

MINUTES of the Council Meeting held on Monday
4th July 2022, at 7.30 pm –
in the Ballroom at Bentham Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs Adams (Chair), Gerrie, Hill and Marshall. CCllr Ireton. DCllrs Brockbank and Handley. The clerk Christine Downey. Two members of the public.

The meeting started with a minute's silence following the death of Wendy Heigh, who was a member of the council for 12 years, between 1998 and 2010.

- 63 Apologies from members unable to attend: -
- 63.1 To Note Apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.
Cllr Burton.
- 63.2 To consider acceptance of reasons for absence – if consideration of reason requested. **None.**
- 64 Declaration of interests: -
- 64.1 To Note Declarations of Interest not already declared under members Code of Conduct or members register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. **None.**
- 64.2 To approve dispensation requests – if dispensation requests received. **None.**
- 65 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.
- 66 To Confirm the Minutes of the previous meeting on 21st June 2022. (Paper 2022/114)
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of 21st June 2022 are agreed and be signed.
- 67 To receive the Police Report and allow members to ask questions for information – if any.
RECEIVED.
- 68 To receive a report from the Public Safety Officer and allow members to ask questions for information – if any
NONE RECEIVED.
- 69 To receive the Clerks Report (for information only). (Paper 2022/115)
RECEIVED.
- 70 To receive reports from CCllr & DCllrs (for information) – if any.
 CCllr Ireton reported that he is very pleased to see action finally being taken regarding the water leak on Windy Hill, which he believes is due to actions by local residents, the Bentham News and the MP Julian Smith contacting the chief executive. He expressed his thanks to all those involved in moving this forward, and hopes that it is realised that what is needed is a completely new pipe, due to the number of leaks there are. He noted that more work is being done there today.
 He went on to report that NYCC is introducing another scrutiny committee to their system, solely to look at putting in place the working groups that will look at how the new authority is going to work and conduct its business. There will be working groups on planning and greener North Yorkshire (waste disposal). It is big challenge to get everything in place for 1st April.

DCllr Handley reminded everybody that there are ward members grants still available, up to March. Voluntary Organisations can apply, and application forms can be downloaded from Craven District Council website. He will forward a link to the application form to the Bentham News. Both DCllrs Handley and Brockbank have £1000 each to award in total, which is usually shared amongst a number of voluntary organisations.

DCllr Brockbank reported that although CDC officers are spending a lot of time preparing for the move to the new council in May 2023, that statutory services will not be affected.

- 71 Planning: -
- 71.1 To consider and comment upon New Planning Applications
- 71.1.1 2022/24070/OUT. Outline application for 2 dwellings, with all matters reserved except access. Development at Greenfoot Lane, Low Bentham.
RESOLVED: That the council has no objections to this planning application.
- 71.2 To receive planning decisions – see Clerks Report.
RECEIVED.
- 72 To consider and note Highway matters for information. (Councillors can comment on any minor highway issues currently causing concern. NB: Councillors may report all concerns online to NYCC)

Work has been done on the flooding problem outside Pinewood Cottages and Peace Villas, and more work is being done there today. It remains to be seen if it has resolved the problem.

- 73 **Payments: -**
- 73.1 To agree the Accounts for Payment.

AFY Fire Protection	Fire Extinguisher	76.00
Thomas Graham	Cleaning products and hand sanitiser	249.10
Business Stream	Water - cemetery	11.54
Salaries and Mileage	June 2021	2,778.89
Howson Ltd	Servicing of alarm and emergency lights	375.84
Elkerlodge Bookkeeping	Internal audit	285.00
HMRC	PAYE & NIC	3,493.48
Viking	Ink cartridges	148.49
James Hallam	Engineering Insurance	536.30
Kingsdale Projects	Grass cutting, bench installation and materials.	3,315.00
Waterplus	Waste water town hall	53.80
Stannah	Lift service	204.28
Tim Wheildon	Repair and reinstallation of hot water boiler	393.75
S Frankland Joinery	Make good fire escape door after break in	65.79
Salaries and mileage	July 2022	2,742.57
BT Group Plc	Phone tourist information point	58.97
BT Group Plc	Phone town hall	333.26
1 & 1 Ionis	Internet	18.00
NEST	Pension contributions	157.42
SSE Swalec	Unmetered electric supply	92.35
Total energies G & P	Gas Town Hall	1,215.37
Craven District Council	Trade waste	55.10
Premium Credit Ltd	Insurance	334.76
TOTAL		16,995.06

RESOLVED: Approved.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Adams and Marshall to authorise

