



AGENDA

- 1. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES**
- 2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2025-26**
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 4. SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING – 14 APRIL 2025 - MINUTES**
- 5. ALLOTMENTS**
 - (i) General Update
 - (ii) Harmire Road allotment site
 - (iii) Raby Avenue
 - (iv) Demesnes
 - (v) Crook Lane & Town Head
- 6. PLAY AREAS**
- 7. MINI GOLF**
- 8. WEDNESDAY MARKET**
- 9. FLORAL AND OPEN SPACES**
- 10. DOG FOULING PROJECT**
- 11. SOUTH DURHAM NORTH YORKSHIRE CROSS COUNTRY**

Detailed agenda can be viewed at:

<https://barnardcastletowncouncil.gov.uk/agendas-minutes/>

¹ Under the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, recording of the meeting by any person is permitted. Those filming or otherwise recording the meeting should respect the rights of other members of the public attending and should not disrupt the meeting.

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
SERVICES COMMITTEE**

21 JULY 2025

DETAILED AGENDA

1. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

Cllr Ewart has submitted her apologies

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR FOR MUNICIPAL YEAR 2025-26

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Constitution (Members' Code of Conduct) (Minute 10/May/19 refers), Members will be asked whether they have any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members are reminded that a declaration can be given later in the meeting if a need arises during discussion.

4. SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING – 14 APRIL 2025 - MINUTES (ENCLOSED)

Recommendation – That the minutes be approved as a true record.

5. ALLOTMENTS

(i) General Update

Since the Services Committee meeting in April 2025 2 residents have been added to the Parishioner waiting list. Following the annual Tenancy and rent period, 5 tenants gave up their allotments. 2 of the vacant plots have yet to be reallocated. The waiting list for parishioners stands at 21, and the non-parishioner list stands at 7.

The Clerk is currently working with William Smiths on the potential creation of a new allotment site on their land, and how allotments gardens are created, managed and maintained.

(ii) Harmire Road Allotment site

One garden on Harmire has had a warning letter due to the untidy state of their garden. They have until the beginning of August to improve and to show signs of cultivation in line with their signed Tenancy Agreement. A further inspection will take place.

(iii) Raby Avenue

Due to a report of rats on the site DCC Pest Control have been contacted to explore the potential of a contract with them to remove and maintain across all of our allotment sites.

(iv) Demesnes

No issues currently to report.

(v) Crook Lane & Town Head

No issues currently to report.

Recommendation – That the information is received and noted.

6. PLAY AREAS

(i) There are currently no issues (repairs or otherwise) at any of the play areas. Weekly checks of each play area continue to be carried out.

(ii) Outdoor Gym Equipment (Dawson Road)
Pursuant of minute 50(iii)/April 24 & 10(iv) July 24 refers

Cllr Foote-Wood, as County Councillor is requesting from the town council approval to explore, with local residents, fund raising to have outdoor gym equipment located at the Dawson Road play area

Recommendation – (a) That the information is received and noted; (b) that Cllr Foote-Wood is given delegated authority to explore fund raising options for outside gym equipment to be located at Dawson Road play area; and (c) that Cllr Foote-Wood refers to the council, via Services before any decisions are finalised on funding streams or equipment.

7. MINI GOLF

The 2025 Season opened on 12 April 2025 to date takings are approximately £5,100.00 (Net).

The mini golf hut facias have been repair and painted.

There are three attendants on the rota for the summer season.

Recommendation – That the information be received and noted.

8. WEDNESDAY MARKET

In the weeks from 9 April to 08 July 2025 inclusive, total rental receipts have been £1914.00, an average of £159.50 per week. 6 charity pitches have been utilised, and trading opportunities are being offered to those on the waiting list to cover regular trader absences.

Recommendation – That the information is received and noted.

9. FLORAL AND OPEN SPACES

The summer planting has been carried out by One3One, and regular watering is carried out by Mr Wearmouth.

Unfortunately, approximately 72 plants in the Niche Living bed failed and had to be replaced.

Recommendation – That the information is received and noted.

10. DOG FOULING PROJECT

Verbal updates will be given at the meeting.

11. SOUTH DURHAM NORTH YORKSHIRE CROSS COUNTRY

Approval is sought for Teesdale Athletic Club (TAC) to host one round of the winter cross country season on the Demesnes on 4th January 2026.

Recommendation – That in principal approval is given to TAC to host one cross country race on the Demesnes on 4th January 2026.

**BARNARD CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL
SERVICES COMMITTEE**

14 APRIL 2025

PRESENT: Councillors Turnbull, Ewart, Blake, Chatterjee & Connelly

Also in attendance: Teesdale Mercury, Cllr Ing, Town Mayor (Ex officio)

Officers: Mr Clark (Town Clerk).

50. ACCEPTANCE, OR OTHERWISE, OF APOLOGIES

No apologies were received from Cllr's Foote-Wood & Bigge

Resolved – That the submitted apologies be approved.

51. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with this Council's adopted Constitution (Members' Code of Conduct) (Minute 10/May/19 refers), Members will be asked whether they have any personal or prejudicial interests in any matter on the agenda and, if so, to declare those interests at this point of the meeting. Members are reminded that a declaration can be given later in the meeting if a need arises during discussion.

52. SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING – 17 FEBRUARY 2025

Resolved – That the minutes be approved as a true record.

53. ALLOTMENTS

(i) General Update

Since the Services meeting in February, one allotment waiting list application has been received.

The parishioner waiting list is currently 22.

(ii) 2025/26 Allotment Garden Tenancy/Rules/Contravention Procedure

Allotment Tenancy Agreements and Rules for the 2025/26 season have been sent out to all tenants. There were no changes to legislation or incidents to necessitate any changes to these documents at the time of issue. The Allotment Garden Contravention Procedure was sent out to tenants at the same time.

(iii) Standpipes

The water was switched on 11 March 2025. The standpipes at Harmire, Raby and Town Head sites were found to be leaking. Repairs to Raby and Town Head sites have been carried out. The leak at Harmire requires further work, but the site has water from the second available standpipe.

(iv) Avian Flu

On 7 April we were informed that due to the increased risk of avian influenza from wild birds, an **Avian Influenza Prevention Zone (AIPZ) has come into force across County Durham**. All allotment sites have had notices put up advising of what actions to take (attached for info).

(v) Dog Agility Licence

The Town Council licences the Dog Agility Club to access the water provided to The Demesnes allotment. The licence requires the club to ensure the water supply is secure and to manage it appropriately. The club provides a standpipe and maintains this at its own expense. The licence runs for a period of twelve months, from April to March. No change to the terms of the licence or to the fee (£25.00) were proposed for 2025/26. A copy of the licence is available from the office for inspection if required.

Resolved – That the information is received and noted.

54. PLAY AREAS

Minor repairs to the gate at Green Lane have been carried out.
No other issues have been reported.

Resolved – That the update be received and noted.

55. MINI GOLF

(i) The mini golf opened on Friday 12th April. A pre-season clean clearance of leaves and jet washing of each hole was completed in preparation for the start of the season.

(ii) Operating arrangements

Detailed arrangements are in place for the full 2025 mini golf season. The season commenced on Friday 12 April, and will close on 3 November 2025. During that period, and weather permitting, the course will be open every weekend, bank holidays and full weeks in line with local school holidays.

Opening times for 2025 low season (12 April to 23 May & 7 September to 3rd November) 10.30 to 4.30. High season 24 May to 1st September 10.30 am to 6.00 pm.

A generic banner advertising the mini golf course is in place at the entrance to Scar Top and will remain in place during the 2025 season.

(iii) Pressure Washer

With the agreement of the Chair a new petrol jet washer was purchased at a cost of £319.99 due to failure of the older one.

Work on repairing the facias on the kiosk has started.

Recommendation – (a) That the information be noted; (b) That retrospective approval is given for the purchase of a replacement petrol jet washer at £319.99 (inc vat) with funding from the self-financing Min Golf service.

(iv) Kiosk and course Improvements

Work on repairing the facias on the kiosk has started. The internal area is to be given a fresh coat of paint prior to the high season opening. Several surrounds on the course have been removed and replaced, and the whole course was jet washed prior to opening on the 12th.

56. WEDNESDAY MARKET

In the weeks from 12 February to 2 April 2025 inclusive, total rental receipts have been £1,164.00 an average of £145.00 per week. 2 charity pitches have been utilised. Two new traders have been obtained – Casa Mia, Italian pastries and clothing. The waiting list currently stands at 3.

Resolved – That the information is received and noted.

57. FLORAL AND OPEN SPACES

The summer bedding is due to be planted in early May by One3One.

A further 3 planters will be replaced this year.

Resolved – That the information is received and noted.

58. DOG FOULING PROJECT

Cllr Turnbull gave members a brief update from the last group meeting:

- 3 members of the public attended
- Contact to be made with local schools around whether they would like to get pupils to create a play around anti dog fouling. A prize could be offered to the pupils, and they could be asked to perform at the Meet Pet Show potentially.
- Looking to have a stall at the Meet Pet Show, and potentially be part of the parade
- Local schools involved in a poster design to join us on the parade.
- More dispensers – perhaps near St Mary's churchyard?
- Idea to have Dog poo bags in local pubs.

Group members to submit ideas for using the budget, some examples below:

- Another large banner
- Roller banner with Barney the dog design
- Leaflets / posters with hard hitting messages about harm dog dirt can cause? Highlighting fines and reporting
- If possible, any cctv footage capturing fouling shared on social media
- Need to continuously encourage reporting to DCC. Drop ins to continue.

Awaiting an update on bin placements following the walk round.

Recommendation – That the information be received and noted.