



## BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES of the Council Precept Meeting held on Monday 13th January 2020, at 7.00 pm in the Lower Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs Marshall (Chair), Adams, Bridgeman, Burton, Faraday, Handford, Hill, Stannard, Taylor and Wills. The Clerk Christine Downey. One member of the public.

- 198 To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend  
Cllr Swales.
- 199 To Receive and Record any member's Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in relation to any items on the agenda and to receive and decide members requests for DPI dispensations  
**Please refer to the individual grant applications for the councillor's declarations of interests, item 203.**
- 200 To Receive Comment & Concerns  
None.
- 201 To consider the projected assessment for 2020/2021, based on accounts for 2019/2020 to end of December, and make any necessary changes  
Cllr Burton queried the admin costs, which were explained. There was no proposal to amend the figures.  
**RESOLVED: To move insurance out of the "Town Hall" category of expenditure and add a separate category for insurance to the budget.**  
**RESOLVED: Not to include an amount for the street lighting projects in the 2020/2021 budget in view of the fact that there is expected to be a balance of approximately £9,000 in street lighting reserves after phases 1 to 4 have been completed and paid for.**
- 202 To consider any potential special projects  
**RESOLVED: That the special projects budget be set for £5,000 for the heritage trail and footpath update.**
- 202.1 Engrave explanation on PHPF sign  
**RESOLVED: To include £1,000 in budget out of reserves.**
- 202.2 Replace 14 benches in the parish  
**RESOLVED: To include £8,000 in budget out of reserves.**
- 202.3 Update heritage footpath and make signs more noticeable  
**RESOLVED: To set the special project budget at £5,000.**
- 202.4 More bins  
**RESOLVED: Not to proceed with this as a special project in 2020/2021.**
- 202.5 Pressure wash front of the town hall to clean it up – no longer considered as a special project, already agreed to pay for out of town hall maintenance category of expenditure.
- 202.6 One day's work at cemetery to reveal identification stones  
**RESOLVED: To include £500 in budget out of reserves.**
- 202.7 Any other special projects  
None



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To consider and decide upon Grant applications

**RESOLVED: That the grant budget be set at £14,400 and the following grants be awarded to the applicants: -**

Organisation	Interest declared by	Amount awarded	Conditions
Age Concern Bentham	-	£100	-
Bentham Area Refugee Support Group (BARSG)	Cllr Taylor	nil	-
Bentham Christmas Lights Committee	-	£1,000	1) Award will only be made if there is a Christmas lights display in Bentham in 2020. 2) Award to be withheld until October 2020.
Bentham Playing Fields Association	Cllr Stannard	£5,000	1) The Town Council resolved to complete the grass cutting and collection for the playing field at a total capped cost of £5,000 for the year. 2) The Town Council will renegotiate the contract with Andrew Tenant for grass cutting and collection.
Bentham Youth Cafe	Cllr Wills	£500	-
Carnival Bentham		£500	Council will purchase goods to the cost of £500 excluding VAT if preferred by the organisation.
Collingwood & Longstaffe Charity	Cllr Marshall <b>(This section of the meeting was chaired by Cllr Taylor)</b>	nil	-
Community Link Cafe	Cllr Bridgeman Cllr Faraday	£500	Council will purchase goods to the cost of £500 excluding VAT if preferred by the organisation.
Enable Disability (Bentham Bees)	-	nil	-
Goodenber Play Area Association	Cllr Adams Cllr Hill	£1,200	-
Lancaster & Skipton Users Group (LASRUG)	Cllr Adams	£150	-



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Low Bentham Victoria Institute	Cllr Bridgeman Cllr Faraday	£5,000	-
Settle Area Swimming Pool	Cllr Adams	£250	Council will purchase goods to the cost of £250 excluding VAT if preferred by the organisation.
Stepping Stones Baby and Toddler Group	-	£200	Council will purchase goods to the cost of £200 excluding VAT if preferred by the organisation.
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£14,400</b>	

- 204 To consider minor items  
None to be considered at this meeting.  
For future council meetings: -  
The Council to consider formulating a benches policy.  
The Council to consider inviting the Bentham Christmas Lights Committee to a meeting to establish their plans for 2020 and to determine if the Council can help in any way.  
The Council to consider revising the grants policy to clarify the criteria for applications.
- 205 To agree the precept for 2020/2021 and sign the request for payment  
**RESOLVED: That the precept for 2020/2021 be set at £105,630. The Band D equivalent charge will remain at £85.55. The request for payment was signed.**
- 206 To adopt the budget for 2020/2021  
**RESOLVED: That the budget for 2020/2021 be adopted.**
- There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.58