Holme Valley Parish Council

Meeting of the **PLANNING STEERING GROUP** to be held in THE EXHIBITION ROOM, 3rd Floor, The Civic, Huddersfield Road, Holmfirth HD9 3AS on **TUESDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2026** at **1.00pm**.

- AGENDA – (A)

Welcome

2627 43 **Open session** **1.00 pm**

At the commencement of the meeting, there will be an open session for members of the public to address Members of the Steering Group in connection with planning matters to be considered at the meeting.

Issues/concerns/information not related to any item on the agenda will be considered at a later date or referred to the appropriate body.

2627 44 **Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 amended by the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 on 6 August 2014** **1.15 pm**

The meeting is being recorded by the Officer for public broadcast via the Holme Valley Parish Council YouTube channel. Chair to check if any members of the public wish to record the meeting, to ensure reasonable facilities can be provided.

2627 45 **Apologies for absence** **1.17 pm**

Any apologies for absence with reasons received by the officer will be circulated by email prior to the meeting.

2627 46 **To receive Members' and Officers' personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda** **1.20 pm**

2627 47 **To consider whether items on the agenda should be discussed in private session** **1.22 pm**

- Any recording to be halted during such items and members of the public asked to leave the meeting.

2627 48 **Notes and action from the previous meeting of the Planning Steering Group** **1.24 pm**

- Included for reference: Notes and Actions from the Planning Steering Group meeting held on 17 August 2026 numbered 2627 30 – 2627 42 inclusive. **(B)**

Officer and members will update on progress and matters arising from previous meetings including follow up on previously considered applications not otherwise covered in the agenda.

- Community Consultation on proposed development in Hade Edge.
- Land at Laithe Avenue

2627 49 Planning applications for consideration **7.30 pm**

In accordance with the criteria set out in the Planning Steering Group Draft Terms of Reference the following planning applications will be considered:

1. **2026/70/93025/W**

Variation of conditions 2 (plans), 15 (footway), 16 (retaining walls), and 18 (drainage) on previous permission 2022/92406 for erection of 10 affordable dwellings, with access from Chapelgate and associated works, including resident play zone.

Land Adj, 67, Chapelgate, Scholes, Holmfirth, HD9 1SX

http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-applications/search-for-planning-applications/detail.aspx?id=2026/93025

2. **2026/N/93083/W**

Prior notification for agricultural buildings.

land off, Wilshaw Road, Netherthong, Holmfirth, HD9 3US

http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-applications/search-for-planning-applications/detail.aspx?id=2026/93083

2627 50 Correspondence

TO NOTE: Correspondence to Kirklees Council from 2 residents regarding overlooking and privacy concerns at the Hinchliffe Mill redevelopment, copied to the Parish Council. **(C)**. Photographs circulated separately. **(D)**

The concerns have been raised with Kirklees Council as the local planning authority. The Parish Council has no planning enforcement powers.

2627 51 Planning Steering Group Terms of Reference

TO NOTE: Draft amended Terms of Reference for consideration and recommendation to Full Council for adoption or an amended version thereof. **(E)**

The Terms of Reference, Standing Orders and Scheme of Delegation need to be consistent about the Steering Group's advisory role and officers' authority to

submit planning application and consultation responses on behalf of the Council following consultation with the Group.

Any necessary amendments should therefore be presented together to Full Council on 14 December 2026.

TO CONSIDER:

1. Agreeing or amending the proposed Terms of Reference to recommend to Full Council for adoption. **(F)**
2. Identifying members to work with the Acting Clerk and Acting Deputy Clerk to prepare the associated proposed amendments to Standing Orders and the Scheme of Delegation, including clear arrangements for delegated responses and matters requiring Full Council approval in time for the next set of Full Council papers on 8 December 2026.

2627 52 **Public Rights of Way**

i. ***TO NOTE:*** Notes of the Public Rights of Way (PROW) Forum held on 30 September 2026 and accompanying Kirklees Transport Strategy presentation. **(Gi & Gii)**

ii. **Holmfirth Footpath 60 — Wolfstones Road**

TO NOTE: Confirmation on 19 August 2026 of the Definitive Map Modification Order 2021 following a public inquiry.

The Order changes the recorded width of the affected section from approximately 1.2 metres to between 3 and 4 metres and amends the recorded particulars concerning stiles, a wicket gate and a gap alongside a gate. The confirmed Order, plan and notification are available from the clerking team on request.

2627 53 **20 mph zones in the Home Valley - Standing item** **7.50 pm**

Cllrs and officer to report on updates received from Kirklees Councillors and officers regarding progress with 20mph zones in the Holme Valley.

- Correspondence with Kirklees Highways regarding potential 20mph zones has been given a reference of: CSR794884
- Response received from Paul Davies MP supportive of idea but requesting more information on proposals.

2627 54 **On-Street Parking in the Holme Valley – Standing item** **7.55 pm**

Cllr Ransby to update on progress with on-street parking research and mapping exercise.

2627 55 Planning policy, Guidance and Consultation – Standing item **8.00 pm**

i. National Planning Policy Framework — update and training feedback

The UK Government published a revised National Planning Policy Framework on 17 August 2026, separating policies for plan-making from national policies for determining planning applications.

Cllr Blacka to report on recent NPPF training, including implications for the Parish Council's planning work and the Local Plan.

TO NOTE:
Government guidance:
https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework

Changes to planning decisions and councillor referral arrangements
The National Scheme of Delegation came into force on 31 October 2026. It requires specified applications to be determined by officers and replaces existing councillor "call-in" arrangements with prescribed criteria for referral to planning committee, requiring agreement between a nominated officer and committee member. These changes affect how Kirklees determines applications; the Parish Council and residents can continue to submit planning representations.

Government guidance:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-committees-and-the-national-scheme-of-delegation-of-planning-functions-guidance-for-local-planning-authorities-in-england/planning-committees-and-the-national-scheme-of-delegation-of-planning-functions-guidance-for-local-planning-authorities-in-england

ii. Saddleworth Neighbourhood Development Plan — referendum

TO NOTE: Notification from Oldham Council that a referendum on the Saddleworth Neighbourhood Development Plan will be held on 10 December 2026. **(H)**

Further information:
https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201235/neighbourhood_planning/2936/saddleworth_neighbourhood_plan

iii. Future Builds planning notification app

TO NOTE: Correspondence from Future Builds App Limited introducing a planning notification app. **(I)**

iv. Proposed Parish Council policy positions — holiday lets and road safety

Cllr Whitelaw to report.

TO CONSIDER: Developing draft Parish Council positions on the conversion of homes to holiday lets and on road safety, for recommendation to Full Council for approval, to inform future planning application comments and consultation responses.

TO CONSIDER: Arrangements for preparing the draft positions.

2627 56 Updates from the Local Plan Reference Group 8.05 pm

Members of the Reference Group to update on recent activity, including:

- Relationship between the Local Plan Reference Group and the HVPC Planning Steering Group.
- Local Plan reference group support from the HVPC clerking team.
- Community consultation events on local housing need planned for January 2027 and associated publicity.

TO CONSIDER: The relationship between the Reference Group and the Planning Steering Group, including requests for clerking time, administrative and publicity support, taking account of available staff capacity.

TO CONSIDER: Any recommendations to Full Council regarding support for the Reference Group and arrangements for bringing its findings forward to inform an approved Parish Council response to the Local Plan.

2627 57 Section 106 Funding – Standing item 8.10 pm

Members and officers to give verbal reports on updates received.

- Contact from Section 106 team at Kirklees received 04/08/2026 to acknowledge the query and that further information will be sent in due course. No updates received since then.

