

BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 5 February, at 7.30 pm in the Lower Town Hall

Present Cllrs Adams, Bridgeman, Faraday, Handford, Marshall, Pritchard, Stannard, Swales, Taylor & Vendy. Also, CClr Ireton & DCllr Thompson, the clerk Mrs Burton, the coordinator Mrs Hawkins and 3 parishioners

160. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend
Cllr Townson & DCllr Brockbank
161. To Receive & Record any member's Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in relation to items on the agenda and to receive and decide members' requests for DPI dispensations
Cllr Swales declared a DPI in item 168.1.2, planning application 2018/18890/VAR, as the applicant
162. To Receive Comment & Concerns - none
163. To Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting on 3 January and the Precept Meeting
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting on 3 January and the Precept Meeting be signed
164. To Receive the Clerks Report (for information only) – see end of these minutes
165. To Present a Cheque of the proceeds of sale of the 2018 Calendar to Friends Of Bentham School – no one present
166. To Receive the Police Report & allow members to ask questions for information
A written report had been supplied by PCSO Grace. Thirty-three incidents had been reported in Bentham including a burglary at Paxtons and 9 incidents at the care homes. No reports of anti-social behaviour around the Auction had been received. There had been an increase in quad bike thefts in other areas and residents were reminded to keep their property secure.
167. To Receive Reports from CClr & DCllrs (for information only)
CCllr Ireton confirmed that the NYCC Council tax rise would be 2.9% as permitted plus 2% for social care. He also told the meeting that the Highways Permit was now in force such that utilities would require a permit to dig up the road. The aim of this was to speed up repairs by closer supervision. The North Craven engineer, Gary Atkinson, has moved on and the new staff member for the area is Nicky Goodman.
DCllr Thompson said that Craven had confirmed a balanced budget for the coming year, using money from reserves and a 2.99% increase in council tax (£5 Band D). The Extra Care facility is still in Planning and not expected to come to Committee, but he will support it if that does occur. Craven have received a £1.5 lottery grant to refurbish Skipton Town Hall which will be a superb facility for all Craven residents. Hornby Swimming Pool is being taken over by a management team from LCC.
He agreed to alert Craven Waste Management to the regular flytipper on Grasmere Drive
168. Planning
- 168.1. To Consider and Comment upon New Applications
- 168.1.1. 2017/18793/HH Gable extension to south boundary. Dormer window to rear elevation. Single storey garden room to rear T 4 Grasmere Drive, High Bentham
RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application
- 168.1.2. 2018/18890/VAR Application to remove condition 13 (occupancy restriction) on application 08/2011/12007 at Bull Copy, Windy Hill, Bentham
Cllr Swales left the room
RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application
- 168.1.3. 2018/18898/FUL Conversion of former water treatment works building to residential dwelling at High Bentham Water Treatment Works, Mewith Lane, High Bentham
RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application
- 168.2. To Receive Planning Decisions
- If any (see Clerks Report)
- 168.3. To Receive Correspondence on Planning Issues
- 168.3.1. To receive notice of the publication of the draft Craven Local Plan, and note that representations can be made until 5pm on 13 February
The Local Plan has a shortfall of designated employment land. The requirement is for 27-32ha, with only 16ha identified. Bentham is a Key Settlement and expected to have 25 new homes /year, or 14.6ha of new housing with no identified employment land – by comparison Settle has 10ha of land for housing and 6.7ha designated employment land, and Ingleton 3.2ha and 2.94ha respectively.

The other concern was the suggested Affordable Housing provision at 87.4\$ 1-2 bed properties and 12.6% 3+ bed properties. Bentham is well served with the former and the Council recognises that this traps growing families in property that is too small, particularly if they have different sex children.

RESOLVED: That the Council comment on the lack of employment land provision in Bentham in the draft Local Plan

RESOLVED: That the Council comment on proposed Affordable Housing proportions, which does not provide for growing families.

168.3.2. To receive the draft revised statement of Community Involvement for Planning, and note that the consultation period closes on 13 February

RESOLVED: That no response is necessary to the revised statement of Community Involvement for Planning

168.3.3. Others, if any – see clerks report

169. Highways Matters

169.1. To receive an update on the Pye Busk / Springfield footpath

NYCC Highways would adopt a pavement installed to highways standards. It was agreed that the clerk should find out exactly what this entailed and that Cllr Taylor would talk to the land owners. If they are in agreement then quotes can be sought from suitably ticketed contractors.

RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be asked for an adoptable specification

RESOLVED: That landowners be approached for permission to install a pavement

169.2. To receive a further update on Road Safety issues at St Johns Church - received

169.3. To note repairs and maintenance of Millers Ford Footbridge, commencing 5 February for 3 weeks - noted

169.4. To Consider and Note Highway Matters for Information

A request from a Low Bentham resident to solve the problem of dangerous parking around Crow Trees was discussed at length. Previous dealings with NYCC Highways have always shied away from double yellow lines as this will move the problem elsewhere, however it was agreed that the dangers of exiting Crow Trees need to be addressed

RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be asked for a site meeting to discuss the possibility of installing yellow lines to improve safety in the area around Crow Trees

The road outside Felsteads requires the mud from the new development removing before there is an accident or the drains get blocked.

RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be asked to get the road outside Felsteads cleaned

Various potholes were reported again and it was agreed to invite the new engineer out to the area to look at the problem

RESOLVED: That the new NYCC Highways engineer for the area be asked to meet with the Council to look at the poor state of the roads locally

The state of the fence on the Butts Lane footpath was discussed, but it is in private ownership.

The shrubs in the narrows at Lairgill are encroaching onto the road, but ownership of the land needs to be identified

170. To Note the draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting on 8 January, and consider recommendations - noted

It was agreed that the bank reconciliation was correct at 31 December 2017, and was as follows:

| | Bank Statement | Plus O/s Receipts | Less O/s Cheques | Balance |
|---------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Current | 9000.15 | 295.65 | 2532.92 | 6762.88 |
| PSDF | 197000.00 | | | 197000.00 |

171. To Receive update on the World War 1 Commemoration preparations

Cllrs were updated on the plans so far. The VC stones have not yet been delivered. Major McCarthy of the Royal Fusiliers had been in contact (Charles Robertson was a Royal Fusilier) and would be invited. The next meeting of the working group would be on 19 February. The Council agreed that the Lower Hall could be used for a history display on 3-4 November prior to the Remembrance weekend.

RESOLVED: That the Lower Hall can be used for a WW1 history display on 3 & 4 November

172. To Discuss the Consultation on the Closure of Castleberg Hospital and the reconfiguration of Community Care Services in Craven, and agree a response

The possible closure of Castleberg Hospital will lead to the provision of short term beds in Care Homes in Settle, Gargrave and Skipton and an extended range of community services such as night-sitting services, palliative care at home and a rapid response system for vulnerable people in crisis. The concern expressed was that these services

would not be well placed to serve the northern part of Craven and that an alternative providing better services to this area should be considered.

RESOLVED: That the Council should respond asking for consideration of a better provision for services in north Craven including, potentially, emergency beds in Ingleton or Bentham

173.To Agree the Accounts for Payment

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------|---------------------------|---------|
| HAGS-SMP | 72000.00 | Thomas Graham | 20.77 |
| SWALEC | 831.34 | Water Plus | 195.43 |
| Southern Electric | 284.24 | Friends of Bentham School | 1280.00 |
| Cannon Hygiene | 21.85 | BT | 23.88 |
| Black Bull | 280.00 | Aviva | 372.18 |
| YLCA | 115.00 | Craven District Council | 50.29 |
| SLCC Enterprises | 36.00 | NEST | 20.32 |
| Wel-Medical | 83.82 | Salaries | 2289.42 |

RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment are agreed

173.1. To Consider a quote for the repair to the front of the Town Hall
After numerous months of asking for quotes unsuccessfully a contractor had been found that was prepared to do the work. It was noted that the quote offered did not include scaffolding. It was agreed to ask for this to be added before the costs were agreed

RESOLVED: That the cost of scaffolding be ascertained before the quote for work on the town hall is approved

174.To consider items of Correspondence

174.1. To receive a suggestion from Ingleton Parish for a joint meeting with the Police & Crime Commissioner

RESOLVED: That a joint meeting would be a good idea

174.2. To receive a suggestion from Ingleton for a joint meeting with Craven's DPO to discuss GDPR and data awareness, rather than travelling to Skipton

