

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council
held in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall,
on Thursday 13th March 2014**

Present: Cllr. W. Austin, Cllr. P. Bardon, Cllr. P. Beadle. Cllr. D. Bentley, Cllr. P. Chapman, Cllr. G. France, Cllr. S. Hoyland, Cllr. M. Robson, Cllr. E. Storm and Cllr. C. Ungley.

In Attendance. PCSO Lucy Walker. Stuart Minting D & S Times.

Members of the Public. There were four members of the public in attendance.

1. Apologies. Apologies were accepted from Cllr. A. Turner.

2. To approve and sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th February 2014. The minutes were approved and signed.

3. North Yorkshire Police.

PCSO Walker gave a report outlining recent incidents including 7 incidents of anti-social behaviour and one burglary. FEROX which is aimed at cross-border crimes and HAWK tackling rural crime throughout the region were continuing.

Concern was raised by a member of the public and Councillors about parking at the junction of Gravel Hole Lane and Front Street and at the cross roads on Gravel Hole Lane and Back Lane where the law says there should be no parking within 10 yards of the junction. The Police were asked to monitor this and enforce the law. There were also complaints about parking on the pavement outside the Fish and Chip Shop in Back Lane. A further complaint was received about a person speeding on a mobility scooter on the footpaths. Police presence in the vicinity of the schools at busy times was greatly appreciated.

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

No Report. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr. Baker and request that he sends apologies and a report if unable to attend.

5. To receive reports from District Councillors.

District Councillor Bardon reported that the planning permission for the Extra Care Facility off Gravel Hole Lane had been granted. It was noted that the access to it from Gravel Hole Lane was purely for the facility and did not have a through route. All other entrances to the Sports and Leisure facilities would be via the second roundabout near the Visar Garage. Cllr. Bardon had attended a Planning Day by the Local Government Association at Ryedale and was interested to note that it was generally felt that the Planning Inspectorate tend to do their 'own thing' for Appeals.

District Councillor Robson, as Leader of Hambleton District Council announced the forthcoming Community Award Presentation event at Stone Cross on 27th March to honour the many volunteers in Hambleton.

6. To Discuss Matters Arising.

6.1. Amendment to Minutes. It was noted that Item 5 from the February minutes should have read a target of 26 traveller pitches and not sites by 2027. The minutes would be changed.

6.2. Swimming Pool. Plastic over shoes had been dispensed with and regrettably the changing area floor was filthy. Cleaning would be increased and a new type of matting would be put in at the entrance, along with a new reception desk and entrance area.

6.3 Sowerby Gateway Parking Issues. There was still a likelihood of delays on Gravel Hole Lane due to further works connected with the new sewage system. The complete road closure in March for resurfacing had been delayed because of difficulties combining works with the Highways Agency during March. However it was noted that the traffic lights would soon be removed.

6.4 Yellow Lines. NYCC Area 2 had indicated that whoever had promised yellow lines in a number of locations by the end of the financial year had made a mistake and that there could not be yellow lines in those vicinities because highway law already banned parking within those limits, particularly at the crossroads on Gravel Hole Lane and Back Lane and the junction of Gravel Hole Lane and Front Street. The Clerk read out the relevant incorrect correspondence from an Area 2 Customer Care Officer on September 18th 2013 Ref: 9472/PC78/SP. Further investigation regarding extending yellow lines at The Maltings would be undertaken if possible.

6.5 Overgrown Trees at Thirsk School. Cllrs. Austin, Robson and Bardon were to meet the school site manager Andy Whitfield and walk around the site and agree future works.

6.6 Reduction of Subsidised Bus Service. Cllr. Hoyland had been unable to research funding by local Councils to fund the station bus and would try for the next meeting.

6.7 Play Area CCTV. BT were to attend to put in the new line on 2nd April. There had been a revised quotation taking into account the increased work which would be necessary.

6.8 Pavement Obstruction. NYCC had been asked to cut the offending hedge and undergrowth and invoice the owner of the property, 2 Mowbray Terrace, but there had been no response. In order to move matters forward Cllr. Robson said that he would get the matter dealt with. A report had been given to HDC about a large deposit of cigarette butts in the gateway to the property and on the public footpath and action had been taken.

6.9 Four Way Junction on A168. Cllr. Robson reported that work would not take place as imminently as had been first suggested, as there had been delays with the works on Topcliffe Road and there were considerations with the Highways Agency to be taken into account, connected with A168 Southbound carriageway resurfacing. Tenders for the contract had gone out.

