Community Safety Working Group 10:30am 11th February 2026

Meeting held Skipton BID Office, above Oxfam Book Shop on the High Street

In attendance: Councillor Brian McDaid (Chair), Councillor Lewis Morgan, Councillor Winston Feather & Councillor Claire Nash Skipton Town Council , Insp Paul Crabtree North Yorkshire Police, Sarah Howsen Skipton BID, Stacey Reffin Community Safety Officer NYC, Kirsty Mellin North Yorkshire Youth, Karen Martin SELFA, Victoria Anderson Craven College, Louise Close Chief Officer Skipton Town Council, Jenny Dean Deputy Clerk Skipton Town Council, Amy Robinson Craven Community Hub Ltd, Cllr Andy Solloway North Yorkshire Council, Jibran Khalil Skipton Academy

1. **Chair's Welcome**

Councillor McDaid welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Introductions and apologies**

Introductions were made. Apologies were received from David Noland, Charlotte McKeown and the Youth Council

3. **Minutes from the last meeting held on the 21st October 2025**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. **Skipton Bus Station**

The temporary CCTV system was installed at the Bus Station over Christmas and was well received by residents, businesses, and visitors. However, there is currently no funding for permanent installation. North Yorkshire Council (NYC) is undertaking a county wide CCTV review, though this is not expected to conclude soon. As the bus station is owned by NYC, any CCTV would also protect Council assets. Cllr Solloway is liaising with the review lead to put pressure on the need for CCTV in Skipton.

Members discussed issues at the bus station, noting a gap between public perception and actual levels of anti-social behaviour (ASB). Social media and press have contributed to heightened fears and misinformation. ASB levels remain unchanged compared to last year, and incidents are not solely youth related, with some linked to the night time economy.

It was agreed that a survey should be conducted promptly to gather views from users, residents, visitors, and businesses. Potential funding may be available for physical improvements to make the station more welcoming, informed by the designing out crime report carried out by the Police. Inspector Crabtree will contact bus companies to arrange a joint site visit.

Youth provision in Skipton was also discussed. Over 100 activities are available locally, listed in the Youth Directory. While there has been strong support from the College, engagement from secondary schools has been limited. Jibran and Kirsty will arrange a meeting at Skipton

Academy, and Cllr McDaid will write to schools. Victoria invited group members to attend the College Health and Wellbeing Fair in March.

Cllr McDaid will draft and circulate a press statement for comment before release.

5. Police

Inspector Crabtree reported that crime levels are slightly reduced compared to the same period last year. Numbers of burglaries have halved, and shop thefts are reduced. There are no significant trends at the moment that are a cause for concern.

By the end of March there will be new neighbourhood Police Officers in post and by the end of July new PCSO's.

STAND and Pub Watch are working very well in dealing with issues in the nighttime economy, having very good communication between the premises.

6. Youth Provision

Kirsty Mellin gave an update on the Youth Club, from May half term onwards Year 6 children can attend for free to aid their transition into secondary school. They have been working with Skipton Men's Shed to build bird boxes, and doing various sessions on life skills.

Karen gave an update on SELFA. They are referral based, offering amongst other things a mental health service, mentoring for 6-8 weeks, counselling sessions and youth cafes. They are doing work on school avoidance and school anxiety, and also have sessions for parents. SELFA are based at Ings, but are still looking for their 'forever home'.

Amy gave an update on the Community Hub, there are several groups that now use the building, and the Hidden Castle is now also open. There is still space available, including for organisations that want a permanent base.

7. Update from the Youth Council campaigns

The Youth Council were unable to attend the meeting but provided an update which will be circulated to everyone. Cllr McDaid summarised the update.

8. Open Discussion

Cllr Solloway updated the group on the Town Investment Plan.

Cllr Feather asked Cllr Solloway about the implementation of 20mph zones.

Cllr McDaid reported that Sandylands are planning another community day this year. A meeting is being held in the next couple of weeks to agree on date.

Next meeting TBC.