Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 19th October 2026 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Annex

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

Apologies: Cllrs: S Holmes (work), K White (other) **Accepted**

In attendance: There were two members of the public present and James Ellis (Rural Solutions)

C1819 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.

C1820 Police Report
There was no Police presence neither had a report had been received.

C1821 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk
North Yorkshire Council
Cllr Dadd was not present.

C1822 Open Forum
The members of the public in attendance did not address the meeting.

C1823 Minutes
To receive the minutes of the meeting Town Council Meeting held on 21st September 2026.
Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 21st September 2026 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

C1824 Matters arising.
There were no matters arising.

C1825 Committee Minutes and Reports
C1825(a)Planning Committee.
The meeting received the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st September 2026.
Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21st September 2026 be received and noted.

C1826 Burial Board
Nothing to note.

C1827 Correspondence /Items Raised.
C1827(a) Thirsk and Sowerby Festival
The meeting received an email from Ben Smith requesting an increased donation for Thirsk and Sowerby Festival 2027. Ben Smith thanked the committee for their on-

going support of the Festival and gave reasons for the request for an increased donation. The Cllrs agreed further understanding of precept spending and forecasting is required before this can be approved.
Resolved: Clerk to circulate current documentation to Councillors for discussion at next meeting.

C1827(b) Additional Garden Maintenance at Whitemare Corner and Mill Gardens
The meeting received an email from Denis Belda (Whitehorse Gardening) regarding additional gardening costs next season. The Committee noted the excellent work done by them at the Sensory Gardens and they were content with the additional work and costs.
Resolved: The Clerk to confirm and arrange this with Denis.

C1827(c) Additional Planters in the Market Square
The meeting received an update from the Clerk regarding the request of additional planters and the response from North Yorkshire Council confirming the path is an adopted footpath. Cllrs Southward and Trueman had attended a meeting on 16th October 2026 with North Yorkshire Council Highways who indicated this could proceed if no other legal restrictions were found.
Resolved: The Clerk to liase further with North Yorkshire Council.

C1827(d) Presentation from James Ellis of Rural Solutions
The meeting received a presentation from James Ellis relating to a proposed residential development on land to the north of Norby.
Resolved: Noted

C1827(e) Request from Life Seeks Understanding
The meeting received an email form Dr Michael Tang requesting the possibility of a small grant or community support. The Committee decided they would promote his event via the Thirsk Town Council website.
Resolved: The Clerk to gather further information about the event and send for publishing.

C1828 Long Street Planters
The meeting received an update from the Clerk and Cllrs Robinson and Potter regarding the condition of the planters on Long Street. The Committee discussed possible solutions going forward and agreed they should first consult the residents of Long Street before making any further decisions.
Resolved: The Clerk to draft a letter for the residents and then to be distributed by Cllrs Robinson and Potter.

C1829 Christmas Lights update.

Cllrs Robinson and Potter stated they had approached DD Electricals for a quote as they still had no response from Christmas Plus. Cllr Smith also updated the Committee on a meeting he was attending with the Clerk on 21st October 2026 with an engineer from North Yorkshire Council regarding the current and future Christmas Lights cabling in the Market Square. Cllr Smith also updated the Committee on the insurance arrangements for the event.
Resolved: Cllr Robinson to keep Committee updated on quotes and contractors.

C1830 Accounts for payment.
That Accounts for payment be approved.
Resolved: Approved.

C1830 Reports from Members/Representatives
Cllr Southward reminded the Committee of the next phase of the re-paving of Thirsk Market Square to begin on 26th October 2026, starting outside of the Three Tuns.
Resolved: Noted.

The meeting closed at 8.28 pm

Chairman