

Sowerby Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council on Thursday 12th March 2026 at 7.30pm in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall Annexe.

Present: Cllr M Robson, Chairman; Cllr P Bardon; Cllr S Bardon; Cllr T Beadle; Cllr Y Bowling; Cllr S Hoyland and Cllr C Snowden.

Also Present: Cllr Dan Sladden, North Yorkshire Council and Alexandra Robson, Clerk.

25/117 Members of the public to raise any items of importance (maximum of 10 minutes)

No members of the public present.

Cllr Robson offered congratulations to Honorary Citizen Jasmine Harrison, who has become the first British female to sail round the world in the MiniGlobe Race and councillors agreed that is a remarkable achievement.

25/118 To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest

It was resolved that apologies be received and accepted from Cllr A Jackson, Cllr A Turner and Cllr E Storm.

Cllr K Till was not present.

25/119 To approve and sign the minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on 12th February 2026

It was resolved that the minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on 12th February be approved

25/120 No report received from North Yorkshire Police

25/121 To receive a report from North Yorkshire Council (NYC) on items of relevance to Sowerby

- A meeting had taken place between Cllr Robson, 2 Street Scene Officers and Cllr Sladden. Some road sweeping had been done and the team had committed to asking the car owners to be moved to allow a thorough job to take place. Members requested that this was not scheduled for a Wednesday, as that is a bin collection day in Sowerby. Streetscene is not responsible for the gully cleaning now, which seems to be counterintuitive and no co-ordination between departments. Cllr Sladden suggested a similar meeting takes place with the Highways department.
- It was noted that some highways signage for footpath repairs had been inconsistent and incorrect - stating it would be a road closure - this will be fed into highways again. This work has been completed but it is not a good quality job, there are marks in it from footsteps and potholes were not filled so these have caused undulation. The entrance to the churchyard has not been done and neither has a stretch outside the old post office.
- The red lidded recycling bin pilot is underway but the rest of the village will not be receiving these bins until October 2027.
- Yellow lines have been repainted badly and missed along Green Lane East and on Topcliffe Road painting has been done inconsistently and missing patches of the road.
- Town End roundabout alignment will not be delivered this year or next year as the developer can't get a slot in the diary because of the ongoing roadworks.
- Cllr Sladden's Locality Budget donation to Sowerby Parish Council (SPC) was approved and thanks were offered to him for this.

25/122 To consider Planning Applications

appendix i

It was resolved that the Clerk will submit comments to the planning authority

25/123 Financial Matters

appendix ii

1. To Note Receipts

2. To Note and Approve Payments

It was resolved that receipts be noted and payments made

3. To consider the request for a donation to Thirsk & Sowerby Festival 2026 of £500

It was resolved that a £500 donation will be made

Signed

Chairman

Date

Sowerby Parish Council

25/124 To consider the NYC Parking Charges Decision and agree if Council wishes to make representation regarding this

It was resolved that the Clerk will write to NYC to request parking continues free for an hour and no charge in the evenings/Sundays

25/125 To consider a request for a bus shelter to be positioned on Gravel Hole Lane, served by Transdev Route 32

A request had been made for a bus shelter and the Clerk will look into the cost of this, investigate the requirements of NYC Highways and report back to a future meeting.

25/126 To update council on matters arising from minutes for information only

1. Parochial Hall entrance has been repaired, the ownership of this is with the landowner not the Parish Council.
2. Community Works request for partnerships had been circulated and members agreed it was appropriate to support them and deal with individual requests for information as required rather than via a formal agreement.
3. Thirsk School had a community garden in the past but this was sold. SPC doesn't have any land available for this project.

25/127 To receive correspondence for information only

1. A fence at the back of the allotments has had some damage reviewed and a goodwill gesture will be made to secure a post.
2. Council has been copied in on email to NYC regarding road issues.
3. A resident has complained about overgrown trees and bushes at land adjacent to The Limes. Cllr Robson will meet the resident to advise about ownership.

25/128 No reports from Committees and Organisational Representatives

25/129 Any other business that may be legally discussed

1. The York & North Yorkshire Mayor has announced that funding is available for the improvements to the accessibility of the train station but no time frame has been issued for this.
2. Land near Orchid House is subject to a number of rumours but no planning application has been received.
3. A road closure notice has been received for the railway bridge for Topcliffe Road on 4 weekends in July/August which causes an issue for transport getting fairground vehicles into Thirsk & Sowerby 10th Anniversary Festival.
4. The new Londis shop in Back Lane will open this weekend and the Chairman will open it.
5. The former Lambert Hospital is now receiving overnight residents in its end of life care facility.

25/130 To confirm the date of next meeting as Thursday 9th April 2026

It was resolved that the date of next meeting is Thursday 9th April 2026 at 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 20:15

Appendix i

Planning Applications

ZB26/00135/FUL Demolition of existing outbuilding; construction of conservatory to the rear of the property; and erection of railings and gate[s] to the front of the property to include Nr 146 Front Street and ZB26/00136/LBC Listed Building Consent for the demolition of existing outbuilding; construction of conservatory to the rear of the property; and erection of railings and gate[s] to the front of the property to include Nr 146 Front Street

148 Front Street Sowerby

It was resolved that Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application approved

ZB26/00194/CAT Work to fell 1 silver birch tree, 1 conifer tree, 1 chestnut, and 1 pear tree in a conservation area

Hollydene Topcliffe Road Sowerby

It was resolved that Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application approved

Signed

Chairman

Date