6.10 Network Rail signs for the Station at Town End and the Maltings entrance off Topcliffe Road. After much investigation it had been determined that this was the responsibility of the County Council who had subsequently been approached to undertake the work. Case Reference Number: 101001147237.

7 Planning Applications.

7a Decisions.

See updated pro-forma.

7b New Applications.

See updated pro forma.

-The Clerk gave a brief overview about the 13/00001/TPO2 request for the walnut tree at 16 South Terrace and informed members that there would soon be an official notification to say that the TPO request would not be upheld.

-Cllr Bardon declared an interest as the owner of a nearby property, for the application for a dance studio at the rear of 2 Westgate. He stated that he would do the same at HDC Planning. The Council had received four very detailed letters of objection to the said proposal and Cllr. Robson notified members that he had called the application in to have a site visit and have it dealt with by the Planning Committee.

-It was agreed that in cases of likely controversy in connection with planning proposals in the future, Councillors would be encouraged as in the past to call in at the Office, or a special meeting would be called to give them the opportunity to read through objections prior to the meeting.

8. Financial Matters.

8a Receipts. Approved as tabled.

8b Payments for approval. Approved as tabled.

It was also agreed to donate £100 to Thirsk Community Care Association as a Section 137 payment.

9. Further works to Roads on the Greens. Two quotations from approved contractors had been received to undertake work to the roadways between the Crown and Anchor and number 154 and to undertake remedial work as required elsewhere on the roads on the Greens. Mr M Bainbridge was awarded the contract for £3245.00 as the cheaper contract and would start the work towards the end of April.

10. Works to Various Trees. Work was planned to take place on April 9th to remove a number of dangerous trees at the Pack Horse Bridge and some remedial work to a few Lime trees. Any trees removed at World's End would be replaced. The 5 yearly insurance inspection would take place in late summer. Cllr. Robson reminded the meeting that the Lime tree near the Chapel which had been damaged by strimming, did not require replacing as previously thought.

10. Correspondence.

HDC. Completion of Section 106 Agreement for land off Station Road.

C. Lowe. Complaints about work to land off Station Road.

Observations from Rural Arts, Mrs May, Mr and Mrs Southern and Mr Bibby re proposals for new Dance Studio at rear of 2 Westgate.

Quotations from two contractors for work to roads on Village Greens.

NYCC. Hambleton Area Committee Meeting, 17th March, 2pm @ County Hall. To include Community Safety Updates and Older People's Champion Report.

NYCC/NYMNPA Minerals and Waste Joint Plan. Consultation Feb – Apr 2014. www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointplan

HDC. Extra Care Unit, off Gravel Hole Lane. Invitation to site visit and Planning Committee.

HDC. RHS Advice for planting in celebration of Tour de France.

Area 2. Advance warning of night time closure at railway-bridge on Islebeck Lane 6-10 May.

NYCC Area 2. Notice of rescheduling of road closure for resurfacing road at Sowerby Gateway.

Clerks and Councils Direct.

BT. To connect new line to CCTV April 2nd. Increase in cost to £981.64.

Thirsk School. A. Winfield re trees in school grounds.

Thirsk TI. Walkers are Welcome in Thirsk and Sowerby. Meeting in April.

Chris Hart. Certificated Chemical Weed Spraying. Topcliffe.

RAF Leeming. Increased activity, including some low, night time flying.

11. To Receive Reports from Sub-Committees and Groups.

Cllr. Hoyland reported on a sub committee meeting of YLCA with guest speaker Neil Irving from NYCC. He announced cuts of 34% to the Budget which may result in cuts to Library and Social Care services. There is also

likely to be a presumption in favour of filming being allowed at Council Meetings.

12. Any Other Business.

- Resident Mr John Carrington was congratulated for the beautiful picture of crocuses at St Oswald's Church which had appeared over a number of days on the BBC national weather forecasts.
- Concern was expressed about damage being caused to grass verges by contractors working at Greenways, Sowerby Road.
- Extra Care Facility off Gravel Hole Lane. It was confirmed that the Parish Council's Comments regarding sole use access had been included in the Planning Committee Report.
- It was proposed that an agenda item at the next meeting should consider giving the CAB a donation.
- In light of the appeal being won by the owner of 9 South Terrace reference upvc windows the implications for future Conservation Area appeals and applications would be queried. It was felt that Appeal results were inconsistent and depended entirely on individual Appeal Inspectors.
- The Chairman had met with David Tucker regarding Magna Carta Celebrations. There would be a meeting on 20th March.
- It was agreed that there would not be a Council meeting in August.

The next Ordinary Meeting will be held on April 10th 2014.

Chairman

Date