

Sowerby Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall Annexe on Thursday 11th June 2026 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr M Robson; Cllr P Bardon; Cllr S Bardon; Cllr S Hoyland; Cllr A Jackson; Cllr C Snowden; Cllr E Storm; Cllr K Till and Cllr A Turner.

Also Present: Two members of the public and Alexandra Robson, Clerk.

26/020 Members of the public to raise any items of importance (maximum of 10 minutes)

Residents on Bede Close are concerned about the development of land at St Oswalds Close, given the method in which the land was cleared. An outline application has been submitted which will be considered at the next meeting.

26/021 To receive apologies for absence

It was resolved that apologies be received and accepted from Cllr T Beadle and Cllr Y Bowling

26/022 To approve and sign the minutes of the following meetings held on Thursday 14th May 2026:

It was resolved that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Sowerby Parish; Annual Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council and Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council be approved

26/23 To receive report from North Yorkshire Police

No report had been received.

26/024 To receive a report from North Yorkshire Council (NYC) on items of relevance to Sowerby

Members were frustrated that Cllr Sladden was not present and did not regularly attend meetings, despite being elected by the residents of Sowerby. It was agreed that the Clerk will email Cllr Sladden and make him aware of their disappointment and establish if there is a reason for non attendance and ask him to provide updates on outstanding matters and send a report.

Cllr Bowling had submitted a list of issues which will be passed to NYC.

26/025 Planning Applications

see appendix i

It was resolved that the Clerk will submit comments to the Planning Authority

It was noted that there had been changes to the planning portal and the notification of planning application submissions. A verbal summary of Scheme of Delegation changes for calling into committee was shared by the Chairman.

26/026 Financial Matters

1. To note Receipts

2. To Note and Approve Payments

see appendix ii

It was resolved that receipts be noted and payments made

3. To approve AGAR Statement 2025/2026

It was resolved that the AGAR Statement 2025/2026 be completed

4. To approve AGAR submission 2025/2026

It was resolved that the AGAR submission 2025/2026 be approved and submitted

It was resolved that the Clerk will publish the Notice of Public Rights

26/027 To note receipt of funds from the historic Sowerby Children's Gala account and agree next steps

Sowerby Parish Council

It was noted that funds of £4,836.12 had been received from the closure of the gala account, which had been dormant since the last gala took place. A bench has been purchased for the village with a commemorative plaque and a small piece of play equipment will be installed into the children's play area. Thanks were offered to the former trustees of the gala for providing this money for the benefit of children in the village.

26/028 To consider the locking and unlocking of the Play Area and agree next steps

Discussion took place regarding the requirements for locking and unlocking the play area, as some residents have volunteered for this. Options considered were a rota or electronic gates.

It was agreed that councillors will lock and unlock the play area sporadically but for the time being it will remain unlocked. It was also confirmed that the area should always be locked when the maintenance team is in.

26/029 To update council on matters arising from minutes for information only

26/016 There has been no progress on the roadway or drainage matters raised with NYC.

Signage for road closures had been put out and no works requiring the road closure were undertaken and cones/signage were left out.

Lack of communication with NYC is also evident in all areas.

Fixing of the pot holes is ineffective.

Cllr Hoyland commented that the red bins collection trial has improved collections for those in this trial.

26/030 To receive correspondence for information only

- A representative from Meadowfields had shared details of their services for Council information.
- The Clerk had received an enquiry regarding a conservation matter about scoria tiles which had been passed to a local heritage planning specialist.
- A complaint had been received about rubbish at the Skate Park which was shared with NYC.
- A request had come in for Festival Volunteers from the Thirsk & Sowerby Flatts Festival Chairman.
- Correspondence had been noted from the Monitoring Officer regarding councillor address publication.
- An issue with residential land grab on Sowerby Gateway had been reported to Linden Homes.

26/031 To consider any other business that may be legally discussed

Items which require a decision will be placed on the next meeting agenda

1. Road damage on South Moor Lane opposite Sowerby Parks Entrance is a road safety issue and will be reported.
2. The wall at the Pack Horse Bridge is getting worse. The Clerk will follow this up again.
3. Front Street Tree's most recent arborologist report has been requested by NYC planning for review.
4. Longstanding rubbish on Gravel Hole Lane is still not moved. This is private land but the Clerk will look into it.
5. A new dementia farm at Primrose Farm, Carlton Husthwaite will be having an open day on 3rd July.

26/032 To confirm the date of next meeting as Thursday 9th July 2026

It was resolved that the date of the next meeting will be Thursday 9th July at 1930

The meeting closed at 20:23

Appendix i- Planning

ZB26/00708/FUL Proposed new access onto Cedar Road and construction of a link road

Cocked Hat Farm Topcliffe Road Sowerby YO7 3HF

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

ZB26/00658/FUL Amendment to Application - Hollydene Topcliffe Road Sowerby Thirsk North Yorkshire YO7 1RQ

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