

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council  
held in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall,  
on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

**Present:** Cllr. W. Austin, (Chairman), Cllr. P. Bardon, Cllr. P. Beadle, Cllr. P. Chapman, Cllr. D. Bentley, Cllr. S. Hoyland, Cllr. M. Robson, Cllr. E. Storm and Cllr. C. Ungley.

**In Attendance.** County Councillor Bob Baker and PCSO Kim Laws.

**Members of the Public.** None in attendance.

**1. Apologies** were accepted from Cllr. G. France and Cllr. A. Turner

**2. To approve and sign the minutes of the previous meetings held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2014.** The minutes were approved and signed.

**3. North Yorkshire Police.**

PCSO Laws gave a full account of incidents during the previous month. Nuisance crimes had peaked around the November 5<sup>th</sup> period and there had been some vehicle related crimes. It was queried whether all the mobility scooters using the road were road legal and commented that some using the footpaths were being driven too fast. The Police were thanked for their help during the recent Remembrance Day Events.

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

Cllr. Baker gave a short report in which he said that he did not think that the report about future education plans connected with the Gateway development in Sowerby had been made available yet. He reported that a new appointment had been made for the headship at Sowerby CP School.

**5. To receive reports from District Councillors.**

District Cllr. Robson reported that HDC had been in consultation with Mulberry Homes enquiring why, almost six months after the occupation of the first dwelling there appeared to be no movement on the promise to upgrade the B1448 / A168 junction. A recommendation had been made for Mulberry Homes to apply to vary conditions 34 and 35. Any enforcement would have to be deferred until the application was received. Mulberry homes were concerned that the price of the upgrade was £2.5m at the time of the original application and was now likely to be £7.5m. No in depth survey had been undertaken on traffic needs by NYCC in 2010 and this needed to take place. HDC need to be aware of what the traffic study reveals. It was felt that to put a stop to the development at this stage would be a pointless exercise. District Councillor Robson agreed that lessons need to be learned.

**6. To Discuss Matters Arising.**

**6.1 Complaints about speeding** on Topcliffe Road had been looked into by NY Police, but there does not appear to be a sufficient problem to warrant further measures being taken. Discussions had taken place between Cllr. Robson and NYCC about Sowerby having its own mobile speed matrix but this will not be possible at the moment as such devices have to be under licence from NYCC.

**6.2 Sowerby Gateway Art Project.** Fiona Coleman apologised to the Chairman and Cllr. Chapman that the press release had taken place without the promised photo opportunity whilst she was on holiday. Another opportunity will be offered in due course.

**6.3 Blakey Bridge narrowing.** The concrete blocks appeared to be having the desired effect by stopping most of the larger vehicles from attempting to use the bridge.

6.4 Vela Homes Project, Gravel Hole Lane. It was confirmed that construction traffic should not be driving through the village.

6.5 Market Place Improvements. Work to plant new trees and improve the area around the clock was imminent but it was made clear that if conditions were not suitable it might have to be delayed until after Christmas. Re-laying of the flags at the rear would take place in Spring.

6.6 Bus Route between Market Place and the Station. NYCC confirmed that they are looking in to the matter and have also forwarded the suggestions to the Rail Companies.

6.7 Village Green Bye Law regarding Advertising Boards. The Crown and Anchor had been complying by only placing one board on the Green at the time of the meeting. Fantini's were thanked for their compliance, by removing their additional sign.

6.8 The Enforcement Order for 19 Mowbray Place, regarding the installation of UPVC windows against planning regulations was currently in abeyance because the property was unoccupied.

6.9 Back Lane Complaints about early morning disturbances. The Environmental Health Officer was involved and trying to resolve the problem. Complaint Forms were issued.

6.10 Play Area. More bark was required beneath the zip wire. The Infant Swings required repairing. A request was made to consider a future purchase of another infant swing.

## **7 Planning Applications.**

### **7a Decisions.**

See updated pro-forma.

### **7b New Applications.**

See updated pro forma.

It was noted that the appeal by the owner of 9 South Terrace against non granting of permission for UPVC windows had been dismissed. Cllr. Robson had made representation regarding Inspectors and had been informed that their decisions are final, albeit sometimes two Inspectors have opposing views.

Cllr. Hoyland declared an interest and left the room when his application 14/02046/FUL was discussed.

## **8. Financial Matters.**

8a Receipts. Approved as tabled.

8b Payments for approval. Approved as tabled.

8c Budget 2015/2016. Councillors agreed to approve the same amount as for the previous five years ie. £62,000.00.

## **9. Recording of Parish Council Meetings.**

The Members, apart from Cllr Hoyland, agreed to adopt a 'Guide for the Press and Public on Attending and Reporting Meetings of the Parish Council' as presented by the Chairman. It will be displayed in the Parish Council Office Window and on the Council website and will be available at all meetings and in future all Members of the Public will be expected to adhere to its recommendations if they wish to record any part of a meeting.

## **10. Correspondence.**

Cllr. E. Storm. Northallerton and Thirsk Rail User Group Minutes 1<sup>st</sup> September.

Thirsk TI. Notice of Magna Carta Event, Thirsk Racecourse June 13<sup>th</sup> 2015. Invitation to have a stall.

Wheels 2 Work. New Poster displayed on village notice board.

HDC. Enforcement Officer's Response re 19 Mowbray Place.

NYCC Highways. Works to Barbeck Bridge, commencing 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015 + Traffic Lights.

NYCC. Graham North. Re Improvements at Thirsk Station. *Contact made with companies.*

Intelligent Speed Signs information.

Thirsk School. Response received from Headmaster re dropping off of students safely.

NYCC. Grasscutting changes.

HDC. Registration of Interest. *All Councillors have registered.*

Fiona Coleman. Apology that press release was issued without a photo call.

NYCC.Environmental Health Officer. Update re noise complaint.

CAB. Request for financial support and introduction. *£100 donated in April 2014 after visit.*

HDC. Warm Healthy Homes Scheme. Contact

sustainable.development@hambleton.gov.uk

Sessay and Hutton Sessay Community Plan.

Clerks and Councils Direct.

Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall. Minutes July 14<sup>th</sup> 2014.

NYCC. Notice of grit bin replenishment charge. £75 + VAT.

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

- *The Clock AGM* was to be held on 26<sup>th</sup> November from 6pm. All welcome.

- *Report from Chairman re Thirsk and Sowerby Library.* The Library will move to Meadowfields in 2015. A consultation is being undertaken until February 8<sup>th</sup> regarding proposals to change it to a community library in February 2017, overseen by a paid worker and volunteers, in a move along with other cost saving initiatives to save £14m. It was pointed out that similar initiatives elsewhere in the County were working very well.

- *Report from Chairman re Parish Liaison Meeting.* Cllr. Austin gave a brief overview of reports given by the Police and Crime Commissioner, John Moore on Superfast Broadband provision and Waste Services which will be consulting in Spring 2015 with a view to increase recycling amounts.

### **12. Any Other Business.**

Carol Singing around the Christmas Tree on 16<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

Dog Fouling. Complaints of deposits on the Flatts. Cllr. Robson would let the Dog warden know and invite him to patrol.

Memorial Park. Cllrs Robson and Bardon would discuss with the adjacent householder previous plans to remove the Leylandii hedge and widen the footpath with a view to possibly revisiting the project in 2015.

Free bus from the Friarage Hospital to James Cook Hospital. The Clerk would advertise the times on the Main Points from the Meeting notice. Details are in Doctor's surgeries.

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Chairman

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Date