

**Minutes of the Meeting of Thirsk Town Council
held on Monday, 21 November 2022 at Thirsk & Sowerby Town Hall**

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

Apologies: Cllrs D Adamson (Illness), C Hesmondhalgh (Illness), W Gibson-Brown (Illness)

The Clerk advised that Cllr Hesmondhalgh wished the meeting to know that she was unwell and suffering from a serious illness.

In attendance: County/District Cllr G Dadd, District Cllr D Elders

C1368 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Trueman declared an interest in agenda item 9(e), a new premises licence for 59 Market Place, Thirsk, and took no part in the discussion.

Cllr Ward declared an interest in agenda item 9(j), an application for a grant for Thirsk Community Library, and took no part in the discussion.

C1369 Police Report

There was no police representative in attendance. However, the police had submitted a report containing the crime figures for October 2022 which was circulated and noted.

C1370 Reports on Matters Relating to Thirsk

(a) NYCC

Cllr Dadd outlined several changes to be implemented when the new unitary authority begins in April 2023. Cllr Dadd stated that he had attended a council meeting recently when the first of the new policies had begun. Cllr Dadd advised that a second home premium was to be implemented which may result in double payments of council tax. He advised that he would not support the severance payments which were proposed for four individuals at the top of the pay scale when the new authority commenced. He felt that no regard had been given to employees at the lower end of the pay scale. Cllr Elders indicated that he shared the concerns of Cllr Dadd. Cllr Dadd stated that the autumn statement had been better than expected but that there may be a justification to raise council tax by 5 per cent.

(b) HDC

In answer to a query by Cllr Smith regarding the installation of electricity charging points in the Market Place, Cllr Elders stated that this may not be resolved by 31 March 2023 and indicated that there were insufficient "chips".

Cllr Elders advised that support was being sought to provide more warm hubs and food banks over the winter months.

C1371 Open Forum

There were no members of the public in attendance.

C1372 Minutes

C1372(a) Town Council Meeting held on 17 October 2022

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 17 October 2022 be approved as a correct record.

C1372(b) Matters Arising

C1367 Reports from Members/Representatives

A reminder was given to Town Councillors regarding the visit to the clock at St Mary's Church on Tuesday, 29 November 2022.

C1373 Committee Minutes and Reports

C1373(a) Planning Committee – Minutes of Meeting held on 17 October 2022.

The meeting received the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2022.

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 October 2022 be received and noted.

C1374 Burial Board

Resolved: that the applications for memorials for Richard Alfred Chapman, Roy Collinson and Michael Stephen Pounder be approved.

C1375 Correspondence/Items Raised

C1375(a) North Yorkshire Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy

The meeting received a letter dated 11 October 2022 from Mr Simon Fisher, Licensing and Procurement Manager at Hambleton District Council, concerning a consultation in respect of a new single Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy for North Yorkshire Council to be effective from 1 April 2023.

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C1375(b) Review of North Yorkshire County Council Recently Subsidised Local Bus Services

The meeting received an email dated 20 October 2022 from Passenger Transport, North Yorkshire County Council, regarding the subsidising of some local bus services.

Resolved: that the Clerk communicates with the Passenger Transport Department at North Yorkshire County Council.

C1375(c) Devolution

The meeting received an email dated 24 October 2022 from North Yorkshire County Council advising that the consultation for Devolution York and North Yorkshire was live.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1375(d) Drainage Works – York Road, Thirsk – Phase 2

The meeting received a letter dated 24 October 2022 from North Yorkshire County Council/Tarmac advising of the second phase of essential drainage works to be undertaken on York Road, Thirsk between 7 November 2022 and 28 November 2022 (with a break for Christmas and recommencing on 6th January 2023).

Resolved: that the letter be noted.

C1375(e) New Premises Licence – 59 Market Place, Thirsk

The meeting received an email dated 27 October 2022 from the Licensing Team at Hambleton District Council which attached an application for a new premises licence in respect of 59 Market Place, Thirsk.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1375(f) New Council for North Yorkshire

The meeting received an email dated 27 October 2022 from North Yorkshire County Council which contained an invitation for Members to attend an online briefing regarding the transition to a new unitary council for North Yorkshire.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1375(g) Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Consultation

The meeting received an email dated 28 October 2022 from the Licensing Team, Hambleton District Council, advising of a consultation regarding a single Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy for the new North Yorkshire Council.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1375(h) Energy Bill Relief Scheme

The meeting received a letter dated 1 November 2022 from Corona Energy announcing details of the Energy Bill Relief Scheme and eligibility criteria.

Resolved: that the contents of the letter be noted.

C1375(i) Thirsk Rotary in Bloom – Application for Grant 2022-2023

The meeting received a letter dated 2 November 2022 from Thirsk Rotary in Bloom outlining the need for a grant to be able to continue with the work as in previous years and justifying the need for an additional £1,000.

Resolved: that the letter be presented to the precept meeting in January 2023.

C1375(j) Thirsk Community Library – Application for grant

The meeting received a letter dated 12 November 2022 from Ms Sally Burton requesting that the Town Council consider making a donation towards the running costs of the library.

Resolved: Cllr Duffey suggested that the Town Council request sight of the library's accounts before supporting a grant application.

C1375(k) Thirsk Methodist Church – Nativity Event

The Clerk advised that an email had been received on Sunday 20, November 2022 from Thirsk Methodist Church concerning a nativity event to be held in Thirsk Market Place on Saturday, 24 December 2022.

Resolved: that the email be noted.

C1376 Accounts for Payment

Resolved: that the accounts for payment as at 21 November 2022 be approved and cheques signed.

C1377 Reports from Members/Representatives

Cllr Potter reported that she had been informed of building works in a nearby alleyway which were disruptive. The Clerk stated that he understood the alleyway in question was privately owned.

Cllr Jackson reported that the Remembrance Day service and parade had gone well. The Clerk reported that the bank mandate had been changed and that he now had access to online banking.

The Clerk stated that he would arrange a meeting for Chairs of Committees to consider the precept before the Town Council Meeting on the 16 January 2023.

The meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.