Gail Cook
Town Clerk
Tel: 01653 531876
E-mail: clerk@malton-tc.gov.uk

1 Newgate
Malton
North Yorkshire
YO17 7LF

MALTON TOWN COUNCIL
NOTICE OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

You are hereby summoned to attend the Malton Town Council to be held at **Friends Meeting House, Greengate, Malton, YO17 7EN on Wednesday 28th January 2026** commencing at **6.30pm** for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Members of the Press and public are also welcome to attend.

AGENDA

1. **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

2. **Presentation by Philip Crabtree, Trustee of Malton Museum**

3. **Declarations of Interest**
   To receive any declarations of interest not already declared under the Town Council's Code of Conduct or Members' Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

4. **To receive apologies for absence**

5. **To receive reasons for absence submitted by Councillors**

6. **Deputy Mayor's Report**
   To receive verbal report

7. **Public Access**
   To allow residents of the Malton Parish to speak

8. **To approve the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 10th December 2025 as a true and correct record. For Resolution**

9. **Financial Report and Accounts. For Resolution**
   (i) To note the bank reconciliation & bank balance for period ending 31st December 2025
   (ii) To consider the financial report to 31st December 2025
   (iii) To authorise payment of accounts

10. **Appointment of Internal Auditor 2026/27. For Resolution**
    To consider and resolve the appointment of Ian Smithson as the Council's Internal Auditor for the financial year 2026/27.

11. **Clerks Report.**
    To receive report (previously circulated)

12. **Planning Matters. For Resolution**
    To consider and make recommendations on applications for planning permission referred to the Town Council and receive decisions notified by North Yorkshire Council

13. Staffing Committee. For Resolution
To consider and approve the reviewed Civility & Respect Protocol (previously circulated)

14. Council Policies. For Resolution
To consider and approve the Town Council Policies (previously circulated)
(i) Financial Regulations
(ii) Risk Assessment Management Policy
(iii) Review of Internal Audit
(iv) List of Regular Direct Debit Payments
(v) Investment Strategy
(vi) General & Earmarked Reserves Policy
(vii) Medium Term Financial Plan
(viii) Standing Orders
(ix) Safeguarding Policy

15. Broughton to Malton Paths For Everyone Project. For Resolution
To receive report and consideration appropriate action

16. Town of Culture 2028. For Resolution
To receive report and consideration appropriate action

17. Representatives
To receive reports from Members

19. Members Questions
To consider Members questions

20. Date of next Malton Town Council Meetings
Wednesday 28th February 2026 at The Friends Meeting House, Greengate, Malton

Signed: G Cook

Mrs Gail Cook, Clerk to Malton Town Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE

MALTON TOWN COUNCIL

HELD AT THE FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, GREENGATE, MALTON ON WEDNESDAY 10th DECEMBER 2025 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT Cllrs L Burr MBE (Mayor), M Carpenter (Deputy Mayor), J Aldrich, P Andrews, M Brampton, I Conlan, K Ennis, S Hawes, L Paley, S Thackray & J Vale

IN ATTENDANCE Rebecca Wilkin, Head of Malton Fitzwilliam Estate, Mrs G Cook (Clerk) & Tim Hicks (Deputy Clerk)

OTHERS No Members of the Public

APOLOGIES Cllr Oxley

107. REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Noted and accepted.

108. CODE OF CONDUCT

Members were reminded of their responsibility under the Code of Conduct in respect of making declarations of interest and that any declarations should be made now.

Due to Cllr Burr MBE being a Member of the North Yorkshire Planning Committee, she will abstain from any planning matters considered by Malton Town Council.

109. MAYORS REPORT

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor report was previously circulated to Members.

110. PUBLIC ACCESS

None

111. COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26th November 2025 be approved and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Carptener, seconded by Cllr Brampton. Cllrs Ennis and Hawes abstained. All other Members approved.

112. FINANCIAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

(i) Members noted the bank reconciliation showing the position as of 30th November 2025.

(ii) Twenty two accounts were submitted for approval

Lite	Replacement LED Maxi Led Wheelgate	804.00	On-line Payment
Art of Protest	The Next Chapter	6000.00	On-line Payment
Hopkinson & Sons Ltd	Chainshaw Goves	15.00	On-line Payment
G Burley & Sons	Roundabout Solar Christmas Trees	1735.20	On-line Payment
Richard Daffern	Reimbursement Balloon Cable	52.00	On-line Payment

Tate Smith	MIB Award Night Refreshments	52.13	On-line Payment
J B Motors	Fuel	166.55	On-line Payment
R Yates & Sons Ltd	Tools & Materials	160.20	On-line Payment
Salaries	Salaries	8180.83	On-line Payment
HMRC	Tax & NI	3224.68	On-line Payment
North Yorkshire Pension Fund	Pension	2502.71	On-line Payment
Spoton.net Ltd	MTC Website & Email Subscription	73.20	Direct Debit
Wirehouse	Employment Services	102.00	Direct Debit
North Yorkshire Council	Cemetery Rates	76.00	Direct Debit
North Yorkshire Council	Newgate Rates	241.00	Direct Debit
Green Energy	Cemetery Energy	496.93	Direct Debit
Barclaycard	Hot Drinks Dispenser	31.14	Direct Debit
Octopus	Newgate Energy	75.70	Direct Debit
Octopus	Newgate Energy	20.73	Direct Debit
BT	Newgate Telephone & Broadband	121.82	Direct Debit
EE	Town Council Mobile Phones	86.40	Direct Debit
Total		**24218.22**	

RESOLVED

That twenty-two accounts be approved for payment. Proposed by Cllr Carpenter seconded by Cllr Hawes. All other Members approved.

113. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

ZE25/01236/CLEUD Certificate of Lawfulness for an existing use or development in respect of the use of the land as a mixed business/ industrial use including General Industry (use class B2), storage and distribution (use class B8), Office (use class E(g)(i)), Storage and Distribution (use class B8), Petroleum Products Storage and Distribution use class Sui Generis, and storage and distribution of minerals use class Sui Generis (g) for a period greater than 10 years before the date of this application at Coal Stacking Ground, Highfield Road, Malton

Members agreed no objection to the Certificate of Lawfulness being granted

114. REPRESENTATIVES

None

115. MEMBERS QUESTIONS

None

116. PRESENTATION BY REBECCA WILKIN, HEAD OF MALTON FITZWILLIAM ESTATE

The Mayor and all Members thanked Rebecca Wilkin for her interesting and informative presentation with regard to the next chapter for Malton.