2627 58 Planning Budget line 4505 Neighbourhood Plan 2026/27

TO NOTE: The allocation for budget line 4505 Neighbourhood Plan in the year 2026/27 was £1,000. No expenditure has been recorded so far, leaving £1,000 available.

TO CONSIDER: Any proposed use of the remaining budget for recommendation to Full Council for approval.

2627 59 Planning Budget requirements for 2027/28

Acting Clerk and Acting Deputy Clerk to report.

TO CONSIDER: Recommendations to the Finance and Management Committee on budget requirements for the 2027/28 financial year.

2627 60 Publicising the work of Holme Valley Parish Council **8.15 pm**

Members to suggest items for publicity.

2627 61 AOB

Close **3.00 pm**

Please note that timings on the agenda are given for guidance of the Chair and should not be taken as the exact time at which discussion of a particular item will commence.

Holme Valley Parish Council

PLANNING STEERING GROUP held via Zoom on **MONDAY 17 August 2026** at **7.00pm**.

Attendees: Cllr Sarah Whitelaw (Chair), Cllr Mary Blacka, Cllr Chris Green, Cllr Steve Ransby, Cllr Jane Rylah
Absent: Cllr Tom Dixon
Officer: Rich McGill, Deputy Clerk

Meeting of the **PLANNING STEERING GROUP** held via Zoom on **MONDAY 17 August 2026** at **7.00pm**.

2627 30 Open session

No members of the public were present in the open session.

2627 31 Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 amended by the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 on 6 August 2014

The meeting was recorded for the HVPC website and YouTube channel.

2627 32 Apologies for absence

Apologies and reasons for absence were circulated by email prior to the meeting. Noted and

Approved: Apologies and reasons for absence from Cllr Dixon.

2627 33 To receive Members' and Officers' personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in items on the agenda

Cllr Ransby disclosed that he was friends with the planning agent of the application being heard under 2627 36 and would not participate in that discussion.

2627 34 To consider whether items on the agenda should be discussed in private session

No items to be discussed in private.

2627 35 Notes and action from the previous meeting of the Planning Steering Group

Notes and Actions from the Planning Steering Group meeting held on 27 July 2026 numbered 2627 18 – 2627 29 inclusive were included for reference.

Follow up on the Hade Edge development:
Cllr Brook had confirmed he would forward the Steering Group's request for the recent Hade Edge applications to be determined by committee and would also offer his own support for a committee hearing.

Cllr Rylah suggested that it might be useful to have a member of the working group in attendance at meetings in Hade Edge about the development. Cllr Whitelaw said she

would attend if she was able.

The Chair discussed the possibility of setting up a consultation for local residents with HVPC ward councillors on this matter and especially the application of Section 106 funds, but the format of any such process was yet to be agreed, and this matter was deferred to a later date. Ward councillors had yet to agree a format for the meeting.

Follow up on the Peak District National Park [PDNP] Local Plan:
Cllr Blacka said that the Parish Council had asked the Local Plan Reference Group to consider commenting on the Peak District National Park Local Plan on behalf of HVPC. The Reference Group had deliberated on this and considered that what was asked of it in terms of the legality of the plan was well outside the Reference Group's frame of expertise. It was referred back to the Parish Council to convey this to the PDNPA. The steering group also wanted to pass onto the PDNPA its compliments regarding the quality of the consultation materials produced.

Updates on other ongoing work are included in other items in the agenda.

2627 36 Planning applications for consideration

In accordance with the criteria set out in the Planning Steering Group Draft Terms of Reference the following planning application was considered:

2026/59/91861/W

Permission in principle for erection of 9 dwellings

Holmfield Nurseries, Long Lane, Honley, Holmfirth, HD9 6EB

http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-applications/search-for-planning-applications/detail.aspx?id=2026/91861

Information provided by a ward councillor for Honley Central and East was also considered as part of the discussion.

Actions:

- RM to collate a comment to circulate to the Steering Group for amendments before submitting to Kirklees.

2627 37 20 mph zones in the Home Valley - Standing item

The assistant clerk had correspondence with Kirklees Highways regarding potential 20mph zones and has been given a reference of: CSR794884. No response had been received.

Since the last meeting the assistant clerk had followed up on previous correspondence with Kirklees Highways and wrote to the Colne Valley MP and WYCA Vision Zero regarding 20mph zones in the Holme Valley. No response had been received.

Cllr Ransby reported that he felt that it was more appropriate to report on roads where it

was not safe to drive over 30mph, which he said applied to all roads in Holme Valley South except for the major highways.

Actions:

- To circulate the communications that the assistant clerk had sent to Kirklees.
- To write to Kirklees Highways for further information on the progress of 20mph zones around Kirklees schools. When will this reach the Holme Valley.

2627 38 **On-Street Parking in the Holme Valley – Standing item**

Cllr Ransby updated on progress of an on-street parking research and mapping exercise. He said he would have a full report ready for the next meeting. This would report on problems for parking especially on Dunford Road and Greenfield Road approaching the town. Parked vehicles were blocking the pavement and the highways and impacting on traffic. Cllr Ransby also suggested that occasional evening rounds by traffic wardens might encourage better parking. Cllr Green reported that in other areas, local authorities had paid the police to undertake parking checks a few times a year on a weekend night, and that HVPC should consider this.

Actions:

- Cllr Ransby will supply a report on on-street parking.

2627 39 **Planning policy, Guidance and Consultation – Standing item**

Members reported a feeling of "consultation fatigue".

The West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Regulation 19 consultation was now open and would close on 27 September 2026.
https://www.yourvoice.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/SDFReg19
Cllr Whitelaw reported that there was a further consultation in December.

Actions:

- To delay a comment on this framework until the December consultation.

The UK government had published five new neighbourhood planning toolkits on 24 July 2026 aimed at local councils and other community groups creating or supporting a neighbourhood plan:
https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/neighbourhood-planning-toolkits
Cllr Blacka reported that the intention is that the Local Plan Reference Group will conclude work on the Kirklees Local Plan and will then move onto a rewrite of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. There is no money readily available for a NDP, this time around.

Actions:

- Cllr Whitelaw will report at a future meeting on recent developments in the delivery of neighbourhood plans.

2627 40 Updates from the Local Plan Reference Group

Cllr Blacka reported that Jo Scrutton had attended a meeting of the Reference Group. The Group asked Jo what support she wanted from them. Jo said that she wanted the group to 1) Facilitate gathering the views of local people on the Local Plan (like that done with the farming community) and 2) Gathering data on the particular features of the Holme Valley which might require special treatment in the Plan.

Cllr Blacka reported that the recent Local Plan scoping consultation was excellent. This needed a response by HVPC before 11 September 2026. A response would rely on local knowledge.
The Reference Group would also comment in the scoping consultation after its meeting 4 September.
Documentation is online and should be at the library.

Actions:

- MB to check if the library has copies of the documentation re the scoping consultation.
- The Planning Steering Group would respond to the scoping consultation on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Blacka and Cllr Ransby would lead such a response.

2627 41 Section 106 Funding – Standing item

Members gave verbal reports on updates received. Contact from Section 106 team at Kirklees had been received 04/08/2026 to acknowledge the query; further information will be sent in due course.

2627 42 Publicising the work of Holme Valley Parish Council

Actions:

- To write a 6 bullet-point summary of what the Planning Steering Group does, - what it concerns itself with, - for social media.
- To encourage the public via social media to contribute to the Local Plan scoping consultation.

Any other business:
The Steering Group commented on the way the steering group worked. The Group commented that they felt officer time would be better spent publicising the Parish Council than creating lengthy, overcomplicated agendas. Members suggested that a significant overhaul of the way the group worked is likely.

