

Kirkby Lonsdale Town Team Meeting

12 January, 2026 at 17.30, at the Methodist Church, Kirkby Lonsdale

Minutes of meeting

Attendees

Mike Burchnall (Friends of Ruskin's view) Derek Houston (SL Area Manager), Laura Chapman (W&F- Economic Development), Karen Johnson (Community Cupboard), Robin Ree (Lunesdale Hall), Marie Batty (KL CIC), Kim Bradshaw (Chamber of Trade) Peter Gregson (Churches Together), Lyn Richardson (W&F- Community Development Team), Matt Kerlake (Sports and clubs), Jessica Broome (St Mary School), Lyn Richardson (Community Development Officer) Rachel Ward (KL Town Council)

Apologies received from: Robin Sadler (Chamber of Trade), David Waugh (QES Head)

1. Agreement of minutes from the last meeting (17th November) and matters arising.

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.

2. St Marys Christmas stall and Community Fair

St Mary's: 57 post it notes, and 16 completed questionnaires

Community Fair: 22 post it notes and a number of questionnaires taken away to be completed

3. Responses to questionnaire/QR code to date (online and via TIC)

Engagement with the QR codes has been significantly lower than anticipated.

Several potential reasons were identified:

- The consultation period remains open until the end of February, which may lead to residents delaying responses.
- There is a general perception that Kirkby Lonsdale is already a desirable place to live reducing the urgency to fix/develop or get involved.

4. Engagement and Consultation Programme

During February one to one session, local conversations, facilitated sessions (business and voluntary groups) and wider conversations (MP, Ward members, LDNP) to take place.

Continuation of surveys to town population and visitors.

The market stall sessions have been booked 5th and 12th March.

26th March, Lunesdale Hall, Feedback session 'This is what you said'.

5. Town Team members and organisations to be approached during late January and February

Capture all types of residents and how we are going to reach them. Names allocated as the best link. The lead person can help group decide if part of part of a regular meeting or something to be organised separately. Individuals and group/club perspectives welcome

Ask the 4 open questions and 14 scoring questions.

End date of consultation mid March

Resources available include the AO display board, FAQs and questionnaires. Spare questionnaires are to be held at the TIC

Action: JB Put in school newsletters to parents

6. Drop-in Session at Methodist Hall 22nd January

The drop in session will run from 3.30pm-8.00pm in the Methodist Hall.

Marie, Mike Peter and Karen have volunteered.

Action: Lyn R to send out rota and ask for volunteers

7. Consultation in villages/settlements around Kirkby

It was noted that other villages should be considered in the discussion, including Casterton, Barbon, Hutton Roof, Sedbergh, Mansergh and Cowan Bridge. A conversation took place about their relevance and most appropriate approach to engagement. It was agreed that the information would be shared at this stage via Parish Clerks and through AKL.

Action: Lyn R to email out to Parish Clerks

A further discussion was held regarding recent contact with Katharine Gatt (Age Friendly), who awards Dementia Friendly certificates. She is part of the Westmorland and Furness Partnership.

Action: MB TO Send Lyn R contact details for Katherine Gatt to follow up.

8. AKL article for February

The AKL is complete and will be confirmed once the meeting with Kirkby Lonsdale Town Council has taken place on Wednesday.

9. Finance update

Current expenditure £1,110.28 on design and questionnaires, banners, AO Boards and Stuart Brown up to May including website

£600 Lord Lieutenant Fund

£628.56 Arts society

Balance £118.28

The request to the Town Council is for £5,000

Running costs- Promotion, marketing,

Potential funders for future Project costs include Christopher Robin Trust and Wind Farms

The Bank Account is currently not set up due to the Co-operative Bank not being open to charities anymore. Decision made to open with Natwest.

10. AOB

8th Dec Laura and Ruth special mention of thanks for the Anniversary of Ben-very well delivered.

There will be road closures to reconnect gas, electric and water, permit 1st 4th March Closed to vehicles but open for pedestrians

Action: KB to put on Business WhatsApp group

11. Date and time of next meeting and programme of future meetings all at 5.30 – 7.00

- February- 9th February Methodist Church
- March- 9th March Methodist Church
- April- 13th Methodist Church