

## **BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

### Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in the Community Youth Building.

Present: Cllrs Stannard, Cowling, Adams, Marshall, Swales, Townson, Vendy, Bridgman. Also Cty Cllr Ireton & District Cllr Brockbank, R Hill - Locum Clerk

149. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend  
Cllrs Robert Taylor, Martin Faichney, Graham Pritchard, District Cllr Ian Thompson & Mrs J Burton, Clerk
150. To Receive Declarations of Interest from members present – Cllr Marshall declared an interest in 157.1.2
151. To Receive Comment & Concerns - None received  
Mrs Brockbank raised her concerns and support for the Library as a Community asset and requested support from the Town Council for it.
152. To Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting  
**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2015 & 16<sup>th</sup> November were signed and approved.**
153. To Receive the **Clerks Report** (for information only) – **Noted.**
154. To Receive a **Drop In Session** Update (for information only)  
A group of residents attended the drop in session raising issue with the Councils response to the Planning application at Clay Barn.
155. To Receive the **Police Report** & allow members to ask questions for information  
No report received.
156. To Receive **Reports from County Cllr & District Cllrs** (for information only)  
**County Cllr Ireton** reported that there was an agreement to complete Station Rd tarmacking but as yet it had not done due to the weather. There is no legal agreement behind this work. He also reported that the new school is leaking and the kitchens have been closed. Settlement of the Budget is anticipated shortly. Extra Care is still in the procurement stage but he confirmed that he would fight to get it into the second stage. Cllr Ireton thought it was unfair that volunteers have to fund raise for the Library.  
Cllr Adams raised concerns that a lot of parents had complained that the school closure had caused issues because some had set off to work and considered it unreasonable that calls were sent out so late. It was suggested that a letter be sent to Chair of Governors.  
**District Cllr Brockbank** gave the latest figure for housing in C raven has been released. Over 17 Years 483 have been allocated for Bentham. 56 houses for Burton in Lonsdale. Which is the highest apart from Skipton. No employment land had been designated it has been allocated to Ingleton instead. Cllr Brockbank requested views from the council by the end of January when the next Spatial planning meeting was to be held. The Spatial Planning meeting in March would be when CDC will be discussing sites. Councils will only get a week to comment when the Draft Local Plan of sites is released.  
B6480 is closed but there were still spectators looking at the hole in the road. She urged caution to cyclists and pedestrians that vehicles were still using it and to be aware. CDC will have substantial cuts in the new budget. Cllr Townson asked for clarity on the Road Closure. Cllr Adams said all vehicles and pedestrians from the Road Closed barrier onwards were not allowed and would not be insured if there was an accident.  
Cllr Marshall expressed concerned that given 483 houses over 17 years were designated for Bentham but there is no employment designation. There is a need for workspace for one/two man companies and storage. This would lead to growth within the Community. Cllr Vendy commented that in order to work in Ingeton you have to have a car. A response to be formed to pass to Cllr Brockbank before the next meeting Spatial Planning meeting.
157. **Planning**
- 157.1. To Consider and Comment upon **New Applications**
- 157.1.1. 08/2015/16366 Proposed kitchen and bedroom extension at Lingstead, 3 Springfield, High Bentham  
**RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections.**
- 157.1.2. 08/2015/16413 Replacement porches at 1-9 incl Collingwood Terrace, Mount Pleasant, High Bentham.  
Cllr Marshall declared a DPI and signed the book  
**RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections.**
- 157.2 To receive **Planning Decisions.**  
**GRANTED**
- 08/2015/15971 Listed building consent for internal works to subdivide an existing church to provide 2 dwellings at St Margaret’s Church, Station Road, High Bentham
- 08/2015/16099 Two additional touring caravan pitches at Lowther Hill Caravan Park, Clapham Road, and Bentham

08/2015/16248 Outline application for the development of 4 dwelling houses, all matters reserved except access, on land at Greenfoot Lane, Low Bentham

### **REFUSED**

08/2015/15982 Installation of solar farm & associated infrastructure (with a potential capacity of 3.8MW of electricity at its peak) Resubmission of 06/2015/15473 on land at Ravensclose Brow, Low Bentham

08/2015/16076 Interior subdivision of existing church to 2no dwellings, with additional drainage to septic tank at St Margaret's Church, Station Road, High Bentham

#### 157.3. To Receive **Correspondence on Planning Issues**

157.3.1. See Clerks Report.

157.3.2. To receive an update on progress with the Neighbourhood Plan application, if any – None received.

157.3.3. To Receive a letter from residents of Waterside Potteries and a report on the meeting with Councillors  
**RESOLVED:** That 4 Councillors would be required to enable the application to be reconsidered.

157.3.4. To receive a report on the Open Meeting held on 21 November for public comments on the Local Green Space.

Information received was completed and a plan sent to CDC but it was not in the format CDC wanted. 4 Fields have been submitted.

#### 158. **Highways Matters.**

158.1. To receive an update from NYCC on the repairs at Lane foot, High Bentham.

An update was given by Cllr Marshall about the work. In the last 4/5 weeks when the workmen were observed which totalled 5 days only. It appeared to be a waste of time, money and effort. He considered it alarming that when a survey of an 8 foot hole was below water level needed filling was missed.

