

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council  
held in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall,  
on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2013.**

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

**In Attendance.** PCSO Nigel Warby, NY Police.

**Members of the Public.** None.

**1. Apologies** were accepted from Cllr. France and County Councillor Bob Baker. Cllr. Wood was absent.

**2. To approve and sign the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2013.** The minutes were approved and signed.

**3. North Yorkshire Police.**

PCSO Warby circulated a comprehensive report for the previous month which again included a report of numerous incidents of vandalism at Thirsk School and noted that investigations in to possible offences in relation to a horse straying into Gravel Hole Lane were ongoing.

Two Anti-Social Behaviour contracts had been issued.

Eleven people had been sentenced for drug dealing. The Police were thanked for all their hard work.

Councillor Turner expressed concern re litter outside Public Houses caused by customers smoking. It was requested if the Police could liaise with Landlords so that they may be persuaded to encourage smokers to use the beer gardens at the rear of their premises instead.

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

County Councillor Baker did not attend the meeting. The overgrown hedge on Blakey Lane still presented a problem and although Area 2 had been asked again there had been no response.

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

District Councillor Bardon reported that HDC had caught a benefit fraudster who had made illegal and fraudulent claims amounting to £50,000.

New recycling bins were to be replace some of the existing rubbish bins in the Market Place. This would help in the drive to stop recyclables going to landfill.

The planning application concerning two gypsy pitches had been approved.

District Councillor Robson reported that white lining had been carried out on the newly re-laid cobbles in the Market Place and that the crossing between the Golden Fleece and the pedestrian crossing had been defined. It would be monitored to see if further warnings were needed.

The District Council was looking at ways in which traders working in the Market Square could stay parked for longer periods without having to move their vehicles.

**6. To Discuss Matters Arising.**

**6.1 No Parking on the Greens.** A sign had been positioned near to Cllr. Bentley's property and the existing signs had all been cleaned.

**6.2 Parking Problems in Victoria Avenue.** A plan would be sent to County Councillor Baker showing where the problem is.

6.3 Historical Requests for Double Yellow Lines. Historical requests for double yellow lines had been forwarded to Cllr. Baker.

There had not been any pothole repair work carried out at the Maltings road junction.

6.4 Play Area Repairs. New bark had been put under the aerial runway and a repair had been carried out to the safety surface under the swings.

6.5 Road Sweeping. Cllr. Robson had organised for HDC to sweep the road at the Persimmon site. The grass at that site is still not under the Parish Council's control.

6.6. The Churchyard Extension.

It was confirmed that the revised details for the consecration of the land to be gifted to St Oswald's Church had been passed to the Solicitor. Cllr. Hoyland expressed his surprise at the decision and was concerned that under the Equality Act of 2010 it could be seen as a misuse of public money to not leave part un-consecrated and proposed that legal advice should be taken. There was no seconder. Cllr. Robson proposed that the matter be left in the hands of the solicitor to do what was needed and agreement for this was gained from the remaining Councillors with one against and one abstention.

6.7 Town Hall Windows. It was confirmed that being in a Conservation Area new replacements would be timber and quotes would be received for double glazing.

6.8 Rights of Way. Cllr. Robson confirmed that he had spoken to a householder about concerns of Rights of Way at Villa Place.

## **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 Play Area CCTV. A site visit would be needed as there were several options. A price would be available by the August meeting but Cllr Robson felt that significant savings could be made with the re-siting and annual maintenance contracts.

8d. Fence around Bowling Green /Play Area. The fence would be replaced immediately after the school holidays had finished and the Council would be given a week's notice to allow the Bowling Club to arrange to remove the present fence.

## **9. To receive a request from Cllr. Hoyland for permission to access the YLCA password protected website.**

Cllr. Hoyland withdrew the request.

## **10. To Receive Correspondence.**

Eccles Heddon. Confirmation of receipt of instruction to consecrate the land adjacent to the Churchyard.

Russell Hinton. Re roadways on The Greens and Byelaws. Suggestion to include a plan showing boundary of The Greens and to show parking designations. *It was pointed out that there are no rights of access for householders on any of the roads on the Greens. Consideration would be given to the request when the byelaws are to be delivered again.*

York & North Yorkshire Playing Fields Association. Notice of Extra Ordinary General meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup> with a suggestion that the Association be wound up, followed by AGM.

Area 2 Highways. Notice of Closure of Sutton Bank 9<sup>th</sup> September for one week for maintenance.

Ritz Cinema. DVD of 100 Years at the Ritz Cinema Thirsk. *Available for loan.*

HDC. Selective and focussed policy review of LDF/Local Plan. Cllr Robson and Cllr Bardon will be in attendance.

HDC. Developing Parish Liaison. Are you in support or not of having regular liaison meetings to improve engagement between the three tiers of local government in the area? *Yes.*

What would you like to discuss? *Local Matters.*

How frequent should the meetings be and should they be rotated across the district or in a specific location? *Twice a year in Council Chambers Northallerton.*

Bagby Airfield Inquiry to be resumed - 16<sup>th</sup> October.

Thirsk Tourist Information. What's on in Thirsk and District. *Can request that you have it emailed to you.*

Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall. Minutes 13<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

RAF. Increased aircraft activity 24<sup>th</sup> June – 12<sup>th</sup> July, including at night.

YLCA Annual review + Notice of AGM 20<sup>th</sup> July, Poppleton Community Centre, 2pm.

YLCA Clerks and Councils Direct.

YLCA Parish Polls Reform Survey. Applies more to parishes which have experienced them.

YLCA ebulletin.

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

Town Hall. The AGM had been held and Thirsk would chair the committee.

Cllr. G. France from Sowerby would be Vice Chairman.

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

- Thirsk Town Council would be offered support in any action they wish to take about smoking outside Public Houses in the Market Place.
- A request for a memorial bench to be placed in the Play Area was granted.
- Cllr. Turner noted that a memorial to Bamlett's Engineering Works was in progress and that funding would be required.
- The enforcement issue about a window at 9 South Terrace was ongoing. Cllr. Robson explained that there was a huge backlog.
- Thirsk School would be asked to trim overhanging trees and clear overgrown snickets. They had promptly cleared an overgrown verge on Gravel Hole Lane.
- Complaints were made about Mobility Scooters speeding on footpaths.
- Cllr. Austin had authorised work to remove a broken tree limb near to the Pack Horse Bridge.

The next ordinary meeting will be held on August 8<sup>th</sup> 2013.

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Chairman

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Date