

Sowerby Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council
on Thursday 21st April 2022 at 7.30pm in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall Annexe.

Present: Cllr M Robson (Chairman), Cllr P Bardon, Cllr T Beadle, Cllr G France, Cllr D Gray, Cllr S Hoyland, Cllr A Jackson, Cllr C Snowden, Cllr E Storm and Cllr A Turner.

Also present: One member of the public and Alexandra Robson, Clerk.

Members of the Public

A resident raised the issue of overzealous grass cutting around an area at World's End which was like a mini nature reserve. They had been pleased to see the wild flowering plants and the area buzzing with insects. Grass cutting has taken place and has removed a substantial amount of the wildflowers and the resident is very upset. More than ever we are being urged to conserve these areas and they feel that it was unnecessary and damaging before they had a chance to set seed and asked why not cut a path rather than the whole amount.

Cllr Robson apologised that the resident has been upset and the Parish Council will learn from this and have a discussion with the contractor about putting in a path. Cllrs Bardon and Gray reiterated that a wildflower meadow had been planted at Blakey Lane alongside the community fruit trees.

The resident also asked what the council are doing re himalayan balsam. Cllr Jackson commented that the most effective way to deal with it is to spray it, although it can be pulled out but this needs to be done carefully and annually. Cllr Robson advised that the contractor looking after the areas concerned is aware of the problem.

21/123 Apologies for absence and to receive declarations of interest

It was resolved that apologies be noted and accepted from Cllr D Hannan

21/124 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on 10th March 2022

It was resolved that the minutes of the meetings be accepted and signed as a correct record

21/125 A Police report was circulated

21/126 Report from County Councillor

Cllr Baker was not present.

Cllr Turner raised concerns about the A19 - York Road, under the flyover, where there is significant danger. This will be fed into the highways team, Cllr Baker and the Highways Agency.

21/127 Reports from District Councillors

Nothing in addition to the items covered elsewhere.

Cllr France asked about refugees and how many applications were received in North Yorkshire. 25,000 refugees are being housed in the UK, in hotels and alternatives are being reviewed by the government. HDC has approx 30 families housed in the district, who are outside of this number. Every application for Ukrainian refugees has taken priority at HDC for their part in the process.

21/128 Matters arising from minutes for information only.

21/114 Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall Toilet Project well underway, Cllr France will comment in 21/132
Sowerby Gateway Play Area started on 14th April but will be the end of May when it's finish

21/115 Town End works will start, with three way lights and one way on Blue Row and disruption is expected

Signed
Chairman
Date

Sowerby Parish Council

Thirks Leisure Centre parking traffic order is in place and tickets are now being issued
Drainage works are programmed for Topcliffe Road from 18th June

21/116

Fruit Trees have been planted in Potters Memorial Field, thanks were offered to Cllrs Gray, Jackson and Robson for doing this. Cllr France added that he has been stopped by residents to say these are great
Rev Biggs has been in touch re a celebration at Orchid House for the Jubilee on Friday 3rd June

21/129 Planning

An application had been noted from NYCC regarding a proposed Recycling Centre on Sandholme Lane. Councillors do not feel there is an additional need for a recycling facility and the unnecessary traffic it will bring.

It was resolved that Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application refused and the Clerk will feed this back

21/130 Financial Matters

1. To note receipts of Allotment Rent
2. To note and approve Payments

£80

Appendix iii

It was resolved that receipts be noted and payments be approved

21/131 Late correspondence for information only

Items circulated by email between meetings

The Clerk has written on behalf of the Council in support of the Rail Improvements at Thirsk station

21/132 Reports from Sub Committees

Cllr France noted that the Town Hall Toilet Refurbishment is well underway and should be finished within a week. Thanks to Alexandra Robson for managing the project, alongside the local tradesmen who have worked well on the programme. Cllr Snowden advised that Community Works have received a grant to support Mental Health work in the area. The size of the charity has grown over the years and a Finance Office and Admin Officer have also been appointed.

21/133 Any other business

Items requiring a decision will be placed on the next agenda

Cllr Hoyland asked about progress towards the elected Mayor and Cllr Robson advised there there is a devolution meeting on 13th May.

Cllr Jackson noted the hedge overgrown on Topcliffe Road near Belgrave Terrace and the Clerk will feed this into the Footpaths Officer.

Cllr Gray raised the issue of safety again at the junction of Back Lane and Gravel Hole Lane. The hedge is overgrown on the junction and there is need for yellow lines. Again this will be reported to the Area 2 and the Footpaths Officer.

Cllr Gray mentioned overgrown buddleias on the junction of Back Lane and Front Street, Cllr Robson will look into this.

Cllr France commented on how good the new 3g pitch looks and asked if there could be some notices to advertise how this area is booked. Cllr Robson advised that these are forthcoming and that litter bins have been ordered.

Cllr Robson asked that the Clerk write to a resident on Front Street who is putting their vehicle on the Village Green, to advise that they are breaching the bye laws.

Cllr Robson offered thanks to all councillors for their service during the term of this council.

21/134 It was agreed that the date of the next meeting is Thursday 12th May and this will be the annual meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed
Chairman
Date