

**Minutes of the Ordinary Audit, Scrutiny & Planning Committee meeting, Held on Thursday
9th January 2025, at 6.30pm at Skipton Town Council Office, 45a Otley Street.**

Present: Councillor B McDaid (Vice Chairman), Councillor V Kettu, Councillor S Bentley,
Councillor Nash, Cllr A Hesletine and Cllr M Pickard

Mrs J Dean – Deputy Clerk

Mrs L Close – Chief Officer joined via Teams due to adverse weather conditions

Member of Public/Market Trader

2425/027 Item 1 – Chairman’s Remarks

Councillor B McDaid welcomed everyone to the meeting. As Vice Chair of the committee, he would be chairing the meeting in the absence of Cllr Harbron. Cllr McDaid proposed to move Items 14 and 15 further up the agenda, this was unanimously agreed.

2425/028 Item 2 - Apologies for Absence

Councillors C Harbron who was on holiday

Reasons accepted

2425/029 Item 3 – Disclosures of Interest

None received.

2425/030 Item 4 – Dispensations

None requested.

2425/031 Item 5 – Representations from public

The Member of the Public was invited to speak, and he gave his view on the complaint to be discussed under Item 15. Members listened to his opinions, and the member of the public provided some further documentation to committee members for their consideration.

2425/032 Item 6 – Minutes

Proposed by Councillor S Bentley

Seconded by Councillor V Kettu

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th September are a true and accurate record of the meeting.
5 Votes in favour

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2425/040 ITEM 14– Public Admission to Meetings Act 1961

Proposed by Councillor M Pickard, Seconded by Councillor A Heseltine, and unanimously resolved to exclude the press and public due to the confidential nature of the discussion (Public Bodies Admissions to Meetings Act 1960, s1 [2])

Mr Saghir left the meeting.

2425/041 ITEM 15 – Formal Complaint

A discussion was held to ascertain whether the correct procedure had been used for dealing with the complaint. Cllr Nash has sought the advice of the YLCA, who have advised that this committee must decide whether the complaint should be considered by this committee or if section 14 of the consent to trade should be used as the correct process.

The Chief Officer detailed why the complaints procedure was used, this was due to complaint that was requested to come to committee was relating to how the Council had dealt with the initial incidents, therefore it was complaint about the Council not a dispute regarding the consent to trade. Cllr Pickard and Cllr McDaid both expressed that they felt the correct procedure had been followed.

Proposed by Councillor B McDaid

Seconded by Councillor S Bentley

Resolved that the Audit, Scrutiny and Planning Committee is the correct committee to deal with the complaint. 5 votes in favour, 1 abstention

Members then considered all of the information that had been received prior to the meeting, and the information received this evening. Members were also made aware of an incident that took place on the 27th December, which took place after the papers for the meeting had been issued. The Police have been contacted about this incident and the Chief Officer is awaiting their advice.

Proposed by Councillor B McDaid

Seconded by Councillor S Bentley

Resolved that The Committee agreed that the Officers have dealt with the complaint correctly and followed the correct procedures. The Committee agreed with the actions that were taken by Officers, we were confident that that Officers have dealt with the issues raised in the correct manner. The procedure for responding to formal complaints would be clarified in the Consent to Trade Agreement, and this will be done ahead of the consents

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being reviewed in April. Any further decisions about sanctions needed to be taken following the incident of the 27th Dec would be taken following advice from the Police.

5 votes in favour, 1 abstention

Members also agreed that the Consent to Trade should make it clear what sanctions can be taken against Traders who break the terms.

2425/033 ITEM 7 – Road Safety

Members noted the update from the Deputy Clerk, who would chase up a response from North Yorkshire Highways regarding the questions raised following the committee meeting on the 12th September.

2425/034 ITEM 8 – Speed Survey Results

The Deputy Clerk updated Members that Cllr David Noland is able to allocate £3000 of his locality budget towards a VAS on Grassington Road. This would mean there would be approximately £500 required to meet the costs.

Proposed by Councillor C Nash

Seconded by Councillor V Kettu

Resolved to use the Road Safety Budget from 2024/25 towards the funds remaining to purchase a VAS for Grassington Road, and to fund a VAS for Broughton Road in April from the funds allocated in the 2025/26 budget.

Unanimous

2425/035 ITEM 9 – Planning Applications

Councillors resolved the following responses:

ZA24/26289/HH- No Comment

ZA24/26563/TPO- No objection, however Committee Members request that replacement trees are planted to replace any removed as per the town council sustainability goals.

ZA24/26593/FUL- No Comment

ZA24/26506/HH No Comment

2425/036 ITEM 10 – Planning Applications comments process

Proposed by Councillor C Nash

Seconded by Councillor S Bentley

Resolved to implement sub committee meetings every three weeks to discuss planning issues.

Unanimous

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2425/037 ITEM 11 – Planning Decisions

Members noted that planning decisions made by North Yorkshire Council had been emailed to members on the 19th December 2024

2425/038 ITEM 12 – Internal Control Checklist

Members noted that Cllrs Nash and Heseltine completed the Internal Control Checklist prior to the meeting today. No issues were identified and the Finance Manager would have some items requested available at the next Internal Control Checklist meeting such as holiday request forms.

2425/039 ITEM 13 – Scrutiny Of Policies

Proposed by Cllr B McDaid

Seconded by Cllr A Heseltine

Resolved to recommend the Co-option Policy to Full Council for adoption.

Unanimous

Items 14 and 15 were discussed earlier on the agenda.

2425/042 ITEM 16- Notification of Business for a Future Agenda

20mph on Gargrave Road, and road markings at the entrance to Morrisons -Cllr Nash

Cllr Pickard raised some street light and road marking issues that have been brought to his attention. The Deputy Clerk asked if he could email the details to her, and she would look into them and put them on the next agenda if required.

Date of next meeting – 27th March 2025- The Deputy Clerk would liaise with the Chief Officer to set 3 weekly meetings for planning applications and would circulate dates to members.

With no further business transacted the meeting closed at 20:21pm