

Sowerby Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council
on Thursday 13th February 2025 at 7.30pm in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall Annexe.

Present: Cllr M Robson, Chairman; Cllr P Bardon; Cllr T Beadle; Cllr Y Bowling; Cllr S Hoyland; Cllr C Snowden; Cllr S Storm and Cllr K Till.

Also present: Cllr D Sladden, NYC and Alexandra Robson, Clerk.

24/099 Members of the public to raise any items of importance (maximum of 10 minutes)

No members of the public present.

24/100 To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest

It was resolved apologies be received and accepted from Cllr A Jackson and Cllr A Turner

24/101 To approve and sign the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12th December 2024

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

24/102 To receive report from North Yorkshire Police

A report had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Councillors expressed sadness at the tragic collision which had claimed the lives of an Officer and member of the public and offered condolences to their families.

24/103 To receive a report from North Yorkshire Council on items of relevance to Sowerby

- A locality budget contribution towards the cost of the heating had been approved. Thanks were offered to Cllr Sladden for this.
- No further update had been received regarding planning matters.
- Cllr Sladden had received a number of comments from residents at the Sowerby Gateway site where a new 44 space retirement complex is under consultation. There is disappointment that this will not be a pub or healthcare outlet as detailed in the original plans. Sowerby Parish Council had not been invited to the consultation event but Cllr Robson will attend a meeting with Cllr Sladden regarding this development.
- There is confidence that a commercial bus service will be maintained for Sowerby residents, however a different route may be taken. It is unlikely that a link to the railway station will now be added.
- It is now 7 years since the Parish Council reported drainage issues on Topcliffe Road and this year it will not be done as gas works have taken priority. It was agreed that the Council will write to North Yorkshire Council regarding this.
- Projected savings of £36 million were advertised during the implementation of the Unitary Authority. Councillors would like a summary of these for the next meeting.
- It was noted that the Civic Centre is for sale as North Yorkshire Council are selling a number of assets.
- A request was made for information as to how long it will take to reimburse the £8 million costs projected for the implementation of the new recycling programme. Whilst this is to improve the quality of the card and paper recycling, Councillors feel that this is a significant cost. An exemption on food waste has been negotiated for North Yorkshire as this is not able to be processed at Allerton Park processing centre.
- Cllr Sladden is also working with Sowerby Gateway residents to improve the planting which has degenerated.

24/104 To consider Planning Applications

appendix i

It was resolved that the Clerk will send feedback to the planning authority

It was noted that a previous application to extend the times of the floodlights at Sowerby Sports Village had been withdrawn.

24/105 To consider proposed reduction in part of Station Road speed limit from 40mph to 30mph

It was resolved that Sowerby Parish Council is supportive of this speed limit reduction and the Clerk will advise NYC

24/106 Financial Matters

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

Signed
Chairman
Date

Sowerby Parish Council

It was resolved that payments be made and receipts noted

19:37 Cllr Sladden joined the meeting and matters were considered under 24/103

24/107 To confirm instruction for regular Parish Tree Condition report to be updated

It was resolved that a survey will be instructed to inform the Council on the condition of the trees

24/108 To update council on matters arising from minutes for information only

- 24/092 A presentation will be made to the Honorary Citizens at 19:15 on Monday 17th February in the Town Hall.
- 24/097 A number of matters regarding the Carol Service were noted and this will be discussed in advance of the next event.
- 24/097 Works have not been completed to the wall at the rear of the Conservative Club and concerns were shared about the danger to residents using the footpath.

24/109 To receive correspondence for information only

1. Cllr France had tendered his resignation with immediate effect. The Clerk has advised Electoral Services and, should an election not be called, a casual vacancy will be advertised. Thanks were offered to Cllr France for his dedication to the Parish Council and particularly on his commitment to the enhancement of the Town Hall on this Committee.

24/110 To receive reports from Committees and Organisational Representatives

1. The Flatts Trust Committee AGM had taken place. Cllr Bardon retired from the committee after 37 years of service to the charity and a small presentation was made to him, along with thanks being offered for his long service.
2. A Swimming Baths Charity meeting had taken place and accounts have now been submitted. Clarification of the status of the committee was discussed. Thirsk & Sowerby Leisure Centre has charitable status. In 1984 the Thirsk & Sowerby Swimming Baths Charity entered into a service agreement with the District Council (now NYC) for them to run the Leisure Centre on behalf of the Charity. This agreement was made for 10 years and will expire in 2031. The land belongs to Thirsk and Sowerby Flatts Trust and, should the Leisure Centre no longer operate, this would be returned to the Flatts Trust.

24/111 Any other business that may be legally discussed

There has been some resident feedback regarding the proposed battery storage development at South Kilvington, which the Parish Council has not been consulted on. It was agreed that council will consider this application and councillors will feed back their comments to the Clerk by Tuesday 18th February at 17:00.

24/112 To confirm the date of next meeting

It was resolved that the next meeting will be Thursday 13th March 2025 at 19:30

The meeting closed at 20:44

Appendix i Planning

Applications

ZB25/00015/CAT Application for works to tree in a Conservation Area - fell cherry tree

182 Front Street Sowerby Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1JN

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

ZB25/00054/FUL Demolition of existing Upvc conservatory to allow for the construction of a single-storey extension to the rear and construction of porch to the front of existing dwelling

15 Queens Gardens Sowerby Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1NL

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

ZB25/00102/CAT Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area

20 Mowbray Place Sowerby Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1RF

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

Signed
Chairman
Date