117. DATE OF THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 28th January 2027, 6.30pm to be held at the Friends Meeting House

The meeting closed at 7.30pm

Malton Town Council

Bank Accounts Reconciliation as at 31st December 2025

	£	£
Base Rate Account		68,242.50
Unity Trust Account		68,607.57
Active Saver Account		20,000.00
Current Account		36,564.72
Payments not cleared	nil	
Sub-total		**£193,414.79**
Less External Funds:	**£**	
Malton In Bloom	3,471.23	
SUB TOTAL		**189,943.56**
Restricted Allocated CIL Funds		**10,000.00**
Rainbow Lane Fantasy Castle Project		**10,000.00**
Non-Allocated Available Reserves		**169,943.56**
TOTAL		**189,943.56**

Account Code Report

	Actual Year to Date	Current Annual Bud	Budget Variance	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
Income						
1000 Income - Cemetery	23,298	20,000	(3,298)			116.5%
1004 Income - Allotments	1,344	1,344	0			100.0%
1005 Income - Grants	2,109	1,235	(874)			170.8%
1006 Income - Donations	180	0	(180)			0.0%
1007 Income - Malton in Bloom	5,854	0	(5,854)			0.0%
1010 Income - Bank Interest	1,759	800	(959)			219.8%
1011 Income - Christmas Lights	3,118	0	(3,118)			0.0%
1012 Income - CCTV	4,076	0	(4,076)			0.0%
1176 Income - Precept	272,970	272,970	0			100.0%
Total Income	**314,708**	**296,349**	**(18,359)**			106.2%
Direct Expenditure						
Total Direct	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**		**0.0%**
Overhead Expenditure						
4000 Salaries	78,780	105,900	27,120		27,120	74.4%
4001 PAYE/NI	30,169	36,000	5,831		5,831	83.8%
4002 Pensions	22,889	31,000	8,111		8,111	73.8%
4003 Training - Staff/Members	360	700	340		340	51.4%
4005 Staff Expenses	1,145	1,500	355		355	76.4%
4006 Additional Manpower	171	250	79		79	68.5%
4007 Employer Services	680	1,020	340		340	66.7%
4010 Rent	672	0	(672)		(672)	0.0%
4011 Communications	1,572	650	(922)		(922)	241.9%
4012 IT & Website	657	1,000	343		343	65.7%
4013 Insurance	5,345	4,230	(1,115)		(1,115)	126.4%
4014 Utilities	3,565	6,250	2,685		2,685	57.0%
4015 Audit Fees	550	2,500	1,950		1,950	22.0%
4016 Subscriptions	1,096	1,020	(76)		(76)	107.5%
4017 Office Equipment	1,284	1,250	(34)		(34)	102.7%
4018 Stationery/Supplies	1,605	1,350	(255)		(255)	118.9%
4020 Rates	5,071	3,276	(1,795)		(1,795)	154.8%
4025 Mayors Allowance	0	1,200	1,200		1,200	0.0%
4026 Civic Events	1,214	700	(514)		(514)	173.4%
4028 Professional Fees	6,194	1,000	(5,194)		(5,194)	619.4%
4029 Room Hire	200	800	600		600	25.0%
4030 Repairs & Maintenanc	5,444	3,500	(1,944)		(1,944)	155.6%
4031 Tools & Materials	3,177	2,500	(677)		(677)	127.1%
4032 Fuel	1,297	2,000	703		703	64.8%
4033 Protective Clothing	149	150	1		1	99.3%

Income & Expenditure by Budget 31/12/2025

Account Code Report

	Actual Year to Date	Current Annual Bud	Budget Variance	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
4034 Waste Disposal	433	350	(83)		(83)	123.8%
4035 Equipment & Maintenance	4,816	2,250	(2,566)		(2,566)	214.0%
4036 Tree Maintenance	1,188	2,750	1,563		1,563	43.2%
4037 PWLB Repayment	11,419	11,618	199		199	98.3%
4041 Cleaning	0	1,550	1,550		1,550	0.0%
4045 S137 Expenditure	11,300	7,800	(3,500)		(3,500)	144.9%
4046 CCTV	8,932	12,000	3,068		3,068	74.4%
4050 S106 Expenditure	(4,400)	0	4,400		4,400	0.0%
4051 Orchard Fields	1,500	2,000	500		500	75.0%
4052 Works LSW	552	3,500	2,948		2,948	15.8%
4056 Floral	20,321	9,750	(10,571)		(10,571)	208.4%
4057 Street Furniture	9,020	1,700	(7,320)		(7,320)	530.6%
4058 Verge Cutting	15,876	12,800	(3,076)		(3,076)	124.0%
4061 Clocks	685	650	(35)		(35)	105.4%
4065 Christmas Lights	19,586	0	(19,586)		(19,586)	0.0%
4070 Neighbourhood Planning	0	500	500		500	0.0%
4071 Play Area Inspection	0	375	375		375	0.0%
4072 Payroll & RBS	1,526	1,750	224		224	87.2%
4073 Event Traffic Management	0	1,250	1,250		1,250	0.0%
4074 Fire Alarm System	45	140	95		95	32.1%
4075 Pat Testing	126	500	374		374	25.3%
4076 Wilding Contractor	0	2,370	2,370		2,370	0.0%
4077 Youth Club	0	800	800		800	0.0%
4079 Earmarked Project Fund	0	10,000	10,000		10,000	0.0%
4093 Corporate Branding	478	200	(278)		(278)	238.9%
40094 CIL	5,258	0	(5,258)		(5,258)	0.0%
Total Overhead	**281,944**	**296,349**	**14,405**	**0**	**14,405**	95.1%
Total Income	**314,708**	**296,349**	**(18,359)**			**106.2%**
Total Expenditure	**281,944**	**296,349**	**14,405**	**0**	**14,405**	**95.1%**
Net Income over Expenditure	**32,764**	**0**	**(32,764)**			
plus Transfer from EMR	**0**	**0**	**0**			
less Transfer to EMR	**0**	**0**	**0**			
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	**32,764**	**0**	**(32,764)**			

