

Sowerby Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting 11th February 2021 held by Zoom

Present: Cllrs Robson, Bardon, Beadle, France, Jackson, Gray, Hannan, Hoyland, Snowden and Storm.

Also Present: One member of the public, Cllr Bob Baker and the Clerk, Alexandra Little

Cllr Robson advised participants of the process the meeting will take, via Zoom.

1. No members of the public were present
2. No apologies for absence were received. Cllr Turner was not present.
3. **It was resolved that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 10th December 2020 be approved. These were proposed by Cllr Beadle, seconded by Cllr Gray and accepted unanimously.**
4. A North Yorkshire Police report was received and circulated in advance of the meeting.
 - a. Councillors requested that the Police look into the speeding of lorries attending the site on Topcliffe Road

It was resolved that the Clerk send this request to North Yorkshire Police

5. County Council Matters:
 - a. Cllr Baker updated members on the drain issues on Topcliffe Road which will be dealt with in the current/next financial year as the initial costs substantially underestimated. Cllr Bardon reminded the council that it is now three years since this was reported and wanted to record his disappointment that this has not been resolved.
 - b. Gritting is ongoing due to the weather. Cllr Snowden asked why the bus route past the Crown and Anchor is not gritted and Cllr Baker advised that it is a priority 2 road not a priority 1, so is not on the current gritting programme. This is reviewed annually.
 - c. No further updates have been received on the bus route from the Gateway. Cllr Hoyland asked that the Parish Council be consulted on the operation and areas this will cover.
 - d. A NYCC Council Tax rise will be approved at their Full Council for the financial year 2021/2022.
 - e. Cllr Baker offered praise to HDC for the fast and efficient payout of the COVID grants.
6. District Council Matters:
 - a. Cllr Bardon advised the council that the planning consultative panel is meeting fortnightly. The work at the Leisure Centre is underway and he reiterated the necessity for keeping the car park closed for residents' safety. Cllr Bardon concurred that COVID grants have been issued in swift time.
 - b. Cllr Robson advised the following:
 - i. A water attenuation tank is being fitted to the Leisure Centre car park which also means its important to keep it closed.
 - ii. Cabinet met on 9th February and there was a review of budgets and long term strategy. HDC now has a four year strategy, given the uncertainty of local government reorganisation.
 - iii. HDC have a £6 million deficit in COVID spend and have recouped £1.2 million from central government so far.
 - iv. Council Tax will not increase in HDC for the coming year due to the impact of COVID.
 - v. There has been no further update on the Unitary proposal. Cllr France questioned the election timescales but Cllr Robson advised that a decision has not been made yet.

Signed
Date

Chairman

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Cllr Hoyland asked whether social media/press had been used to cover the reasons for the car park closure. This had been done centrally by the HDC team.

A discussion took place regarding Covid Figures for HDC which are consistently high, despite lockdown. Cllr Robson noted that the figures fluctuate daily and he looks at the figures weekly to get a more consistent number.

7. Matters Arising from the minutes:

- a. Damage on the sports track will be repaired and options to control use by dog owners are being looked into. Cllr Beadle wished to offer thanks to the Dog Warden for the excellent work he is doing.
- b. A road marking issue was fed to Area 2 Highways department.
- c. Town End works are delayed as a result of Taylor Wimpey not delivering what and when they should be, despite reassuring Cllr Robson that all was in place for this work. County Council is not at fault in this case, as no road management plans have been put in. Cllr Robson is looking at the full list of Taylor Wimpey compliance to ensure they are delivering the items they should. Also works orders have to be granted by NYCC and with Station Road to be resurfaced, work on York Road, Blakey Lane to Front Street it will be difficult to get a slot.
- d. HDC Making a Difference grant fund as closed and the panel for Thirsk meets on 2nd March, the fund is heavily oversubscribed.
- e. The speed matrix has been repositioned the other way on Gravel Hole Lane.
- f. The vacant allotment has been let to the next person on the waiting list.

8. The provision of laptops, tablets and internet connectivity devices to pupils in school within the parish was discussed. This is a result of an appeal from two of the primary schools. Cllr Hoyland felt this was a positive thing to support if it is an issue for our schools and much discussion took place regarding the appropriateness of the Parish Council donating to this appeal.

It was resolved that the Parish Council will not be making a donation to this appeal

It was resolved that the Chairman would contact the MP to find out if/why there is an issue here with these items

9. Planning Applications

Applications dealt with between meetings were ratified.

New planning applications were discussed and decisions noted.

see appendix i

It was resolved that the Clerk feedback comments to the planning department

10. Financial Matters

- a. Receipts and Payments

see appendix ii

It was resolved that all receipts were noted and payments be approved

11. Correspondence

Emails have been circulated during the time since the last meeting and no further action necessary

- A resident has written regarding the use of verges for skips and caravans on Kings Meadows. This has been fed into Broadacres, as this is their land although the grass is cut by the Parish Council.
- A letter has been received from the library requesting some support with funding. Cllr France advised that the library wants to buy proper equipment for recording stories being read. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.
- Artwork - a proposition has been made for gateway artwork and this was circulated to councillors.
- An overgrown hedge on Back Lane has been reported to the Footpaths Officer.