RESOLVED: That a joint meeting would be a good idea

174.3. To receive a request for information regarding interest in Dementia Friendly Councils from YLCA

RESOLVED: That the Council register its interest

174.4. To receive information from Brain Tumour Research

RESOLVED: That the Council ask for more information about raising awareness of the Charity

175.To Receive Reports from Councillors who represent the Council on other bodies (for information only)

Cllr Taylor reported that the Refugee Group were organising another weekend visit to the area

Cllr Marshall confirmed that all three vacancies at the Alms Houses had been filled, and that upgrades had taken place to some bathrooms and kitchens in the vacant apartments

Following problems attending the Patient Representative Group Cllr Marshall asked if another Cllr would be prepared to attend. Cllr Faraday agreed to take up this position.

Cllr Faraday also confirmed that the Victoria Institute had agreed to site a sandbag store on their land.

Cllr Pritchard gave his apologies and left the meeting at 8.40pm

176.Items for next meeting and minor items only

The Open Spaces Committee were reminded about the meeting with NYCC Street Lighting on 7 February

It was also confirmed that the new Play Area was progressing well, albeit slowly, and would hopefully be complete by the middle of February – although some ground works would still need finishing due to the very wet weather

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.50pm

AGENDA ITEM 164)

CLERK'S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 5 February 2018

1. Planning Decisions Received Since Last Meeting

1.1. GRANTED

1.1.1. 2017/18531/FUL Agricultural storage building at Kiln Lodge, Clapham Road, High Bentham

1.1.2. 2017/18560/HH Lift up section of roof over garage to allow first floor bedroom extension & other alterations to existing dwelling at 7 Springfield Crescent, High Bentham

- 1.1.3. 2017/18745/FUL Erection of detached 2-sorey dwelling house (revision of approval 08/2016/16590) at Lairgill House, Mount Pleasant, High Bentham
- 1.1.4. 2017/18764/COU Change of use of existing offices to residential use & retention of existing commercial storage at Greenhead Offices/ Cross Lane, Low Bentham

1.2. REFUSED

- 1.2.1. none

2. Planning Correspondence

- 2.1. none

3. Information Regarding Items Discussed at last Council Meeting (if not on agenda)

- 3.1. Great Place response sent 15/1
- 3.2. Photos of Church Beck etc provided to NYCC Flood Risk Management team 16/1

4. Items for Information – see information folder

- 4.1. Information on Craven's DPO role
- 4.2. Clerk Magazine, Jan 18
- 4.3. Clerks & Councils Magazine, Jan 18
- 4.4. Waste Management – Rough Sleeping in bins
- 4.5. Blood donor sessions 2/2
- 4.6. Craven Area Committee, Ingleton 8/2
- 4.7. Summary of Bus Service changes for 2018, including Craven, 2/2

5. Items circulated by email

- 5.1. Latest Weekly Rural News Digest 8/1, 15/1, 22/1, 29/1
- 5.2. Rural Vulnerability Service, Fuel Poverty 17/1, Rural Transport 30/1
- 5.3. Rural Opportunities Bulletin 10/1
- 5.4. Rural Housing Spotlight, 24/1
- 5.5. Community First Yorkshire, Rural News Jan 18
- 5.6. Locality Newsletter, 5/1, 10/1, 29/1
- 5.7. North Yorkshire Now 8/1
- 5.8. SLCC newsletter 9/1, 20/1
- 5.9. NALC Bulletin 5/1, 12/1, 22/1

6. Progress on Outstanding Matters

- 6.1. Craven asked about Low Bentham sandbag store 11 December, passed to NYCC Flood Risk team 15/12
- 6.2. Martin Faichney contacted 18 December, is still prepared to install the VC stones
- 6.3. Street Lighting further discussed by Open Spaces, progressing with NYCC Street Lighting
- 6.4. Craven Area Committee requested to consider Bentham School Crossing, 18 January 2016
- 6.5. Flagpole – donor found, to be progressed
- 6.6. Grasmere Drive bench site location permissions received, costs received, CDC to consider