MALTON TOWN COUNCIL **ACCOUNTS JANUARY 2026**

MKM	Rock Salt - New Malton Cemetery	175.46	On-line Payment
J P Decorating Solutions	Decorating New Malton Chapels	2448.00	On-line Payment
North Yorkshire Council	CCTV - Quarter 4 Connectivity	1485.00	On-line Payment
LITE	Christmas Tree Installation & Storage	288.00	On-line Payment
R Daffern	Additional Labour - Balloon Festoon	67.60	On-line Payment
Screwfix	Tools	44.99	On-line Payment
Simon Naylor Fencing	Rainbow Lane Play Area Pump Track Fencing	3772.80	On-line Payment
S Bainbridge	Additional Labour	56.92	On-line Payment
J B Motors	Fuel	77.38	On-line Payment
Fitzwilliam Estate	Orchard Fields Rent	600.00	On-line Payment
BATA	Butane	56.50	On-line Payment
Harrison & Hargreaves	Street Furniture Paint - Wow Wheelgate	285.46	On-line Payment
Vertigrow	Plants - Wow Wheelgate	148.80	On-line Payment
Howarth Timber	Wood	2.98	On-line Payment
Wybone	Litter Bin - Wow Wheelgate	200.39	On-line Payment
The Milton Rooms	The Next Chapter - Room Hire	40.00	On-line Payment
Videcom	Quarter 4 CCTV Maintenance	1517.40	On-line Payment
LITE	Supply & Fit new RCBO to Street Lighting Column on County Bridge	180.00	On-line Payment
Direct Imaging	Wall Magnetic Whiteboard	70.04	On-line Payment
Hainsworth Plant Hire	Grave Digging	180.00	On-line Payment
R Yates & Sons Ltd	Toold & Materials	33.99	On-line Payment
St Catherines Hospice	Mayors Donation - Civic Concert	180.02	On-line Payment
North Yorkshire Council	Planning Fee - Rainbow Lane Play Area	294.00	Cheque
Salaries	Salaries	7989.62	On-line Payment
HMRC	Tax & NI	3094.72	On-line Payment
North Yorkshire Pension Fund	Pension	2502.71	On-line Payment
Spoton.net Ltd	MTC Website & Email Subscription	73.20	Direct Debit
Wirehouse	Employment Services	102.00	Direct Debit
North Yorkshire Council	Cemetery Rates	76.00	Direct Debit
North Yorkshire Council	Newgate Rates	241.00	Direct Debit
Green Energy	Cemetery Energy	567.71	Direct Debit
Barclaycard	Keys, Brackets, MIB & Tidy Group Thank you Event	409.16	Direct Debit
Octopus	Newgate Energy	79.26	Direct Debit
BT	Newgate Telephone & Broadband	121.82	Direct Debit
E-On	Town Lighting	57.03	Direct Debit
EE	Town Council Mobile Phones	86.40	Direct Debit
Total		**27606.36**	

MALTON TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT TO COUNCIL – 28 JANUARY 2026

APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

The Town Council appoint an internal auditor annually at the January meeting. For the last three years the Town Council have appointed the services of Carrie Pillow of E T Bookkeeping, based at Thornton le Clay which has been successful and previous to this appointment the Town Council's internal audit was carried out by Janet Bennett of Yorkshire Audit Services for over ten years who also provided an excellent service.

It is general best practice to rotate your internal auditor periodically, to ensure value for money and avoidance of any over-familiarity due to the newly appointed auditor starting from scratch.

Ian Smithson, Internal Auditor is based at Northallerton offers an audit service, he is a qualified Chartered Public Finance Accountant with over 25 years internal audit experience prior to retirement, the majority of them as an Audit Manager. Since retirement, Ian Smithson has taken on the internal audit of a number of town and parish councils in North Yorkshire including Helmsley and Kirkbymoorside Town Councils.

Ian has Professional Indemnity Insurance cove and is registered with the Information Commissioner for data processing.

The Clerk has carried out a virtual meeting with Ian to discuss the possibility of him taking on the audit of Malton Town Council and was extremely impressed with his knowledge of local government finances and auditing.

The Clerk has made a reasonable assessment of the value of the current audit services and feels that this is the right time to make the change of auditor, not solely because of the reduction in fees associated with changing auditors but the appropriate technology resources to provide a high-value, quality audit experience for the Town Council.

RECOMMENDATON

That the Council appoint Ian Smithson to carry out the Internal Audit Services for Malton Town Council as per the Review of Audit Terms of Reference.

MALTON TOWN COUNCIL CLERK'S REPORT – JANUARY 2026

(a) CEMETERY MANAGER UPDATE

FUNERALS

New Malton Cemetery

Burial Interment	Plot No:	6419K
Ashes Interment	Plot No:	7056B
Ashes Interment	Plot No:	7070B

Old Malton Cemetery

Ashes Interment	Plot No:	1297
Ashes Interment	Plot No:	58
Burial Interment	Plot No:	1318A

Other Work

Installed brackets to new benches on Wheelgate as part of the Wow Wheelgate project
Assisted the Town Ranger with the installation of the Christmas Balloon in the Market Place

(b) MTC ATTENDANCE AT MULTI AGENCY COMMUNITY & DROP IN EVENTS

Wednesday 18th February	-	Free Fridge Multi-Agency Drop in 10-11am
Thursday 19th March	-	Multi-Agency Drop In, Morrisons 10-12noon
Thursday 23rd April	-	Multi-Agency Drop In, Asda 10-12noon
Wednesday 13th May	-	Multi-Agency Drop In, Morrisons 10-12noon
Thursday 18th June	-	Multi-Agency Drop In, Asda 10-12noon
Thursday 20th August	-	Multi-Agency Drop In, Asda 10-12noon
Wednesday 16th September	-	Multi-Agency Drop In, Morrisons 10-12noon
Thursday 22nd October	-	Multi-Agency Drop In, Asda 10-12noon
Thursday 26th November	-	Multi-Agency Drop In, Morrisons 10-12noon
Wednesday 23rd December	-	Multi-Agency Drop In, Asda 10-12noon

FLOOD HUB EVENTS

Tuesday 24th February	-	Newgate Civic Office
Tuesday 28th April	-	Newgate Civic Office
Tuesday 30th June	-	Newgate Civic Office

MTC GAZEBO COMMUNITY CONSULTATION EVENTS

To be held in Malton Market Place, 9am-2pm. All Members are welcome to attend with Officers.

