

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held on Monday
3rd May 2022, at 7.30 pm –
in the Ballroom at Bentham Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs Swales (Chair), Adams, Bridgeman, Burton, Faraday, Gerrie, Hill, Marshall, Stannard, and Taylor. CCLlr Ireton. The Clerk Christine Downey. One member of the public.

- 411 Apologies from members unable to attend: -
 411.1 To Note Apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.
Cllr Wills and DCllr Handley.
 411.2 To consider acceptance of reasons for absence.
None requested.
- 412 Declaration of interests: -
 412.1 To Note Declarations of Interest not already declared under members Code of Conduct or members register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.
None.
 412.2 To approve dispensation requests.
None requested.
- 413 To Receive Comment & Concerns: Public Participation – to hear matters raised by members of the public or Cllrs with an interest (that are allowed to speak) either on agenda items or for future consideration.
 (NB: for non-agenda items Members of the Council are not permitted to respond, except to ask questions for the purposes of clarification; The period of time designated for public participation at a meeting shall not exceed 20 minutes unless directed by the chairman of the meeting. A member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes).

 The member of the public commented that it was pleasing to see such a good turnout of councillors for the last meeting of the outgoing council.
- 414 To Confirm the Minutes of the full council meeting of 21st April 2022. (Paper 2022/73)
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of 21st April 2022 are agreed and be signed.
- 415 To receive the police report and allow members to ask questions for information – if any.
Received.
- 416 To receive a report from the Public Safety Officer and allow members to ask questions for information – if any.
None received and apologies sent by the Public Safety Officer.
- 417 To receive the Clerks Report (for information only). (Paper 2022/74)
Received
- 418 To receive reports from CCLlr and DCllrs (for information only) – if any
 CCLlr Ireton had nothing to report but requested the assistance of Bentham Town Councillors and Bentham residents regarding the persistent water leak at Windy Hill. NYCC has served repair notices on Yorkshire Water but has had no response. NYCC does not have any power to enforce the repair notices. CCLlr Ireton has spoken the MP Julian Smith about this problem today. As many people as possible need to write to Yorkshire Water, asking them why they are allowing water to be wasted.

The post code for the leak is LA2 7AJ. Cllr Swales will ask all the resident on Windy Hill to write in and Cllr Burton will contact the Craven Herald.

The end of the County Council approaches, and Cllr Ireton thanked Bentham Town Council for a good working relationship, which over the years has brought substantial investment to the Town, in particular the new school and the extra care housing.

In response to a question from Cllr Marshall he clarified the position regarding Bentham's representatives for North Yorkshire. After the upcoming election, the North Yorkshire councillor will still be called the County Councillor for the next year; from 1st April 2023 their title will be The North Yorkshire Councillor. The District and County Councils are being dissolved and replaced by the new unitary authority on 1st April 2023. The County Council is the "continuing authority" and the new unitary authority will continue to provide the services currently provided by NYCC. It is hoped that the transfer will be seamless. Until that time Bentham will continue to have two ward members at Craven District Council.

419 To receive planning decision – see clerks report.

Received

420 To consider and note highway matters for information. (Councillors can comment on any minor highway issues currently causing concern. NB: Councillors may report all concerns online to NYCC)

- The repair on the leak at Mount Pleasant/Butts Lane is scheduled to take place on 18th May.
- There is still a big pothole in The Narrows.

421 **To agree the accounts for payment.**

Citron	Sanitary disposal unit	13.72
SLCC	Annual subscription	234.00
YLCA	Webinar for new councillor	25.00
AFY Fire Protection	Service fire extinguishers	140.00
Salaries and mileage allowance	April 2022	3,578.93
HMRC	VAT	159.36
HB Plumbing & Heating Ltd	Repair to flush on disabled toilet	76.78
Pro Laundry & Catering Services Ltd	Gas appliance safety checks	466.80
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority	Refunded booking fee	49.14
WaterPlus	Water bill Town Hall	205.96
Kingsdale Projects	Grass cutting and repair of broken paving stone at PHPF	3,657.50
Age Concern	Precept Grant	500.00
Bentham & District Dementia Friendly Community	Precept Grant	250.00
Bentham Playing Field Association	Precept Grant	2,500.00
BEST	Precept Grant	150.00
Community Link Cafe	Precept Grant	300.00
Goodenber Play Area Association	Precept Grant	500.00
LASRUG	Precept Grant	150.00

Low Bentham Victoria Institute	Precept Grant	750.00
Stepping Stones Baby & Toddler Group	Precept Grant	100.00
Carl Taylor	Repairs to street lights	264.90
BT Group Plc	Phone TIP	46.80
1 & 1 Internet Ltd	Internet	18.00
Total Energies	Gas Town Hall	1,797.04
SSE Swalec	Unmetered electric supply	98.38
CDC	Trade waste	55.10
Premium Credit Ltd	Insurance	334.76
NEST	Pension contributions	169.40

RESOLVED: payments approved subject to the following: -

1) Age Concern and the Bentham & District Dementia Friendly Community group to be advised that the Council decided to pay their precept grant awards this year, despite the fact that a report was not delivered by a group representative at the Annual Parish Meeting on 27th April 2022. However, if a report is not delivered, in person, by a group representative at the APM in future years, the precept grant will not be paid. This is in view of the fact that it is a condition of the precept grant award that a report is delivered at the APM by a group representative.

2) That the outstanding report from B&DDFC is received.

RESOLVED: To be authorised by Cllrs Adams, Faraday, Marshall and Stannard as appropriate.

- 422 Philip Harvey Playing Field
- 422.1 To receive a report on the urgent repair work at PHPF and to agree a way forward.
Report Received. Issue resolved so no further action.
- 422.2 To consider installing a sign post to the Philip Harvey Playing Field at Ellergill.
RESOLVED: No further action.
- 423 To receive reports from councillors who represent the council on other bodies for information – if any.
Bentham Common Lands Charity: Cllr Stannard reported that the charity has lost a member, and needs a new member, somebody from the Bentham parish. They meet two or three times a year. Cllr Swales will consider joining.
- 424 Items for next meeting and minor items for information only.
NEXT AGENDA.
- Jubilee event arrangements.
 - Consider doing something about the poor state of the public noticeboard on the side of the Town Hall.
 - IT arrangements after Cllr Stannard stands down.
- MINOR ITEMS.
- PHPF – sign with text should be here at the weekend.
 - Clerk will be fully occupied next week with year end accounts and audit preparation.
 - Cllr Adams will speak to Phil Jowett about adding names to the Mayoral Roll in the Lower Hall.
- 425 Date of next meeting. 16/05/2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.08.