

Bentham Town Council

Minutes of the town council meeting held on Monday 4th February 2019 at 7.30pm at Bentham Town Hall.

Present: Cllr Adams, Cllr Burton, Cllr Bridgeman, Cllr Faraday, Cllr Marshall, Cllr Stannard and Cllr Taylor.
Gill Mason – clerk.
Five members of the public.
District Councillors Brockbank and Thompson.
County Councillor Ireton.

171.To receive apologies of attendance.

Cllr Swales and Cllr Wills.

172.Declaration of interests and dispensations.

Cllr Taylor declared an interest in the planning application 2019/201071/FUL as he is a neighbour of the applicant.

Cllr Marshall declared an interest in item 2018/20048/FUL as he is a neighbour of the applicant.

173.Open forum and public participation.

A resident reported that his business will have issues with the new charges for commercial waste. There is no facility to weigh the waste before it is collected or print out the weight for reference. The invoice, which is sent at the end of the month, will charge for waste over the allocated weight but there is no credit for being under the allocation. The system could incur problems where businesses could put their waste in other bins and who will police this. All the glass recycling bins have been removed in the local area.

174.To approve the minutes of the previous town council meetings.

It was resolved that the minutes be signed as a correct record of the meeting held on 3rd January 2019 and the precept meeting held on 23rd January 2019.

Proposed by Cllr Adams.

Seconded by Cllr Stannard.

175.Police report.

The following report has been sent to both the Ingleton and Bentham Parish Councils. The report effectively covers everywhere West of Feizor to the Lancashire border. The report covers from the 01/01/19 – 04/02/19 There have been a total of 118 reported incidents to North Yorkshire Police, this consists of all recorded contact. From this figure there have been 14 reported crimes which are as follows –

1/1 – Assault on the Main Street, Ingleton.

8/1 – Attempt theft of diesel from Ingleton Ind Est.

9/1 – Reported fraud from Banks Way, High Bentham.

9/1 – Reported assault within a young person's home, Low Bentham.

14/1 – Reported assault within the auction mart car park, High Bentham.

18/1 –Burglary in Clapham village, power tools stolen.

18/1 – Burglary in Clapham village, bicycle and tools stolen.

20/1 – Tractor stolen from Burton in Lonsdale.

21/1 – Theft of diesel from The Three Peaks, Ingleton.

25/1 – Burglary at a property on The Main St, High Bentham.

28/1 – Possession of a controlled substance, Low Bentham.

29/1 – Reported assault Station Road, High Bentham

30/1 – Report of 5 Falcon birds being poisoned, Ingleton area

1/2 – Theft of alcohol from The Three Peaks, Ingleton.

9 reports of Anti-Social Behaviour which occurred in High Bentham.

14 reports of suspicious activity which occurred at various locations across the whole area.

176. District and County Councillors reports.

Cllr Brockbank informed the town council that a voter ID pilot during the elections on the 2nd May, will be carried out by Craven District Council.

Cllr Thompson reported that there are problems with the new waste weighing system and its not just the businesses that are affected. Craven District Council has changed the collection service and bottle banks have been removed, as commercial businesses were using them to recycle to save money. Businesses are able to use Craven DC or private companies to recycle their waste. Craven DC's old charging mechanism for waste wasn't in-line with commercial companies and so they have brought in the waste weighing system. Within the year Craven DC want to review how the new system works and would like feedback from the businesses.

Cllr Ireton informed the town council that North Yorkshire County Council has a set its budget with just under a 5% increase on council tax. 2% of this increase will be spent on adult social care.

Clapham School Governors have requested NYCC have a consultation on the potential closure of the school. The question raised over less policing in towns & villages and the closure of local police stations can only be answered by the crime commissioner.

177. Planning.

Planning applications

2018/20048/FUL

Proposal: Proposed family dwelling house and garage

Location: Sandy Hill, Low Bentham Road, High Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7BS.

Applicant: Mr D Jowett.

The town council has no observations.

2019/20107/FUL

Proposal: Change of use of existing commercial workshop and stores to form 5 no. live/work units and 2. no offices, including partial demolition of existing buildings.

Location: Pyes Mill, Station Road, High Bentham, Lancaster.

Applicant: Mr Dickinson.

The town council has no observations.

2018/20046/FUL

Proposal: Proposed agricultural building.

Location: Stoneley Barn, Mewith Lane, High Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7AX,

Applicant: Mr Darren MacKenzie.

The town council has no observations.

Planning decisions

2018/19925/HH Two storey side extension. Single storey detached garage.

Location: Stone Grove Cottage, High Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7AW – Permission granted.

2018/19987/TPO

Proposal: Fell 1 no. Oak, 1 no. Beech, 1 no. Birch & 1 no. Hawthorn. Various crown works to 16 no. trees.

Location: Goodenbergh Caravan Park, Ravens Close Brow, Low Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7EU – Permission granted.

2018/19944/HH

Proposal: Proposed single storey extension attached to existing garage (link detached) to form games room/home gym

Location: 2 Yew Tree Drive, Low Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7NR – Permission granted.

178.Highways

Notifications and matters for consideration.

