

Sowerby Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council on Thursday 11th December at 7.30pm in Thirsk and Sowerby Town Hall Annexe.

Present: Cllr M Robson, Chairman; Cllr P Bardon; Cllr S Bardon; Cllr T Beadle; Cllr Y Bowling; Cllr S Hoyland; Cllr C Snowden and Cllr K Till.

Also present: Cllr D Sladden, North Yorkshire Council (NYC) and Alexandra Robson, Clerk.

25/090 Members of the public to raise any items of importance (maximum of 10 minutes)

No members of the public present.

25/091 To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest

It was resolved that apologies be received and accepted from Cllr A Jackson, Cllr E Storm and Cllr A Turner

No declarations of interest were received

25/092 To approve and sign the minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on 13th November 2025

It was resolved that the minutes Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council on 13th November 2025 be accepted subject to a minor typographical amendment

25/093 To receive report from North Yorkshire Police

A summary of the recent incident on Sowerby Gateway was given and Councillors were reassured that the police are managing this situation and hope for a resolution.

25/094 To receive a report from North Yorkshire Council on items of relevance to Sowerby

- A report from Highways regarding Station Road works had been shared at the previous meeting.
- Concerns were raised regarding the condition of the road surface on Front Street.
- Residents were not advised of drain cleaning and street sweeping, resulting in cars not being moved.
- Street sweeping across the village was noted as inconsistent.
- Signage for works was left out for a significant time after works were completed.
- Street lights on Front Street have still not been cleaned.
- Drains on Topcliffe Road remain problematic despite being reported; water continues to pool outside the school entrance.
- No communication has been received regarding green bin collections for Christmas trees or the date for resumption in 2026.
- The Town Improvement Plan was discussed; this is a Mayoral Authority initiative to support future grant funding.
- Cllr Sladden confirmed funding is available from his Locality Budget.
- The North Yorkshire Mayoral Authority is considering a Tourist Tax; councillors were encouraged to comment when appropriate.

25/095 To consider Planning Applications

appendix i

A Tree Preservation Order (TPO) has been approved on 3 trees at 19a Back Lane, as noted in 25/062. The Parish Council noted that its comments were not reflected in the decision.

It was resolved that the Clerk will submit comments in appendix i to the planning authority

25/096 Financial Matters

appendix ii

1. To Note Receipts
2. To Note and Approve Payments

It was resolved that receipts be noted and payments made

The Chairman updated councillors on the continuing issues with Barclays Bank and level of service. An alternative provision will be considered and both local branches Nationwide and HSBC will be looked at, ensuring charges are minimal and signatories can be updated to include similar authority levels to the current bank.

Signed

Chairman

Date

Sowerby Parish Council

25/097 To update council on matters arising from minutes for information only

- 25/082 2 Conservative Club -a planning application is not required and a close boarded fence will be erected to a similar level to the previous wall.
- 25/086 1 Cllr Robson has tried to contact the resident and the remedial works will be undertaken in the spring.
- 25/088 1 Cllr Sladden will provide an update on the situation with the mixed recycling.
- 25/088 6 Several residents had contacted the Clerk or Chairman regarding the clearing of a site on Back Lane. They have been advised that any future planning application will be considered if/when it is received. Biodiversity net gain will be calculated at that time, based on the site pre-clearance.

25/098 To receive correspondence for information only

No further items.

25/099 To receive reports from Committees and Organisational Representatives

- Cllr S Bardon had attended a Festival on the Flatts meeting which was working towards the 10 year anniversary event in 2026.
- Cllr Bowling had attended the AGM of the Library and shared the Annual Report.

25/100 Any other business that may be legally discussed

Items requiring a decision will be placed on a future agenda

- Cllr P Bardon noted that the Thirsk Christmas Lights switch on did not recognise the £500 contribution of Sowerby Parish Council at their event or their social media post. This is not an insignificant amount of money and the Council needs to consider this when a future donation is suggested.

25/101 To confirm the date of next meeting as Thursday 12th February 2026 at 19:30.

The meeting closed at 20:28. The Chairman wished everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Signed
Chairman
Date

Sowerby Parish Council

Appendix i

Planning Applications

ZB25/01988/FUL

Retention of reconstructed two storey barn and use of it for residential purposes as an extension to the habitable accommodation to North Barn to provide living/dining room, utility, third bedroom and ensuite (part retrospective).

North Barn West Park Farm, Sowerby Parks, Sowerby.

Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application approved

ZB24/00891/REM

Application for Approval of All Reserved Matters (access, appearance, landscaping, layout, scale) for the construction of 7 units for (Use Class E(g) (Commercial and Business) following outline approval 10/02373/OUT and variation of condition approval 15/00145/MRC.

Land West Of Gateway House Cedar Road Sowerby

Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application approved

ZB25/02050/CAT

Application for works to a tree in a Conservation area. T1 (holly tree) . 44 Topcliffe Road, Sowerby.

Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application approved

ZB25/01990/FUL

Change of use of the land to Gypsy and Traveller residential with the provision of one mobile home, one touring caravan and one amenity building. South Fork, Blakey Lane, Sowerby.

Sowerby Parish Council wish to see this application approved

Signed
Chairman
Date