

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council
held in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall,
on Thursday 12th July 2012.**

Present: Cllr. W. Austin, Cllr. P. Bardon, Cllr. P. Beadle, Cllr. S. Hoyland, Cllr. M. Robson, (Chairman), Cllr. E. Storm and Cllr. D. Wood.

In Attendance. None.

1. Apologies were accepted from County Councillor N. Huxtable.

2. To approve and sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th May 2012. The minutes were approved and signed, with the addition of the request to re-open negotiations about the need for double yellow lines at the Back Lane and Gravel Hole Lane cross road and also a note made of the need to write to Thirsk School about their missing name signs.

3. North Yorkshire Police.

There was no Police representative at the meeting.

4. To receive the report from County Councillor N. Huxtable on items of relevance to Sowerby and Thirsk.

Cllr. Huxtable had not sent a report, but had written inviting submission of details of potholes and footpaths requiring repair.

5. To receive reports from District Councillors.

Cllr. Robson had been part of the welcoming party from Hambleton District Council for the visit of the Olympic Torch. There had been excellent, trouble-free representation from the community along the route.

Hambleton District Council was recommending to The Boundary Review Commission that the number of District Council seats in Hambleton be reduced to 28. Visit www.lgbce.org.uk to register views and comments. It was hoped that although Sowerby Ward boundaries may be extended there would still be two District Councillors. It was noted that the Thirsk Area Forum was the best attended of all the HDC local forums. Next meeting 17th July 2012.

Cllr. Bardon outlined the ongoing review of Town and Village Partnerships. It was noted that Thirsk and Sowerby had the TRI.

Both District Councillors and the Clerk had attended a training course on the new Localism Act and Neighbourhood Planning. It would now be possible for Community Groups to register a desire to bid for property for community use, giving six months to draw up arrangements to purchase. However there was no guarantee that their bid would be accepted. It was felt that the Neighbourhood Planning, which 51% of the electorate had to approve, was more relevant to areas that had not yet adopted a Local Development Plan and the main aim was to promote growth.

It was noted that Mr Barker had applied for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court over his Planning refusal.

Cllr Robson had been reviewing recycling issues and planning enforcement.

Interviews for the Planning Manager vacancy would take place the following week.

6. To Discuss Matters Arising.

6.1 Skate Park Opening Ceremony. Regrettably the opening ceremony had been called off because of weather warnings. The ceremony was rescheduled for 21st July at 1pm.

6.2 Neighbourhood Watch and Trading Standards. It was agreed to try again to get a representative to visit. It was queried as to what was being done to strengthen Neighbourhood Watch and ascertain what involvement the Police had.

6.3 HDC. Repatriation of Planning would be completed by September, when the five Directors would be back at Hambleton.

6.4 Gypsy and Traveller Illegal Parking. Prosecution was needed by the NYCC.

6.5 Double Yellow Lines. Work at the junction of Green Lane East and Sowerby Road had still not been done and would be chased up as would be a recommendation for double yellow lines at the crossroads of Gravel Hole Lane and Back Lane.

6.6. Road to Tip. Work to fill the potholes was still awaited and Cllr. Robson would follow this matter up.

6.7 A Board requests. The Chairman requested that communication be made with Oswalds as they appear to leave their A board out all the time.

6.8 Paint on Interpretation Board. The Chairman would see that the paint was removed.

6.9 Grasscutting in the Play Area and Memorial Park. The finished result was not to a high enough standard and the matter had been taken up with the contractor.

6.10 Churchyard Extension Wall. Work to build the wall would commence in early August, weather permitting.

6.11 Dropped Curbs. Installation had been completed in St Oswald's Close.

7. Planning Applications.

7a Decisions.

See updated pro-forma.

7b New Applications.

See updated pro forma.

8. Council Communications.

A further meeting was needed. Positive comments had been received about the Front Page.

9. Financial Matters.

9a Receipts. Approved as tabled.

9b Payments for approval. Approved as tabled.

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10. To Receive Correspondence.

SowerbyNOW. Any residents who could volunteer to help produce the news-sheet to contact David Tucker 01845 522030. Publication in danger of closure.

Request from Askews Solicitors on behalf of resident at 53 Front Street, regarding Parish Council interest in land shown on plan.

Letter of resignation from Adela Sadler.

Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall. Minutes. Parking issues noted.

Meeting of RBL for Remembrance Service and Parade planning on 26th July at 7.30pm at the RBL Club.

NYCC. Notice of withdrawal of school crossing patrol service on Topcliffe Road.

11. To Receive Reports from Sub-Committees.

Thirsk Clock. Awarded 'Investing in People' and 'Quality Mark'. They had also won a contract in Youth Service in conjunction with North Yorkshire Youth, from the County Council for Selby, Scarborough, Harrogate, Hambleton and Richmondshire amounting to £250,000.00 per annum.

12. Any Other Business.

Thirsk School. Cllrs. Wood and Hoyland were to meet with the Headmaster to discuss the school working with the Parish Council for material for the website.

Blocked Drains. There were many instances of blocked drains by the roadsides, some of which in Front Street and Sowerby Road were being addressed by the relevant departments.

Weeds in Gutters. Some spraying had been observed, in spite of the bad weather.

Riverside Path. It was agreed that the matter of promotion of the Riverside Path should be brought to the attention of the Area Forum.

Footpath between The Pines and Blakey Bridge. Cllr Robson had spoken to the landowner who would cut back the overgrown vegetation when conditions allowed.

Woodland Group Tree. Cllr. Storm was asked to follow up the offer of a Jubilee tree at World's End.

Broadacres Bungalows. The tree stumps had been ground out.

The next meeting will be held on August 9th 2012.

Chairman

Date