Saturday	21st February
Saturday	18th April
Saturday	20th June
Saturday	19th September

(c) MEETINGS/EVENTS ATTENDED

20 November	-	WOW Wheelgate Site Meeting
25 November	-	Counter Terrorism Local Profile Workshop at Ryedale House
26 November	-	Site Meeting with Morrisons Facility Officer
26 November	-	Wilfred Jackson Trust Meeting
27 November	-	Multi-Agency Problem Solving Meeting - Teams
28 November	-	NY Protect & Prepare Group – Teams
1 December	-	Meeting with the Mayor
2 December	-	Meeting with Cllr Hawes

2 December	-	Meeting with Youth Club volunteers & NY Youth
3 December	-	Civic Charity Christmas Concert at St Michaels Church
4 December	-	Ryedale Clerks meeting at Helmsley Town Council
8 December	-	Meeting with Videcom at Newgate
8 December	-	Malton Secondary School Drop In Event
9 December	-	Clerks Staff Development Review with Cllrs Carpenter & Ennis
10 December	-	Meeting with Cllr Brampton at Newgate
10 December	-	MTC Full Council
11 December	-	MIB & Tidy Group Thank you Event
17 December	-	Meeting with Howard Wallis NYP at Newgate
6 January	-	WOW Wheelgate Mayor Visit with project team & Mayor of York & North Yorkshire David Skaith
7 January	-	TransPennine Presentation of Grant Award to MIB at Malton Train Station
12 January	-	Staffing Committee Meeting re Civility & Respect Policy
12 January	-	MNAP Meeting at Norton Town Council
13 January	-	Deputy Clerk Staff Development Review with Cllr Aldrich

(d) THE NEXT CHAPTER MURALS AND ALLEYWAYS PROJECT

The Art of Protest team have been working well with the GCSE students at Norton College and the GCSE and A Level Art students at Malton Secondary Schools with regard to this project. Work will also be carried out with Malton Community Primary School.

The Deputy Clerk has also canvassed local businesses around the Market Place and has had some encouraging feedback about the project as well as supportive comments about the work we do, especially with regard to Malton In Bloom and in particular, the summer planting.

Members are encouraged to one or both of the events below to help steer the design briefs for the then Malton murals and art installations. The events have been set up to share local stories, thoughts and connections to Malton's literary and creative heritage.

Business & Community Engagement Event
Thursday 29th January, 6pm - 7.30pm at The Old Parish Hall, Spital Street

Community Engagement Event
Saturday 31st January, 11am – 12noon (ticketed) and 12noon – 1pm drop in event at The Milton Rooms Bar

Please inform the Clerk if any Member would like to attend either of the events.

(e) RAINBOW LANE PLAY AREA FANTASY CASTLE PROJECT

The planning application for the equipment was submitted in December.

(f) HELMSLEY AND HOWARDIAN HILLS RESTAURANT WEEK

Visit Malton CIC and Malton Town Council are working together in collaboration to facilitate Malton being a part of the **Helmsley and Howardian Hills Restaurant Week Campaign** run by Visit North Yorkshire.

We are inviting Malton and Old Malton food and drink businesses to take part in the project which is due to take place from **23rd February until 1st March 2026**. Applications to take part are now open and further information is available at www.visitnorthyorkshire.com

Teresa Balmforth from Visit North Yorkshire, will visit Malton on Thursday 15th January to talk with businesses in further detail about the campaign. These restaurant weeks have been successful in other areas such as cities like York, but also more recently, in towns such as Whitby and Harrogate.

(g) **MALTON & NORTON TIDY GROUP**

A record 643 bags of litter removed from the streets, public open spaces and roadside verges of Malton and Norton in 2025.

Of late this has been including the weekly litter pick around Eden Camp by Mick of Keep Scarborough Tidy and McDonald's - 1 very full and heavy bag every week, plus lots of debris reported to Streetscene.

We have been fortunate to find a total of £40 in cash (3 x £10, and 1 x £20) and Mick found a £10 note only days after we found the £20 note.

2026 has got off to a slow start. The first Sunday of January was immediately after New Year and was a pretty cold day - just 6 volunteers but 17 bags in the day:

3 extremely heavy bags from the riverside between County Bridge and Railway Street. Lots of cans and bottles along the riverbank. Many, but not, all washed up from the recent high river levels. The extendable litter pickers enabled safe picking.

4 bags from Station Way and the riverside area
1 bag from the walk back along Blackboards
1 bag from St Nicholas Street car park and the walk in by volunteers
5 bags and a van tyre from Brambling Fields. The phantom Strongbow can thrower had struck again - 100+ cans found dotted along the verge and down the bankside on the road down to the cottages

Over 70 cans were picked from there in mid-November, and a further haul only a few weeks before that.
2 bags from Beverley Road, out to the Settrington turn off, and a bag on the walk back home.

A further 5 bags from the days before and after our monthly meet.

Malton and Norton Tidy Group has been going since 2009, but we've only been keeping tabs on the number of bags since 2013. In the 13 years plus this month to date we have collected 5,687 bags.

(h) **WOW Wheelgate Project**

Malton Town Council in conjunction with Circular Malton & Norton CIC have rolled out planters and benches along Wheelgate as part of the Wow Wheelgate project. The project is funded from the York and North Yorkshire's Vibrant High Street Fund. David Skaith, Mayor of York and North Yorkshire visited Malton and the project team on 6th January.

The project aims to shape a more sustainable future for the high street through practical action and creative collaboration, proving how small place-based initiatives can encourage footfall and build long-term resilience for the town. At the centre of this momentum is the Pop-Up Shop initiative, an example of how temporary spaces can spark long-term impact. The Pop-Up Retail Shop Competition, providing a three-month, rent-free residency, has crowned local entrepreneur Merryn Wilderspin and her joyful fashion brand, The View from My Rear, as the winner.

To guide the journey, the Wow in Wheelgate map helps visitors uncover hidden gems and familiar favourites alike. Together, the map, the passport, and the pop-up shop create a connected experience that celebrates what makes Wheelgate special. Adding to the experience is the WOW Wheelgate Passport, the passport gives visitors a reason to linger a little longer. Spend £3 or more in any of the participating businesses, collect stamps, and enjoy a free coffee at Leoni's or a £5 reward from the Circular Malton & Norton upcycling shop.

