conservative) elected	Tel: 07956176413 imranali100@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr Martyn Connell (Independent) elected	Tel: 07545768642 martyn@maze8.co.uk
Cllr Barbara Harrison (Conservative) elected	Tel: 07718628151 barbaraharriuson@gmail.com
EASTTHORPE WARD	
Cllr Janet Hirst (Conservative) elected	Tel: 01924 524636 jameph53@ntlworld.com
Cllr Stuart Naisbett (Conservative) elected	Tel: 07711423736 stuart@rees-naisbett.co.uk
Cllr Maria Brown (Independent) elected	Tel: 01924 495068 mbrowneastthorpe@gmail.com
CROSSLEY WARD	
Cllr Mike Sullivan (Independent) elected	Tel: 07939474464 mike@thesullivanhouse.co.uk
Cllr Derrien Hirst (Conservative) elected	Tel: 07714633854 derrien.hirst@ntlworld.com
Cllr Jake Hinchliffe (Conservative) elected	Tel: jake@orangedesignstudio.co.uk
HOPTON WARD	
Cllr Vivien Lees-Hamilton (Conservative) elected	Tel: 01924 480082 vivien.lees-hamilton@kirklees.gov.uk
Cllr Philip Tolson (Independent) elected	Tel: 01924 497369 philtomac@gmail.com
NORTHORPE WARD	
Cllr Itrat Ali (Conservative) elected	Tel: 07856289807 itrat.ali@kirklees.gov.uk
Cllr John Roberts (Conservative) elected	Tel: 07928929604 johnroberts@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr. Sean Guy (Conservative) elected	Telephone: 01924 491759 seandguy@yahoo.co.uk



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MAYOR'S REPORT

Cllr Stuart Naisbett 2024/2025

Town Mayor's Report by Cllr Stuart Naisbett

The Town Council has remained as the catalyst for the local community. Although the council has no statutory powers for the matters which often concern and affect our town, we continued to make representations to those who do.

Meetings continue to take place on the second and fourth Wednesday at the Trinity Church meeting rooms as this is a larger room to accommodate the Council members and public attendees.

Planning and greater development continue as a cause of great concern to Mirfield residents, and often they feel hampered by the policies of Kirklees Council. It is felt by Town Council and many members of the community that local voices are not heard. Developments are still being proposed in areas that would be considered unsuitable and may create issues further down the line.

Mirfield Town Council has and will continue to object to developments, not out of the wish to hamper the development of sensible and sustainable housing, but because the continued failure to consider the lack of infrastructure to support such development (roads, schools, and doctors).

The development of Mirfield Train Station progressed, with meetings held with Network Rail to keep us and the public informed, however this has and will continue its own frustrations based on the lack of development opportunities the site holds. The lack of suitable parking provision and the missed commercial potential has led to questions being asked of Northern Rail and their delivery team.

During my period as Mayor, I felt it was important to continue what my predecessor started and bring back some of the civic events previously carried out as part of the role. So, my civic service was held in St Mary's. My thanks to the clergy of the St Mary's for their help and support in the preparations along with fellow councilors and our clerk which was and is greatly appreciated. The attendance and performance of Karen Clegg and Daisy Ashbridge from Castle Hall Academy made the event even more rememberable.

There are many community groups within Mirfield, and I would like to express my thanks to all of the volunteers who give their time for the benefit of all. Members of the community who give up their time to support local groups are the backbone of the projects that improve the town.

During my year as Mayor, I was privileged to join the judges for the Yorkshire in Bloom event, and as expected Mirfield in Bloom showed the town in the best possible light with the flowerbeds and incredible dedication of the hardworking volunteers. Of course, a year cannot go past without winning awards from the RHS (Best Town in Yorkshire) for improving our neighborhoods

Special thanks go to Mirfield in Bloom for their efforts to encourage the Little Bloomers. These efforts will continue develop the community spirit and love for the town for future generations. I would also like to thanks to the Mirfield Show for their extra events throughout the year such as their growing day, and Christmas event.

I also would like to thank Mirfield Choral Society for the invites to their performances during my tenure. The Messiah concert was an incredible event, and I will certainly be attending in 2026.

