

Sowerby Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council on Thursday 14th November at 7.30pm in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall Annexe.

Present: Cllr M Robson, Chairman; Cllr P Bardon; Cllr G France; Cllr S Hoyland; Cllr A Jackson; Cllr C Snowden; Cllr E Storm; Cllr A Turner and Cllr K Till.

Also Present: One member of the public; Cllr D Sladden, North Yorkshire Councillor (NYC) and Alexandra Robson, Clerk.

24/071 Members of the public to raise any items of importance
No matters raised.

24/072 To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest
It was resolved that apologies be received and accepted from Cllr T Beadle and Cllr Y Bowling

24/073 To approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10th October 2024
It was resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 10th October 2024 be approved

24/074 To receive a report from North Yorkshire Police
A Report from North Yorkshire Police had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

24/075 To receive a report from North Yorkshire Council on items of relevance to Sowerby
Cllr Sladden had shared a report in advance of the meeting. Several items have been addressed since the last meeting. Cllr France noted that some locality budget is available and the Town Hall Secretary will contact Cllr Sladden about this.

24/076 To consider Planning Applications appendix i
It was resolved that the Clerk will feed back comments to the planning authority

24/077 To consider the council's response to the NYC Electoral Review
Cllr France made a verbal statement regarding this matter and requested that the Parish Council make an official comment on the review. It was agreed that there are not sufficient Councillors to efficiently represent the electorate.
It was resolved that a statement will be submitted noting the impact this will have on Sowerby and Topcliffe

24/078 Financial Matters

1. To Note Receipts
2. To Note and Approve Payments

The Local Government Pay Award had been confirmed at a flat rate of £1,290 full time equivalent which will be applied to the Clerks salary, backdated to April 2024.

It was noted that the play area inspections cost had been reduced this year.

It was resolved that receipts be noted and payments made

3. To consider and agree budget and precept requirements for 2025/2026

A budget had been prepared by the Clerk, based on expenditure in 2024/2025 and anticipated costs in 2025/2026.

Consideration was given to:

- Increased grass cutting costs on Topcliffe Road

Signed
Chairman
Date

Sowerby Parish Council

- Potential tree works
- Village roadway works

An increase of £15,000 was agreed which will equate to 5.32% on a Band D property or £2.76 per year.

It was resolved unanimously that the precept for 2025 2026 will be set at £130,000

24/079 To update council on matters arising from minutes for information only

- 24/062 2 a 40MPH consultation had concluded and a draft order had been received for changes on Topcliffe Road.
- A letter from Highways had been received regarding the leaf traps on Front Street, which are not due to be cleaned again until 2026. It was considered that this type of response is infuriating as NYC departments should be referring these matters to each other and not expecting the Parish Council to inspect gullies. Cllr Sladden will look into this.
- Comments from a NYC Parish Liaison Officer via YLCA had been circulated to councillors following their meeting, which Cllr Robson attended.
- A planning meeting had taken place with P Jones, NYC and, whilst the planning team are under pressure as they have limited staff, examples were given of issues affecting SPC and this is being looked into by P Jones.
- Cllr Jackson suggested that three new trees be positioned in the area near Packhorse Bridge, recommending a Red Oak, Scots Pine and Liriodendron tulipifera in a minimum size of 20l pot and fenced up with rabbit guards. This will be organised by the Clerk within the planting season.

24/080 To receive correspondence for information only

1. A request for a donation has been received from Christmas In Thirsk and a £500 donation will be arranged and ratified at the next meeting.
2. The Play Area Reports will be considered at the December meeting.
3. A presentation regarding Cod Beck will be received at the December meeting.
4. Feedback on Traffic Management had been received from a member of Thirsk Town Council and this will be covered at a Remembrance Event feedback meeting.
5. Consideration will be given to naming Honorary Citizens at the December meeting.

24/081 To receive reports from Committees and Organisational Representatives

1. Cllr France noted that a trial of a heating panel had been put in the Town Hall to review its effectiveness.
2. Cllr Snowden advised that he had stepped down from his role as a trustee at Community Works. Thanks were offered to Cllr Snowden for the time he has spent as a trustee in this organisation.

24/082 Any other business that may be legally discussed

Thanks were offered to all Parish Councillors who volunteered to support the road closures, along with the Rotary and Thirsk Town Council Volunteers. The Clerk requested that any councillor feedback be shared with her so this could be acted upon. Cllr Turner echoed that there had been the best attendance yet at Remembrance, however the PA system needs to be more substantial, as it is not reaching as far as the crowds go and the Clerk will look into this for 2025.

24/083 To confirm the date of next meeting as Thursday 12th December 2024

It was resolved that the next meeting will be Thursday 12th December 2024 at 19:30

The meeting closed at 20:40

Signed
Chairman
Date

Sowerby Parish Council

Appendix i Planning

Applications

22/02678/FUL Installation of drainage headwall to Cod Beck and associated drainage (retrospective)

Land Between Cod Beck And Bankside Close Caravan Site York Road Thirsk North Yorkshire

Councillors feel that the issues raised which caused them to withdraw support have not yet been addressed.

It was resolved that Sowerby Parish Council wishes to see this application refused

ZB24/02014/FUL Application for replacement garden room and internal and external alterations

98 Front Street Sowerby Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1JJ

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

ZB24/02015/LBC Application for Listed Building Consent for replacement garden room and internal and external alterations.

98 Front Street Sowerby Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1JJ

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

ZB24/02037/MRC Application to modify condition 2 (approved plans) - widen the approved walkway from 6.4m to 19.2m for previously approved reference 18/00338/FUL

Thirsk Garden Centre Blakey Lane Sowerby Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 3AB

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

ZB24/01969/FUL Application for proposed works to replace three existing PVC windows to sash windows

17 Mowbray Place Sowerby Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1RF

Councillors were pleased to see wooden windows being put into the property.

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

ZB24/02017/FUL Single-storey extension to rear of existing dwelling

4 Kings Gardens Sowerby Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1NP

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

ZB24/01905/FUL External envelope upgrade including re-roofing, re-rendering, and replacement windows

North Yorkshire And York PCT 6 Chapel Street Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1LU

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

Signed
Chairman
Date