

BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

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

Present Cllrs Adams (Chairman), Bridgeman, Handford, Stannard, Taylor & Townson. Also DCllr Thompson, the clerk Mrs Burton and 3 parishioners

150. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend

Cllrs Marshall, Pritchard, Swales & Vendy. Cllr Ireton

The clerk informed the Council that Cllr Faichney had not attended a meeting since May and had therefore, in accordance with section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, ceased to be a member of the Council through non-attendance. The vacancy would be advertised in the usual way

151. 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 - none

152. To Receive Comment & Concerns - none

153. To Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting on 7 November be signed

154. To Receive the Clerks Report (for information only) – see end of these minutes

The Council was informed that the sale of Low Bentham Playing Field had been completed.

155. To Receive an update from the Drop-In (for information only) - none

156. To Receive the Police Report & allow members to ask questions for information

No police were present, but PC Parsons had sent a report. There were 65 incidents reported in the Bentham area during November, including 3 road traffic collisions and 17 crimes. The crimes included 1 domestic related controlling/coercive behaviour (under investigation), 1 threat to kill (no formal complaint), 1 damage to a motor vehicle, 1 domestic assault & damage to a motor vehicle (being dealt with by Community Resolution Disposal), 1 theft of a wallet, 4 assaults on school premises (under investigation), 1 domestic assault (under investigation). A further 3 criminal damage to motor vehicles, 2 burglaries of commercial premises, 1 criminal damage to telephone box & 1 shop theft were related to a crime spree by 2 youths who have been arrested and are currently on bail

157. To Receive Reports from Cllr & DCllrs (for information only)

Although absent Cllr Ireton had sent a question for the Council and others to consider. NYCC will set its budget in the New Year and needs to consider increases to the Council Tax. Increases are capped at 2%, but it could also add 2% to the adult social care budget which has been particularly badly hit by the increase to the minimum wage. Cllr Ireton wished to know the Council's opinion so he could get a broad view prior to the meeting. The Council agreed that adult social care was an important area that needed funding properly, so the 2% increase was a good idea. DCllr Thompson said DCllr Lis had reported on the Greener Craven campaign which will use two strands to improve the environmental awareness of the public. The first will use press releases, social media and posters about fly tipping and dog fouling, and the second will involve enforcement action using CCTV etc. There will be a 'spring cleaning' event in March (email to be circulated with details). Finally Craven had agreed to accept the Governments 4 year funding settlement to have a clear view of the future rather than gambling on negotiating a better deal.

158. Planning

158.1. To Consider and Comment upon New Applications

158.1.1. 08/2016/17500 Extension to existing workshop building & part demolition of existing B2 building at Butts Depot, Nutgill Lane, High Bentham

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

158.1.2. 08/2016/17506 To discharge condition no.6 of previously approved approval 08/2015/16136 at Bentham Golf Club, Robin Lane, High Bentham

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

158.2. To Receive Planning Decisions

- If any (see Clerks Report)

158.3. To Receive Correspondence on Planning Issues

- If any (see Clerks Report)

159. Highways Matters

159.1. To receive notification of the amendment order for the Road Traffic Order on Low Bentham Road, restricting parking by the school, noting that it comes into order on 5 December – received
The relevant yellow line for the restricted waiting times will not be installed until January

- 159.2. To consider problems reported regarding hedge cutting on Low Bentham Road
Council agreed this was a difficult area as hedge cuttings do not count as litter by law so do not have to be cleaned up, however the contractor or hedge owner could be liable in the case of a pursuant of a claim. It was agreed that the exact area of the problem should be clarified and a letter sent to the owner, if known.
RESOLVED: That the exact area of problem be identified and the owner contacted if possible.
- 159.3. To receive a response from Bentham Auction Mart regarding damage to property on Mount Pleasant
The Auction Mart have asked NYCC Highways for better signage in the area
- 159.4. To receive an update regarding parking on the front of the Horse & Farrier, if available
The area of cobbles is not maintained by NYCC Highways. This information has been passed to the owners of the Horse & Farrier
- 159.5. To Consider and Note Highway Matters for Information
Various road closures had been notified to the clerk for December and had been put on the website
Potholes were reported on Station Road at Wenning Ave & Robin Lane at Butts Lane. Potential subsidence of the culvert under Burton Road at the Sun Dial was also mentioned. There has been no progress on the drain at Hillside Road, and the bollard for Cleveland Square has been ordered.
RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be made aware of the potholes on Station Road and Robin Lane, and the potential subsidence on Burton Road.
RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be asked for an update on progress with the drain at Hillside Road

- 160.To Note the draft minutes of the Buildings Committee meeting on 16 November, and consider recommendations
- 160.1. To agree the purchase of a 6-camera CCTV system for the Town Hall at the cost of approx. £2000 + VAT, from the special projects budget.
Discussions regarding security in the Town Hall had been on-going since the break-in. Also with lone-working in the Town Hall the possible installation of CCTV had been considered a good idea. In recent months there had been spates of antisocial behaviour in the building and petty vandalism which cameras may deter.
RESOLVED: That a 6-camera CCTV system be purchased for the Town Hall

- 161.To Agree the Accounts for Payment

Craven District Council	154.15	Stramongate Press	1327.20
Mopps	384.00	Phone Co-Op	2.50
Aviva	333.21	Tim Wheildon Heating	33.60
Opus Energy	90.29	Yorkshire Water	294.99
Orange	23.99	Bentham News	70.00
BT	362.12	NEST	50.05
SLCC	121.00	Salaries	1713.80

RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment are agreed

- 161.1. To note the increase in insurance premium by £72.86 following re-valuation of the buildings for insurance purposes - noted

