

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 15 November 2021 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

Present: Cllrs D Jackson (Chairman), D Adamson, D Duffey, W Gibson-Brown, C Hesmondhalgh, K Mountford, F Potter, B Smith, A Trueman, S Ward

Apologies: None.

C1272 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1273 Police Report

PCSO Warby attended the meeting and circulated a police report which included the crime figures for October 2021. PCSO Warby noted that there had been two serious assaults and a lot of antisocial behaviour. He advised that four men had been arrested and released on bail in connection with an assault which had taken place in the Market Place and that the victim of an assault near Thirsk Industrial Park had been released from hospital and was making a good recovery.

C1274 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

In the absence of Cllr Dadd, the Clerk advised that a temporary repair to the public footpath between St James Green and The Marage was expected to be carried out before the end of the year with a permanent repair being completed in 2022.

(b) HDC

Cllr Jackson reported that he had been in contact with Cllr Elders who had advised him that Hambleton District Council had agreed to plant a tree in each of the district's wards as part of the Queen's Green Canopy Initiative and that Cllrs Dadd and Elders had each been asked to nominate a suitable location to plant a tree. Cllr Jackson requested that Members pass on any suggestions to the Clerk.

C1275 Open Forum

No members of the public attended the meeting.

C1276 Minutes

C1276(a) Town Council Meeting held on 18 October 2021

The Clerk advised that an amendment needed to be made to Minute No C1263 (Open Forum) as three residents from Johnson Close had attended the meeting and not four residents as stated in the Minute.

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 18 October 2021 be approved as a correct record, subject to an amendment in Minute No C1263 as indicated above.

C1276(b) Matters Arising

C1263 Open Forum

The Clerk advised that Cllrs Jackson, Duffey and himself had attended a meeting with representatives of the Safer Hambleton Group and North Yorkshire Police and discussion had taken place concerning antisocial behaviour in various locations. He indicated that the police had requested that a meeting be held with some residents of Johnson Close to discuss possible solutions to the issues at the Johnson Close Play Area. The Clerk advised that antisocial behaviour in the vicinity of East Thirsk

Community Hall had also been discussed and the police had suggested that a meeting could be held with representatives from East Thirsk Community Hall.

C1277 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1277(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 18 October 2021

The meeting received the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 October 2021.

Resolved: that the Minutes be received and noted.

C1278 Burial Board

Resolved: that the application for memorial for Alan Jeffrey Morton be approved.

C1279 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1279(a) Statement of Principles – Gambling Act 2005

The meeting received an email dated 21 October 2021 from the Licensing Team, Hambleton District Council concerning a review of its Statement of Principles and the requirement to consult with businesses and individuals who may have an interest in licensed premises within the area.

Resolved: that any Member who wanted to submit observations would do so on an individual basis.

C1279(b) Community Infrastructure Levy Contributions

The meeting received two letters dated 21 October 2021 from Hambleton District Council concerning Community Infrastructure Levy payments in connection with a development at Chapel Street and the development of the former Dispol UK site in Station Road, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the letters be noted.

C1279(c) National Association of Local Councils Newsletter

The meeting received a newsletter dated 22 October 2021 from the National Association of Local Councils (which had been emailed to Members prior to the meeting). Cllr Adamson indicated that he had received some of the information some time ago, in particular new guidance on website accessibility and publishing guidelines. He noted that it was now mandatory that accounts exceeding £500 be able to be viewed online and he requested that the accounts for payments schedule be emailed to him each month to ensure compliance with the regulations.

Resolved: that the newsletter be noted.

C1279(d) The New Council for North Yorkshire – Online Briefings

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 26 October 2021 from North Yorkshire County Council concerning two online briefing sessions in respect of the progress being made on the transition to a new unitary council for North Yorkshire. Members noted that both sessions were to be identical and were now available for anyone to join.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1279(e) National Association of Local Councils Newsletter

The meeting received a newsletter dated 29 October 2021 from the National Association of Local Councils (which had been emailed to Members prior to the meeting).

Resolved: that the newsletter be noted.

C1279(f) Citizens Advice, Mid-North Yorkshire - Donation

The meeting received an email dated 2 November 2021 from Ms C Newman, Citizens Advice, Mid-North Yorkshire, thanking the Town Council for its recent donation.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1279(g) Government Green Homes Funding

The meeting received an email dated 4 November 2021 from Hambleton District Council which advised that HDC had been awarded Government Green Homes funding so that it could offer help to home owners to pay for energy saving improvements.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1279(h) Thirsk Citizen of the Year 2022

The Clerk reported that a suggestion had been put forward that Mrs Freda Roberts should be retrospectively awarded the honour of "Thirsk Citizen of the Year" in recognition of her long history of working as a volunteer for a variety of charities and local organisations. It was suggested that Mrs Roberts be invited to attend the next Town Council meeting at which time she could be presented with the award. Cllr Trueman advised that an honours board had now been purchased and was ready to be installed at the Town Hall.

Resolved: that Mrs Freda Roberts be awarded "Thirsk Citizen of the Year" for 2022 in recognition of all the voluntary work for various organisations and bodies carried out over many years.

C1280 Vibrant Market Towns – Thirsk Town Improvement Group

Cllr Jackson advised that the Vibrant Market Towns Group had not met recently as it was awaiting the publication of a report from the consultants engaged by Hambleton District Council. Cllr Duffey understood that the consultants wanted to consult further with the Town Council before finalising their report which was now expected to be completed by the end of the year. Cllr Duffey added that work on the new Thirsk website was almost complete, and the website would hopefully be launched in the very near future.

C1281 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 15 November 2021 be approved and cheques signed.

C1282 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Gibson-Brown reported that she had finishing repainting several blue plaques which had been in a poor condition. She noted that the plaque on Humphreys & Tilly's building would benefit from repainting and Cllr Duffey noted that the plaque on the large boulder at Castle Garth was also in a poor condition. Cllr Gibson-Brown stated that she was happy to also repaint these plaques.

Cllr Duffey advised that a decision had been made to go ahead with Thirsk & Sowerby Festival in August 2022 and that the organising committee was seeking a new main sponsor for the event. He indicated that costs had increased significantly since the last Festival was held in 2019 and that he would therefore be asking both Thirsk Town Council and Sowerby Parish Council to increase its donations from £500 to £1,000. He noted that the Town Council had previously agreed to underwrite the Festival in the event of a financial deficit and the Clerk stated that he

would check what had been agreed previously and suggested that the Festival be included on the agenda for December's meeting.

Cllr Jackson reported that he had attended his first meeting of the Thirsk & Sowerby Swimming Baths Charity on 11 November 2021.

Cllr Jackson advised that he had participated in the commemorative events on Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday and that both events appeared to have been well-organised and had been well-attended. He thanked everyone who had helped in the planning, in particular Mr C Northridge, Mrs A Robson and Mr T Hodgson.

Cllr Jackson indicated that arrangements were in hand to put up the Christmas Tree in the Market Place on the morning of Thursday, 18 November 2021 and that he and Cllr Smith would be present to assist.

The meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.