

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 15 June 2026 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

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

Apologies: Cllrs: K White (alternative commitment)

In attendance: County Cllr G Dadd

C1772 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

C1773 Police Report

There was no police representative in attendance, nor had a police report been received.

**C1774 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk
North Yorkshire Council**

Cllr Dadd stated that the funding for the Railway Station remains available for the start of the works.

Cllr Dadd stated that the new waste bins would be phased in over the next year. The present waste collection contract would end in 2035 and at this stage there was no obligation to collect food waste from households.

C1775 Open Forum

The members of the public in attendance did not address the meeting.

C1776 Minutes

C1776(a) Town Council Meeting held on 20 April 2026

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 20 April 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C1777 Matters arising.

Regarding the De Mowbray Music Festival they were seeking permission to were put a banner on the railings on the Holmes. put a banner on the Holmes.

Resolved: The De Mowbray Music Festival were granted permission to display a banner on the Holmes.

C1778 Committee Minutes and Reports

Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 20 April 2026

The meeting received the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 April 2026.

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 April 2026 be received and noted.

C1779 Burial Board

The meeting received a completed Faculty form regarding the exhumation from a vault at grave number A622 enable repairs to be facilitated to the vault.

Resolved: That the form be endorsed by Cllr F Potter who of the Burial Board Committee.

C1780 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1780(a) Sensory Gardens

The meeting received an email dated 3 June 2026 from White Horse Gardening Services concerning their quote for the maintenance of the Sensory Garden. The Clerk stated that she had met Denis Belda at the site. The Clerk was requested to obtain further clarification on the number of hours which would then determine the actual costs.

Resolved: That the Clerk seek further information with regards to the envisaged number of hours that would be spent on the ongoing maintenance.

C1780(b) Pic nic area

The meeting received an email from Tony Jordan, Thirsk in Bloom, dated 28 May 2026 requesting payment for the pledge of a half share of the cost for power washing the picnic area. It was stated that this was an unnecessary expense as Les Morley, The Town Council's amenity worker, cleans all seats including the picnic area plus the tables. The tables are situated under the trees and need cleaning regularly due to bird droppings. It was stated that the concrete was not dirty. The Clerk advised that she was aware of a product which could be applied which was child & pet friendly.

Resolved: That the pledge be withdrawn.

C1780(c) Sensory Garden & Mill Garden.

The meeting received an email from Tony Jordan, Thirsk in Bloom, dated 28 May 2026 requesting an update on the quote for the maintenance of Sensory Garden & Mill Garden. The Clerk stated that Tony Jordan had since withdrawn his quote for the Sensory Garden. It was suggested that Les Morley, the Amenity worker, could maintain Mill Gardens.

Resolved: That Les Morley would be asked to continue the maintenance of Mill Gardens.

C1780(d)

Cod Beck Discovery Project.

The meeting received the attachments of an email and attachments from Amelia Stapley of Community Works dated 8 June 2026 regarding the Cod Beck Discovery Project and future event.

It was suggested that the Clerk should contact Chris Amy with regards to The Town Council's Biodiversity.

Resolved: Cllrs F Potter & A Robinson stated that they would attend the event.

C1781 White Mare Corner

The meeting received an email dated 12 May 2026 from Tony Jordan, Thirsk in Bloom, with regards to weeds on the cobbled area of White Mare Corner. Thirsk in Bloom volunteers felt the need to tackle the weeds by: - Quote

Hand pulling the larger weeds

Sweeping off the general debris

Strimming across the whole area

Finally burning the remaining weeds.

The Clerk advised that NYC been contacted about the problem but was advised Cllr Potter advised that she would be happy for Thirsk in Bloom to organise a day and time for weeding for the Cllrs to volunteer to help with problem.

Resolved: That the Clerk contact Tony Jordan, Thirsk in Bloom, and advise that Councillors intended to assist in these matters.

C1782 The old Sluice Gate at the weir on the Holmes.

The meeting received photographs, past and present, of the sluice gate. It had been reported by Chris Amy that the sluice had lost its final piece of wood. It was stated that it did not seem to be listed/protected in anyway. Permission to restore it had been granted by John Bell, although it was unclear as to whether he had any ownership in this matter or whether it belonged to the Estate or not.

Cllr Southward advised that he would be happy to examine the project and that he would purchase a piece of oak. Estimated cost of the wood would be in the region of £100.00 to £200.00. In the meantime, regarding Health and Safety issues, Cllr Smith suggested that it be cordoned off and the barriers to be chained to the railings.

Resolved: The Clerk would contact L Morley regarding the use of the barriers from the Cemetery store and that Cllr Southward would take on the refurbishment.

C1783 Interpretation Board at the Sensory Garden.

The meeting received an email from Jan Marshall dated 9 June 2026 requesting an update on the purchase and installation of the Interpretation Board.

Resolved: That the Clerk would follow this up and contact Alpha Signs as the order had already been put into process.

C1784 Welcome to Thirsk plinth on the York Road entrance to the town.

The received an email from Jan Marshall dated 9 June 2026 regarding the missing plinth. It was stated that this had been removed upon the development of the new filling station site at the roundabout.

Resolved: That the Clerk contact NYC.

C1785 Ritz Cinema.

The meeting received an email from Jan Marshall dated 9 June 2026 inviting Cllrs that, should they wished to be further involved, they do have vacancies on the Cinema Board.

Resolved: Noted.

C1786 Annual Return 2025 / 2026

The meeting received -:

C1786(a) System of internal Control

C1786(b) Annual Internal Audit Report

C1786(c) Annual Governance Statement

C1786(d) Accounting Statements

C1786(e) Bank Reconciliation

The retiring Clerk explained the variances.

Resolved: Noted and accepted.

C1787 Risk Management

The meeting received the Risk Management document for 2025 / 2026

Resolved: Reviewed and accepted.

C1788 Asset Register

The meeting received the Asset register for 2025 / 2026

Resolved: Reviewed and accepted.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm

Chairman