(i) **MALTON IN BLOOM**

Malton In Bloom have received confirmation of a successful grant from TransPennine Express for £5,000. The grant funding will help to ensure Malton is looking fabulous this summer.

MALTON TOWN COUNCIL PLANNING APPLICATIONS – JANUARY 2026

Planning applications to the Local Planning Authority to be considered:

Installation of 8no. air source heat pump units to a new concrete hardstanding, the proposed plant area will be provided with timber acoustic fencing and an accessible gate for future maintenance
Malton School (East Wing) Middlecave Road Malton North Yorkshire YO17 7NQ

Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed use or development in respect of the change of use of the premises from a storage warehouse to indoor sports and social recreation use
The Pyramid Estate, Unit E1 Showfield Lane Malton North Yorkshire YO17 6BT

Extract from Application Form:
I would like to change the use of my premises to indoor sports and social recreation use. With a lot of the local pubs closing down, the indoor sports scene is suffering with not many places left to play. Some of the sports I want to offer do not have any locations locally whatsoever. Some enthusiasts travel up to 40 miles for their venues, I would hope that all local players would attend my premises regularly for leagues etc and also players from different areas. This would not be a private members club, but open to the whole community to encourage new interest and players of all ages. Table sports such as pool allow for people of all ages and abilities to play together and socially interact on a competitive and friendly level. It's excellent for physical health and also mental health. I would also like to dedicate a set amount of time to the youth of the community, creating a vibrant safe and friendly place for all young adults to spend time socialising and learning these sports.

There is currently nowhere within the proximity of the peasey hills and showground area for the youth of today to hang around except from the play park, which when they outgrow the equipment they have no stimulation in the same place and many turn anti-social. I would like to give my time and my business just for a few hours a week to give them that next stage of growing up. I welcome any youth or social workers to attend obviously, but would also be interested in gaining the credentials to run a youth club myself, if needs be. I would be planning on opening the doors at 4pm and closing up at 11pm Monday - Friday and possibly 12pm - 9pm Saturday & Sunday. These times are on the basis of it being successful and thriving with lots of customers, it may take some time to be open 7 days a week, if ever. I would like to firstly put a stud wall in front of the sheeted structure wall then decorate the interior, with no change to the exterior except from a sign on the building. I need no machinery whatsoever, just some extra lighting and electrical sockets.

I plan on setting up 4 pool tables, 2 table tennis tables, air hockey, a shuffle board and 4 dart boards in separate areas of the units floor space, leaving enough space to have seating with tables for domino's, cards and board games or just general seating for customers comfort. I would also like to sell bar snacks and drinks. There is already a toilet and a secure office. There is a mezzanine where I plan on storing spare tables and equipment for back up. Outside the property is allocated parking for 8 vehicles, and also free parking for approx 60 cars within 100yds, and with only a maximum estimate of 25 people inside at any one time, is more than adequate for our customers who most would walk or cycle anyway. The location of this building would be excellent for the working men and women of the industrial estate to walk in straight from work, as well as the housing estates either side.

MALTON TOWN COUNCIL
CIVILITY & RESPECT
MODEL COUNCILLOR-OFFICER PROTOCOL

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Protocol is to guide Councillors and officers of the council in their relations with one another. The Protocol's intention is to build and maintain good working relationships between Councillors and officers as they work together. Employees who are required to give advice to Councillors are referred to as "officers" throughout.

A strong, constructive, and trusting relationship between Councillors and officers is essential to the effective and efficient working of the council.

This Protocol also seeks to reflect the principles underlying the Code of Conduct which applies to Councillors and the employment terms and conditions of officers. The shared objective is to enhance and maintain the integrity (real and perceived) of local government.

The following extract from the Local Government Association guidance on the 2020 Model Councillor Code of Conduct states that:

"Both Councillors and officers are servants of the public and are indispensable to one another. Together, they bring the critical skills, experience and knowledge required to manage an effective local authority.

At the heart of this relationship, is the importance of mutual respect. Councillor- officer relationships should be conducted in a positive and constructive way.

Therefore, it is important that any dealings between Councillors and officers should observe reasonable standards of courtesy, should show mutual appreciation of the importance of their respective roles and that neither party should seek to take unfair advantage of their position or seek to exert undue influence on the other party.

Councillors provide a democratic mandate to the local authority and are responsible to the electorate whom they represent. They set their local authority's policy framework, ensure that services and policies are delivered and scrutinise local authority services. Officers are appointed by the elected Members and are directly accountable to the Council.

Chairs and vice chairs of committees have additional responsibilities. These responsibilities will result in increased expectations and relationships with officers that are more complex. Such Councillors must still respect the impartiality of officers and must not ask them to undertake work of a party-political nature or compromise their position with other Councillors or other officers.

Officers provide the professional advice and managerial expertise and information needed for decision making by Councillors and to deliver the policy framework agreed by Councillors. They are responsible for implementing decisions of Councillors and the day-to-day administration of the local authority.

The roles are very different but need to work in a complementary way. It is important for both sides to respect these differences and ensure that they work in harmony. Getting that relationship right is an important skill. That is why the code requires Councillors to respect an officer's impartiality and

professional expertise. In turn officers should respect a Councillor's democratic mandate as the people accountable to the public for the work of the local authority.
It is also important for a local authority to have a Councillor-officer protocol which sets out how this relationship works and what both Councillors and officers can expect in terms of mutual respect and good working relationships."

This protocol covers:-
The respective roles and responsibilities of the Councillors and the officer;
Relationships between Councillors and officers;
Where/who a Councillor or an officer should go to if they have concerns;
Who is responsible for making decisions?

BACKGROUND
This Protocol is intended to assist Councillors and officers, in approaching some of the sensitive circumstances which arise in a challenging working environment.

The reputation and integrity of the council is significantly influenced by the effectiveness of Councillors and the officer working together to support each other's roles.

The aim is effective and professional working relationships characterised by mutual trust, respect and courtesy. Overly close personal familiarity between Councillors and officers is not recommended as it has the potential to damage this relationship.

ROLES OF COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS
The respective roles of Councillors and officers can be summarised as follows:
Councillors and officers are servants of the public and they are indispensable to one and other, but their responsibilities are distinct.
Councillors are responsible to the electorate and serve only for their term of office.
Officers are responsible to the council. Their job is to give advice to Councillors and to the council, and to carry out the council's work under the direction and control of the council and relevant committees.

