

Sowerby Parish Council

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Sowerby Parish Council on Thursday 8th July 2021 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 D Hannan, Cllr S Hoyland, Cllr A Jackson, Cllr E Storm and Cllr A Turner

Also present: Alexandra Little, Clerk. No members of the Public present

21/036 To receive and consider apologies for absence and to receive declarations of interest

It was resolved apologies be noted and accepted from Cllr C Snowden

21/037 To approve and sign the minutes of the Annual and Ordinary Meetings of the Parish Council on 10th June 2021

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

21/038 To receive Report from NY Police

The report was circulated in advance. Cllr France noted that 40 incidents had been reported and this was a large increase. Cllr Robson advised that this may have been as a result of one person's behaviour.

Calls had also increased to the 101 system. Cllr Hannan noted that this is in comparison with last year when we were in lockdown and that reductions in staff mean that there are now less people operating 101.

21/039 To receive Report from the County Councillor on items of relevance to Sowerby

Cllr Baker was not present. Wayleave has been granted for the work over the Parish Land to Town End and this is due to start in two weeks.

21/040 To receive Reports from District Councillors

Cllr Robson updated members on the Cabinet meeting at the end of first Financial Quarter. There was an expectation of a £6 million loss at the start of the pandemic however, due to government grants and prudent management by HDC Officers, £156,000 has been put back into reserves.

Cllr Robson expects an announcement regarding the Unitary Authority imminently and commits that the team at HDC will work to ensure the residents of Hambleton are left in the best possible position.

Staff migration is a problem generally because of this uncertainty and the HDC Section 151 Officer is leaving because of the Unitary Authority proposal. The council needs to have one by law and the timeframe for recruitment could be many months. An agency officer has been put in place for potentially an 18 month period with a month to month break clause and will be paid out of existing budget. Two Directors have been lost and this cost is covered by these salaries.

21/041 To update council on matters arising from minutes for information only

1. Planters for the wall at the Town Hall have been ordered, there is a 6 week lead time for this
2. N Collinson at Dales will repaint the Cenotaph. He has also quoted to replace the blown stone and a new commemorative stone for next year to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. These are £580 each.
3. Vegetation was discussed at Station Road, Flatts and Memorial Park and the Clerk will contact the Contractor

21/042 Planning

1. Decisions were noted
2. To consider new Applications
 - a. 21/01305/FUL Construction of a cleaning shed for mini buses Thirsk Rural Business Centre, Sowerby

It was resolved that SPC wish to see this application approved

Signed
Chairman
Date

Sowerby Parish Council

- b. 21/01388/FUL Construction of detached 2 bedroom bungalow with parking and garden
Raymar Gravel Hole Lane Sowerby

It was resolved that SPC wish to see this application refused due to over development of the site & removal of amenity space

21/043 Financial Matters

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

It was resolved that receipts be noted and payments be approved

21/044 To receive an update on matters relating to Sowerby Parish Council land at Blakey Lane

Cllr Gray has cut a circular path around the meadow and there are at least 7 varieties of wildflower growing this year.

Cllr France advised that a resident had commented about the use of the field as a meadow and also for exercising dogs and questioned its ownership.

Cllr Robson referred to historic minutes 10.03.2011 and 12.04.2012 which confirmed the Parish Council ownership of the land at Blakey Lane, named Potters Memorial Field and that the land should be left as an open space and not have benches or other furniture placed in it.

It was resolved that a new plaque with the above details will be positioned at the location

21/045 To receive late correspondence for information only

Items of correspondence which have been circulated between meetings require no further action

An update had been received regarding the recent IT appeal for schools

21/046 To receive Reports from Sub Committees

The AGM had taken place this evening for the Town Hall Committee and the Chairman is David Jackson for 2021/2022

21/047 Any other business that may be legally discussed

(items requiring a decision will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting)

1. Cllr France had been approached by a resident of Kings Meadows who said it is noticeable that dogs are on a lead and fewer dogs are being exercised on the Sports Village
2. Footballers on Sunday have had to rake the grass on the Sports Village. Cllr Robson noted this is a HDC matter & officers are dealing with this and other issues currently
3. Some of the small trees planted in Potters Memorial Field have died and Cllrs Robson and Gray will look there
4. The footpath on Blakey Lane is closing in, the Clerk will to ask the contractor to look at this and Blakey Lane
5. Cllr Hoyland noted an increase in COVID cases locally
6. Breakfast Club at Sowerby Primary was funded by Broadacres and Greggs, thanks were offered to Broadacres
7. The Councils MVAS sign has been hit by a coach outside Thirsk School and is to be repaired
8. Litter bins for gateway, Leisure Centre & Tin Tac Lane are required, the Clerk will arrange a site meeting with HDC
9. Remembrance Sunday update - there have been some changes in the administration and the two councils are now going to administer this moving forward

21/048 To agree date of next meeting as Thursday 9th September 2021

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm

Signed
Chairman
Date