A response was received via email with an explanation and apologies were received from Andrew Mellor that no one was available to attend the meeting. £160K was being spent in Bentham on this project- this was reported on at NYCC Area Committee.

158.2. To receive an update from LCC on the situation with the B6480 at Wennington.

Temporary protection was in place but there was no confirmation of timescales for reopening.

LCC and NYCC to patch routes. A permanent design solution is in hand.

158.3. To Receive a copy of the Road Traffic Order proposal for No Stopping on the B6480 at the new school between 8am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

**RESOLVED: To accept the Road Traffic Order**

158.3.1. To note residents comments on the proposed RTO

**RESOLVED: That these be noted and Residents were advised to send to NYCC Highways.**

158.4. To Receive information on the continued illegal parking at the school, including the police response PC Les Moorhouse responded that staff observed no issues but that maybe their presence affected the situation. Particular attention will be given in the next few weeks. No resolution was made.

158.5. To Receive information on road safety concerns at St Johns Church, Low Bentham

Concerns were sent to Area 5 about the poor road markings David Cairns responded that there are supposed to signs and he will go a have a look at that and the lines.

158.6. To Consider and **Note Highway Matters** for Information

- If any (Councillors can comment on any minor Highways issues currently causing concern)

Cllr Vandy reported that the School warning sign at school was not working because its solar panel is covered by tree and Cowls fitted on pedestrian lights were spinning round and the Bollards had gone.

Clean ditches where road drains. There are 2 down Station Road. Drains are blocked at Goodenber Road no 16 Goodenber Road and Sandy Hill Low Bentham Road.

159. To Discuss the problems in Bentham with the recent flooding

The Sand bag store is now empty. CDC may collect stray sandbags. 150 taken from the store

It is not known if CDC plan to restock. Cllr Brockbank agreed to find out.

Tunnels got blocked caused problems for Hill Croft. Cllr Adams to send an email to Cllr Brockbank with this info. CDC Store to be reopened for people to bring back sand bags.

160. To Consider **Tesco Groundwork grant scheme** and possible projects for future funding rounds (NB note maximum project costs)

The deadline for submissions had passed but it was suggested future funding rounds

161. To Receive a letter from FOBL asking for **Council support retaining the Library Service** in Bentham

A request for the Council to support financially in some way. 400 users/members at the moment. Fund raising is required. Volunteers have tried to get someone to raise funds with no luck. Cleaners /caretaker required.

Volunteers 24/7 to look after the building. There are a number of options to explore.

Move the library to Pioneer projects, Officers have looked at Pioneer projects and Wenningdale Room and Millers Court. A firm proposal is required from FOBL (NYCC officers look at suitability and costs and can then support the library) NYCC will refit and add in £3-4 K.

**RESOLVED:** In principle to support and also will look at financial support but the Council require a firm proposal

- 161.1 To receive confirmation from Library Services that they will not be pursuing use of the Wenningdale Room as an alternative location **Noted**

*Cllr D Ireton Left the meeting*

162. To Receive confirmation of the purchase of **Low Bentham School Playing Field** and completion of the fencing, and to consider the next steps

The Deeds have been signed and the Solicitors invoice has been paid. It's all now fenced (photo sent round)

Ground works may still be required to ensure gates can be opened.

Cllr Marshall will research 3 or 4 Playground suppliers for proposals and costings for a budget of £60/70K then invite everyone to give comments and views on options received. The Clerk to send a list of Play suppliers to Cllr Marshall. Trees on the other side may need attention in the future and may cause a problem. A site visit was suggested by Cllr Adams

163. To Receive information about **Bentham Market**, and agree a way forward – if any

**RESOLVED: That this matter had already been rectified**

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

Salaries	1583.11	Orange	23.99
B&CE Armstrong	147.00	EOn	92.15
Stramongate Press	1200.00	BT Ltd	326.69
Viking Direct	102.56	Clearglass Cleaning	90.00
Aviva	311.66	OGS Ltd	23.00
Craven DC	151.71	MBE Ltd	64.37
Phone Co-Op	2.96	Direct 365	140.10
R Hill	374.00	Yorkshire Water	269.65
Mopps	384.00	SLCC	149.00
Yorkshire Fed. Young Farmers	200.00		

**RESOLVED: That payments are agreed.**

165. To consider items of **Correspondence**

165.1. To receive a request and nominate a representative for the Elderly Care Group

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr Townson had attended two recent meetings and was nominated.

165.2. To Receive notice of an RSN seminar 'Making Rural Settlements Work –Planning & Affordable Housing' on 9 February 2016 at County Hall, Northallerton and agree attendance if any **Noted**

165.3. To receive a letter from Craven CAB regarding its annual report and other information **Received**

165.4. To receive a letter from St Johns confirming that the notices regarding the closure of St Margarets have been displayed for the statutory period **Noted**

166. To receive **Reports** from Councillors who represent the Council on other bodies (for information only)

Cllr Townson –reported on the Extra Care Group that had met twice and agreed that they are aware they need to move Bentham's case for care forward. NYCC seemed to have altered their approach to developing extra care facilities. A pool of developers and care and housing associations were involved in building mixed support facilities. Cllr Townson suggested that the Neighbourhood plan should have some mention of facilities for care and that S106 money may be able to go towards this.

