

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council held in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall, on Thursday 10th September 2015.

Present. Cllr. W. Austin Cllr. P. Bardon, Cllr. P. Beadle, Cllr. D. Bentley, Cllr. P. Chapman, Cllr. G. Foxton, Cllr. G. France, Cllr. S. Hoyland, Cllr. M. Robson, Cllr. E. Storm and County Councillor Bob Baker.

In Attendance. PCSO N. Warlby, NY Police, three members of the public and Claire Booth, HDC.

Claire Booth outlined planning regulations for Article 4 which she noted was different to Conservation Area Regulations. With Listed buildings there is an expectation that wherever possible a repair should be made to existing features. Householders were urged to talk to the Planners, especially as window and door manufacturers were not always au fait with the regulations.

Members of the Public. Two members of public raised concern about the possible future use of the DEFRA site. No pre application had yet been registered.

1. Apologies. Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Turner who was on holiday.

2. Approval of the minutes of the previous meetings held on 9th July and the Planning Meeting of 27th July 2015.

The minutes were approved, with a few alterations which were included in the published minutes, and signed.

3. North Yorkshire Police.

A report was given. The Chairman requested that complainants were made aware of the outcome of reported issues.

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

Cllr. Baker confirmed that the temporary blocks at Blakey Bridge had been improved and strengthened and were set at a width of 6 feet 6 inches. He reported that the new library which had recently opened would soon be looking for volunteers. He had been made aware of a long standing blocked drain problem on Sowerby Road. In October each County Councillor would be allocated £5000 for their Ward to help Community Projects for perhaps £300 per project. The temporary closure of The Lambert Hospital, because of a lack of staff, was to be reviewed in January 2016. Cllr. Bardon circulated correspondence that the Friends of the Lambert had received.

5. To receive reports from District Councillors.

District Councillor Bardon reported that an agreement had been made that large developers would pay for wheelie bins for new developments. 1800 visitors had attended the very successful Northallerton Prison Tours. It was hoped that photographs of the site would be available on the HDC website by the end of September. The Planning Committee was giving consideration to electronic consultation. Cllr. Robson outlined the very complex issue of devolution; a situation which had changed by the minute and which had resulted in 5 or 6 different bids being submitted. HDC would not agree to any suggestion that was not right for Hambleton residents. Cllr. Robson hoped that the Lambert would be opened at the earliest opportunity, but felt that it was a vulnerable target.

6. To Discuss Matters Arising.

6.1 Parking problems outside the Churches on Sundays. Cllr. Austin had checked the situation each week since the last meeting and had not found there to be any problems. Ministers had circulated notices to their congregations. He reiterated his

message to the public that if there is a definite obstruction the Police should be called.

6.2 White Lining on Westgate at junction of Chapel Street. NYCC had undertaken to look at this matter.

6.3 Speedwatch Group. Cllr. Robson reported that a new Community Safety Partnership was to be launched and that issues surrounding the placement of speed matrices had been resolved. An agenda item to consider the purchase of a mobile matrix would be included in October's meeting.

6.4 Thirsk Library Consultations. Latest announcements indicated that in the matter of Community Management from February 2017, the NYCC would pay for the rent and utilities, as well as putting in 12/15 hours of support per week to support and train up to 60 volunteers. There would be a Volunteer Information Event in October or November. A request was made that an agenda item in October would be to consider a joint initiative with Thirsk to provide funding for additional staff.

6.5 Figure of Eight Bus Service. Cllr. Robson was in discussions with Thirsk Minibus Association Trustees regarding a scheme to provide a local service which would depend on volunteer drivers.

6.6 Blakey Lane Hedges. Cllr. Austin outlined recent hedge cutting works.

6.7 Shrubs at Cocked Hat Park. On consideration of a request to remove the shrubs because of a blocked visibility splay, the Parish Council, agreed to request a contractor to cut the growth back to one metre at a cost of £240.00 + VAT.

6.8 External Presentations. The October meeting would include an agenda item to formally discuss the suggestion that such presentations should take place before the start of the formal meeting.

6.9 Request for Double Yellow Lines Outside Garages on Sowerby Road. The applicant had not submitted the request.

6.10. Tin Tack Lane. The agreed single cut was inadequate and a further cut would be requested via Cllr Baker.

6.11 Road to Tip. Parked Wagon. It was pointed out that the land in question is not a passing place and the road has not been adopted.

7 Planning Applications.

7a Decisions. 15/01514/FUL 85 Front Street. Granted

15/01345/FUL 13 Mowbray Place. Granted.

15/01298/FUL 12 Mowbray Place. Granted.

15/00815/FUL Cocked Hat Farm. Granted.

15/00955/FUL 107 Front Street. Refused.

15/01425/CAT 28 Topcliffe Road. Granted.

15/01186/FUL 72A Topcliffe Road. Granted.

Also see updated pro-forma.

7b New Applications. -15/01383/FUL First floor rear extension, 16 Gravel Hole Lane. Wish to see approved. Cllr. Robson declared a non-pecuniary interest.

- 15/01788/LBC & 15/01777/FUL alterations to form 3 apartments in Three Tuns Yard, Chapel Street. Wish to see approved.

- 15/01735/FUL 32 Cocked Hat Park. Removal of conservatory & construction of single storey extension. Wish to see approved.

- 15/01782/FUL 90 Front Street. Replacement of 4 sash windows. Wish to see approved.

