

**MINUTES of the Council Meeting held on Monday
19th December 2022, at 7.30 pm – in the Lower Hall,
Bentham Town Hall.**

Present: Cllrs Adams (Chair), Burton, Gerrie, Hill, Marshall, Paige, Pearce and Stannard. The Clerk Christine Downey. One member of the public.

- 241 Apologies from members unable to attend: -
- 241.1 To Note Apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.
Cllr Jones.
- 241.2 To consider acceptance of reasons for absence.
None.
- 242 Declaration of interests: -
- 241.1 To Note Declarations of Interest not already declared under members Code of Conduct or members register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.
None.
- 241.2 To approve dispensation requests.
None.
- 243 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).
None.
- 244 Co-option: -
- 244.1 To consider written applications for the office of town councillor and to fill vacant seats by co-option.
None.
- 244.2 To agree a way forward regarding any remaining vacancies. (Paper 2022/209)
RESOLVED: To readvertise the remaining councillor vacancies, closing date for applications to be 31st January 2023.
RESOLVED: To readvertise as required thereafter, to the end of each calendar month.
- 245 To Confirm the Minutes of the previous meeting of 5th December 2022. (Paper 202/210)
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of 5th December 2022 are agreed and be signed.
- 246 To consider the request from ENW for permission to erect external scaffolding around the site at the Mount Pleasant Electricity Sub Station, and to agree a way forward. (Papers 2022/211 to 2022/214)
RESOLVED: Clerk to let ENW know that: -
- **The Christmas lights are scheduled to come down on 7th January 2023.**
 - **A Council representative would be happy to attend a site meeting.**
 - **That School Hill is not registered with the land registry, but is owned by Bentham Town Council, apart from the footprint of the old toilet block.**
 - **That Bentham Town Council owns the area around the perimeter of the substation on the Main Street and Robin Lane sides of the building.**

- That Bentham Town Council grants permission for the erection of scaffolding on the area around the perimeter of the substation owned by the council, subject to any damage being made good by ENW, and the site being thoroughly cleared by ENW after the work has been completed.
- That the council requests that ENW makes a donation to the Bentham Christmas Lights fund.

RESOLVED: Clerk to put the ENW project organiser in touch with the owner of the property behind the substation, regarding access.

247 To consider making nominations for the Craven District Council Legacy Sub-Committee Award, and agree a way forward. Deadline Friday 6th January 2023. (Paper 2022/168)

RESOLVED: The council selected one local organisation and one individual to be nominated. The clerk will submit the nomination documents.

248 To consider suggestions for special projects for 2023/2024 with a view to obtaining cost estimates for the precept meeting. (Paper 2022/215 and 2022/216)

	Item	RESOLVED:	Estimated Cost
1	Replacing three benches at the cemetery.	Consider at precept meeting Jan 2023.	2,000
2	Sanding wooden floor and recoating – Ballroom.	Carry forward for consideration in a later year.	-
3	Sanding wooden floor and recoating - Ballroom	Carry forward.	-
4	Work from Fire Risk Assessment recommendations.	Deal with any remaining training costs in annual budget.	-
5	Widening of exit doors from WR stairwells to car park.	Consider at precept meeting Jan 2023	Cllrs Adams or Marshall to provide figure.
6	Street Light Projects.	Consider at precept meeting Jan 2023	Estimates being pursued.
7	Bicycle track at PHPF.	Carry forward – would need Section 106 monies.	-
8	Windows in the Ballroom.	Consider at precept meeting Jan 2023	£13,139.86 + vat, plus plumbing, joinery, painting and decorating costs, including installation of timber/fitting for blinds.
9	Blinds in Town Hall.	Carry forward – apart from cost of installing the means of hanging blinds, which is to be included with “windows in the ballroom” item above.	-
10	Cemetery wall for plaques.	Carry forward.	-
11	Drainage at cemetery.	Carry forward.	-
12	Update names of Mayors on Roll of Honour in Town Hall.	Consider at precept meeting Jan 2023	Cllr Adams to provide figure.

13	Public noticeboard side of Town Hall.	Consider at precept meeting Jan 2023	Cllr Hill to provide figure.
14	Flag poles on front of Town Hall.	No cost to council item.	-
15	Laptops for councillors.	Consider at precept meeting Jan 2023 4 or 5 x ? Clerk to check with Cllr Jones if laptop required.	Cllr Marshall to provide figure.
16	Memorial for the late Queen Elizabeth.	Consider at precept meeting Jan 2023	Cllr Hill to provide figure.
17	Additional street light on Lairgill	No further action.	-
18	Replacement signpost.	Consider at precept meeting Jan 2023	2,500
19	Additional fencing in the cemetery.	Consider at precept meeting Jan 2023	Cllr Marshall to provide figure.
20	Landscaping around the parish	Consider at precept meeting Jan 2023	Round sum
21	Large Christmas decoration for Town Hall and up lights at Town Hall.	Consider at precept meeting Jan 2023	Cllr Paige to provide figure,

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Items for next meeting and minor items for information only.

Agenda items: -

- Calendar 2024 to be on January 2023 agenda.
- Review of gritting arrangements to be on next agenda.

Minor items: -

- Grit bins can be refilled by advising NYCC online that it is necessary. The one outside the fire station needs refilling.
- Apologies received from Cllr Marshall for the 16/01/2023 meeting.
- Cllr Pearce expressed thanks to the clerk, the caretaker, and Thomas brown for resolving most of the issues at the Town Hall.
- Cllr Adams expressed thanks to The Council for its hard work in the last twelve months.

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Date of next meeting:

Tue 03/01/2023 Full Council meeting

Wed 04/01/2023 Finance Committee meeting

Mon 09/01/2023 Precept meeting

Mon 16/01/2023 Full Council meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.33.