- 162.To Consider items of Correspondence

- 162.1. To consider responding to the NALC survey on Dependant Carers Allowance for Local Councillors
The Council agreed that an allowance to pay for carers should be available to town & parish councillors if it was available to district and county councillors although it noted that its meetings were always in the evenings when husbands / wives / partners were usually available and that previous members had been single mothers and married couples suggesting that child care was not a problem
RESOLVED: That the Council agrees that paying a small carers allowance should be allowed

- 163.To Receive Reports from Councillors who represent the Council on other bodies (for information only)
Cllr Handford informed the meeting that Paul Colley, CEO of Pioneer Projects had resigned
Cllr Adams had attended a LASRUG meeting where the fundraising plans for 2017 had been discussed. A Community Rail Awards brochure was available with details of the recent awards achieved by Bentham Station & FOBS.
Mrs Hey had sent a report from the recent Longstaffe Educational Trust fundraiser at the Golf Club, which had been very well attended and a great success.

- 164.Items for next meeting and minor items only

It was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to Cllr Faichney for his service to the Council
A letter of thanks should be sent to the Christmas Lights team for the excellent display this year
A letter of congratulations should be sent to Bentham News for their 30 years of publication
Concerns were expressed about the loss of hedgerow around the Toll Bar with the new development. It was agreed that the clerk should ask NYCC Highways if there are any regulations regarding the removal of hedgerows

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.17pm

AGENDA ITEM 154)

CLERK'S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 5 December 2016

1. Planning Decisions Received Since Last Meeting

1.1. GRANTED

- 1.1.1. 08/2016/17037 Application to amend condition 2 & remove condition 10 of original planning permission 08/2012/12935 at Nutgill Lane, Ingleton
- 1.1.2. 08/2016/17345 Erection of agricultural building at land off Nutgill Lane, Bentham
- 1.1.3. 08/2016/17357 Proposed alterations to existing dwelling to form additional bedroom & bathroom at Dandenong, Low Bentham Road, High Bentham
- 1.1.4. 08/2016/17364 Replacement of rear single storey conservatory with garden room rear extension at Laskill Barn, Back Lane, Low Bentham
- 1.1.5. 08/2016/17369 Reserved matters applications for approval of details concerning appearance, landscaping & layout as reserved in outline consent 08/2015/15552 at vacant site, Greenhead Lane, Low Bentham
- 1.1.6. 08/2016/17380 Erection of 2-storey building providing staff welfare & office accommodation at Over Raygill, Dumb Toms Lane, Ingleton
- 1.1.7. 08/2016/17433 Proposed works to trees T1-T29 crown lift over drive, fell small scrub & trees under 9" diameter down drive, leaving good shape trees at Quarry Meadow House, Birkwith Lane, Low Bentham

1.2. REFUSED

- 1.2.1. 08/2016/17371 Proposed building for agricultural storage (machinery & hay) at Punch Bowl Barn, Mill Lane, Low Bentham

2. Planning Correspondence

- 2.1. Prior to planning application notification of proposed base station installation by Vodaphone at Tel Exchange.
- 2.2. NYCC Minerals & Waste Joint Plan – Publication Stage Consultation, 9/11-21/12
- 2.3. Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB Development Plan Document

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

- 3.1. Pageantmaster notified of Bentham's intention to have a WW1 beacon 8/11
- 3.2. Unoccupied Properties council tax discount response sent 8/11
- 3.3. Stannah agreed reduction to lift emergency light repair at service, to £216.58 +VAT
- 3.4. Letter to Post Office regarding more proactive approach sent 28/11

4. Items for Information – see information folder

- 4.1. Clerks & Councils Direct Nov16
- 4.2. Land Management – Gas Powered Peaking Plants
- 4.3. Notification of new owner of HCS Ltd
- 4.4. Craven Area Committee, Crosshills, 8/12 at 10am
- 4.5. Chairman of Craven DC's sponsored swim challenge

5. Items circulated by email

- 5.1. Settle Town parking scheme, introduced 1/12
- 5.2. Latest Weekly Rural News Digest 7/11, 14/11, 21/11, 28/11, 5/12
- 5.3. Rural Vulnerability Service, Fuel Poverty 9/11, Rural Health 16/11, Rural Transport 23/11
- 5.4. North Yorkshire Now 7/11
- 5.5. Craven District News, Nov 16
- 5.6. National Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter 26/11
- 5.7. Public Sector Deposit Fund Update 23/11
- 5.8. Settle Stories Dream Factory project
- 5.9. My Community, Locality Newsletter 31/10, 14/11, 18/11, 28/11, 2/12
- 5.10. RAY – Enabling Community Led Affordable Housing workshops Nov & Dec
- 5.11. Annual Report of Standards Committee 2015/16
- 5.12. Fields in Trust 1/12
- 5.13. Police News & Appeals, 3/12
- 5.14. Craven Citizen's Advice Bureau Annual Report & Appeal

6. Progress on Outstanding Matters

- 6.1. Missing & damaged street signs reported 7/9 & 8/11
- 6.2. NYCC asked about ditches 20/7, chased 20/11
- 6.3. Bentham Flag – no progress to date
- 6.4. Community Emergency Plan, 03/16 – committee to organise meeting and report back
- 6.5. Craven Area Committee requested to consider Bentham School Crossing, 18 January
- 6.6. Replica VC Winners stone confirmed ordered 12/11/15. Delivery dates awaited
- 6.7. Flagpole – donor found, to be progressed
- 6.8. Grasmere Drive bench site location permissions received, costs received, CDC to consider