

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council  
held on Monday, 17 June 2024 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

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

**Apologies:** Cllrs S Holme (Alternative Commitment), A Naughton (Illness)

**C1543 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Robinson declared an interest in respect of agenda item no 8, Burial Board, concerning an application for memorial.

**C1544 Police Report**

There was no police representative in attendance and a police report had not been received.

**C1545 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk  
North Yorkshire Council**

Cllr Dadd reported that a road closure would be in place at Carlton Miniott on 24/25 June for a period of two to three weeks to enable Yorkshire Water to carry out works in connection with a sewage issue for which specialist equipment was needed.

Cllr Dadd reported that Avonline, a telecommunications company, were due to start installing cabling underneath the pavements.

Cllr Dadd advised that a longstanding drainage issue close to the St Mary's Way junction on Stockton Road/Long Street was due to be investigated again.

Cllr Dadd indicated that he had met the new Deputy Mayor for Police, Fire and Crime and noted there were some issues in respect of budgeting for the fire service.

In response to a question from Cllr Jackson concerning the proposed improvement works at Thirsk Railway Station, Cllr Dadd indicated that funding for the work to go ahead was still to be confirmed.

Cllr Jackson enquired whether Cllr Dadd had any update in respect of NYC community network officers following the local government reorganisation. Cllr Dadd stated that an announcement was expected to be made in the very near future.

With regard to a request which had been made for NYC to erect "No cycling on pavements" signage, Cllr Dadd advised that he had arranged for a meeting to take place with a highways officer who had decided that signage would be ineffective. He stated that he would raise the issue of cycling on pavements with the police and also with local schools.

**C1546 Open Forum**

The members of the public who were in attendance did not wish to address the meeting.

**C1547 Minutes**

**C1547(a) Town Council Meeting held on 20 May 2024**

**Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 20 May 2024 be approved as a correct record.**

### **C1547(b) Matters Arising**

#### **C1536 Open Forum**

Following a report of loose cobbles at the rear of the bus shelter, Cllr Trueman advised that he had been to check the position. He stated that the cobbles were not secured at this location as the bollards were able to be lifted out.

With regards to a bench on Station Road which had not been repositioned following the completion of the new entrance to the racecourse, Cllr Trueman explained that the bench had previously been sited on land which belonged to the racecourse but, as the perimeter fence had been moved forward as part of the works, the seat would now have to be re-sited on the pavement. He stated that the matter had been referred to North Yorkshire Council and that a response was awaited.

### **C1548 Committee Minutes and Reports**

#### **C1548(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 20 May 2024**

The meeting received the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 May 2024.

**Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 May 2024 be received and noted.**

#### **C1549 Burial Board**

**Resolved: that the application for memorial for Moira Haw be approved.**

### **C1550 Correspondence/Items Raised**

#### **C1550(a) Northern Gas Networks – Gas Mains Replacement**

The meeting received an email and attachment dated 31 May 2024 from Northern Gas Networks advising that work to replace a gas mains was scheduled to commence on Monday, 22 July 2024 and be completed in November 2024.

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

#### **C1550(b) Planned Road Restriction Notification – Megson Place, Thirsk**

The meeting received an email dated 4 June 2024 from North Yorkshire Council concerning a planned road restriction on Megson Place, Thirsk which was scheduled to be in place between 1 July 2024 and 3 July 2024.

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

#### **C1550(c) Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Thirsk (LCWIP)**

The meeting received an email dated 6 June 2024 from Alex Kay, Senior Transport Planning Officer, North Yorkshire Council, concerning the preparation of a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Thirsk. Cllr Duffey advised that government funding was available to improve cycling and walking infrastructure and that some routes had already been identified. He advised that he was due to have a meeting in the near future with NYC highways and that he would circulate any information he received to the Town Council.

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

#### **C1550(d) St Mary's Church Clock**

The meeting received an email dated 9 June 2024 from Mr Michael Armstrong concerning issues with the working of the clock at St Mary's Church. The Deputy Clerk circulated a further train of emails which indicated that Mr Armstrong intended to carry out more tests on the clock before calling out clock specialists to carry out any repairs. Members noted that the Town Council was responsible for the maintenance of the church clock and expressed concern at the cost of works which had been necessary over recent years.

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

### **C1550(e) Annual Return 2023/2024 – Extraordinary Meeting**

The Deputy Clerk advised that it was necessary for the Town Council to hold an Extraordinary Meeting on Thursday, 27 June 2024 to consider and approve the Annual Return for 2023/2024, either during office hours or during the evening. As some Members indicated that they were unavailable on 27 June, the Deputy Clerk advised that a convenient date and time for a meeting would be arranged via email.

**Resolved: that the Town Council will advise Members by email of a mutually convenient date and time for an Extraordinary Meeting to take place.**

### **C1551 Accounts for Payment**

**Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 17 June 2024 be approved and cheques signed.**

### **C1552 Reports from Members/Representatives**

Cllr Trueman reported that a gardening day had been arranged to take place on Sunday, 23 June 2024 where Town Councillors and volunteers would assist Thirsk Rotary in Bloom to clear and tidy a number of areas. A list of areas which it was intended to cover had been prepared and it was hoped that at least one “Bloomer” or Town Councillor would be available to supervise each area. Refreshments would be provided to everyone who assisted.

Cllr Robinson reported that she had been contacted by a lady who was unhappy about the maintenance of Thirsk Cemetery. The Deputy Clerk advised that the Town Council’s amenity worker and amenity contractor were at the cemetery every week and that it was generally considered that the cemetery was kept neat and tidy. Cllr Potter advised that consideration had been given to supplying small brushes to enable grass to be removed from headstones and suggested that further consideration be given to supplying these.

Cllr Smith reported that Thirsk & Sowerby Festival was planning to hold a volunteers/sponsors’ event on Tuesday, 30 July 204 at the Community Works premises, commencing at 6.00 pm, and that refreshments would be provided for everyone attending.

Cllr Trueman indicated that he had received an email from Mrs M Worley, the Poppy Appeal organiser, following the recent events to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day. The email stated that the coffee morning at the Town Hall had raised over £800 and the Poppy Appeal in Thirsk had raised almost £26,000 during the last year. Cllr Trueman advised that he had laid a wreath at the cenotaph in Sowerby on 6 June 2024.

**The meeting closed at 7.52 p.m.**

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**Chairman**