

Sowerby Parish Council

**Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council held on
Thursday 10th October at 7.30pm in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall Annexe.**

Present: Cllr M Robson, Chairman; Cllr P Bardon, Cllr Y Bowling; Cllr A Jackson; Cllr C Snowden; Cllr A Turner and Cllr K Till.

Also Present: 4 members of the public; Cllr D Sladden, North Yorkshire Councillor (NYC) and Alexandra Robson, Clerk.

24/058 Members of the public to raise any items of importance (maximum of 10 minutes)

- Several residents had attended regarding the consultation of a 40MPH proposal which will be covered under 24/062.
- A representative of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) offered reassurance that the recent certificate of lawful use for car parking confirms the status quo since at least 2007. No changes are expected and good relations are vital for the PCC with its neighbours. It was also noted that the churchyard will become full within 9 years. Cllr Robson confirmed that the responsibility for a closed churchyard would initially fall to the principal authority, which is NYC.

24/059 To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest

It was resolved that apologies be received and accepted from Cllr T Beadle; Cllr G France; Cllr S Hoyland and Cllr E Storm

24/060 To approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12th September 2024

It was resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12th September 2024 be approved

24/061 To receive report from North Yorkshire Police

No representative was present and no report had been received.

A vehicle brought to the attention of the police has been looked into by local officers and the issue has been resolved.

24/062 To receive a report from North Yorkshire Council on items of relevance to Sowerby

1. Cllr Sladden had provided a report in advance of the meeting. He noted the ongoing Boundary Commission Review and suggested it is unlikely that there will be any change in the Sowerby and Topcliffe Ward. Councillors felt that this is a significant use of time and resources, unnecessarily, at the cost of the taxpayer given the reduction will be by one councillor only.
2. A consultation has been received requesting Parish Council comments on the proposed reduction to 40mph on the south of Topcliffe Road between Aldi and the railway bridge. A resident read a short statement endorsing this proposal and being hopeful that a restriction will improve the current situation. Residents also expressed concern for pedestrians and cyclists using that area to walk or exercise, as modern vehicles are quiet and move too quickly. SPC are in full support of this and wish for the signage to be located at the Topcliffe side of the railway bridge, ideally where the construction signage was put during the gateway development. A request was made for rumble strips on the entry into the 40mph section and SPC will contact NYC to request the mobile vehicle signage (MVAS) locations to be increased so it can be used along this stretch of road, once the restriction is imposed.
3. Cllr Robson noted that the works on Topcliffe Road and Town End have not been done and is concerned that NYC is not making these a priority. Cllr Sladden advised that a number of items are outstanding for the gateway development, which are part of the S106 agreement and he is pushing for these to be completed as soon as possible.
4. A response had been circulated regarding Thirsk School intake and capacity. The school is not full and there is capacity currently. Cllr Jackson still feels that the environment has not been improved sufficiently to accommodate the needs of families in Sowerby and the expected influx of new families from the gateway development. SPC cannot influence this situation but will ask Cllr Sladden to monitor it.

Signed
Chairman

Sowerby Parish Council

5. Cllr Sladden will report the following to NYC:

- leaf traps are full on Front Street
- significant weed growth on Topcliffe Road
- pathways along the west side of Front Street in a state of disrepair
- bollards outside entrance to the Limes which are damaged

24/063 To consider Planning Applications

appendix i

It was resolved that the Clerk will feed comments into the planning authority

Comments sent in to the planning authority had not been actioned, but had just been copied word for word onto the planning portal. A meeting is scheduled for 17th October with planning officers and these types of matters will be raised.

24/064 To discuss and agree replacement trees needed for Worlds End green space

Cllr Jackson will send some suggestions to the Clerk to be ordered.

24/065 Financial Matters

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

It was resolved that payments be made and receipts noted

It was confirmed that donations to the Citizens Advice Bureau and Friends of Sowerby Primary have been made

3. To Note the Conclusion of the External Audit

It was noted that the external audit had been concluded, with no “except for” matters and the Clerk has published the notice of conclusion.

24/066 To update council on matters arising from minutes for information only

Re 24/045 Blood Donor Sessions will continue in Thirsk Town Hall, some additional dates will be held at Thirsk Racecourse.

Works to the village roadways have been completed, further areas will be reviewed as previously noted.

24/067 To receive correspondence for information only

A letter had been received from a young resident regarding the use of the Skate Park and the potential for improvements in this area. This area of land belongs to NYC and SPC have no control over this but the Clerk will thank the young person for this and advise that it has been picked up by Cllr Sladden.

24/068 To receive reports from Committees and Organisational Representatives

- Improved heating provision needs to be investigated for the Town Hall Main Hall and this is underway.

24/069 Any other business that may be legally discussed

- Boundary Commission Review comments from councillors on the next agenda.
- Dalton Road speeding can the limit be reviewed from the entrance to the tip to Black Planting - Cllr Sladden will raise this. Reliance Buses are not driving to the condition of the road.
- Some parts to repair items in the play area have been ordered.

24/070 To confirm the date of next meeting as Thursday 14th November 2024

The meeting closed at 20:35

Signed
Chairman

Sowerby Parish Council

Appendix i Planning

Applications

ZB24/01839/CAT Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area.

Howebridge 5 Blakey Lane

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

ZB24/01847/FUL Proposed alterations and extensions to the rear of existing dwelling.

Reed Cottage 38 Back Lane Sowerby

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

ZB24/01528/FUL To replace front soft wood single glazed bow window

53A Front Street Sowerby

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

ZB24/01861/FUL Single-storey replacement rear extension , enlargement of the rear dormer windows, front stone wall replaced with low brick wall and iron railings, replacement front door awning. Replacement of all windows with uPVC heritage windows

70 Front Street Sowerby

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

ZB24/01777/FUL Retrospective application for storage of spoil

Econ

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

Signed
Chairman