

Sowerby Parish Council

**Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council held at
Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall Annexe on
Thursday 14th May 2026 at 19:30**

Present: Cllr M Robson; Cllr P Bardon; Cllr T Beadle; Cllr Y Bowling; Cllr A Jackson; Cllr C Snowden; Cllr E Storm; Cllr K Till.
Also Present: Alexandra Robson, Clerk.

26/009 Members of the public to raise any items of importance (maximum of 10 minutes)
No members of the public were present.

26/010 To receive apologies for absence

It was resolved that apologies be received and accepted from Cllr S Bardon; Cllr A Turner and Cllr S Hoyland
Cllr D Sladden, North Yorkshire Council, (NYC) also offered apologies for the meeting.

26/011 To approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 8th April 2026
It was resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 8th April 2026 be approved

26/012 To receive report from North Yorkshire Police

Members noted that they would have appreciated a report, even if a representative was not present.
Electric bikes are still an issue on the pavements and councillors wondered how many of these had been confiscated.
The Clerk will raise this with the Police.

26/013 To receive a report from North Yorkshire Council on items of relevance to Sowerby

Cllr Robson advised that no report had been received from Cllr Sladden. He expressed disappointment, noting that this was particularly regrettable given this evening was the Parish Annual Meetings.

Cllr Robson further referred to comments made by Cllr Dadd, who had stated that North Yorkshire Council was “the envy of many councils across the country.” He observed that concerns raised at the time of the transition to a Unitary Authority now appeared to be reflected in current outcomes and that he did not anticipate any reversal of the situation in the near future.

Members raised concerns regarding the effectiveness and responsiveness of NYC. It was noted that processes were often slow and that service outcomes did not always align with local needs. Members commented that the authority appeared to operate with limited accountability and that there seemed to be little incentive for timely or efficient delivery of services.

Members also questioned whether NYC councillors were fully aware of residents’ priorities. Reference was made to a number of routine but important matters—such as potholes, roadside weed growth, drainage and gully maintenance, and recent changes to waste collection services—which were felt to contribute to public dissatisfaction. Concerns were expressed regarding the perceived inefficient use of public funds and a growing sense of disengagement between the authority and local communities.

26/014 Planning Applications

see appendix i

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

Signed
Chairman
Date

Sowerby Parish Council

26/015 Financial Matters

Receipts

To Note and Approve Payments

see appendix ii

It was resolved that payments be made and receipts noted

26/016 To update council on matters arising from minutes for information only

The Clerk had looked into the provision of a Bus Stop, covered in minute reference 25/125. Councillors felt that the cost of this was not reflective of the benefit and it will not be given further consideration at this stage.

26/017 To receive correspondence for information only

1. A response had been received from Cllr M Taylor regarding the NYC proposal to align parking charges in the former Hambleton area.
2. No further information had been seen about the launch of the Cod Beck project.
3. A resident had requested a dropped kerb at the entrance to the Sports Village but Councillors noted that there is one, just past the car park entrance and the resident will be advised.
4. There has been damage to the church wall and the Vicar has been advised that this will need planning permission.
5. A resident has complained that the lights on Cedar Road and Fir Tree Drive are not working, this has been fed into NYC.

26/018 To receive items for the next meeting agenda

1. Play Area Opening and Closing.
2. Sowerby Children's Gala - Closure of the account and allocation of surplus funds for the benefit of children.

26/019 To confirm the date of next meeting as Thursday 11th June 2026

It was resolved that the date of next meeting will be Thursday 11th June 2026 at 19:00

The meeting closed at 20:15

Signed
Chairman
Date

Sowerby Parish Council

Appendix i Planning

ZB26/00820/FUL Application for the demolition of existing garage, conservatory and extension with new two storey side and rear extension and alterations

13 Admirals Court, Sowerby

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

ZB26/00658/FUL Application for proposed part demolition, extensions and alterations to existing dwelling to form additional ground and first floor accommodation. Proposed detached garage/domestic workshop to rear with attic storage.

Hollydene Topcliffe Road Sowerby

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

ZB26/00524/FUL Application for refurbishment of windows from Single glazed to double glazed heritage style units
44 Topcliffe Road Sowerby Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1RB

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

ZB26/00595/FUL Application for proposed single storey and two storey rear extension.

22 Kings Gardens Sowerby

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

ZB26/00560/CAT Application for works to a tree in a Conservation Area. T1 Oak Tree -Reduce the spread of the lower two thirds of the canopy by 2.5m

48 Topcliffe Road Sowerby

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

Signed
Chairman
Date