- 15/01911/FUL 4A Saxty Way. Side porch and two dormer windows. Wish to see approved.

8. Financial Matters.

8a Receipts. Approved as tabled. Interest £1.21; Grass Cutting Contribution £797.40.

8b Payments for approval from August and September. Approved in detail as tabled and posted on website and in the Library. Seats: £320.00; Wages: £571.63 and £571.43; Grasscutting £1963.20; Election fee £100.00; Electricity £5.89; Legal fee £45.00, Payroll Preparation £45.00; HMRC Q2 £373.49; Pest Control £120.00; Website hosting £66.00; External Audit

£360.00; Broadband Line rental £90.32, Broadband £40.62; Office Rent £624.00; BT £199.28. Ground works £780.00; Christmas Lights donation £150.00.

9. Correspondence.

-NYCC. Road Closures. Sowerby Road. Closure for 8 days between 5th and 12th October.

Topcliffe Road at Thorpefield Railway Bridge. Closed for 1 day between 14th September and 5th October. Temporary closure Sunday 8th November – Remembrance Sunday Parade and Wreath Laying 10.25 – 11.15 hrs. Temporary closure Wednesday 11th November. Remembrance Day Two Minutes Silence in Thirsk Market Place.

-HDC. Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. Dangers of Freestanding Goal Frames.

-NYCC. Local Transport Plan consultation. Any responses by 15 September.

-D. Tucker. Pictures of a truck in Blakey Lane and a request for better signage on Front Street. Message forwarded to NYP on Chairman's instructions, but no response.

-Cllr. A. Turner. Request for complaint to be made to owner of overgrown vegetation in the snicket off Back Lane. Request for vegetation clearance around Blakey Bridge. Request for action regarding vegetation blocking Cod Beck and potential flood risks. Request about overgrown vegetation on east side of Cod Beck and over to York Road. Request for Dog Bin on York Road.

-Ted Naisbitt. Thirsk Tourist Information. Request for paths in vicinity of Blakey Bridge to be cleared. Also queried state of beck-side path from Sandmartin's Bank to Nursery Garden Apartments.

-NYCC Area 2. Blakey Bridge Update.

A170 Sutton Bank Closure Notification. September 7 -20. Traffic Light controlled works at Kenny Cow until approx. end of October.

Acknowledgement of suggestion for white lining at Chapel Street junction.

Confirmation of some patching work to be done at junction of Green Lane East and Sowerby Road. Section 81 Notice served on Yorkshire Water re defective iron work. Metal cover outside Lambert Hospital must be reported to utility company by either the doctor's surgery or the Lambert Hospital.

-Member of Public. Request for a permanent 'solution' for the overgrown vegetation at Cocked Hat Park entrance.

-YLCA. Suggestion for updating Standing Orders re Public Contracts Regulations 2015. *'Financial regulations shall confirm that a proposed contract for the supply of goods, materials, services and the execution of works with an estimated value in excess of £25,000 shall satisfy the requirements of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and will be procured on the basis of a formal tender as summarised in standing order 18(d) below. The council will advertise the contract opportunity on the Contract Finder website.'*

-Member of Public. Complaint about vehicle parking and catering van at junction of Gravel Hole Lane and Topcliffe Road.

-HDC. Laura Venn. Legal Services. Completion of Transfer of Public Open Space Land from

Persimmon. (NB. Transfer of £30,000 in April 2010 from Taylor Wimpey to Sowerby PC).

-Cllr. M. Robson to Cllr. R. Baker. Blocked drains on Sowerby Road.

-Moorsbus. Update on travel statistics.

-Hambleton and Richmondshire CAB. AGM. Richmond Town Hall. 9th October 1.30-4pm. Guest Rishi Sunak MP. Tea. Email harasp@hambletoncab@hambletoncab.cabnet.org.uk if wishing to attend.

-Meadowfields Extra Care Housing Bulletin.

-Healthwatch North Yorkshire Updates.

-HDC. Registration of address for Butterflies Dance and Performing Arts. 2A Westgate.

-Julia Mulligan PCC. Newsletter.

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

Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall. Cllr France noted that a caretaker had been appointed for a two month probationary period. The Chairman had stood in whilst there was no caretaker and Cllr. Chapman had helped out with the office work in the Secretary's absence.

Thirsk Skate Park. Finance continues to be the major problem and Cllr. France requested that the Parish Council make a contribution.

The Clock. Cllr. France reported that Investors in People had recently been awarded and that the Trustees are committed to an audit of skills.

11. Any Other Business.

Co-option. In light of the fact that four members of the public had wished to stand for co-option to the Council, Cllr France was concerned by the non-attendance of standing Councillors.

Lime Tree. Cllr Bentley had concerns about the brash on the lime tree and cracks in the pavement outside number 186 Front Street.

Carol Singing Around the Christmas Tree. Confirmed as 7pm on 15th December.

Maintenance of lamp posts. Cllr. Hoyland queried if there was a programme of cleaning and maintenance.

A168 Junction improvements. The trigger point for work on the junction to be completed was the completion of 249 dwellings at Sowerby Gateway. A planning application will soon be lodged.

Protection for The Flatts. Cllr. Hoyland queried if the Council should consider protecting part of The Flatts.

Association with Sowerby Parish Council in private matters. Cllr. Austin reminded members against inappropriate actions when identifying themselves as members of the Parish Council may lead to other individuals thinking they represent Sowerby Parish Council, when they have clearly not been authorised as such.

Chairman

Date