The meeting closed at 815pm

Hinchliffe Mill correspondence

Email | 04 November 2026, 14:22

Redacted copy for the Planning Steering Group agenda, 17 November 2026. Personal contact details, resident names and photograph links have been removed. Photographs and ZIP attachments are not reproduced.

From: [redacted]

To: <[redacted]>

Cc: <[email address redacted]>, <[email address redacted]>, <[email address redacted]>, <[email address redacted]>

Subject: Urgent Concern - Redevelopment of Hinchliffe Mill

Dear Planning Team,

I am writing as a neighbouring homeowner on Water Street, Holmbridge, Holmfirth [postcode redacted] regarding the redevelopment of Hinchliffe Mill – planning applications 2021/90800 , 2026/90162 , 2026/91697 and 2026/92911.

We are extremely concerned about the newly installed large un-glazed windows on the northern elevation of the mill (at the side of the river) which multiple windows look directly down towards our properties and into our homes ([redacted]) creating a significant loss of privacy.

I can see directly into the Mill through its windows. This demonstrates that the windows on the northern elevation overlooking the Water Street properties also provide a clear line of sight directly into our homes, raising serious concerns about privacy and overlooking.

Please see attached photos showing the direct sightlines from the mill windows into our home.

Having looked through the original planning applications and committee report for application 2021/90800 I was particularly concerned to find that the council had already acknowledged this exact issue.

Paragraph 10.64: specifically identifies the loss of privacy caused by the reintroduction of windows on the northern elevation of the mill, overlooking the southern elevations of properties on Water Street. It specifically refers to properties [redacted] Water Street and the impact on habitable-room windows.

Paragraph 10.65: then confirms that a condition was imposed requiring the lower row of mullions of the northern-facing mill windows to be obscure glazed to address this concern.

Given this, I would like the council to clarify the following:

* Does this original obscure glazing condition remain in force following the subsequent planning variations?
* Are the windows installed on the northern elevation of the mill fully compliant with this condition? Have they been checked?
* Can the council arrange a site inspection to establish whether the windows comply with the approved plans and conditions?
* Has application 2026/90162 resulted in any changes to the size, position, design or glazing of these windows?
* Has the impact on the privacy of neighbouring Water Street properties been reassessed as part of the subsequent applications?

The council previously recognised this as a material issue and introduced a specific planning condition to address it. I would therefore expect this protection to be maintained and properly enforced throughout the redevelopment.

I would appreciate a response from the planning case officer, confirming what measures are in place and what action the council can take if the approved privacy requirements are not being met.

Please also confirm whether this concern can be formally recorded against the current application 2026/92911 ?

Planning applications:

* 2021/90800 – Original permission for the 19 homes. Contains the committee report acknowledging overlooking of Water Street and the obscure-glazing requirement.
* 2026/90162 – January 2026 variation, approved 20 April 2026. Changes to the approved plans, including mill windows.
* 2026/91697 – July 2026 non-material amendment to the 2026 permission, changing wording of conditions.
* 2026/92911 – Latest October 2026 variation, currently under consideration.

I have copied in my local ward councillors and Holme Valley Parish Council because this issue directly affects neighbouring residents and I would like to ensure that the privacy concerns previously recognised by the council are properly addressed.

Kind regards,

[resident name redacted]
[home address redacted]
mill-windows.zip <[photo link redacted]>
IMG_5175.jpeg <[photo link redacted]>
IMG_5176.jpeg <[photo link redacted]>
IMG_5177.jpeg <[photo link redacted]>
IMG_5178.jpeg <[photo link redacted]>
IMG_5182.jpeg <[photo link redacted]>
IMG_5185.jpeg <[photo link redacted]>
IMG_5187.jpeg <[photo link redacted]>

Hinchliffe Mill correspondence

Email | 06 November 2026, 07:30

Redacted copy for the Planning Steering Group agenda, 17 November 2026. Personal contact details and the resident name have been removed.

From: Resident [name and email address redacted]

To: <[email address redacted]>, <[email address redacted]>, <[email address redacted]>, <[email address redacted]>, <[email address redacted]>

Cc:

Subject: Concerns

Dear All,

I am writing to request clarification regarding planning applications 2021/90800, 2026/90162, 2026/91697, 2026/929111.

As a homeowner of a property on Water Street, Holmbridge, Holmfirth, [postcode redacted] I am concerned that the windows facing my property, from the Mill that is being developed, are NOT glazed. As a result I am able to see directly into the Mill and can only suppose the residents of the new properties will be able to look directly into my living and bedroom, which is not acceptable. I am sure you will agree.

As this is causing a concern, particularly regarding privacy I would be grateful if the council and planning officer could investigate and rectify this issue as soon as possible. If you could advise by email of your plans, as a matter of urgency, that would be much appreciated.

Kind Regards,
[resident name redacted]

Planning Steering Group – Draft Terms of Reference AMENDMENTS – NOV 2026

Amendments, proposed by Cllr Blacka, Cllr Whitelaw and Cllr Ransby are shown in red

Additional suggested amendments. Proposed by Cllr Whitelaw, are shown in YELLOW

The Standing Orders of HVPC (section 4) have been checked to ensure the TOR for this Steering Group are in line with Standing Order requirments.

1. **Purpose**
   The Planning Steering Group (PSG) was established, by a Majority vote of Full Council (22nd June 2026)

   The PSG replaces the HVPC Planning Committee in order to:
   - focus resources on applications and planning issues where the Parish Council can add value, while no longer considering, routinely, minor or noncontentious applications affecting the Holme Valley area;
   - provide recommendations to Full Council, with the exception of responses to consultations to which a response is required before the next Full Council Meeting; in which case a response will be submitted by the Clerk, having consulted with the PSG Chair as to an appropriate response.

2. **Status**
   The PSG is a permanent working group of Full Council. It is not a committee and does not have delegated decision-making powers. Comments agreed by the Group on planning applications within its agreed scope of work will be submitted to the relevant planning authority by an officer at the earliest opportunity. Any wider planning matters requiring a Council decision will be referred to Full Council for approval.

3. **Membership**
   Membership will consist of parish councillors appointed by Full Council. The Group will appoint a Chair at the Annual Council meeting or at the first meeting following any vacancy. Other councillors may attend the public session to contribute, but only appointed members may participate in forming recommendations.

   NB Any Councillor wishing, subsequently, to join the PSG may request to do so at a Full Council Meeting. The PSG may coopt members of the public to its membership if it so wishes, on a temporary basis.

4. **Scope of Work**
   The PSG will consider only substantial or contentious planning applications or planning matters.

   All planning applications received from Kirklees Council and the Peak District National Park Authority will be forwarded to all parish councillors as they are received. Any councillor or member of the public may request that an application be considered by the PSG.

   Requests should be made to the Chair, who will determine whether the application should be added to the Group's business, having regard to the agreed scope of work and the need to focus on substantial or contentious planning matters.

Application criteria for consideration by the Steering Group may include:

i) Developments of 5 or more houses.
ii) Proposals affecting Public Rights of Way.
iii) Developments in the Green Belt where there is a risk of significant contextual visual harm.
iv) Any application about which individual Parish Councillors have raised concerns.
v) Any application referred to the PSG by Full Council
vi) Any planning matter referral made to the Chair by a member of the Public

The Group may amend or refine this list with the agreement of Full Council.

5. Responsibilities

The PSG will:

i. Review substantial or contentious (see criteria) planning applications and agree comments for submission to the relevant Planning Authority.
ii. Consider wider planning consultations or planning matters and prepare recommendations for Full Council where a Council decision is required.
iii. Monitor significant planning issues affecting the Holme Valley.
iv. Support community engagement on major developments, including the management and conduct of pre-application events or consultations where appropriate.
v. Liaise with the Local Plan Reference Group and any future Neighbourhood Development Plan working group, both of which report directly to Full Council.