Burton Road - overgrowth hanging over the wall and restricting the usable width of the road. The clerk was asked to circulate the details to the councillors.

The gully and drain below Robin Lane are blocked – the clerk was asked to contact NYCC Highways to report the blockage.

Road closures for works tend to be happening on a whim and the town council is not being notified prior to the works starting. Road signs are also left and not collected once the works have been completed. The clerk was asked to contact Highways and NW electricity to express the town councils concern over the road works on Main Street and the traffic lights that aren't necessary, causing traffic congestion. Cllr Taylor has already contacted them regarding how busy the road will become on the auction days and that businesses may lose custom.

179.Philip Harvey Playing Field - playpark repair and HAGS correspondence update.

Cllr Bridgeman has circulated the email that needs to be sent to HAGS regarding the repairs to the playpark. There has been no report or information received regarding the remedial work which was carried out on the 17th January 2019. The town council do not find the works to be satisfactory and would like a report. Cllr Bridgeman and the clerk were asked to submit a letter to HAGS requesting the report within a time deadline.

180.Finance and accounts.

Authorisation of works and services.

1.It was resolved that the pruning of roadside trees at Furness Drive at a cost of £800.00 plus vat by Beaver Tree Surgeons can be authorised if there is enough in the budget to cover the costs. The clerk will circulate the up to date budget for reference.

Proposed by Cllr Adams.

Seconded by Cllr Burton.

2. It was resolved that the dismantling of one Willow at Ellergill Lane and Hillside Lane at a cost of £300.00 plus vat by Beaver Tree Surgeons can be authorised if there is enough in the budget to cover the costs. The clerk will circulate the up to date budget for reference.

Proposed by Cllr Adams.

Seconded by Cllr Burton.

3.It was resolved that the painting of the upper landing, stairway and entrance of Bentham Town Hall at a cost of £1280.00 be completed by Barbara Rothwell - painter and decorator.

Proposed by Cllr Adams.

Seconded by Cllr Burton.

4.It was resolved that the town council purchase the replacement defibrillator pads for Bentham Medical Centre, Bentham Town Hall and the Victoria Institute at a cost of £29.95 per set.

Proposed by Cllr Burton.

Seconded by Cllr Faraday.

Payments

Cheques

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| North Yorkshire County Council (two interim payments for street lighting) | £15840.00 /£10560.00 |
| G.Mason clerk's expenses | £58.50 |
| Staff wages | £2038.27 |
| Bentham news (advert for clerk's vacancy – 2 nd advert) | £80.00 |
| Flowerfields (flowers and wreath) | £80.00 |
| Razorsharp – Mill Lane works | £780.00 |
| Razorsharp – Wenning Avenue works | £780.00 |
| Kingsdale – tree works Low Bentham | £30.00 |

| | |
|---|---------|
| Cannon Hygiene | £23.08 |
| Stannah – maxi hydraulic service | £178.88 |
| Waterplus – town hall wastewater | £162.71 |
| 1&1 Internet Ltd – Ionis internet services | £39.56 |
| Thomas Graham – town hall cleaning supplies | £111.55 |
| The Black Pig – TI Christmas function | £200.00 |

BACS

HMRC payment (PAYE and NI) £43.40

It was resolved that the above payments be made.

Proposed by Cllr Taylor.

Seconded by Cllr Burton.

(Cheques were signed by Cllr Marshall and Cllr Adams)

Receipts

| | |
|---|----------|
| Town Hall bookings income | £1176.93 |
| Calendar income | £55.00 |
| Youth Café buildings insurance contribution | £184.50 |
| Christmas lights donation | £150.00 |
| PSDF | £72.66 |
| B and W Funerals | £365.00 |

181. The Youth Café's request to access Bentham Town Council's energy supplier information and consider the possibility of linking contracts to reduce the café's costs.

The town council are happy for the youth café to contact the energy supplier to ask for information on linking the contracts.

182. Correspondence.

YLCA playpark inspection.

NY Newsletter.

HAGS inspection report.

LALC 'points of light 2019'

LASRUG news.

Lancaster City Council Local Plan – evidence and information.

NALC bulletin.

Craven District Council – ward member grant funding.

Parish liaison meeting update.

NYCC - £298.27 grass cutting payment contribution 2019/2020.

Scope house to house collection dates.

Commercial waste charges in 2019/2020.

All correspondence was received and noted.

183. Casual vacancy update.

The town council has received one application for each casual vacancy. The town council will review the applications for co-option at the March meeting.

184. Reports from councillors who represent Bentham Town Council on other bodies (for information only).

Cllr Bridgeman reported that the Victoria Institute water bill was £18,000 due to a leak, a claim has been submitted. The institute has received £175.00 from the Quakers. The current funds are ok and there is a vacancy for a new treasurer.

The community café is going well and maintenance of the toilets and the conservatory is ongoing. There is a chocolate bingo on Friday and Tea and Tarts afternoon on the 12th May.

Cllr Marshall reported that a new tenant will be moving into the Alms House empty property.

185. Date and time of the next meeting.

Open spaces meeting Monday 18th February 2019 at 7.30pm.

Town Council meeting Monday 3rd March 2019 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Gill Mason
Clerk