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- Kerbstones on Belgrave Terrace have been reported to enforcement at HDC.
- The Grass Cutting contribution has been received from the Flatts Preservation Trust.

12. Reports from Sub Committees

- a. The Town Hall report has been circulated to councillors. Internet provision is now in place in each room at the Hall and thanks were offered to Cllr Baker for his help via the locality budget for this.
- b. Cllr Snowden reported some Community Works trustee changes. The Chief Officer will be sending a news release to update on the use of the Lottery Coronavirus Grant which has been used to maintain the essential services during lockdown.

13. Any other business

- a. Wild Flower Seeds will be provided to Cllr Gray to sow on the paddock on Blakey Lane and the grass cutting will need to be suspended.
- b. Cllr Beadle advised that a resident has asked if it is possible to do something outside of cinema and CB Furnishings to aid visibility. This will be passed to the highways team.
- c. Cllr France noted a resident had slipped at the end of Front Street and asked if there was a specific route for gritting. Cllr Robson advised that there is not a prescribed route but that the school routes are a priority including one side of Green Lane East, Topcliffe Road, Front Street then Flatts Walk along the play area to the cinema and any additional areas that are well used by pedestrians. This is reviewed regularly.
- d. Cllr France noted that the hedge on the footpath between Croft Heads and Back Lane has got out of hand. This will be passed on to the Footpaths Officer for review.

14. Date of next meeting: Thursday 11th March 2021 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.04pm

Signed
Date

Chairman

Appendix i Planning

January Between Meeting Applications

Application	Details	Location	Parish Council Comments
21/00106/FUL	Part retrospective change of use of land from B1 and B2 Use to B1 (Class E), B2 and B8 Use (For Storage of Caravans)	Land North East Of Mile House York Road Thirsk	The Parish Council wish to see this application approved.
21/00073/FUL	Construction of a detached domestic garage with covered terrace	68 Topcliffe Road Sowerby YO7 1RT	The Parish Council wish to see this application approved.
21/00011/CAT	Proposed works to a tree in a Conservation Area - remove Conifer tree	19 Sowerby Road Sowerby YO7 1HU	The Parish Council wish to see this application approved.
20/02610/FUL	Alterations and single storey extension to the side of the dwelling	25 Admirals Court Sowerby	The Parish Council wish to see this application approved.
20/02745/CAT	Works to Trees in a Conservation Area	Howebridge 5 Blakey Lane Sowerby	The Parish Council wish to see this application approved, but would request that the applicant replaces some of the felled trees appropriately.
20/02822/FUL	Rear and side single storey extension	12 Carlton Avenue Sowerby YO7 1RJ	The Parish Council wish to see this application approved but would have preferred to see a tiled pitched roof on the rear and side single story extension as this would be more in keeping with the surrounding properties.

February Applications

21/00202/FUL Conversion of car port into habitable space
18 Swan Way Sowerby North Yorkshire YO7 3SN WTSA

21/00025/LBC Listed Building Consent for part removal of internal wall between the kitchen and sitting room at basement level to form an archway and installation of steel supporting beam
49 Front Street Sowerby North Yorkshire YO7 1JQ WTSA

21/00198/CAT Proposed works to a tree in a Conservation Area - Conifer (T1)
20 Mowbray Place Sowerby North Yorkshire YO7 1RF WTSA

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Decisions

20/01109/FUL 33 Victoria Avenue Sowerby North Yorkshire YO7 1QX Construction of extension to the rear of the property, to include French doors and roof light	Granted
20/01638/FUL The construction of a 69 bedroom care home (C2) with associated amenity areas, a 100 place children's day nursery with associated play space, 8 care home staff apartments and 39 car parking spaces.Land South East Of Cocked Hat Farm Topcliffe Road Sowerby	Granted
20/01136/FUL Construction of petrol filling station Land Adjacent To Oakfield York Road Thirsk	Granted
20/02446/FUL Proposed alterations and first floor extension to side of existing dwelling. 78 Topcliffe Road Sowerby	Granted
20/02819/FUL To convert single integral garage into utility room and sitting area / playroom. 12 Freemans Way Thirsk North Yorkshire	Granted
20/02600/FUL Extension and alterations to existing dwelling. 11 Mowbray Place Sowerby	Granted
20/02745/CAT Works to Trees in a Conservation Area. Howebridge 5 Blakey Lane Sowerby	Granted
20/01828/FUL Formation of 2no off road parking spaces and new vehicle highway access to the front garden of the dwellings. Flats 1, 2 & 3 1 Mowbray Terrace	Refused

Signed
Date

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