6. Meeting Practicalities, Public Access and Records

Meetings will be held via video conferencing or in person as required by PSG members.

Meetings will be scheduled as required, subject to there being sufficient business for the Group to consider.

Where there are no substantial or contentious applications, or other relevant planning matters requiring consideration, a meeting will not be convened. Where possible, the cancellation of a meeting will be notified at least six working days before the scheduled meeting date.

A quorum of three appointed members is required for a meeting to proceed. A public session will be available at the start of each PSG meeting to allow members of the public to comment on applications or planning matters being considered by the Group. Members of the public may also submit written comments in advance.

Meeting details and video conferencing link, if appropriate, will be published on the Parish Council's website in advance of the meeting. Recordings of meetings will be published on the HVPC YouTube channel and the relevant meeting page on the HVPC website as appropriate. Councillors should declare any pecuniary or personal interests in applications or matters under consideration at the beginning of the relevant meeting.

An Officer will support the Group as required.

Notes and actions will be recorded rather than formal minutes. These will be circulated to Group members and may be included in the next Full Council agenda pack alongside any recommendations from the Group.

7. **Decision-Making**
   The Group will reach comments or recommendations by consensus where possible. Where consensus cannot be reached, the Chair will have a casting vote.

   Planning application comments agreed by the Group will be submitted to the relevant planning authority by the Clerk.

   Wider recommendations and any matters requiring a Council decision will be reported to Full Council, if required.

8. **Review**
   The Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually by Full Council or sooner if required.
   .
   ENDS.

Kirklees Council's Public Rights of Way Forum

Huddersfield Town Hall, Wednesday 30 September 2026 7pm to 9pm

Ramsden Street, Huddersfield, HD1 2TA

Notes of meeting and action points

Present

Chair: James Donoghue, Group Engineer for Highways Asset Maintenance (Reactive), Drainage, and Public Rights of Way

Attendees

Forum (24+)

Marilyn Clee Holmfirth Community Plus Social Walk, Helen Leitch Huddersfield Rucksack Club, Jill Stinchcombe (JS) Peak and Northern Footpath Society, Gilly Dukes Yorkshire Water Ranger, Tarus Sinclair Marsden Walkers are Welcome, Jenny Hemming (JH) Marsden Walkers are Welcome, Sarah Spong Slaithwaite Building Connections Community Group, Oliver Taylor (OT) Huddersfield Ramblers, Ann Pamment Huddersfield Rucksack Club, Chris Knight (CK) Cycle Kirklees, Max Rathmell (MR) Spen Valley Civic Society, Mark Corrigan (MC) British Horse Society, Carol Ripley (CR) Holmfirth Walkers are Welcome, Clare Walters Kirkburton Parish Council, Ian Pettit (IP) Volunteer Worker, Paul Coleman (PC) Volunteer Worker, Andrea Lyons Volunteer, Steve Slator (SS) Peak and Northern Footpath Society, A Love, David Wilde Denby Dale Parish Council Ranger & Walkers Are Welcome, Sue Brown (SB) EPIKS Calder & Colne Landscape Links Project, Christine Senior Huddersfield Ramblers, Roger Thornton Trail Riders Fellowship

Councillors (1)
Cllr David Knight, Ashbrow

KC Staff (12)

Phil Champion (PC) Definitive Map Officer, Mark Drydale (MD) Definitive Map Officer, Peter Banks (PB) PROW Project Officer, Chris Burgess (CB) PROW Project Officer, Sharon Huddleston (SH) Assistant Definitive Map Officer, Deborah Stephenson (DS) Assistant Definitive Map Officer, Dan McParland (DM) Operational Manager Highways Asset Management, James Donoghue (JD) Group Engineer/ Highways Asset Maintenance/ Drainage/ Public Rights of Way, Drew Duffield (DD) Parks Ranger, Robyn Sykes GAT Ranger, Rebecca Hoyle GAT Ranger, Lucie Wade (LW) Transport Officer Major Projects

Welcome and introductions

JD as Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies

Cllr Karen Allison, Michael Brook, Richard Brook, Neil Midgley

Note of last meeting and action points

Notes and action points from the last meeting held on 2 December 2025 were circulated after the meeting. In total there were three amendments. The amended notes will be re-circulated with the notes of the meeting of 30 September 2026. In particular, Neil Midgley wished to make it clear he is fully in support of the bridleway status of Robinson Lane. Since the last PROW Forum, the Footpath Fettlers group have cleared the vegetation.

Action Point update from PROW Forum 30 September 2026

AP4 23/9/24 (discharged)
PROW to invite active travel colleagues to the next PROW Forum, particularly in relation to the topic of circular routes. Active travel is a broad agenda delivered by various teams across the Council plus external partners. Staff from the Council's Transport Strategy and Policy team are expected to attend the next Forum to talk about the Kirklees Transport Strategy.

Update
Lucie Wade, Transport Officer from the Transport Strategy & Policy Team in Major Projects attended the PROW Forum on 30/9/26 to talk about The Kirklees Council Transport Strategy.

AP1 24/03/25 (carried forward, change wording)
PC to contact landowner at Hol/50 Miry Lane.

Update
The path signed on the ground and in use, is not recorded in the Definitive Map and Statement (DMS) of public rights of way (the legal record). The path recorded in the DMS is on a slightly different alignment and is obstructed and therefore unavailable. These matters require investigation by the Definitive Map Team. Add '…and investigate alignment of path on the ground and definitive line' to action point.

AP4 24/3/25 (carried forward, now AP1 30/9/26 (new))
PB agreed to look into the issue of self-seeded trees next to Wessenden Head Road, Meltham. PROW team to ask Kirklees Bridleway Group to provide further details about the trees at Wessenden Head road, Meltham for PROW team to take to colleagues in Highways Maintenance and Arboriculture.

Update
BC of KBG provided further details which were forwarded to the Highways Asset Maintenance Team (AMT) who inspected the area on 10/6/26. AMT reported to BC that the situation had not met the maintenance criteria for repair (action), but the situation would be monitored. BC went onto further request pruning of overhanging trees/ vegetation to be carried out during surfacing works due to take place on Wessenden Head Road. However,

MC confirmed no pruning of overhanding trees/vegetation in the verge took place as part of surfacing works; indeed stakes have also been put in making it more dangerous.

AP1 30/9/26 (new) JD to look into issues with Wessenden Head Road verge raised by KBG

AP1 02/12/25 (discharged)
PROW team to provide a staffing chart to Andy Beck.

AP2 02/12/25 (discharged)
PC to check the wording of the TTRO to close Ramsden Road to clarify which users were excluded.

Update
BC had previously commented that horse riders had been excluded for the duration of the TTRO but pedestrians and cyclists could still get through. PC confirmed that the TTRO in question was intended to allow pedestrians, but exclude horses for safety reasons. The route has been open since late December 2025. SH advised that a different TTRO was currently in place at Yateholme in order to allow Yorkshire Water to carry out repairs to the dam. MC suggested the PROW team contact Yorkshire Water about stone walls being taken down so off road 4x4s etc could gain access to the wider area at Yateholme.

AP2 30/9/26 (new) SH to contact Yorkshire Water about walls being taken down to gain access to a wider area at Yateholme

AP3 02/12/25 (discharged)
PROW team to ask MC about what assistance was required regarding the sale of Honley Old Wood.

