

NORTON-ON-DERWENT TOWN COUNCIL



Clerks Report September 24 Agenda Item 9

I attended the Pub Watch meeting in the Derwent Arms and received training as part of the meeting. I also had a further meeting with the Landlords of Derwent Arms after the Pub Watch meeting. As they are very community minded we are intending to work together to build on the Christmas Lights switch on event.

Also attended the Ryedale Cameras in action meeting and can show the latest statistics.
[See Link](#)

Malton Town Clerk, the deputy and myself went to visit a potential new Christmas Lights supplier in Wakefield. This was well worth the trip as the company can provide not just lighting for the festive period but many street decoration products made from recycled materials. This visit gave us a lot of information and ideas for future projects to improve the towns.

The company acted swiftly in my request to quote, arranging a meeting with the Clerk the following week and has put a proposal forward for this meeting (see agenda item 12) Xmas lights was deferred at the last meeting due the previous supplier not submitting quotation as promised. This supplier still has not supplied the proposal despite being chased by the clerk.

The task and finish group for grass verges met on Tuesday 3rd September. The Clerk is to seek a more up to date map from North Yorkshire Council before the group can finalise the cutting areas total for the tender. The group will meet again when in receipt of all up to date records.

A huge thank you to Councillors A. Spencer and H. Spencer who spent many hours tackling and tidying the grass verge on Commercial Street. This was certainly not an easy job. They also provided a treatment for the verge which has been applied which will improve the grass even further. Many negative comments have been received about this area but this is a big step in the right direction to improve this. The Clerk is currently putting together a proposal for Council which will hopefully change the look of the corner and hopefully greatly improve it. Councillor A Spencer also purchased and planted some winter pansies for the Church Street Sheep project. This has added some much need colour in the planting scheme.

Again, thank you for all your hard work and generosity, very much appreciated.

The signage for the 'CCTV in operation' required for the toilets area has now been printed and delivered. This will be put in place in the next week.
Also North Yorkshire Council have confirmed that the gents have now been fully repaired and the ladies should be completed within the next couple of weeks. This means hopefully

they will be opened again very soon. We will look to do a press release regarding the reopening and the artworks instalment with Acorn Community care.

Cllr N Witteveen and Cllr Burr (MBE) raised in the previous meeting about the properties on Commercial Street. Cllr Burr (MBE) requested the Clerk speak to Cllr K Duncan regarding these matters. Cllr K Duncan raised this at North Yorkshire Council Planning and this is the response he received.

Regarding Star Fast Food, it would appear that the Town Council have already made enquiries with the relevant planning departments so I am uncertain if I can offer anything fresh. I haven't seen the site myself so am unsure as to what precisely is being referred to; however if it is in a state of severe disrepair, there are planning enforcement options, specifically through section 215:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/section/215> I believe the bar for this is really quite high in order for action to be taken; if the TC has already made enquiries with the relevant staff here then I assume that officers have considered it not expedient to pursue.

I have raised this query with local Economic Development / Regeneration officers to see if there is anything they can do to assist. It appears that we don't offer anything with respect to re-opening individual business premises.

Regarding the other site referred to, I assume this is 37 Commercial Street, re Change of Use from cafe to restaurant. The officer for this application is Lucy Toolan and she has advised that this is still being considered and the latest is that Lucy is awaiting some information from the agent in response to her queries about noise and opening hours.

Cllr Burr (MBE) also suggested perusing some form of cover with an image to cover the properties while works are ongoing. I asked if North Yorkshire have such a thing but they don't. The clerk is willing to investigate the costs for purchasing screening if the council is in favour of this.

Claire Eade
Town Clerk