Cllr Cowing reported back on the Refugee support group. 2 meetings had been well attended. Items for refugees to be collected to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 10-12 am at Bentham Town Hall. An Information day to be held at the Lower Town Hall Feb 6<sup>th</sup> 12-4 pm. A fundraising evening of entertainment to be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> March at the Methodist Hall. A welcome banner is being made.

Cllr Vandy reported back about the Defibrillators. Application had been made to the British Heart Foundation for 2 and a set of training dummies. If the equipment was bought by BTC they will be VAT free and the cabinets will be free of charge. A request to update the Asset register was made once the items were in place. The Lower Town Hall could be used for CPR sessions. The Surgery will have one on the outside of the building. An article for Bentham News will be submitted.

Community Youth Café AGM reported that funding was down on previous years. A Dragons Den night is planned to raise funds for the light and heating A new radiator is now installed thanks to BTC.

A successful tree tops trek was organised with well behaved children who were a credit to the parents.

Xmas activities - 12<sup>th</sup> Jan and Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec Masterchef running into January.

Cllr Swales attended the NYCC Craven Area Committee and reported that the advertising campaign was successful in recruiting more firefighters.

Cllr Marshall reported on the Alms houses refurbishment plans.

167. Items for next meeting and minor items only

Grass Cutting Contractors can still submit tenders they have until the January meeting.

The Meeting closed 20:38 p.m.

Miss R Hill

Locum Clerk to the Council

17<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

## **CLERK'S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 14 December 2015**

### **1. Planning Decisions Received Since Last Meeting**

#### **1.1. GRANTED**

- 1.1.1. 08/2015/15971 Listed building consent for internal works to subdivide an existing church to provide 2 dwellings at St Margaret's Church, Station Road, High Bentham
- 1.1.2. 08/2015/16099 Two additional touring caravan pitches at Lowther Hill Caraven Park, Clapham Road, Bentham
- 1.1.3. 08/2015/16248 Outline application for the development of 4 dwelling houses, all matters reserved except access, on land at Greenfoot Lane, Low Bentham

#### **1.2. REFUSED**

- 1.2.1. 08/2015/15982 Installation of solar farm & associated infrastructure (with a potential capacity of 3.8MW of electricity at its peak) Resubmission of 06/2015/15473 on land at Ravensclose Brow, Low Bentham
- 1.2.2. 08/2015/16076 Interior subdivision of existing church to 2no dwellings, with additional drainage to septic tank at St Margaret's Church, Station Road, High Bentham

### **2. Planning Correspondence**

- 2.1. Planning Focus Newsletter, November 2015
- 2.2. NYCC / City of York Minerals & Waste Joint Plan, preferred options consultation (November 2015 – January 2016)
- 2.3. Lancaster City Council – Arnsdale & Silverdale AONB, Supporting Planning Documents, & Arkholme Consultations.

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

- 3.1. Grass Tender circulated 12 November
- 3.2. Urban Grass Cutting response sent 30 November 2015
- 3.3. Baby Change mat ordered 1 December

### **4. Items for Information – see information folder**

- 4.1. Garden Waste Collection suspended from end November to March 2016, except collection mid January.
- 4.2. Community Youth thank you letter

### **5. Items circulated by email**

- 5.1. Latest Weekly Rural News Digest 2/11, 9/11, 16/11, 23/11, 30/11, 7/12
- 5.2. Rural Vulnerability Service, Rural Transport 11/11, Rural Broadband 18/11, Fuel Poverty 10/12
- 5.3. Rural Opportunities Bulletin, 4/11 & 2/12
- 5.4. Craven Newsletter, November
- 5.5. North Yorkshire Now, 2/11 & 7/12
- 5.6. NY Police newsletter, November
- 5.7. NY Police – Julia Mulligan Surgery, CDC Offices 10 December
- 5.8. NY Police – neighbourhood watch 16/11
- 5.9. White Rose Update, November
- 5.10. Home Start Craven Newsletter, December
- 5.11. Craven Area Committee, 10 December
- 5.12. Historic Towns Forum, November 15
- 5.13. Updates from Craven CAB, 2/11
- 5.14. RAY News 18/11
- 5.15. Fields in Trust news 18/11
- 5.16. NALC bulletin 24/11
- 5.17. PSDF short accounts, 26/11

### **6. Progress on Outstanding Matters**

- 6.1. Unmetered Supply for street lights – awaiting info from NYCC
- 6.2. Low Bentham School Playing Field purchase completed Nov 15
- 6.3. Bentham flag details sent to WeAreBentham 23 March, awaiting response

- 6.4. Community Emergency Plan generic template & Burton Plan to be considered – meeting to be arranged
- 6.5. Replica VC Winners stone confirmed ordered 12/11. Delivery dates awaited
- 6.6. Flagpole – donor found, to be progressed
- 6.7. Grasmere Drive bench site location permissions received, costs received, donor awaited