Update
PC had provided some relevant advice. MC reported he had not been able to progress funding for a local group to purchase the wood, and the wood was now under offer by an unknown party.

AP4 02/12/25 (cancelled)
Cllr Addy to respond to query Bradley to Brighouse Greenway from CK.

Update
Cllr Addy did not stand for re-election.

AP5 02/12/25 (discharged, now AP3 30/9/26 (new))
DM to report at the next PROW Forum on the subject of compliance & enforcement of public rights of way.

Update
DM reported there were challenges facing enforcement on public rights of way in terms of the backlog of work, resourcing, capacity, and process. The PROW service function is listed the highways risk register and the Council wide risk register. DM explained he expected the matter of PROW enforcement to be addressed with the appointment of new management for PROW team. OT asked that the Head of Service attend the PROW Forum to discuss

enforcement. MR asked that the Council bring an enforcement policy document to the Forum so that they could all see it. SS asked for enforcement to be a standing item on the PROW Forum agenda.

AP3 30/9/2026 (new) Enforcement to be a standing item on the PROW Forum agenda

Kirklees Transport Strategy

Lucie Wade, Project Officer, Transport Strategy and Policy Team, Major Projects gave a presentation on The Kirklees Transport Strategy. LW explained that the policy was adopted a year ago following a baseline review by specialist consultants, a public consultation in March to April 2025 and a consideration of how it sat with other strategies and priorities. The Kirklees Transport Strategy features active travel policies such as safe, high quality and integrated active travel networks; improving accessibility and review of access barriers; active travel design in new developments and regeneration schemes; more cycle parking; and behaviour change events such as cycle training, led walks, large events, and working with local providers and 3rd sector partners. Good examples are the Huddersfield Narrow & Broad Canal Towpaths and Spen Valley Greenway, healthy routes to schools, encouraging walking, cycling, and use of public transport. The Kirklees Transport Strategy presentation will be circulated with the notes of this PROW Forum. LW was content for PROW Forum attendees to contact her direct with any further questions.

MC commented that he had attended an Active Travel Conference in Manchester last week (22-23 September 2026) organised by Active Travel England where it was announced by Heidi Alexander, Secretary of State for Transport that there was £104 million investment for the National Cycle Network which forms part an ambition for a national active travel network. MC noted that the Kirklees Transport Strategy omitted horse riding. MC also noted that the Meltham Greenway extension also omitted horse riders, and that BHS as a statutory consultee had not been consulted. OT of Huddersfield Ramblers and SS of PNFS also commented they had not been consulted but they are both statutory consultees.

AP4 30/9/26 (new) LW to consider omission of horse riders in Kirklees Transport Strategy.

AP5 30/9/26 (new) LW to pass BHSs comments to colleagues about the extension to Meltham Greenway omitting horse riders and lack of consultation with statutory consultees BHS, Ramblers, and PNFS.

SB noted Defra's land recovery scheme in Calder and Colne areas which identified Huddersfield to Elland, and Cooper Bridge to Elland as priority areas and highlighted issues with the lack of footway at Vine Street, asking whether Vine Street was a priority for the Council. DM responded there were no priority areas and any works were developed in conjunction with planning teams and not designated priority areas.

CK enquired about the status of the active travel partnership which used to meet every 3 months, and also enquired when the LCWIP dated 2017 (Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan) would be updated. LW said she would pass these enquiries to colleagues.

AP6 30/9/26 (new) LW to pass enquiry about active travel partnership and the LCWIP to colleagues.

Gledholt Woods access project

Drew Duffield, a Ranger belonging to the Parks service, gave a presentation about the Gledholt Woods access project. Dewsbury County Park Estate Volunteers had worked over the summer months digging out and rebuilding access. The entrance to the woods had been cut back and 44m of wooden steps were replaced moving 6 tons of crush and run. A further 130m of steps were replaced with platforms to a rest point with bench to enjoy a views of the wood. All steps in the woods were dug out and leaf debris removed.

Volunteers IP and PC expressed how rewarding the work had been and how many people had thanked them. They suggested that younger people may also benefit from being involved, and KC should promote such opportunities and rewards more widely.

Team Updates

Operational Management

JD explained that had very recently been appointed at the Group Engineer with direct line management of the Public Rights of Way team sitting under Dan McParland as Operational Manager. A new Head of Service had also been appointed (Matthew Bell). JD also line managed the Highways Asset Maintenance (Reactive) team and the Highways Drainage team. JD explained he had been with the Council for over 20 years but had no specialist PROW background other than a considerable understanding of road and footway maintenance.

JD talked about challenges in the PROW team in terms of historic processes, a backlog of work, current work load, enforcement challenges, issues on the network, staffing v recruitment freeze, etc. After 2 months in the new role, JD recognised that improvements were required, which he thought may take a minimum of 5 years to turn around. JD confirmed there was currently no enforcement function in the PROW team. JD expected to carry out some benchmarking with other Councils and possibly learn from them. JD expected to arrange individual meetings with user groups and other stakeholders to help identify what is most urgent to address. JD mentioned a new asset maintenance database called Causeway 1 was in the early days of development. JD mentioned a changed relationship with the Greenspace Action Team who would lead on public rights of way vegetation clearance and overhanging vegetation enforcement only, with some work on waymarking and signage.

MC commented that he had written to the CEO in June 2026 about the lack of progress with some Definitive Map Modification Order Directions which is a statutory duty, but was disappointed to not receive a response.

AP7 30/9/26 (new) JD to investigate MCs email to CEO

Definitive map team

The Definitive Map team reported on progress with Public Path Orders (diversions or extinguishments).

- A date for the public inquiry into Wolfstones hol/60 diversion s247 Department of Transport Draft Order is still pending.
- The opposed diversion at mir/8 at Crossley Lane (s119) had been referred to the Secretary of State at Defra
- The opposed diversion of Meltham 26 & 79 at Morrisons Meltham (s119) is awaiting referral to the SoS at Defra
- A diversion order at hol/6 Seventy Acre Farm (s119) Honley is due to be signed off and was therefore pending confirmation
- Diversion order at dew/146 Chidswell Lane (s257) and one at Denby Dale 67 have both been confirmed
- Diversion orders at Croft Street, Birkeshaw (s257) and Robin Lane, Heckmondwike (s118 and s25) had been made.

The Definitive Map team reported on progress with definitive map modification orders (DMMOs).

- The Council currently has 14 DMMO Directions from the Secretary of State at Defra received under schedule 14 (3) 2 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 at various stages. Five of the 14 have been determined.
- A further public inquiry was held in August 2026 into Holmfirth 60 – Wolfstones Road to Brown Hill, Netherthong 264 Definitive Map Modification Order 2021 to vary the width of the route. This Order was subsequently confirmed by the SoS at Defra.
- Colders Lane, Meltham is with the SoS at Defra and is currently being considered by written representations.
- Farnley Bank Wood is with the SoS at Defra and is currently being considered by written representations.
- Mean Lane, Meltham has been submitted to the SoS at Defra.
- Wood Nook is awaiting referral to SoS at Defra
- A report on the Scholes Quarry application is expected to be determined by delegation.
- Deer Hill, Moorvale, Chaster Street, Handel Street are under investigation
- Farnley Hey and Marsh Conservative Club are currently being consulted on.

In relation to Holmfirth 60 – Wolfstones Road to Brown Hill, CR commented that hay bales and agricultural equipment were still present on the driveway. PC responded that this would be considered after the High Court objection 6 week period that followed after legal confirmation of the order had ended.

OT asked about DMMO application Washpit Mills. PC responded that it was still to be investigated.

