

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 19 May 2025 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

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

Apologies: None

In attendance: County Cllr G Dadd

C1640 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1641 Police Report

There was no police representative in attendance. However, a police report which included the monthly crime figures had been received and was circulated to Members.

**C1642 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk
North Yorkshire Council**

Cllr Dadd reported that resurfacing works on Station Road were scheduled to commence at the beginning of June. In answer to a question from Cllr Duffey, Cllr Dadd confirmed that the cycle lanes would be reinstated as part of the work. Cllr Dadd referred to the proposal to introduce a continuous 30 mph speed limit along Station Road and Carlton Miniott and believed that the police would support the proposal.

Cllr Dadd reported that a new contract to supply and maintain electric vehicle charging points had now been awarded.

Cllr Dadd stated that he was attempting to resolve the issue with the cobbles outside Biancos which had been cordoned off for some time.

Cllr Dadd reported that a debate was due to take place on 21 May 2025 in respect of home to school transport. He stated that a policy had been approved in July 2024 and that the proposed cuts were expected to save between £3 million and £4.2 million a year. He was aware of a campaign by some parents who were against the policy but stated that the only families who would be affected were the ones where parents chose not to send their children to their nearest school.

C1643 Open Forum

Resolved: that standing orders be suspended

A member of the public asked if there was any further information regarding the proposed refurbishment of Thirsk Railway Station. No update was available.

Another member of the public addressed the meeting with regard to an occasion when he had travelled by train and had encountered difficulties in transporting a wheelchair over the railway line as Thirsk Railway Station had been unmanned. Cllr Ward expressed sympathy and advised that the matter needed to be reported to the company responsible for the railway station.

Resolved: that standing orders be reinstated.

C1644 Minutes

C1644(a) Town Council Meeting held on 14 April 2025

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 14 April 2025 be approved as a correct record.

C1644(b) Matters arising**C1636 Burial Board**

Cllr Holme reported that a large amount of soil and stones had been heaped up near to the allotments in the cemetery and asked where it had come from. The Clerk advised that he would investigate.

C1645 Committee Minutes and Reports**C1645(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 14 April 2025.**

The meeting received the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 April 2025.

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 April 2025 be received and noted.

C1646 Burial Board

Resolved: that the application for memorial for Sophie Foster be approved.

C1647 Correspondence/Items Raised**C1647(a) “Let’s Talk” Campaign**

The meeting received an email dated 14 April 2025 from North Yorkshire Council concerning a survey aimed at seeking perspectives on the learning opportunities available to adults in North Yorkshire. Cllr Ward requested that the information be put on the Town Council’s website.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1647(b) Proposed 30 mph Speed Limit – A61 Thirsk and Carlton Miniott

The meeting received an email and attachments dated 22 April 2025 from North Yorkshire Council concerning a proposal to introduce a continuous 30 mph speed limit along Station Road and Carlton Miniott.

Resolved: that the email and attachments be noted.

C1647(c) North Yorkshire Council – Revenues and Benefits System Upgrade

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 7 May 2025 from North Yorkshire Council concerning an upgrade to the Council’s council tax, business rates and housing benefits systems.

Resolved: that the email and attachment be noted.

C1647(d) Station Road, Thirsk – Highway Maintenance Works

The meeting received an email and attachments dated 12 May 2025 from North Yorkshire Council concerning planned maintenance works on Station Road which were scheduled to commence on Monday, 2 June 2025.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1648 Town Councillor Vacancy

Members considered five applications which had been received in respect of the Town Councillor vacancy and a private vote took place.

Resolved: that Ms Kirsty White be co-opted as a Town Councillor.

C1649 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 19 May 2025 be approved and cheques signed.

C1650 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Jackson expressed concern regarding Thirsk market. He stated that the market superintendent had recently left her post and he felt that the market was very disjointed, spread out and taking up too much space. He wanted to know what plans North Yorkshire Council had to promote the market/put on events, et cetera. He also pointed out that electric charging points had been promised some time ago but these had not been provided

Cllr Jackson referred to North Yorkshire Council's CCTV cameras which had previously been located at Stone Cross, Northallerton. He wished to know whether they had been moved to new premises on a permanent basis and whether Thirsk still had the same CCTV coverage and the same number of cameras.

Cllr Jackson observed that Herriot Hospice at The Lambert had been absorbing a lot of Thirsk's voluntary resources over recent years and that the hospice was still not in use as an inpatient facility. He understood that some counselling services had taken place but that these were not currently operating. He felt that the Town Council should be provided with an update as to the current position.

Cllr Trueman reported that the metal grids which were positioned around the trees in the central part of the market place were full of weeds and needed spraying. He asked if the Town Council could obtain permission to remove the grids to enable Mr Tony Jordan of Thirsk in Bloom to remove the weeds.

Cllr Robinson reported that she had been told that the cemetery was looking much better at the present time.

Cllr Duffey requested that the Town Council seek an update regarding the timescale for replacing the footpaths in the Market Place. He also noted that the clock at St Mary's Church was not working. The Clerk advised that he had requested the clock repair company to attend to this.

Cllr Smith reported that he had been approached by one of the Christmas Lights organisers who had stated that they had been advised by North Yorkshire Council that they would need to apply for a formal road closure which would need to be paid for in order for the switch-on event to go ahead. It had also been mentioned that it may be necessary to block off additional parking bays due to the large number of people attending in recent years. It was suggested that a meeting be arranged with the Christmas Lights organisers so that the position could be clarified.

Before closing the meeting, Cllr Ward thanked Cllr Trueman for all his hard work over the last two years as Mayor.

The meeting closed at 8.07 p.m.

Chairman