It was with great pride I led the Remembrance Day parade, accompanied by Deputy Lord Lieutenant Iqbal Bhana OBE, Kim Leadbeater MP, Councillor Nosheen Dad Mayor of Kirklees and fellow Councillors. To see the town turn out to support those who gave the ultimate sacrifice was poignant and moving. Our ongoing support of current and returned service personnel makes Mirfield a safe haven for the Armed Services.

I have been honored to represent Mirfield at a number of other civic services and civic dinners, and as the representative of the council for the Friends of Mirfield Library and Mirfield Community Centre.

Following a grant application by the Trinity Children's Centre, I chose them as my charity for the year and attended their nativity play, which I enjoyed immensely.

I also attended the Castle Hall open evening and spoke to many of the staff and pupils as well as the parents hoping to send their children there and I'd like to think any contribution I made to the evening aided their decision. I should also like to thank the staff and pupils for the way in which they made me feel welcome and for the further invites to school events especially Matilda the Musical which was fantastic. I would also like to thank those pupils and parents who attended the light switch on to sing as the weather was appalling but they carried on regardless

I would like to express my thanks to fellow councillors who give their time voluntarily and as you will see elsewhere in this report have done so regularly both in the formal meetings and working on the projects instigated by town council and to represent us on outside bodies.

Special thanks go to Cllr Martyn Connell for arranging the Remembrance Day parade and the D-day and VE Day celebrations. Thanks to Barbara and Itrat for attending events with me. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our town clerk Lisa for all the hard work and extra hours she puts in to ensure we deliver what we endeavor to do. Lisa deserves recognition along with Barbara for arranging my civic dinner, which was a resounding success, raising money for the Trinity Children's Centre.

I have been honored to serve as Town Mayor; it has been a privilege to represent the Town during events outside Mirfield and humbling to represent the Town Council within our boundaries.

Yours in Mirfield
S Naisbett
Mirfield Town Mayor 2024/2025







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CLERK'S REPORT 2024/2025

The Town Council has seen another fantastic year of community engagement and volunteering within the town.

The Town Council has continued its grant scheme and has awarded several grants to groups for annual town events like Mirfield in Bloom, Mirfield Round Table Bonfire & continued this year to supply the main marquee for the annual Mirfield Show and continue to match fund defibrillators and benches with local groups.

This year also saw the town council hold a Civic Service at St Mary's Parish Church, we welcomed lots of community groups from the town, along with many Civics from other Towns and Parishes and Deputy Lord Lieutenant Dr M Joshi. In addition, the Mayor hosted his Civic Dinner in April, which was also well attended by community groups, Councillors, members of the business community, the Deputy Mayor of Kirklees, our MP, and many other Civic dignitaries. Both were a great success.

Despite issues with Kirklees regarding the placement of Christmas Lights, we still managed to produce a great display, with the addition once again of the illuminated angel.

Having taken over the lamppost banners along the main Huddersfield Road from Kirklees we are now installing lamppost banners for major events like VE80 and other annual events in the town.

We continue holding 2 meetings per month, enabling the council to continue working on behalf of the residents of Mirfield. We welcome any members of the public to join us in these meetings and look forward to a new year of working with the community, supporting local groups businesses and local events.

Lisa Staggs
Town Clerk



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MIRFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

BANK RECONCILIATION AS OF

31/03/2025

BALANCE B/F 23/24	£167,658.89
INCOME	£122,254.94
SUBTOTAL	£289,913.83
EXPENDITURE	£ 110,705.61
CASH BOOK TOTAL	£179,208.22

Current Account as 31/03/25	£ 3855.91
Deposit Account as of 31/03/25	£175,352.31
Balance 31/03/25	£179,208.22

BANK RECONCILIATION 2024/2025 (UNAUDITED)