Project team

Maintenance Works – capital, external, large

CB delivered a PowerPoint presentation on PROW Network Improvements since the last PROW Forum. These included before and after photos and videos of surfaces, steps, and bridge and culvert repair and maintenance works.

- Boardwalk and culvert works on public footpath col/48 near Longwood Reservoir, and the team will return to do surfacing works
- Boardwalk works on public footpath den/64 at Lower Denby
- Replacement footbridge on public footpath col/56 at Brook Lane
- Dug out and rebuilt steps on public footpath hol/44 near Hepworth
- New steps (x2 sets) on public footpath col/217 and col/214 at Clover Farm, Marsden. Alignment required clarification.
- New steps on public footpath hud/175/20 at Molly Carr Woods, near Castle Hill
- Drainage works on public footpath col/151 at Clough House Bridge to address flooding
- Surfacing works on public footpath bat/30 at Springfield Avenue carried out by an internal highways team
- Culvert works on public footpath col/129 and col/128 at Badgers Hey to Stanley Mews

CB commented that where possible they tried to use reclaimed stone, and had access to a stock of Victorian stone and replaced kerbs sourced from Huddersfield's town centre. CB also commented that they were moving away from replacing boardwalks to addressing drainage. They were keen to be using more Glass Reinforced Plastic (GRP) materials as a damp proof course.

CB reported that as of last week they now had an additional 2 person highways team to carry out minor maintenance jobs such as handrails, signs and poles/posts, drainage, and small surfacing works. This will be a great help to the PROW Project Officer's.

CB mentioned a new National Planning Policy Framework [published by Government dated August 2026] which strengthened the treatment of Public rights of way in the planning system. [See Section 15 Promoting Sustainable Transport TR1-8 Public rights of way here: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework

OT commented that he was glad Clough House Bridge was being sorted, because he'd first reported it in 1988.

SS asked about hol/157 at Dean Lane regarding works required in the woodland, and CB confirmed they are still on schedule to make contact with the landowner.

MC thanked the PROW Project Team for their work.

DM commented that the current capital budget for PROW team was relatively small £156k, and the revenue budget - non-existent, therefore volunteer input was very much appreciated. DM hope for increased funding in future.

MR commented that Spen Valley Civic Society had recently enquired about the Council's s106 agreements and found there were over £14 million specific unspent monies, some of which was designated for outdoor recreation and leisure. PC clarified that whilst active travel may be mentioned in s106 agreements, this could mean funding for example metro cards rather than specific works or improvements on the ground [and therefore may not be allocated for PROW related projects]. JD added that there was a need to get PROW voices heard in relation to s106 monies at the planning stage. MR and OT commented that if monies were allocated to a certain area, they must be spent in that area. Since s106 agreement monies are usually allocated [ring fenced] to specific projects etc at the planning stage, SH commented she knew of only one s106 agreement that had specified a specific PROW path. DM agreed there was a need to look further into s106 agreement monies related to the PROW service function.

AP8 30/9/26 (new) DM to look into s106 agreement monies for PROW service function.

Open Forum

Impassable paths e.g., kir/45 and kir/108

JS asked how legal line issues are handled, where paths on the DM are no longer accessible, completely blocked off and/or there are no traces of where they should have been. Not lack of reinstatement of paths through crops; the ones where you can't even get into the field in the first place. What is the process and timescale for investigating these? For example, KIR 108 and KIR 45 reported this year.

SH reported that kir/108 had a slight alignment issue, and enforcement action was required to address several issues. PC reported that kir/45 needed a vegetation clearance, and enforcement action to address several issues.

PC briefly listed the actions required to investigate impassable paths, as follows for example: investigate alignments in relation to the digitised and paper DMSs; look at historic maps and note walked lines; investigate status of structures (e.g. recorded or unrecorded limitations and authorisations and conditions); carry out site visits; compare with network surveys in 2024 and 2007; consider what action does KC needs to take e.g. ourselves, or enforcement action with others.

A question was asked about the Definitive Map and Statement (DMS). PC clarified that the DMS is in paper form. The digitised lines on the online KC mapping system are a representation of the paper DMS. Path alignments are not always straightforward and often need to be interpreted using historic OS maps and other records. Sometimes the digitised alignment shown online may need amending, and in other cases the route people use on the ground differs from the legal line recorded on the Definitive Map.

SS asked about PROW enforcement. DM said there was currently no enforcement officer or function in the PROW team. DM commented that this was a wider highways issue.

SS asked what happened to the fault reports he sent in, remarking that he only received a report reference number for a 3rd of his fault reports. JD noted it is important for customers

to receive report reference numbers, and he'd taken an action point about that. JD mentioned he was part of a customer process project that was looking at automation, and possibly dropping pins on locations.

AP 9 30/9/26 (new) JD to investigate fault reporting for customers

SB asked what she could advise others about how to report an issue with a PROW. Officers referred her to PROW mailbox, Highways ROSS, and the 'search' for a public rights of way on the PROW teams home page which also displays pending diversions and claimed routes here https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/countryside-parks-and-open-spaces/Search-for-public-rights-of-way.aspx

JS reported there was a path check app on the PNFS website.

OT commented that PROWs and 'adopted' roads and footpaths were not the same data set. [the term 'adopted' relates to the separate 'list of streets maintainable at public expense' under section 36 (6) of the Highways Act 1980].

Recognition for landowners carrying out exemplary public access

JS asked whether there was a way to give recognition and appreciation to the landowners who show excellent footpath management? So many do the bare legal minimum, some don't even do that and others can be downright obstructive, but it would be nice to acknowledge those who do a really good job, with robust and well-constructed stiles, or active replacement of stiles with gates, clear signage etc, above and beyond their obligations.

JD said the Council could have a look at this, and feedback at future meetings. There's a KC High 5 Nomination which could include 'groups'.

AP 10 30/9/26 (new) JD to look at ways to recognised landowners for exemplary public access work

Update on col/135/10 boardwalk

JH asked for an update on boardwalk on col/135/10 at Slaithwaite

SH reported that the PROW team were not aware of this, but it had now been put on the Project Officer's job list to investigate.

AOB

SB asked about GRP (glass reinforced plastic) for capital projects because it lasts longer. CB noted the Project Officers were looking to replace some wooden footbridges with GRP, noting that for boardwalks thicker boards were required to stop them sagging.

SS asked for a copy of the PROW staffing chart.

AP11 30/9/26 (new) DS to send SS the PROW staffing chart

Date of next PROW Forum

The next PROW Forum is expected to take place on **Wednesday 24 March 2027** at Huddersfield Town Hall from 7pm to 9pm. PROW team can be contacted on publicrightsofway@kirklees.gov.uk

LIST OF ACTION POINTS from Public Rights Of Way (PROW) Forum held on Wednesday 30 September 2026

Verbal updates to be given at the next PROW Forum.

AP1 24/03/25 (carried forward) PC to contact landowner at Hol/50 Miry Lane, and investigate alignment of path on the ground and definitive line.	Phil Champion
AP1 30/9/26 (new) JD to look into issues with Wessenden Head Road verge raised by KBG	James Donoghue
AP2 30/9/26 (new) SH to contact Yorkshire Water about walls being taken down to gain access to a wider area at Yateholme	Sharon Huddleston
AP3 30/9/2026 (new) Enforcement to be a standing item on the PROW Forum agenda	Deborah Stephenson
AP4 30/9/26 (new) LW to consider omission of horse riders in Kirklees Transport Strategy.	Lucie Wade
AP5 30/9/26 (new) LW to pass BHSs comments to colleagues about the extension to Meltham Greenway ignoring horse riders and lack of consultation with statutory consultees BHS, Ramblers, and PNFS	Lucie Wade
AP6 30/9/26 (new) LW to pass enquiry about active travel partnership and LCWIP to colleagues	Lucie Wade
AP7 30/9/26 (new) JD to investigate MCs email to CEO	James Donoghue
AP8 30/9/26 (new) DM to look into s106 agreement monies for PROW function	Dan McParland
AP9 30/9/26 (new) JD to investigate fault reporting for customers	James Donoghue
AP10 30/9/26 (new) JD to look at ways to recognised landowners for exemplary public access work	James Donoghue
AP11 30/9/26 (new) DS to send SS the PROW staffing chart	Deborah Stephenson

Kirklees Transport Strategy

PROW Forum 30/09/2026



What is our Transport Strategy?

