

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 16 February 2026 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

Present: Cllrs: D Southward (Chair), S Holme, B Smith, A Trueman

Apologies: Cllrs: D Duffey, K Mountford, F Potter, S Ward & K White

C1730 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1731 Police Report

There was no police representative in attendance or a police report submitted.

**C1732 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk
North Yorkshire Council**

Cllr Dadd informed the meeting that the ongoing roadworks on Station Road Thirsk were progressing well.

Cllr Dadd stated that the resurfacing of pavements in the Market Place may be complete in two to three years' time and that the bidding process was underway for funding.

Cllr Dadd informed the meeting that the budget for North Yorkshire Council had been set and the tax on second homes had raised the income by more than £10m. This money has been ringfenced, and North Yorkshire Council was the only council in the country to ringfence the money.

Cllr Dadd stated that the merging of the authorities had saved a large amount of money at a critical time.

C1733 Open Forum

There were no members of the public present.

C1734 Minutes

C1734(a) Town Council Meeting held on 19 January 2026

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 19 January 2026 be approved as a correct record.

C1734 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1734(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 19 January 2026

The meeting received the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 January 2026.

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 January 2026 be received and noted.

C1735 Burial Board Minutes, Report, Applications for Memorials

Resolved: that the memorial application for Margery Kavanagh and George William Musgrove.

C1736 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1736(a) Local Planning Enforcement Plan – Public Consultation

The meeting received emails dated 23 & 26 January 2026 from North Yorkshire Council regarding a proposed public consultation on the Council's draft Local Planning Enforcement Plan.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1736(b) UK Town of Culture Competition

The meeting received an email dated 30 January 2026 from North Yorkshire Council regarding a competition for towns to win the UK Town of Culture award.

The Clerk advised that information was available on the government website.

Cllr Southward suggested a dedicated team of volunteers was needed and he would make further enquiries.

Resolved: that Cllr Southward make further enquiries regarding the UK Town of Culture Competition.

C1736(c) North Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment

The meeting received an email dated 5 February 2026 from North Yorkshire Council regarding input into an online consultation hub updating the North Yorkshire Landscape Assessment.

The meeting received an email dated 5 February 2026 from NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board regarding sharing of messages and resources.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1736(d) Health Care Messages

The meeting received an email dated 5 February 2026 from NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board regarding sharing of messages and resources.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1736(e) Fundraising for Scouting

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 8 February 2026 from Ms I Watson of Sowerby regarding fundraising to enable her to attend The World Scout Jamboree.

Resolved: that the Clerk respond to Ms Watson suggesting that she contact the Thirsk Infant School Trust and Sowerby Parish Council.

C1736(f) North Yorkshire Local Plan – Third Public Release of “Call for Sites”

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 10 February 2026 from North Yorkshire Council relating to the North Yorkshire Local Plan and the Third Public Release of “Call for Sites” submissions.

Resolved: that the email be noted

C1737 Christmas in Thirsk

The Clerk advised that he had contacted S Dresser Ltd to enquire whether the company intended to continue with the installation of the Christmas lights going forward, and an answer was awaited.

Cllr Smith informed the meeting that there has been no decision regarding the Christmas lights switch-on event. Cllr Smith stated that he was in contact with the local radio station, YO1, and was to attend a meeting on Thursday, 26th February 2026 after which he would feedback what was discussed.

Cllr Trueman enquired of the Clerk whether provision for the Christmas lights had been included in the budget, and this was confirmed.

Resolved: that the report be noted.

C1738 Thirsk in Bloom

The Clerk submitted an up-to-date report from Tony Jordan/Thirsk in Bloom.

Resolved: that the report be noted.

C1739 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as of 16 February 2026 be approved and cheques signed.

C1740 Reports from Members/Representatives

There were no reports from members.

The meeting closed at 8:07 p.m.

Chairman