

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council  
held on Monday, 17 March 2025 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs: A Trueman (Chairman), D Duffey, S Holme, K Mountford,  
A Robinson, B Smith, D Southward,

**Apologies:** Cllrs: D Jackson (Holiday), F Potter (Holiday), S Ward (Holiday)

(The Meeting was advised that Cllr Anna Naughton had resigned as a Councillor)

**C1619 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**C1620 Police Report**

There was no police representative in attendance, but a report had been emailed. Cllr Southward noted that the road traffic numbers were higher than usual. Cllr Duffey stated that on many of the roads in Thirsk there were no visible white lines and that markings on mini-roundabouts also needed attention.

**C1621 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk  
North Yorkshire Council**

Nothing reported as Cllr G Dadd was unable to attend the meeting.

**C1622 Open Forum**

**Resolved: that standing orders be suspended**

A member of the public raised the matter of the lift at Thirsk Railway Station but was informed that no further information had been received from Network Rail.

**Resolved: that standing orders be reinstated.**

**C1623 Minutes**

**C1623(a) Town Council Meeting held on 17 February 2025**

**Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 17 February 2025 be approved as a correct record.**

**C1623(b) Matters arising.**

**C1615 Cod Beck Project**

Cllr Southward stated that he would assist with the local litter pick for the Cod Beck Project being coordinated by Mr David Tonge of Friends of the Earth.

**C1624 Committee Minutes and Reports**

**C1624(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 17 February 2025.**

The meeting received the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 February 2025.

**Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 February 2025 be received and noted.**

**C1625 Burial Board**

**Resolved: that the application for memorial for Brian and Evelyn Marriott and Anthony Ford be approved.**

### **C1626 Thirsk in Bloom**

Mr Tony Jordan attended to give a verbal presentation regarding the work and expectations of the Thirsk in Bloom group. Mr Jordan thanked the Town Council for the recent donation of £5,000. Mr Jordan stated that that money would be used for running costs in the areas where the group operated.

Mr Jordan advised that Thirsk in Bloom came together as a group under the management of the Rotary Club.

At present there were only two members who could carry out watering of the 108 planters. In the summer months it took three to four hours every two to three days to carry out all watering. Mr Jordan stated that presently the group were able to leave vehicles and equipment at Thirsk Hall and had the free use of water from the Hall for the watering vehicle. There was obviously a risk that in the future this situation could change and that alternative arrangements would be necessary. Mr Jordan stated that a watering vehicle was pivotal to the Thirsk in Bloom group and that the present watering vehicle was very old and should be replaced as, without a reliable vehicle, the watering could not take place. He advised that there are also a limited number of drivers within the group. Mr Jordan stated that, if a new vehicle were to be purchased, it could be a good advertising area and he was considering approaching bigger concerns in Thirsk.

Cllr Holme suggested that a social media plea for volunteers and fundraising could be made. Cllr Robinson suggested that perhaps local businesses could set up direct debits in order to assist to fund a new vehicle and other outgoings. Cllr Trueman suggested that, once the costings of a new vehicle were known, that Mr Jordan approach an Infant School Trust. Cllr Southward asked Mr Jordan if he had considered a rental vehicle. Cllr Smith offered to assist with watering on a regular basis.

The Clerk noted that it was intended that the Town Council, with the support of the Business Association and Thirsk Rotary in Bloom, would make an application to the YNYCA Vibrant and Sustainable High Street Fund in respect of a watering vehicle.

#### **Resolved:**

- a) that Mr Jordan's presentation be noted;**
- b) that the Town Council proceed with the funding application to YNYCA Vibrant and Sustainable High Street Fund**

### **C1627 Correspondence/Items Raised**

#### **C1627(a) Thirsk Christmas Lights**

The meeting received a letter dated 6 February 2025 from Mrs J Miller of the Thirsk Ladies Group thanking the Town Council for the donation of the Christmas Tree for the Market Place and for the town's festive lighting.

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

#### **C1627(b) Yorkshire in Bloom 2025 – Golden Rose Awards**

The meeting received an email dated 12 February 2025 from Yorkshire in Bloom regarding the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the National Britain in Bloom campaign in 2024 when a new accreditation scheme for local communities was launched. Due to its success, this scheme was being offered for 2025.