Our vision is for travel in Kirklees to be sustainable, healthy and accessible to all, creating safe, thriving places and connected communities.

At A Glance

We have developed a Transport Strategy that:

Has been informed by an evidence base and designed to address our challenges and maximise the opportunities in our region.

Was developed in collaboration and engaged multi-disciplinary teams across the council. We will continue to work with Council staff and partners on the ambitions set out within the Transport Strategy, and how they can help contribute to its delivery.

Has been shaped by residents, businesses and visitors, we have taken on-board views and insights from the public and stakeholders in our 2025 public consultation on the Draft Transport Strategy.

Was approved by decision makers, through statutory political process for formal adoption of strategy at Cabinet.

Will place people first by prioritising the needs of accessible and safe movement of people around our district and beyond.

Will shape decision-making across the Council, helping to develop, prioritise and implement policy change, infrastructure schemes and bring forward new programmes of work.

Will provide a platform for funding to help Kirklees to attract the resources and funding that we need when working with local, regional and national partners.

Will hold us accountable - up-to-date information on progress, schemes and priority areas can be found on the Connecting Kirklees webpage, our dedicated transport information channel.

Consultation

1. Engagement with Councillors, technical teams within Council and external stakeholders
2. Public consultation
3. Redraft of Strategy document following an analysis of consultation responses
4. Engagement with Councillors, technical teams and stakeholders
5. Necessary political approvals
6. Delivery of final Strategy document followed by adoption of strategy

The Public Consultation

Consultation ran from **March to April**

2112 responses and **over 1500 comments**

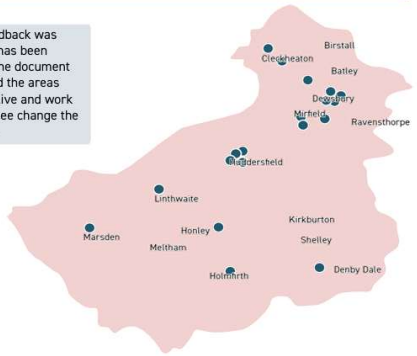
Social media campaign

16 in-person events

Over 7000 leaflets and posters distributed across Kirklees

Multiple ads including bus backs, bus interiors, petrol pumps, radio and digital

Consultation feedback was analysed, this has been incorporated into the document and strengthened the areas where people who live and work in Kirklees want to see change the most.



Locations where in-person consultation events were held:
Dewsbury Rail Station, Denby Dale Rail Station, Huddersfield Rail Station, Mirfield Rail Station, Slaithwaite Rail Station, Marsden Rail Station, Dewsbury Market, Huddersfield Market, Dewsbury Bus Station, Huddersfield Bus Station, Cleckheaton Bus Station Greenwood Centre, Ravensthorpe, Mirfield Library, Cleckheaton Library, Honley Library, Holmfirth Library, Heckmondwike Library, Dewsbury Library, Huddersfield Library

Existing Strategy & Policy

'Kirklees Council – Our Plan'

West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan 4

Top-Tier Partnership Strategies
(*Inclusive Economy Strategy, Health & Wellbeing Strategy, Environment Strategy, Inclusive Communities Framework*)

Kirklees Transport Strategy

The Kirklees Transport Strategy has been developed to assist the delivery of core council priorities, for which transport is the common thread.

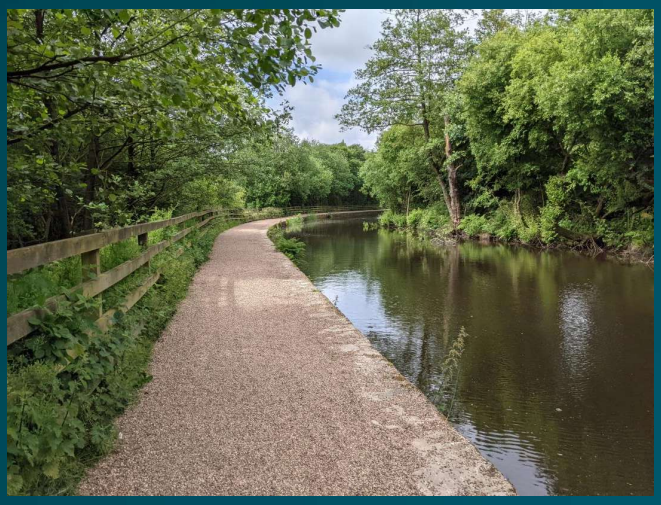
Existing Strategy & Policy

- The Kirklees Transport Strategy has been developed in alignment with a range of strategy and policy (local, regional, national)
- The strategy meets the needs of local people whilst reflecting ambitions for the region and country more widely.
- We have worked with partners to produce objectives and policies with shared ambitions.



Active Travel

- Active travel (such as walking, cycling and wheeling) is the most healthy, affordable and environmentally sustainable way to travel
- Many of our local trips are short-distance, meaning there's potential for more of these types of journeys to be made by active modes
- Safe, integrated active travel routes encourage more local trips by foot and bike such as popping to the shops or doing the school run



Connecting Kirklees Kirklees Council

Active Travel

- Our strategy features active travel policies which will help to deliver our ambitions
- Creating and maintaining safe, high quality and integrated active travel networks, building on the substantial programme of major transport schemes that are already in development and delivery across Kirklees, for example:
  - Huddersfield Narrow & Broad Canal towpaths - Working alongside the Canal and River Trust we have made significant surfacing and accessibility improvements to enhance these vital green corridors, making it easier and safer for everyone to use year-round and connect to PROWs
  - Upgrades to section of Spen Valley Greenway with Walk, Wheel, Cycle Trust (formerly Sustrans)
- Improving accessibility including the review of access barriers where possible
- Prioritising active travel in the design of new developments and regeneration schemes
- Providing more cycle parking

- We also provide a rolling programme of behaviour change events, activities and communications to support people to travel more actively, including cycle training, Bikeability in schools, led-walks, large-scale events (Go Active), and working with local providers and third sector partners like EPIKs

Connecting Kirklees Kirklees Council

Safe and Active Places

- We can increase the success and vibrancy of our town and local centres by making them more attractive places to visit and spend time, by making them less dominated by moving traffic and parked cars, leaving narrow pavements and poor air quality.

- Our strategy features 6 distinct 'safe and active places' policies which will help to deliver our ambitions.
- Implement the West Yorkshire Vision Zero Strategy, aiming to eliminate all traffic deaths and serious injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility
- Integrate active and sustainable travel into our exciting town and local centre regeneration schemes
- Identify and deliver school road safety and air quality improvements to support safe, accessible and healthy routes to school.
- Ensure enjoyable, safe environments for all that encourage walking, cycling and public transport

How will we measure success?

