

# Sowerby Parish Council

## Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting 11th March 2021 held by Zoom

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

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

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

1. No members of the public present.
2. No apologies for absence were received.
3. Minutes of the ordinary meeting Thursday 11th February 2021

**It was resolved that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 11th February 2021 be approved, with a minor amendment. These were proposed by Cllr Beadle seconded by Cllr France and accepted unanimously.**

4. A North Yorkshire Police report was received and circulated in advance of the meeting.
5. County Council Matters:
  - a. Cllr Baker updated that NYCC council tax will be increased by 2.99%. County Council elections have been postponed given the Unitary discussion.
6. District Council Matters:
  - a. Cllr Bardon advised that the planning panel continues to meet to keep applications moving.
  - b. Cllr Robson advised the following:
    - i. It was confirmed at Full Council that HDC will not increase council tax in the coming year.
    - ii. Consultation for reorganisation is underway, local elections and Police, Fire and Crime will go ahead.
    - iii. The Leisure Centre work is well underway and some truck movements are to be expected. Cllr Hoyland noted that the barrier on the side of the beck seems to be irrelevant. Cllr Robson advised that the barrier is necessary for health and safety reasons..
7. Matters Arising from the minutes:
  - a. Building of 97 affordable houses at the Gateway is about to start and the spine road is expected to be finished this month.
  - b. Cllr Robson has a meeting in March regarding the Sports Village maintenance and options are being discussed to cover use of the site by dog owners. Cllr Gray mentioned some large gravel being placed near the track to tackle an area of flooding issue and these have gone onto the track. Cllr France noted that users are accessing from the side of the school. This is also used by the waste collection vehicle.
  - c. Town End works and those in town near Biancos have been delayed, Cllr Robson has also asked that the disruption of this work not be undertaken when the town is busy in the summer. Cllr Hoyland asked if the collapsed drain at Town End will be dealt with at the same time. Cllr Robson expects not and that the Clerk will check with NYCC.
  - d. MAD grants will be confirmed in April
  - e. The vacant allotment has been cleaned up and reallocated and is already in use. The lock and keys for the allotments have been replaced.
  - f. The reply from K Hollinrake MP had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

Signed  
Date

Chairman

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- g. Enforcement had visited the site at Belgrave Terrace and that the resident has been given the opportunity to apply for planning permission.
- h. Blakey Lane flower seeds have been sown and that a path will be cut at the appropriate time.

8. To discuss and agree the Parish Council response to the government consultation on Unitary Authority. Cllr Robson reiterated his view that HDC deliver excellent services for their residents and that the Unitary proposal should not proceed. There was concern from councillors that the Unitary consultation has not been fair and that the option to leave things as they are is not available on the consultation document.

**It was resolved that the Parish Council wish to see the current structure left in place and do not support either option for local government reorganisation. The Clerk will write to the Secretary of State to advise of this.**

9. To consider admission of a person to be honorary freeman/woman under Local Government Act 1972 section 249 (5).

Discussion took place regarding the remarkable achievement of Jasmine Harrison, as she became the youngest female to row solo 3000 miles across the Atlantic. She has also raised over £19,000 for charity. Congratulations and praise for this accomplishment were offered on behalf of Sowerby Parish Council. Cllr Robson proposed that Jasmine Harrison be admitted as honorary freewoman of Sowerby Parish, this was seconded by Cllr Turner and approved unanimously. Cllr Baker was not able to vote but wished to add his support in recognition of this fantastic achievement.

**It was resolved that Jasmine Harrison be admitted as honorary freewoman of Sowerby Parish and that a celebration event be organised between the Parish Council and Thirsk Town Council at a time to suit Miss Harrison.**

### 10. Planning Applications

New planning applications were discussed and decisions noted. see appendix i

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

### 11. Financial Matters

- a. Receipts and Payments see appendix ii
- b. No receipts to note.

**It was resolved that all payments be approved**

- c. To consider a donation to Thirsk Community Library. Cllr France explained that this is to be used to purchase recording equipment. Cllr Robson proposed a donation of £500 be made, this was seconded by Cllr Hoyland and agreed unanimously.

**It was resolved that a donation of £500 be made to Thirsk Community Library**

### 12. Correspondence

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

### 13. Reports from Sub Committees

- a. The Town Hall entrance has been redecorated and the LED lights are being installed currently. Cllr France offered thanks to Cllr Robson for tiling the floor well in the entrance. NHS have used the building to continue a children's vaccination programme and the hall plans to reopen from 12th April for allowable activities.

Signed  
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#### 14. Any other business

- a. Cllr France offered thanks to Cllr Snowden and his wife on behalf of the council for cleaning the new benches at the Cenotaph regularly.
- b. Cllr France also wished thanks to be offered to the dog walkers and other residents who are litter picking around the village. Cllr Hoyland added that the local Friends of the Earth group have been litter picking in the area recently and thanks were also offered to them.
- c. Cllr Beadle wished to comment that the new HDC street scene operative is doing an excellent job and takes time to chat to residents.
- d. A picnic bench at the play area is in need of replacement so the clerk will organise an alternative.
- e. The steps to the slide have been removed as they were rotten and dangerous. A quote has been requested and any remedial work will be considered.

#### 15. Date of next meeting: Thursday 8th April 2021 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed  
Date

Chairman

## Appendix i Planning

21/00434/FUL

Proposed Internal Alterations including Extensions to rear (north) Elevation.

7 Mowbray Place Sowerby North Yorkshire YO7 1RF

21/00407/FUL

Replacement of Ground Floor Bay Window and First Floor Window with Traditional Timber Effect Sliding Sash Windows. Replacement of Front Door with Traditional Timber Effect Composite Door.

12 Victoria Avenue Sowerby North Yorkshire YO7 1QX

21/00389/CCC

Erection of a single storey extension (68 square metres) and installation of perimeter path (9 square metres)

Thirsk School And Sixth Form College Topcliffe Road Sowerby North Yorkshire YO7 1RZ

21/00394/TPO

Application for works to a tree subject to a tree Preservation Order 13/00001/TPO2 - Walnut Tree. Crown reduction of 2metres.

16 South Terrace Sowerby North Yorkshire YO7 1RH

21/00268/FUL

Change of use of building from educational and training to use as a veterinary surgery and replacement of a window with a door on the side elevation and installation of flue to serve the new boiler

Thirsk Farmers Auction Mart Thirsk Rural Business Centre Blakey Lane Sowerby North Yorkshire YO7 3AB

**It was resolved that Sowerby Parish Council wishes to see these applications approved**

Signed

Date

Chairman