

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council  
held on Monday, 19 February 2024 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs A Trueman (Chairman), D Duffey, K Mountford, A Naughton, F Potter, B Smith, D Southward, S Ward

**Apologies:** Cllrs S Holme (Alternative commitment), D Jackson (Holiday), North Yorkshire Cllr G Dadd

**C1499 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**C1500 Police Report**

A police report which contained the crime figures for January 2024 was circulated to Members. PCSO Scrivener-Ellis attended the meeting and spoke about domestic abuse and what the Town Council could do to support victims. She advised that domestic abuse was massively under-reported, especially in rural areas, and that the Town Council may be able to assist by encouraging individuals to report matters to either the police, IDAS (Independent Domestic Abuse Service) or anonymously through Crimestoppers.

**C1501 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk  
North Yorkshire Council**

Nothing reported.

**C1502 Open Forum**

**Resolved: that standing orders be suspended**

A member of the public addressed the meeting about the poor bus service between Thirsk Market Place and Thirsk Railway Station. The gentleman stated that he would raise the matter again, with more details, at another Town Council meeting.

**Resolved: that standing orders be reinstated**

**C1503 Minutes**

**C1503(a) Town Council Meeting held on 15 January 2024**

**Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 15 January 2024 be approved as a correct record.**

**C1503(b) Matters Arising**

No matters were raised.

**C1504 Committee Minutes and Reports**

**C1504(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 15 January 2024**

The meeting received the Minutes of the meeting held on 15 January 2024.

**Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 January 2024 be received and noted.**

**C1505 Burial Board**

**Resolved: that the applications for memorials for Ian A Daniel, Nigel Carlton Laws and Margaret Stockdale be approved.**

### **C1506 Correspondence/Items Raised**

#### **C1506(a) Planned Road Closure Notification – Newsham Road, Thirsk**

The meeting received an email dated 29 January 2024 from North Yorkshire Council concerning the closure of Newsham Road and the A167 for a period of three hours on Sunday, 17 March 2024 for the Thirsk 10-mile road race.

**Resolved: that the email be noted.**

#### **C1506(b) Citizens Advice - Donation**

The meeting received an email dated 30 January 2024 from Citizens Advice North Yorkshire thanking the Town Council for its donation of £200.

**Resolved: that the email be noted.**

#### **C1506(c) Friarage Hospital, Northallerton – 2024 Eye Appeal**

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 8 February 2024 from The Friends of the Friarage which included an invitation to attend the launch of the 2024 Eye Appeal.

**Resolved: that the email be noted.**

#### **C1506(d) Knife Bins**

The meeting received emails dated 31 January, 8 & 9 February 2024 from Helenor Gwatkin, North Yorkshire Council and Alexandra Robson, Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall, concerning a proposal to supply towns with knife amnesty bins which would allow individuals to dispose of offensive weapons in a safe and secure manner. Discussion took place and Members suggested a number of locations which they felt may be suitable for the siting of a knife bin.

**Resolved: that the Town Council suggests that Millgate car park may be a suitable location for the siting of a knife amnesty bin.**

#### **C1507(e) Thirsk Youth Club Duck Race – 26 August 2024**

The meeting received an email dated 12 February 2024 from Ms Jill Gillanders concerning plans to hold a Duck Race on Monday, 26 August 2024 with a request that Carr's Field be used for stalls, family games and a burger van. Members noted that the event had been very well attended in 2023 and it was to be the Youth Club's main fundraising event of the year.

**Resolved: that the Town Council supports Thirsk Youth Club in holding a Duck Race on Monday, 26 August 2024.**

#### **C1507(f) 20s Plenty for North Yorkshire**

The meeting received an email dated 12 February 2024 from 20s Plenty for North Yorkshire which advised of a planned demonstration outside County Hall, Northallerton on Wednesday, 21 February 2024 in connection with a request for a public consultation on transport and road safety.

**Resolved: that any Member who wished to respond to the email would do so on an individual basis.**

#### **C1507(g) Yorkshire in Bloom 2024**

The meeting received an email dated 9 February 2024 from Yorkshire in Bloom concerning the launch of a new accreditation scheme which would judge towns and villages on their horticultural impact, cleanliness and provision of public amenities. The Clerk advised that either the Town Council or Thirsk Rotary in Bloom could apply. He stated that Mr Andy Watson had recently retired from his role at Thirsk Rotary in Bloom but he would ask Rotary in Bloom whether they wanted to pursue the matter. Cllr Duffey suggested that more work needed to be done to improve things such as the cleanliness of some of the alleyways leading from the Market Place.

**Resolved: that the email be noted.**

**C1508 Accounts for Payment**

**Resolved: that the accounts for payment as 19 February 2024 be approved and cheques signed.**

**C1509 Reports from Members/Representatives**

Cllr Potter reported that North Yorkshire Council had planted a new tree in the central part of the Market Place to replace one which had died but had failed to relay the surrounding flagstones appropriately.

Cllr Ward indicated that she had been approached by a resident who had asked if a tree was going to be planted at the former play area at Johnson Close. The Clerk stated that the intention had been to plant a tree but that the area had been left as a wild flower area.

Cllr Trueman reported that he had unveiled a new sculpture at the old Thirsk Infants School (now Family Life Church) in Finkle Street to commemorate the coronation of King Charles III. He advised that he had attended a Christmas party at Community Works where he had drawn the raffle and he had also attended a Candlemas service at Ripon Cathedral.

**The meeting closed at 7.59 p.m.**

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**Chairman**