COUNCILLORS
Councillors have five main areas of responsibility:

- To determine council policy and provide community leadership;
- To monitor and review council performance in implementing policies and delivering services;
- To represent the council externally; and
- To act as advocates for their constituents
- The Council to hold officers to account

All Councillors have the same rights and obligations in their relationship with the officer, regardless of their status and should be treated equally.

The primary responsibility for the day to day running of the Council lies with the proper officer.

In line with the Councillors' Code of Conduct, a Councillor must treat others with respect, must not bully or harass people and must not do anything which compromises, or is likely to compromise, the impartiality of those who work for, or on behalf of, the Council.

Officers can expect Councillors:

- to give strategic leadership and direction and to seek to further their agreed policies and objectives with the understanding that Councillors have the right to take the final decision on issues based on advice
- to act within the policies, practices, processes and conventions established by the council

- to work constructively in partnership with officers acknowledging their separate and distinct roles and responsibilities
- to understand and support the respective roles and responsibilities of officers and their associated workloads, pressures and reporting lines
- to treat them fairly and with respect, dignity and courtesy
- to act with integrity, to give support and to respect appropriate confidentiality
- to recognise that officers do not work under the instruction of individual Councillors or groups
- not to subject them to bullying, intimidation, harassment, or put them under undue pressure.
- to treat all officers, partners (those external people with whom the council works) and members of the public equally, and not discriminate based on any characteristic such as age, sex, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or religion.
- not to request officers to exercise discretion which involves acting outside the council's policies and procedures
- not to authorise, initiate, or certify any financial transactions or to enter into any contract, agreement or undertaking on behalf of the council or in their role as a Councillor
- not to use their position or relationship with officers to advance their personal interest or those of others or to influence decisions improperly
- to comply at all times with the Councillors' Code of Conduct, the law, and such other policies, procedures, protocols and conventions agreed by the council.
- respect the impartiality of officers and do not undermine their role in carrying out their duties
- do not ask officers to undertake work, or act in a way, which seeks to support or benefit a particular political party or gives rise to an officer being criticised for operating in a party-political manner
- do not ask officers to exceed their authority where that authority is given
- to be accountable to the council.

Chairs and vice-chairs of council and committees

Chairs and vice-chairs have additional responsibilities as delegated by the council. These responsibilities mean that they may have to have a closer working relationship with employees than other Councillors do. However, they must still respect the impartiality of officers and must not ask them to undertake work or anything else which would prejudice their impartiality.

Officers

The primary role of officers is to advise, inform and support all members and to implement the agreed policies of the council.

Officers are responsible for day-to-day managerial and operational decisions within the council, including directing and overseeing the work of any more junior officers.

In performing their role officers will act professionally, impartially and with neutrality. Whilst officers will respect a Councillor's view on an issue, the officer should not be influenced or pressured to make comments, or recommendations which are contrary to their professional judgement or views.

Officers must:

- implement decisions of the council and its committees which are lawful, which have been properly approved in accordance with the requirements of the law and are duly recorded. This includes respecting the decisions made, regardless of any different advice given to the council or whether the decision differs from the officer's view.
- work in partnership with Councillors in an impartial and professional manner
- treat Councillors fairly and with respect, dignity and courtesy
- treat all Councillors, partners and members of the public equally, and not discriminate based on any characteristic such as age, sex, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability or religion.
- assist and advise all parts of the council. Officers must always act to the best of their abilities in the best interests of the authority as expressed in the council's formal decisions.
- respond to enquiries and complaints in accordance with the council's standards protocol
- be alert to issues which are, or are likely to be, contentious or politically sensitive, and be aware of the implications for Councillors, the media or other sections of the public.
- act with honesty, respect, dignity and courtesy at all times

- provide support and learning and development opportunities for Councillors to help them in performing their various roles in line with the council's training and development policy
- not seek to use their relationship with Councillors to advance their personal interests or to influence decisions improperly
- comply, at all times, with the Officers' Code of Conduct, and such other policies or procedures approved by the council
- to be held accountable to the Council.

Officers have the right not to support Councillors in any role other than that of Councillor.

In giving advice to Councillors and in preparing and presenting reports, it is the responsibility of the officer to express his/her own professional views and recommendations.

An officer may report the views of individual Councillors on an issue, but the recommendation should be the officer's own. If a Councillor wishes to express a contrary view they should not pressurise the officer to make a recommendation contrary to the officer's professional view, nor victimise an officer for discharging his/her responsibilities.

There are exceptional circumstances where a Councillor can fulfil the role of officer, for example where there is a vacancy. This can only be done if the Councillor is not paid for the role and should only ever be short-term while the council seeks to fill a vacancy. There will need to be a particular clear understanding of when the Councillor is acting as a Councillor and when acting as the Proper Officer.

The Relationship

General Councillors and officers are indispensable to one another. However, their responsibilities are distinct. Councillors are accountable to the public, whereas officers are accountable to the council as a whole.

At the heart of this Protocol is the importance of mutual respect and also of civility. Councillor/officer relationships are to be conducted in a positive and constructive way.

Therefore, it is important that any dealings between Councillors and Officers should observe standards of courtesy and that neither party should seek to take unfair advantage of their position nor seek to exert undue influence on the other party.

Individual Councillors should not undermine majority decisions of the council, as this could then bring them into conflict with officers who have been charged with promoting and implementing the Council's collectively-determined course of action.

Councillors should not raise matters relating to the conduct or capability of an officer, or of officers collectively, in a manner that is incompatible with this Protocol at meetings held in public or on social media. This is a long-standing tradition in public service. An officer has no means of responding to criticisms like this in public.

A Councillor who is unhappy about the actions taken by, or conduct of, an officer should:

- avoid personal attacks on, or abuse of, the officer at all times
- ensure that any criticism is well founded and constructive
- ensure that any criticism is made in private or under exempt business at a members meeting
- take up the concern with the chair

Neither should an officer raise with a Councillor, matters relating to the conduct or capability of another Councillor or officer or to the internal management of the council in a manner that is incompatible with the objectives of this Protocol. Potential breaches of this Protocol are considered below.