REGISTER OF FIXED ASSETS 31ST MARCH 2025

<u>ASSET</u>	<u>PURCHASE COST</u>	<u>INSURANCE SCHEDULE</u>
Mayor's Jewel & Chain	Unknown – valuation 2009 £7,500	£13,876.00
Vice Chairman's Chain of Office	Unknown – Valuation 2009 £2,000	£3,699.69
Chairman's Jewel	Unknown - Valuation 2009 £2,500	£4,625.91
Chairman's Chain	Unknown – Valuation 2009 £8,850	£16,372.99
Medal on Ribbon (Vice Chairman's Consort)	£175.00	£299.19
2 X Deputy Mayor Ribbon & Medal	£400.00	£595.61
1 x Picnic Tables 3 x Benches	£1528.66	£3,414.39
9 x Defibrillators & Cabinets	£10,788.00	£18,355.57
2 x London Heart Defibrillators	£1500.00	£1500.00
Laptop, Hard Drive, Printer & Windows Operating System	£449.94	£759.02
HP Laptop & Case	£1173.99	£1,599.78
Office Chair	£135.00	£135.00
<u>Christmas Lights</u> (Insured by Bradford Council when in storage)		
Christmas Lights Old Features	£4,500.00	£6,421.54
Ice Lights New 2022	£2,730.00	£3,009.83
12 x sets String Lights New 2022 & 2023	£840.00	£840.00
Features x 6 2022	£2,250.00	£2,480.63
Features x 6 2023	£2,250.00	£5,311.77

St Georges Standard/Pole inc. cord & tassel	£205.96	£352.12
Gold Banner cords & tassels	£30.00	£30.00*
Black leatherette Bag	£48.00	£48.00*
GP90 Pennants	£10.00	£10.00*
GP90 Scrolls	£68.00	£68.00*
Masonic Regalia Case	£35.00	£35.00*
Solar Spotlight	£98.98	£98.98*
Union Flag 7'6 x 3'9	£100.65	£100.65
St George Flag 7'6 x 3'9	£53.55	£53.55*
Armed Forces Day Flag 7'6 x 3'9	£77.00	£77.00*
Yorkshire Flag 7'6 x 3'9	£77.00	£77.00*
St George Flag 7'6" x 3'9"	£66.25	£66.25*
VE80 Flag	£25.50	£25.50*
Remembrance Walk Street Sign	£350.00	£463.05
Glassfibre Flagpole	£981.00	£1081.55
West Riding Flag 6' x 3	£140.00	£185.22
5 x Black ring binders	£65.00	£65.00*
5 x Black tablecloths 50 x 70	£20.00	£20.00*
Black Arm Bands	£141.90	£193.37
10 x WW1 Benches	£7765.00	£11,562.44
2 x There But Not There Figures	£1500.00	£2,233.57
1 x Breathing Space Bench	£1335.00	£1,646.13
6 x Jubilee Benches	£8964.00	£9,882.81
1 x Kings Coronation Bench	£1815.00	£1815.00
1 x Bench Battyeford SC	£622.00	£622.00
1 x Bench MIB Knowl Rd	£689.00	£689.00
Ambassador Book	£304.00	£335.16
Ambassador Board	£2850.00	£3,883.67
Ambassador Badges	£270.00	£367.93
Past Mayor Badges	£228.00	£228.00
Civic Award Badges x 6	£170.00	£170.00
Honorary Freeman x 4	£170.00	£170.00
Welcome to Mirfield Signage	£1344.00	£1,831.45
Snow Plough Attachment	£830.00	£1,098.09
Memorial Park Entrance inc Screens	£18,065.00	£19,916.66
Queens Green Canopy Tree Surround	£540.00	£540.00
Concrete Blocks kept at Kirklees	£1770.00	£1770.00
Tool Shed (Kept at 168 Horbury Rd for filing)	£160.00	£218.03
Plastic Storage Boxes	£39.75	£54.51*
Ponchos kept at S Naisbett House	£417.50	£417.50

Items Marked * Not on Insurance Schedule as below £100 Policy Excess

ALLOTMENT LAND – (Nominal value Community Asset)

Bankfield (0.5 acres) £ 1.00

Lowlands (3 acres) £ 1.00

Nab Lane (2.5 acres) £ 1.00

The Mirfield Gardens & Allotments Society insure the sites and their tenants as per our lease



APPROVED GRANTS 2024-2025

2024/2025 APPROVED GRANTS					
APPLICANT	DATE	AMOUNT	UPDATE	PR	USE
Trinity Children's Centre	25/04/2024	£1,000.00	YES	Yes	Hi-viz jackets
Friends Mirfield Library	22/05/2024	£510.00	Yes	Yes	Summer Fair
Upper Hopton CC	23/10/2024	£5,000.00	Yes	Yes	Pathway
UHCA	31/03/2025	£1,412.99	N/A	N/A	Upper Hopton Fete
868 Squadron	05/02/2025	£595.00	N/A	N/A	Indoor camping costs
TOTAL GRANTS		£8,517.99			
ANNUAL EVENTS					
Mirfield Show	01/08/2024	£11,655.36	Yes	Yes	Marquee
Mirfield Round table	14/11/2024	£5,360.00	Yes	Yes	Bonfire Fireworks
Mirfield In Bloom	21/11/2024	£15,000.00	Yes	Yes	Plants etc
TOTAL ANNUAL EVENTS		£32,015.36			
TOTAL PAID TO DATE		£40,533.35			



