

Sowerby Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council on Thursday 9th April 2026 at 7.30pm in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall Annexe

Present: Cllr M Robson, Chairman; Cllr P Bardon; Cllr S Bardon; Cllr Y Bowling; Cllr A Jackson; Cllr E Storm and Cllr K Till.

Also Present: Alexandra Robson, Clerk.

25/131 Members of the public to raise any items of importance (maximum of 10 minutes)

No members of the public present.

25/132 To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest

It was resolved that apologies be received and accepted from Cllr T Beadle; Cllr S Hoyland; Cllr C Snowden and Cllr A Turner

25/133 To approve and sign the minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on 12th March 2026

It was resolved that the minutes of the minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on 12th March 2026 be approved

25/134 To receive report from North Yorkshire Police

No report had been received.

25/135 To receive a report from North Yorkshire Council (NYC) on items of relevance to Sowerby

No report had been received, Cllr Sladden was not present.

A resident had noted that the new coating on the Flatts Footpath had restricted the opening of the fire door to the cinema. This had been reported to NYC.

25/136 To consider Planning Applications

ZB26/00309/FUL Application for a two Storey Side Extension and Garage/Store Conversion to Dwelling

8 School Garth Sowerby

It was resolved that Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application approved

25/137 Financial Matters

appendix ii

1. To Note Receipts

2. To Note and Approve Payments

It was resolved that payments be made

It was noted that the Clerk had submitted the VAT reclaim for the 2025 2026 Financial Year to the value of £10,678.50.

25/138 To update council on matters arising from minutes for information only

1. 25/121 The promised road sweeping has not taken place and there is still significant weed growth. A gully has been replaced near the junction of Front Street and Back Lane. There is a drain blocked at Gravel Hole Lane at the side of the Crown & Anchor.
2. 25/125 A cost of a bus shelter has been investigated, these are between £4,000 and £12,000. There is concern that it will not be licenced, as there is not sufficient space along the pavement at Gravel Hole Lane. Councillors are not minded to progress this project at this time.
3. 25/127 Cllr Robson met with the resident adjacent to the Limes and clarified that the Parish Council is not responsible for this.
4. The road closures for Topcliffe Road have been amended so they don't negatively impact Thirsk & Sowerby Festival.
5. Cllr Robson had met with the Chief Executive of the charity in the former Lambert Hospital and members who are interested are invited to visit so the Clerk will arrange this.

Signed

Chairman

Date

Sowerby Parish Council

25/139 To receive correspondence for information only

1. A concern regarding play area opening and closing times has been raised by a resident. This will be included as a future agenda item for decision.
2. An email has been received regarding damaged play equipment on Oak Drive. This was checked and found not to be dangerous; however, responsibility rests with the management company, and the matter has been passed to them.
3. An email was received regarding rubbish being stacked alongside a residential property on Bede Close.
4. A query was received regarding odours in the Sowerby Gateway area. This has been identified as fertiliser being spread on nearby farmland.

25/140 To receive reports from Committees and Organisational Representatives

None.

25/141 Any other business that may be legally discussed

Items requiring a decision will be placed on a future agenda

1. The wall at Pack Horse Bridge continues to deteriorate and requires attention.
2. Trees adjacent to the beck on the Flatts require further consideration.
3. Repairs to tarmac on Back Lane have been carried out poorly. This matter has been ongoing for two years, and the adjacent hedge has not been addressed.
4. The hedge from Blue Row to Town End (near Mowbray House) is significantly overgrown and obstructing the footpath.
5. Members queried whether additional facilities could be provided at the skate park; the Clerk will seek an appropriate contact.
6. A resident contacted Cllr Bowling regarding a drainage issue on Victoria Avenue. This was confirmed as being on private, non-adopted land.
7. Members noted the need to consider more significant action regarding trees on Front Street to reduce their size.

25/142 To confirm the date of next meeting as Thursday 14th May 2026 which will be the Annual Meeting

It was resolved that the date of next meeting is Thursday 14th May 2026 which will be the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

The meeting closed at 20:05

Signed
Chairman
Date