Expectations

All Councillors can expect:

- A commitment from officers to the council as a whole, and not to any individual Councillor, group of Councillors or political group;
- A working partnership;
- Officers to understand and support respective roles, workloads and pressures;
- A timely response from officers to enquiries and complaints;
- Officer's professional and impartial advice, not influenced by political views or personal preferences;
- Timely, up to date, information on matters that can reasonably be considered appropriate and relevant to their needs, having regard to any individual responsibilities or positions that they hold;
- Officers to be aware of and sensitive to the public and political environment locally;
- Respect, courtesy, integrity and appropriate confidentiality from officers and other Councillors;
- Training and development opportunities to help them carry out their role effectively;
- Not to have personal issues raised with them by officers outside the council's agreed procedures;
- That officers will not use their contact with Councillors to advance their personal interests or to influence decisions improperly.

Officers can expect from Councillors:

- A working partnership;
- An understanding of, and support for, respective roles, workloads and pressures;
- Leadership and direction;
- Respect, courtesy, integrity and appropriate confidentiality;
- Not to be bullied or to be put under undue pressure;
- That Councillors will not use their position or relationship with officers to advance their personal interests or those of others or to influence decisions improperly;
- That Councillors will at all times comply with the council's adopted Code of Conduct.
- to be held accountable by the council

Some general principles
Close personal relationships between Councillors and officers can confuse their separate roles and get in the way of the proper conduct of council business, not least by creating a perception in others that a particular Councillor or officer is getting preferential treatment. Special relationships with particular individuals are not recommended as it can create suspicion that an employee favours that Councillor above others.

COUNCILLORS' ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND TO COUNCIL DOCUMENTS
Councillors are free to approach officers to provide them with such information, explanation and advice as they may reasonably need in order to assist them in discharging their role as members of the Council. This can range from a request for general information about some aspect of the council's activities to a request for specific information on behalf of a constituent. Such approaches should normally be directed to the Officer. The legal rights of Councillors to inspect council documents are covered partly by statute and partly by the common law.

The common law right of Councillors is based on the principle that any member has a prima facie right to inspect council documents so far as their access to the documents is reasonably necessary to enable the member properly to perform their duties as a member of the council. This principle is commonly referred to as the "need to know" principle.

The exercise of this common law right depends therefore upon the Councillor's ability to demonstrate that they have the necessary "need to know". In this respect a member has no right to "a roving commission" to go and examine documents of the council. Mere curiosity is not sufficient. The crucial question is the determination of the "need to know".

This question must be determined by the officer in the first instance, but can be challenged at a council meeting. In some circumstances (eg a committee member wishing to inspect documents relating to the functions of that committee) a Councillor's "need to know" will normally be presumed. In other circumstances (e.g. a Councillor wishing to inspect documents which contain personal information about third parties) a Councillor will normally be expected to justify the request in specific terms. Any council

information provided to a Councillor must only be used by the Councillor for the purpose for which it was provided i.e. in connection with the proper performance of the Councillor's duties as a member of the council.

For completeness, Councillors do, of course, have the same right as any other member of the public to make requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence between an individual Councillor and an officer should not normally be copied (by the officer) to any other Councillor, unless the Councillor agrees in advance, this should then be made clear to the original Councillor.

Official letters or emails on behalf of the council should normally be sent out under the name of the Mayor, Proper Officer or Deputy, rather than under the name of a Councillor. It may be appropriate in certain circumstances (e.g. representations to a Government Minister) for a letter or email to appear over the name of the chair. Letters or emails which create obligations or give instructions on behalf of the council should never be sent out in the name of a Councillor. Correspondence to individual Councillors from officers should not be sent or copied to complainants or other third parties if they are marked "confidential". In doing so, the relevant officer should seek to make clear what is to be treated as being shared with the Councillor in confidence only and why that is so.

PRESS AND MEDIA

Councils are accountable to their electorate. Accountability requires local understanding.

This will be promoted by the council, explaining its objectives and policies to the electors and customers. Councils use publicity to keep the public informed and to encourage public participation. The council needs to tell the public about the services it provides. Good effective publicity should aim to improve public awareness of the council's activities. Publicity is a sensitive matter in any political environment because of the impact it can have. Expenditure on publicity can be significant. It is essential to ensure that decisions on publicity are properly made in accordance with the Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority Publicity and the council's Media Protocol.

The officer may respond to press enquiries but should confine any comments to the facts of the subject matter and the professional aspects of the function concerned. On no account must an officer expressly or impliedly make any political opinion, comment or statement.

Any press release that may be necessary to clarify the council's position in relation to disputes, major planning developments, court issues or individuals' complaints should be approved by the officer. Any individual Councillor that makes a written statement on any media communication must make it clear that it is a personal view, rather than a council view.

The chair may act as spokespersons for the council in responding to the press and media and making public statements on behalf of the council but should liaise with the officer on all forms of contact with the press and media.

The council may also appoint individual Councillors as spokespeople where there is an area of particular expertise but this should only be done with the agreement of the council.

The council must comply with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1986 ("the Act") regarding publicity. All media relations work will comply with the national Code of Practice for Local Government Publicity. The Code is statutory guidance and the council must have regard to it and follow its provisions when making any decision on publicity.

The LGA has produced useful guidance on the Publicity Code:-

https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/short-guide-publicity-during-pre-election-period

For more detailed information and guidance regarding the role of Councillors in connection with the use of social media, reference should be made to the council's Social Media Protocol where there is one in place.

IF THINGS GO WRONG

Procedure for officers:
From time to time the relationship between Councillors and the officer (or other employees) may break down or become strained. Whilst it is always preferable to resolve matters informally, it is important that the council adopts a formal grievance protocol or procedure. The principal council's monitoring officer may be able to offer a mediation/conciliation role or it may be necessary to seek independent advice. The chair of the council should not attempt to deal with grievances or work-related performance or line management issues on their own. The council should delegate authority to the Staffing Committee to deal with all personnel matters.

The law requires all employers to have disciplinary and grievance procedures. Adopting a grievance procedure enables individual employees to raise concerns, problems or complaints about their employment in an open and fair way.

Where the matter relates to a formal written complaint alleging a breach of the Councillors' Code of Conduct the matter must be referred to the principal council's monitoring officer in the first instance in line with the Localism Act 2011. The council may however try to resolve any concerns raised informally before they become a formal written allegation.

Procedure for Councillors:
If a Councillor is dissatisfied with the conduct, behaviour or performance of the officer or another employee, the matter should be reported to the chair and then raised with the officer in the first instance. If the matter cannot be resolved informally, it may be necessary to invoke the council's disciplinary procedure.

