



**MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY
23 MARCH 2026 AT THE TOWN HALL, YORK STREET, SELBY**

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PRESENT: Cllr F Matthews, M Davis, T Beharrell, R Harrison, R Pope and S Andrew

IN ATTENDANCE: Deputy Clerk

E39 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr J Proud and S Shaw-Wright.

E40 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest.

E41 MINUTES

The minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee held on 12 January 2026 were received. It was noted that these minutes had previously been ratified at Council on 26 January 2026.

Committee requested that an item is added to the agenda for updates since the last meeting.

RESOLVED THAT:

- i. The minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 12 January 2026 be noted,**
- ii. That the ownership of the planters are confirmed with North Yorkshire Council,**
- iii. The request for a traffic survey is followed up, and**
- iv. An item is added to future agendas for updates since the last meeting.**

E42 SELBY AIR QUALITY

Cllr Pope is awaiting a response from North Yorkshire Council. An update will be provided at the next Environment Committee meeting. Some information from 2024 can be found on the UK air website.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted

E43 PLANTERS IN SELBY

It was noted that Selby Town Council own 38 planters, these will be planted at the end of May and September.

The deputy clerk will confirm ownership of the planters as it may be that Selby Town Council just maintain the planters. Once confirmed these will be added to the asset register with a note of own or maintain.

RESOLVED THAT:

- i. The update be noted,
- ii. The deputy clerk updates the asset register with the ownership information of the planters.

E44 NATURE RECOVERY ACTION PLAN

It was noted that the deputy clerk has revised the Nature Recovery Action Plan document.

The deputy clerk will add any updates in a different colour for committee members to review.

RESOLVED THAT:

- i. The action plan be noted, and
- ii. Any updates are added in a different colour.

E45 CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

It was noted that there are no new updates to the Climate Action Plan.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

E46 COMMUNITY ACTIVITY DAYS

The proposed dates for 2026 activity days are:

Tuesday 26 May – Spring activities – Plant hedging and weeding.

Thursday 10 September – Summer activities – Seed collecting from wildflowers.

Thursday 15 October – Autumn activities – Bulb and tree planting.

It was noted that the deputy clerk has not yet contacted the various groups and beekeepers. This will be done before the next activity day.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

E47 SUSTAINABILITY CLINIC PROJECT PARTNER

The project ideas for the September to December 2026 semester were considered.

Committee members suggested the following project ideas:

- Cemetery – ways to manage the land to benefit the environment.
- Air Quality – to analyse data from diffusion tubes on the air quality in the town, specifically in relation to the increase in traffic.
- Allotments – ways to manage the land, looking at flood management.
- Virtual Tour – mapping the wildlife corridors and green space around the town.
- Trees – carbon mapping of the trees in the town.

Cllrs M Davis, F Matthews, R Pope and T Beharrell would like to be involved in the project.

The deputy clerk will contact the sustainability project lead to suggest the ideas and arrange a date to meet.

RESOLVED: That the deputy clerk will arrange a date to meet with the sustainability clinic lead to discuss project ideas.

E48 LOTTERY GRANT

It was noted that the grant application for the woodland has been submitted.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

E49 SELBY IN BLOOM

It was noted that a supplier for 2026 has been appointed. The Big Communita and Selby Times have agreed to sponsor the gardens and painting competitions again this year.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

E50 COMMUNITY LAND

E50.1

Pond water level

It was noted that the water level has been recorded by Cllr Matthews on the spreadsheet.

E50.2

Water testing equipment

The equipment and methodology report from the sustainability clinic was received. The deputy clerk added some costings to the report.

It was agreed that guidance is needed on the frequency of testing and the equipment that is needed.

E50.3 Abstraction licence

It was noted that the deputy clerk contacted the Environment Agency regarding the abstraction licence.

It was agreed that more guidance is needed as to whether a licence is needed.

E50.4 Water quality of the dam

It was noted that the deputy clerk contacted the Environment Agency regarding the water quality of the dam.

Cllrs Matthews and Pope will analyse the data provided, the deputy clerk will contact a member of the Community Trust who is a representative for the Environment Agency for support.

RESOLVED THAT:

- i. The updates be noted,**
- ii. The deputy clerk contacts the member of the Community Trust for support with the water testing, abstraction licence and analysing the water quality of the dam, and**
- iii. The deputy clerk works with Cllr Matthews to write a plan for the testing of the water in the pond.**

E51 **BONDGATE WOODLAND**

It was noted that Murphy are funding the planting of some trees in the woodland.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

E52 **CEMETERY**

E52.1 Peace Garden

It was noted that the deputy clerk has started work on the Peace Garden plan.

E52.2 Wildflowers

The wildflower planting plan was received.

The deputy clerk will confirm that the details of the maintenance plan is correct and that a maintenance plan is already in place for the current wildflower areas. The plan will include the exact date of the hay cut. And the wildflower areas will be marked with posts and a low rope to assist with the maintenance.

RESOLVED THAT:

- i. The update be noted,
- ii. The maintenance plan is reviewed for accuracy and includes a plan for the current wildflower maintenance, and
- iii. That the wildflower areas are marked with posts and a low rope.

E53 SELBY TOWN COUNCIL PROPERTIES

There are no updates.

E54 DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 6 July 2026

Monday 5 October 2026