SUMMARY OF THE ALLOTMENT ACCOUNT 2023/2024

DATE	TRANSACTION DETAILS	PAYMENTS	RECEIPTS	BALANCE
	BALANCE C/FWD			£897.71
20/02/24	Allotment Rent 01/04/23 – 30/09/23		£600.00	
20/02/24	Allotment Rent 01/10/23 – 31/03/24		£600.00	
22/06/23	Bankfield Hedges	£180.00		
06/11/23	Bankfield Hedges	£180.00		
31/03/23	Clerk's Hours	£381.00		
27/03/23	Solicitor's Fees Lease	£1440.00		
TOTALS		<u>£2181.00</u>	<u>£1200.00</u>	
	ALLOTMENT BALANCE			<u>-£83.29</u>

SUMMARY OF THE ALLOTMENT ACCOUNT 2024/2025

DATE	TRANSACTION DETAILS	PAYMENTS	RECEIPTS	BALANCE
	BALANCE C/FWD			<u>-£83.29</u>
25/04/24	Allotment Rent 01/04/24 – 30/09/24		£600.00	
25/04/24	Allotment Rent 01/10/24 – 31/03/25		£600.00	
27/06/24	Bankfield Hedges	£180.00		
21/11/24	Bankfield Hedges	£180.00		
TOTALS		<u>£360.00</u>	<u>£1200.00</u>	
	ALLOTMENT BALANCE			<u>£756.71</u>



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REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Public Rights of Way

No update.

Neighbourhood Plan – Clerk

The steering group have continued to meet and drafted NP Reg 14. A grant was applied for by the Clerk from Groundwork and was approved. However, due to no input from the Planning consultant, work on the plan ceased and the steering group have now been informed by the consultant that she is unable to continue working for the council as she is not around to continue for the foreseeable future. The two main members of the steering group will continue to meet and discuss the next steps. The grant money will have to be returned to Groundwork and applied for in the next financial year if the steering group continue with the plan, which is their intention.

Mirfield Community Trust & Mirfield Community Centre – Cllr S Naisbett

No update

Friends of Mirfield Library – Cllr S Naisbett

No update



RECORD OF ATTENDANCE 2024/2025

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE MIRFIELD TOWN COUNCIL 2024/2025

	MAY	MAY	JUNE	JUNE	JULY	JULY	AUG	SEPT	SEPT	OCT	OCT	NOV	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	FEB	MAR	MAR	APRIL	APRIL	TOTAL	PRESENT	%
Imran Ali																						20	8	40%
Itrat Ali																						20	10	50%
M Bolt																						20	9	45%
M Brown																						20	18	90%
M Connell							R															20	14	70%
S Guy							E															20	18	90%
M Hamilton							C															20	8	40%
B Harrison							E															20	15	75%
J Hinchliffe							S															20	3	15%
D Hirst							S															20	17	85%
J Hirst																						20	19	95%
V Lees-Hamilton																						20	12	60%
S Naisbett																						20	19	95%
J Roberts																						20	20	100%
M Sullivan																						20	17	85%
P Tolson																						20	18	90%

PRESENT
APOLOGIES/ABSENCE APPROVED
NO APOLOGIES/ABSENCE NOT APPROVED
RECESS
APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE
CO-OPTION
NOT CO-OPTED
NO MEETINGS

REASONS FOR ABSENCE
CLLR HINCHLIFFE WORK RELATED & NEW BABY
CLLR HAMILTON WORK RELATED
CLLRS LEES-HAMILTON, ITRAT ALI & BOLT KIRKLEES MEETING CLASH
CLLR BOLT WORK MEETING CLASH
CLLR IMRAN ALI WORK RELATED
ALL OTHER APOLOGIES EITHER ILLNESS OR HOLIDAY