**Resolved: that the Town Council forward the email to Mr Tony Jordan of Thirsk in Bloom.**

**C1627(c) Sports Facilities Research – North Yorkshire Council**

The meeting received an email dated 13 February 2025 from Mr Tim Holdsworth, Senior Consultant at Knight, Cavanagh and Page, regarding research and assessment of sports facilities and playing pitches.

**Resolved: that the email be noted**

**C1627(d) Citizen of the Year Awards 2025**

The meeting received a letter dated 22 February 2025 from Mr & Mrs John Worley thanking the Town Council for their recent community award for their long and dedicated service to Thirsk Royal British Legion Band.

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

**C1627(e) Thirsk Friends of the Earth Annual Spring Country Lane Litter Pick**

The meeting received an email dated 24 February 2025 from Mr David Tonge, Thirsk Friends of the Earth, concerning the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Country Lane Litter Pick. Cllr Southward advised that he would be taking part in the litter pick.

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

**C1627(f) Planned Road Restriction Notification – Whitelass Close, Thirsk**

The meeting received an email dated 4 March 2025 from North Yorkshire Council regarding a planned road restriction at Whitelass Close, Thirsk for a period of 15 days from 28 April to 12 May but noting that the closure would be in place until 31 May 2025.

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

**C1627(g) Planned Road Restriction Notification – Lynbrook Close, Thirsk**

The meeting received an email from dated 5 March 2025 from North Yorkshire Council regarding a planned road restriction at Lynbrook Close, Thirsk for a period of 12 days between 12 May and 23 May 2025 but noting that the closure would be in place until 31 May 2025 to allow for delay.

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

**C1627(h) Easter Trail - The Holmes**

The Clerk reported receipt of an email dated 12 March 2025 from Thirsk and District Churches Together seeking permission to hold an Easter Trail on the Holmes on Saturday, 19 April 2025. The Clerk advised that the event had previously been held for the past four years and that it had been confirmed that all necessary matters would be in place.

**Resolved: that permission be granted for the Easter Trail to be held on Saturday, 19 April at the Holmes.**

**C1627(i) Minor Variation to Premises Licence - Red Bear, 47 Market Place, Thirsk**

The Clerk advised that an email dated 13 March 2025 from North Yorkshire Council had been received in respect of an application for a minor variation to the premises licence for the Red Bear, 47 Market Place, in respect of the sale by retail of alcohol.

**Resolved: that the Town Council raise no objections to the application.**

**C1627(j) Application for Premises Licence – Nova, 19 Market Place Thirsk**

The meeting received and considered an email dated 13 March 2025 from North Yorkshire Council regarding an application for a Premises Licence for Nova, 19 Market Place, Thirsk.

**Resolved: that the Town Council raise no objections to the application.**

**C1627(k) Survey for North Yorkshire Council Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) 2024/25**

The Clerk advised that an email dated 13 March 2025 had been received from Opinion Research Services concerning a survey being carried out on behalf of North

Yorkshire Council. Cllr Robinson advised that she would review the form and submit comments online.

**Resolved: that Cllr Robinson reviews the online form and submits comments.**

**C1627(l) Thirsk Infant School Charity**

The Clerk advised that the Town Council nominated two people to Thirsk Infant School Charitable Trust and that one of the nominees had resigned from the Trust. Cllr Trueman advised that Cllr Potter had expressed interest in being appointed as a Trustee.

**Resolved: that Cllr Potter be nominated by the Town Council as a Trustee of Thirsk Infant School Charity.**

**C1628 Accounts for Payment**

The Clerk noted that more cheque signatories were required and Cllrs Trueman and Southward confirmed that they would be happy to perform this function.

**Resolved:**

**a) that the accounts for payment as at 17 March 2025 be approved and cheques signed.**

**b) that Cllrs Andrew Trueman and David Southward be approved as cheque signatories.**

**C1629 Reports from Members/Representatives**

Cllr Robinson raised the issue of the cemetery wall not having been repaired. The Clerk informed that there were issues with planting in the adjacent fields as to when the work could be carried out but stated that the matter was still under review.

Cllr Trueman stated that he had recently spoken at a meeting of Thirsk and Carlton Miniott Women's Institute about the duties of being Mayor and Town Councillor.

Cllr Trueman advised that he had attended Thirsk Rotary Club's 90<sup>th</sup> Charter lunch at The Angel Inn, Topcliffe and that he had recently held the Mayor's Ball which had raised £5,000 for Community Works

**The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.**

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**Chairman**