



MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 12 JANUARY 2026 AT THE TOWN HALL, YORK STREET, SELBY

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PRESENT: Cllrs M Davis, T Beharrell, F Matthews, R Harrison and R Pope

IN ATTENDANCE: Deputy Clerk

E27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr J Proud and S Andrew.

E28 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interest.

E29 MINUTES

The minutes of a meeting of the Environment Committee held on 6 October 2025 were received. It was noted that these minutes have previously been ratified at Council on 27 October 2025.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 27 October 2025 be noted.

E30 SELBY AIR QUALITY

It was noted that this item will be deferred until the next Environment Committee meeting.

RESOLVED: That item 30 will be deferred to the Environment Committee on 23 March 2026.

E31 PLANTERS IN SELBY

Cllr Pope provided a spreadsheet and photographs of the planters throughout the town. The Committee identified the planters that are owned by Selby Town Council. The deputy clerk will send the spreadsheet to North Yorkshire Council to identify who own the other planters.

RESOLVED: That the deputy clerk contacts North Yorkshire council regarding the ownership of the planters in the town.

E32 NATURE RECOVERY ACTION PLAN

It was noted that the Nature Recovery Action Plan has been updated with current activities.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

E33

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

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

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

E34

COMMUNITY ACTIVITY DAYS

It was noted that the community activity day was held in the cemetery on Tuesday 14 October. There were three volunteers that attended and planted bulbs along the jubilee path and then tidied the older section of the cemetery.

The deputy clerk updated that local groups had not yet been contacted regarding taking part. A committee member suggested that the deputy clerk contacts U3A, Selby Womblers, Selby Family History Group and Selby Civic Society.

The deputy clerk will also contact the Selby Beekeepers to ask what preparation was done on the area in the cemetery where the wildflowers are thriving.

The proposed dates for 2026 activity days are:

Tuesday 24 February – Winter activities – Prepare wildflower areas, plant bare root trees and hedging.

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 they have been added to the calendar of events on the website and will be publicised on Facebook nearer the time.

RESOLVED THAT:

i. **The update be noted,**

- ii. The deputy clerk contacts U3A, Selby Womblers, Selby Family History Group and Selby Civic Society to invite them to attend the activity day,
- iii. The deputy clerk contacts the Selby Beekeepers for information on the wildflower area they planted, and
- iv. The deputy clerk puts a plan in place for the wildflower preparation.

E35

SUSTAINABILITY CLINIC PROJECT PARTNER

The deputy clerk provided an update on the sustainability clinic partnership from the deputy clerk. Committee members agreed on actions to be taken from the projects.

E35.1

Biodiversity Project

The presentation and action plan from the biodiversity project group was received.

It was noted that the pond water level has recovered.

The deputy clerk will plan for a caretaker to take a water level measurement each month to monitor if the pond is holding water, make an application for an extraction licence, research equipment needed to test the water quality and contact the Environment Agency for information on the dam water quality.

E35.2

Sustainability Project

The presentation and action plan from the sustainability project group was received.

The deputy clerk will share the information with the Arts Manager regarding sustainable arts partnerships and initiatives and the digital town heritage trail.

The deputy clerk will contact the University about taking part in the next clinic and provide an update at the next Environment Committee meeting.

Committee members requested that a recommendation is made to council that North Yorkshire complete a traffic survey in and around the town.

REOLVED THAT:

- i. The presentations and action plans be received,
- ii. The water level of the pond will be monitored monthly,
- iii. The deputy clerk makes an application for an extraction licence,

- iv. The deputy clerk researches water testing equipment that could be used,
- v. The deputy clerk contacts the Environment Agency for information about the dam,
- vi. The Sustainability Clinic remains on the agenda, and
- vii. The information is shared with the Arts Manager regarding sustainable arts partnerships and initiatives and the digital town heritage trail.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL: That a request is made to North Yorkshire Council for a traffic survey to be completed in and around the town due to visible increases in traffic volumes.

E36

LOTTERY GRANT

It was noted that there were 22 responses to the community consultation. And that the deputy clerk will be submitting an application for a project at Bondgate Woodland by 26 February 2026.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

E37

SELBY IN BLOOM

The 2026 plan for Selby in Bloom was received.

RESOLVED: That the plan be approved.

E38

DATE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 23 March 2026