Adopted 30th November 2022, Reviewed January 2026 (Next Review January 2029)

MALTON TOWN COUNCIL
REPORT TO COUNCIL – 28 JANUARY 2026
BROUGHTON – MALTON PATHS FOR EVERYONE

Background
Ryedale Environment Group's Paths for Everyone Project Team (REG P4E) are working towards completing the Broughton Bank Safer Path and connecting into Malton.

The project will require:-

(a) A new rolled stone path through the top of Spital Hill Plantation and along the inside of the existing road side hedge in the adjoining field.

(b) A North Yorkshire Council approved specification cycleway on the B1257 verge as far as the A64 bridge.

(c) A further cycleway to connect into Malton.

REG P4E previously applied and was successful to Ryedale District Council for Malton & Norton Infrastructure funds to support the Broughton Bank Safer Path. REG P4E have been delayed delivering this project due to not being able to obtain agreement to cross the road-side field. Malton Fitzwilliam Estate have now agreed to sell a strip of field, approximately quarter of an acre and a section of Spital Hill plantation which is a further quarter of an acre to a "local authority body" to enable the Broughton – Malton link to be completed.

North Yorkshire Council have confirmed that the previously approved funding is still available, but to ensure that the funding can be drawn down and not reallocated to another project, the funding agreement requires signing as soon as possible. REG P4E would really like to work in partnership with Malton Town Council to achieve the completion of the path.

There are some areas of the project that REG P4E are continuing to pursue and others which would benefit from assistance from Malton Town Council.

1. The Market Town Circular Paths for Everyone received some funding from the Area Constituency Committee for an inception study to look at possible route options of the 49 miles to join up the Ryedale Market towns and villages en-route. Having completed this study, the North Yorkshire Council Highways Transport Planning Officers are now able to assist REG P4E with arranging tenders for design work anywhere on this route, such as sections of the B1257 verge cycle way.
   REG P4E would like support for this in principle from Malton Town Council.

2. These land areas are the North East end of Spital Hill Plantation, to allow a gentle gradient path and also a 7m wide strip of field, inside the road-side hedge. The existing road-side hedge to be preserved and a parallel stock fence to be added, 7m in. This field strip width and plantation path gradient would be the minimum acceptable to North Yorkshire Council Countryside Access Service, should a Public Right of Way application be made for a new path, in the future.
Malton to consider taking on the ownership and the long-term management of the two quarter acre areas, the proposed stone path and the existing road side hedge and new stock fence. No cost to MTC for the purchase of the land and legal fees.

3. REG P4E already have a contractor arranged (Mike Hainsworth) who has the necessary skills to do the landscaping and path, on sloping, wooded terrain. Mike installed the sections of path on the PROW in Spital Hill Plantation and Broughton Green Lane in 2024.
   REG P4E would be happy to supervise Mike Hainsworth to install the path. This would include the landscape, initial hedge cutting and installing the fence. No cost to MTC

4. REG P4E have prepared a costs sheet for the Malton & Norton Infrastructure funds. This includes costs for land purchase, legal fees, all the works (a), (b) and (c). Keisha Moore, the Senior Transport Planning Officer is preparing the funding agreement to be signed by REG Trustees on behalf of Reg P4E.
   REG P4E are happy to share these details with Malton Town Council and to liaise with the Clerk on spending and record keeping.

5. The tenant farmers have indicated that a suitable mitigation might help them with a PROW diversion on a nearby field, so that they can keep walkers safe from cows.
   REG P4E would be happy to pursue this with North Yorkshire Council Countryside Access Service and to secure the necessary funding for the new fence, path surface and North Yorkshire Council PROW statutory fees.

Risks and increase to Malton Town Council resources

- Potential small increase in Public Liability Insurance
- MTC staff to cut the hedge once per year
- MTC to be responsible for the maintenance of the path going forward
- Council Officers to inspect the site on a weekly basis in line with other assets

FOR RECOMMENDATION

Members to consider taking on the ownership and long-term management of the two quarter acre areas of Broughton to Malton Paths For Everyone.

MALTON TOWN COUNCIL
REPORT TO COUNCIL – 28 JANUARY 2026
TOWN OF CULTURE 2028

The government is launching the first ever UK Town of Culture competition which aims to restore pride in communities. The competition delivers on the governments Plan for Change, driving local economic growth and opportunity.

Towns across the country can now apply to become the first UK Town of Culture, applications will be open until 31st March 2026 for Expressions of Interest.

With 11 weeks to apply, the competition is open to small, medium and large towns, with the winner delivering a vibrant cultural programme. Showcasing towns' local visions and voices - through new arts venues, performances, workshops and more - this competition brings local investment, creates a lasting sense of pride in towns, and opens doors to the arts for everyone.

Towns can submit their Expressions of Interest now and will be judged by on the way they'll tell their unique story, how they'll bring everyone in a community together, and how towns will deliver on their vision. The strongest bids will progress to a shortlist, with each shortlisted town receiving £60,000 to help deliver their full bids for the competition.

Three finalists - one small, one medium, one large town - will be chosen. The winner will be crowned UK Town of Culture 2028 and receive a £3 million prize. The two runners-up will each receive £250,000 to deliver elements of their bid, from refreshed community infrastructure to electric music festivals. The deadline for Expressions of Interest for UK Town of Culture 2028 is 31 March 2026, with the shortlist of towns being announced this Spring.

This follows the Pride in Place Programme, launched in November 2025 and provided up to £10 billion to support 244 towns across the country whose communities have been let down by decline and systematic under-investment. Under this scheme, communities will be able to spend the funding on what matters most to them - from improvements to pavements and high streets to investing in culture and green spaces.

The UK Town of Culture competition builds on the success of UK City of Culture, which has delivered transformative benefits for its four winners. Bradford, last year's title holder, is projected to benefit from £389 million in growth across the district, with city centre footfall up 25% during its year in the spotlight.

Applications for UK Town of Culture 2028 will be judged on three main criteria:

- Your story - the unique story of the town
- Culture for everyone - how the town will design a cultural programme for all
- Making it happen - how the town will then deliver a successful programme

FOR RECOMMENDATION

(i) That Malton Town Council submit an Expression of Interest prior to the deadline of 31st March 2026

(ii) That a small Working Group be set up to work on the submission, including the Clerk, a Councillor and representatives from key stakeholders and partner agencies