The success of the Transport Strategy will be determined in a number of ways, including:


Improved communications and engagement with our communities


Incorporation of the Strategy's policies in decision-making and business-as-usual


Implementation of the new policies across Council Services


Transport scheme delivery


Planning for future transport schemes


Continued alignment with external strategy partners as strategy is implemented

- We will share information on transport schemes, policies, campaigns and engagement opportunities through Connecting Kirklees, our dedicated transport information channels.
- As the Transport Strategy becomes embedded in Council business, existing reporting streams will also incorporate updates to Scrutiny Committees and Cabinet including by Major Projects, Highways, Regeneration, Climate Change and Public Health services.
- Targets around transport are set at a regional level in the West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan.

THANK YOU

Contact Information:

Lucie.Wade@Kirklees.gov.uk

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 03 November 2026 09:59
To: [redacted]
Subject: Fwd: Saddleworth Neighbourhood Development Plan Referendum

-------- Forwarded Message --------
Subject: Re: Saddleworth Neighbourhood Development Plan Referendum
Date: Mon, 2 Nov 2026 18:44:59 +0000
From:[redacted]>

Dear Recipient

We are writing to inform you that a Referendum relating to the adoption of the Saddleworth Neighbourhood Plan will be held on **10th December 2026**.

The question which will be asked in the Referendum is:

"Do you want Oldham Council and the Peak District National Park Authority to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Saddleworth to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?"

The Referendum area is identified on the map which is included with the information statement. The Referendum area is identical to the area which has been designated as the Saddleworth Neighbourhood area.

A person is entitled to vote in the Referendum if, on 24 November 2026:

1. they are entitled to vote in a local government election in the Referendum area;
2. and their qualifying address for the election is in the Referendum area. A person's qualifying address is, in relation to a person registered in the register of electors, the address in respect of which they are entitled to be registered.

The Referendum will be conducted in accordance with procedures which are similar to those used at local government elections. Details of how to vote are provided within the specified referendum documents below.

The specified documents are:

1. an information statement;
2. a statement that sets out general information about town and country planning including neighbourhood planning and the referendum;
3. Saddleworth Neighbourhood Development Plan (referendum version);
4. the Independent Examiners Report;

5. summary of the representations submitted to the independent examiner; and
6. statement by the local planning authority that the draft plan meets the basic conditions and complies with the relevant legislation.

Copies of the specified documents may be inspected online at:
https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/201235/neighbourhood_planning/2936/saddleworth_neighbourhood_plan

Paper copies of the specified documents are also available to view at:

7. Lees Library, 9 Thomas Street, Lees, Oldham, OL4 5DA (Open Mondays to Thursdays 9am-7pm, Friday 9am-5pm and Saturday 9:30am-1pm
8. Uppermill Library, St Chad's House, Uppermill, Oldham, OL3 6AZ (Open Mondays to Thursdays 9am-7pm, Friday 9am -5pm and Saturday 9:30am-1pm)
9. Delph Libraries, 1 Millgate, Delph, Oldham, OL3 5JG (Open Tuesdays to Thursdays 2-5pm and Fridays to Saturday 10am-1pm)
10. Greenfield Library, Chew Vale, Greenfield, Oldham, OL3 7EQ (Open Tuesdays to Thursdays 2-7pm and Friday to Saturday 9:30am – 1pm)
11. Oldham Council's Spindles Shopping Centre reception (please press the intercom for reception and go upstairs to the second floor), West Street, Oldham, OL1 1LF (open Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm)
12. Peak District National Park Authority's Office (subject to prior request, paper or electronic copies may be made available) at Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1AE from 8.45am to 5pm Monday to Friday (closed bank holidays)

Next steps

Following the Referendum, the results will be published on the Council's website. If more than half of those voting have voted in favour of the neighbourhood plan, the local planning authority must make it part of the Development Plan for the area to be used in determining decisions on planning applications.

Further information will be available in due course.

Should you wish to discuss any issues or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Strategic Planning and Information Team on 0161 770 4105 or by email at spi.consultations@oldham.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,



[redacted]

Assistant Director Planning and Development

[redacted]

Local Plan and Urban Design Team

Oldham Council

Spindles Shopping Centre

Oldham

OL1 1LF

[redacted]

[redacted]

Visiting the Spindles by Metrolink? The nearest stop is Oldham Central

If your email is regarding Street Numbering, please send it to building.control@oldham.gov.uk from where your request will be acknowledged and processed.

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Security and Viruses: This note confirms that this email message has been swept for the presence of computer viruses. However, we advise that in keeping with good management practice, the recipient should ensure that the email together with any attachments are virus free by running a virus scan themselves. We cannot accept any responsibility for any damage or loss caused by software viruses.
Monitoring: The Council undertakes monitoring of both incoming and outgoing emails. You should therefore be aware that if you send an email to a person within the Council it may be subject to any monitoring deemed necessary by the organisation from time to time. The views of the author may not necessarily reflect those of the Council.
Access as a public body: The Council may be required to disclose this email (or any response to it) under the Freedom of Information Act, 2000, unless the information in it is covered by one of the exemptions in the Act.
Data Protection: The council is committed to ensuring that we are transparent about the ways in which we use personal information and that we have the right controls in place to ensure it is used responsibly and is kept safe from inappropriate access, theft or misuse. Further information on how we use personal information and individual's privacy rights can be found at www.oldham.gov.uk/dataprotection
Legal documents: The Council does not accept service of legal documents by email.

[redacted]

From: [redacted]
Sent: 24 October 2026 17:43
To: [redacted]
Subject: Future Builds: helping Holme Valley Parish Council see and shape what's being built locally

Dear Clerk,

I hope you're well! I'm writing to you and the councillors of Holme Valley Parish Council to introduce Future Builds, a free app that helps residents understand and get involved in the development happening around them. As we launch across England, I'd love your help getting it into the hands of the communities you serve.

WHY THIS MATTERS FOR PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS

You see planning up close. Your council is consulted on applications in your area, and residents often come to you first when something is proposed nearby. Yet for most people the planning system is hard to follow: notices on lampposts, long reference numbers and council portals that are tricky to search. Too often residents only find out about a scheme once the key decisions have been made.

Future Builds is designed to change that, giving everyone a clear, simple front door into planning.

WHAT THE APP DOES

With Future Builds, residents can:

- Get free notifications for planning applications within 500m of their home
- Receive push alerts when nearby applications are submitted or decided
- Go straight to the application on the planning authority's own system, without digging through portals
- See images and links that developers add to their schemes, so proposals are easier to picture and respond to

The aim is simple: more people taking part in planning, in a more informed, positive and constructive way.

WHERE WE ARE

Future Builds is live on the App Store and Google Play. We launched first in London, working with councillors, planning officers and community groups across the capital, and we're now rolling out nationally.

HOW YOU COULD HELP

- **Share it with your residents** in your newsletter or parish magazine, on your website, social media or noticeboard. There's a ready-made paragraph below you're welcome to use.
- **Tell us what would help.** What do residents most often ask about when it comes to development? What would make Future Builds more useful to them, and to your council?
- **Invite us along.** I'd be very happy to give a short demo at a council meeting, online or in person.

READY-TO-SHARE TEXT

> *Want to know what's being built near you? Future Builds is a free app that alerts you to planning applications within 500m of your home, with direct links to the details and images of proposed schemes. Download it on the App Store or Google Play, or find out more at future-builds.com.*

TAKE A LOOK

- iPhone: Download on the App Store
- Android: Get it on Google Play
- Updates: future-builds.com

I'd be grateful if you could share this with your councillors. Even a quick reply with your thoughts would be hugely appreciated, and if you'd like images or logos for your channels, just let me know. Similarly given this is the first of its kind, if you would be willing to put a poster on any community noticeboards, please do let me know and I will get one sent out to you.

Thank you for all you do for your community.

With best wishes,

[redacted]
Future Builds App Limited
[redacted]
future-builds.com

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