

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council
held in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall,
on Thursday 12th December 2013.**

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

In Attendance. PCSO Lucy Walker from NY Police.

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

1. Apologies. Apologies were accepted from Cllr. G. France. Cllr. A. Turner and County Councillor Baker did not attend.

2. To approve and sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14th November 2013. The minutes were approved and signed.

3. North Yorkshire Police.

PCSO Kim Laws had started work. The Police would monitor parking and obstruction issues on Gravel Hole Lane.

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

County Councillor Baker was not present and had not sent a report. It was noted that he needed to revisit the request about the yellow lines on Sowerby Road at the junction of Green Lane East.

5. To receive reports from District Councillors.

It was reported that work was starting in the area in connection with the part night lighting initiative. The concept plan for Sowerby Sports Village has been approved by Cabinet. This will allow officers of Hambleton District Council to apply for match funding. The Christmas Food Share Appeal had been very successful and it was pleasing to note that members of Thirsk Clock were to be beneficiaries if they so wished. Further funding had been identified to carry out more repairs to cobbles in Thirsk Market Place next Spring. The Apprentice Scheme had been very successful and five of the nine apprentices were to be given full time employment. HDC would freeze Council Tax for 2014/15 and also 2015/16 and would maintain the services that they offer residents. The matter of the Government grant would not be known until January. Cllr. Robson stressed that last year's grant was a one off grant for a reduction in the base rate and had resulted in a small increase of 84p for a Band D property.

6. To Discuss Matters Arising.

6.1 Overgrown trees at Thirsk School. Some tree work had taken place and residents at Queen's Gardens were happier. More work was planned over the Christmas break.

6.2 Reduction of Subsidised Bus Service. The consultation period was now over.

6.3 Sowerby Sports Village. It was confirmed that consultation was still open for the detail of the project. It was felt that more athletics facilities were needed. It was hoped that the land would be released sooner in order for it to be secured, thereby enabling match funding to be applied for.

6.4 Play Area CCTV. BT were to survey the site and their visit was awaited.

6.5 Councillor Vacancy. The vacancy for a co-opted Councillor would be advertised until 6th January. People interested in filling the vacancy should send a letter to the Clerk by January 6th and confirm that they have the

support of a serving Councillor. A Councillor would be co-opted at the meeting on January 9th.

6.6 The Oaks, (Thirsk). Cllr. Robson had spoken to the developers to encourage them to use Sowerby on the address of the development.

6.7 Police Meeting. The date and venue of the Time to Talk meeting had been changed four times. A letter of formal complaint would be sent to the PCC.

6.8 Parking at the Swimming Pool Car Park. Cllr. Robson had spoken with Pool Manager Neil Helliwell who confirmed that he had been turning people away if they did not intend to use the Leisure Centre Facility or the Flatts. Some members of the public had been very abusive.

6.9 Pool Changing Facilities. The Pool would reopen on 22nd or 23rd December following the installation of new changing facilities.

6.10 Play Equipment Fault. The equipment had been made safe. The equipment provider would send their technician to replace the screws which were too short.

6.11 Pavement Obstruction. A letter had been sent to the property owner requesting that Ivy encroaching on to the Topcliffe Road pavement at the property at the end of Mowbray Terrace be removed.

6.12 Yellow Lines. A request had incorrectly been made for Highways to look at the yellow lines at the junction of Green Lane East and Topcliffe Road where it should have been the junction of Sowerby Road as people were parking very close to the junction and causing difficulties for motorists.

7 Planning Applications.

7a Decisions.

See updated pro-forma.

7b New Applications.

See updated pro forma.

8. Financial Matters.

8a Receipts. Approved as tabled.

8b Payments for approval. Approved as tabled.

8c Precept 2014/2015. The Chairman presented the budget proposal of £62,000.00, the same as the previous three years and it was approved as a provisional figure which would be reconsidered in January following notice of any increase from the Government.

9. Section 106.

Discussion took place regarding Section 106 agreement no. 544 for the public open space within the residential area of the Sowerby Gateway development. It was agreed that the Parish Council would adopt the open space within the Phase 1 of the residential development of 107 dwellings.

10. Correspondence.

Police. Invitation to Public Meeting East Thirsk Community Centre.

December 3rd. 7pm

Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall – Minutes 9th September 2013.

Thirsk Chamber of Trade Ladies Group. Thanks for support and Christmas greetings.

HDC Consultation on street names for Sowerby Gateway Phase 1.

Two letters of interest for Councillor Co-option.

NALC. Section 137 Expenditure: Limit for 2014/2015. £7.20per elector.

Area 2. Notice of Closure of southern end of Back Lane from 6th January for 10 weeks for sewer installation.

YLCA. Future of Local Audit. Draft Regulations Consultation.

<http://localaudit.readandcomment.com/>

Hambleton & Richmondshire CAB. Carol Shreeve new Bureau Manager.

HDC. Minutes of Parish Liaison Meeting. Circulated.

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

Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall. Plans were being made to celebrate the 107th birthday of the Town Hall in March.

14. Any Other Business.

- Entrance to Extra Care Facility. Concern was raised that the entrance may be off Gravel Hole Lane, but it was made clear that no plans had been received yet.
- 19 Mowbray Place. The Clerk was asked to get an update on the enforcement of the removal of a UPVC window at 19 Mowbray Place.
- It was noted that the gutter on Flatts Walk required cleaning.
- It was hoped that the next time grass cutting tenders were requested they would be issued before the end of the grass cutting season.

The next ordinary meeting will be held on January 9th 2014.

Chairman

Date