

Sowerby Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council on Thursday 13th June 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 G France; Cllr S Hoyland; Cllr A Jackson; Cllr C Snowdon and Cllr E Storm.

Also Present: One member of the public; Cllr D Sladden, NYC and Alexandra Robson, Clerk.

24/020 Members of the public did not raise any items

24/021 To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest

It was resolved that apologies for absence be received and accepted from Cllr K Till and Cllr A Turner

Cllr France updated that past Cllr D Wood had died, following a short battle with cancer. Condolences were offered to his family on behalf of Sowerby Parish Council.

24/022 To approve and sign the minutes the following meeting on 9th May 2024:

1. Annual Parish Meeting

It was resolved that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on 9th May be approved

2. Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

It was resolved that the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 9th May be approved

3. Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council

It was resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on 9th May be approved

24/023 To receive report from North Yorkshire Police

A report from NYP was circulated in advance of the meeting.

Damage has occurred to some windows at St Mary's Church and to grave stones in St Oswald's Church, councillors expressed disappointment with this.

There has been an increase in cyclists travelling quickly along the Flatts footpath, which will be reported to the police.

24/024 To receive a report from North Yorkshire Council on items of relevance to Sowerby

A report from Cllr Sladden had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

A potential new bus route for the Gateway is being looked at by passenger transport at the moment. Dialogue is now happening between NYC and the developers to establish the exact amount and time of payment for this service. There has been indication that the Reliance service from Sowerby to York is going to be changed, which is concerning for local residents.

A number of areas were raised with Cllr Sladden for attention:

- Blakey Bridge hedge & tree growth is in need of trimming on the visibility splay.
- Entrance to the Sowerby Sports Village car park has a hedge grown out too far to see safely.
- Drains in a section on Front Street have not been cleaned.
- On Front Street, before the junction with Back Lane, there is an area of blocked drains which flood over the road.
- Property at 5 or 7 Green Lane East are overhanging the footpath and there is a drain blocked opposite the school.

Signed
Chairman
Date

Sowerby Parish Council

24/025 To consider Planning Applications

appendix i

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

Cllr France noted that the Silver Street development has had a footpath and dropped kerb put in to allow parking, but the developer has put a solid fence in which prevents the residents from parking next to the property. The Clerk will look at this to establish if there were conditions attached to the planning permission regarding parking.

24/026 Financial Matters

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

It was resolved that receipts be noted and payments made

The Clerk will request a return of half the payment to M Preston for the Town Hall Works from Thirsk Town Council.

3. To approve AGAR Statement 2024/2025

It was resolved that the AGAR Statement 2024/2025 be approved

4. To approve AGAR submission 2024/2025

It was resolved that the AGAR Submission 2024/2025 be approved

It was resolved that the Clerk will notify public rights in line with audit requirements

24/027 To receive an update on the grass cutting issues on Topcliffe Road

A site meeting had taken place with Area 2 Highways Officers on Topcliffe Road, between Gravel Hole Lane and Aldi, to establish if SPC are able to undertake this work as it has been neglected.

Any SPC responsibility would be for cutting both sides, not the swales, but including the roundabouts if sponsorship opportunities are available to offset the costs. The Clerk had received an update from the relevant Area 2 Highways Officer to advise that the area will be cut and grass removed on Monday 17th June to be brought under control. SPC grass cutting contractor will then maintain the area moving forward and it will form part of the parish verge cutting with an additional contribution from NYC £254. It was agreed that the grass cutting is very important and that SPC proceed as outlined.

24/028 To update council on matters arising from minutes for information only

- 24/016 No one has volunteered for the play area opening - update this
- A reply has not yet been received from B Mason or B Khan re the one way system, despite that a resident has received a detailed reply. The Clerk will share the details of this correspondence with Cllr Sladden and he will chase this up.
- A site visit took place on 5th June along Front Street and Worlds End. Remedial gravelling work is needed starting at the Cenotaph and working down both sides. It was agreed that the Clerk will meet the contractor to explain exactly what is required and that this will be undertaken in a rolling programme.
- Trees at World's End will be replaced with 3 reasonable sized trees in autumn. Cllr Till has removed all the loose woodchip from the area to tidy it up, thanks were offered to him for doing this.

24/029 To receive correspondence for information only

Gas works in the village are expected in July and the provider will attend the next SPC Meeting.

Signed
Chairman
Date

Sowerby Parish Council

The following emails from residents had been received and, where appropriate, passed to the relevant parties:

- Maintenance matters around the Gateway and Sports Village - passed to Cllr Sladden.
- Trees & fence at the rear of Millbank Court - passed to the planning enforcement team.
- Vehicles driving on the Flatts - passed to the Chairman of the Trust.
- Communication between resident and Reliance bus service regarding provision in Sowerby copied to SPC for information.

24/030 To receive reports from Committees and Organisational Representatives

A fundraising lunch held on Sunday for Community Works had been successful.

Cllr France advised that the dressing room at the back of the stage was being converted into a kitchenette for main hall users and water heaters have been updated.

24/031 Any other business that may be legally discussed

Items requiring a decision will be placed on a future agenda

- Cllr Bowling noted that street lights are in need of cleaning on Front Street - this was passed to Cllr Sladden
- The street light at the end of Front Street/Back Lane which was damaged has not been repaired.
- Posters on lamp posts are becoming an issue. Businesses are encouraged to remove posters that have expired.
- Council feels that the Polling Station at the Scout Hut needs to be better advertised.
- YLCA training courses are available to councillors and the Clerk will circulate the next set of these dates.

24/032 To confirm the date of next meeting as Thursday 11th July 2024

The meeting closed at 20:31

Signed
Chairman
Date

Sowerby Parish Council

Appendix i Planning Applications

ZB23/02529/MRC Modification of condition 5 (Flood Lighting Hours) amended plans
Sowerby Sports Village

Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application refused, as the noise assessment does not mitigate the concerns of the Environmental Health Officer and does not eliminate the light issue

ZB24/00251/FUL Installation of 4 No. commercial ASHP as amended by revised plans
Veterinary Laboratories Agency, West House, Station Road
Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application

Sowerby Parish Council wish to see an update from the Environmental Health Officer to inform their decision

ZB24/00280/FUL Single story rear extension to our property to add a living space, shower room and utility area.
1 Jacksons Cottages, Westbourne Terrace

Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application approved

ZB24/01017/CAT Application of proposed works to trees in a Conservation Area
28 South Terrace, Sowerby

Sowerby Parish Council wish to see a professional tree report, not just the applicants view, before making a decision on this application

ZB24/00883/FUL Retrospective application for construction of a wooden framed gazebo with felt roof
41 Oak Drive, Sowerby

Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application approved

ZB24/01010/CAT Application for proposed works to trees in a Conservation Area
Sowerby House Nursing Home

Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application approved

ZB24/01077/FUL Application to increase fence height to 8' to rear of the property
9 Swan Way, Sowerby

Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application approved

Application considered between meetings

ZB24/00974/FUL Partial conversion of domestic garage to ancillary accommodation, and replacement of existing corrugated roofing. 20 South Terrace

Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application refused. Councillors consider that the noise generated from an air source heat pump will be unacceptable in that location and that upvc windows are not compliant with Article 4.

Signed
Chairman
Date