- 73.2 To note that a payment of £220.00 was made to Howard-James Garden Company on 05/01/2022 as per the payment schedule circulated and approved. But that the amount was shown as £20 in the minutes for the meeting of 04/01/22, due to a trying error.
NOTED: That the payment made to Howard-James Garden Company on 05/01/2022 was £200.00.
- 74 To receive an update regarding the General Power of Competence. (Paper 2022/121)
It was reported that the General Power of Competence is no longer applicable and that Section 137 expenditure will be recorded.
RECEIVED.
- 75 To receive an update re the 2023 Calendar.
It was reported that as the deadline for photographs is 31/08/2022, that the photograph selection process will take place in early September.
RECEIVED.
- 76 To discuss the defibrillator arrangements and agree a way forward. (Paper 2022/116)
The position of defibrillators is thought to be: Bentham Town Hall / Victoria Institute Low Bentham / Myers builders merchants / Bentham Medical practice / Bentham CP School / Bentham Station / Riverside Caravan Park / Bentham Golf Club.
Those at Bentham Town Hall, the Victoria Institute and Myers builders' merchants are checked weekly by Diane Faraday on behalf of the council.
Bentham Medical practice check their own as required, and let the council know when new pads are needed.
Those at Riverside Caravan Park and Bentham Golf Club are checked as required by those businesses.
It was suggested that in future consideration should be given to budgeting for replacing the pads on all the defibrillators at the same time each year.
RESOLVED: Diane Faraday to continue checking the defibrillators at The Town Hall, The Victoria Institute and Myers builders' merchants.
RESOLVED: Cllr Adams to check with Gerald Townson and ask who is checking the unit at the station.
RESOLVED: Clerk to note to bring the proposal for budgeting for replacing the pads on all the defibrillators at the same time each year, to the next precept meeting, with costs.
- 77 To consider quotes for extra grass cutting and to agree a way forward.
RESOLVED: To instruct Thomas Brown to do regular fortnightly cuts at Mill Lane, at a cost of £30 per cut.
RESOLVED: To instruct Thomas Brown to do regular fortnightly cuts at Banks Rise, the verge opposite the fire station, at a cost of £40 for the first cut, and £20 per cut thereafter.
RESOLVED: That the cost of the extra grass cutting this year (2022/23) is to be paid for from the Parish caretaker budget.
RESOLVED: That as from 2023/24 the cost of the extra grass cutting is to be included in the annual budget. The cost will be £700, being £30 + £20 = £50 x 14.
- 78 To consider registering an interest in the Platinum Jubilee Fund, to support village hall improvements. (Paper 2022/117)
RESOLVED: To register an interest and to make Low Bentham Victoria Institute aware of this opportunity.
- 79 School Hill: -
- 79.1 To consider the quote for legal fees from Oglethorpe Sturton & Gillibrand for the work in connection with transferring the footprint of the old toilet block from CDC to Bentham Town Council. (Paper 2022/122)
RESOLVED: Cllr Marshall to attempt to negotiate the fees down from £500 plus VAT to £350 plus VAT.

- 79.2 To discuss the request for ID from Oglethorpe Sturton & Gillibrand and agree a way forward. (Paper 2022/122)
RESOLVED: That Cllrs Adams and Marshall, and the clerk will provide Oglethorpe Sturton & Gillibrand with ID.
- 80 Christmas Light matters: -
- 80.1 To consider instructing NYCC to turn the Christmas light sockers on between 1st December and 7th January each year, from 4 pm to 11 pm, and agree a way forward.
RESOLVED: Clerk to make the request to NYCC.
- 80.2 To review the balance in the “School Hill / Christmas Lights on Lampposts” fund and agree a way forward. (Papers 2022/118 and 119)
RESOLVED: To request a formal proposal from the Christmas Lights Committee, detailing exactly what would be purchased and the costs.
RESOLVED: Clerk to instruct the electrician to complete the work at School Hill as soon as possible.
- 81 To receive an update on work that is yet to be completed. (Paper 2022/123)
RECEIVED.
RESOLVED: Cllr Adams to review the draft website.
RESOLVED: Clerk to arrange for PHPF sign to be delivered to the Town Hall.
- 82 To receive a report on the Co-option process and policy and to agree a way forward. (Papers 2022/123A, B and C)
RECEIVED.
RESOLVED: Clerk to amend co-option policy as required, for consideration by council.
- 83 To consider the question from Sharon Sunter at Craven District Council to Bentham Town Council regarding the Bentham Masterplan, and to agree a way forward and/or a response. (Paper 2022/120)
RESOLVED: That Bentham Town Council endorse the proposed arrangement for CDC to explore the suggestion of how the masterplan can be progressed put forward by Elizabeth Adlington, with her.
RESOLVED: The clerk to convey the councils thanks to Elizabeth Adlington, and the consortium with whom she is working, for their work on this matter. To ask for the council to be kept informed of developments. To confirm that a council representative will be arranged, if this is desired.
- 84 To receive reports from councillors who represent the council on other bodies (for information only) – if any.
None.
- 85 Items for next meeting and minor items for information only.
- A) Items for next meeting agenda
- To consider installing flag poles on the front of Town Hall.
 - To be included on all agenda indefinitely, “To consider items of correspondence received regarding the Community Youth Building and agree a way forward”.
- B) Minor items
- Anybody querying where the litter bin that used to be outside the butchers has gone, should be advised to contact CDC.
 - Cllr Marshall to arrange to lower the flags still flying.
 - Clerk to ask Area 5 if they want the old signposts back (those replaced by the new fingerpost at Mewith Lane).
 - Clerk on holiday Wed and Thu this week. Papers for finance meeting therefore to be circulated on Friday.
- 86 Date of next meeting. Finance meeting 11/07/22. Full council meeting 25/07/2022.

87 To resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, and by reason of the confidential nature of the business, that the public and press be excluded from the meeting, whilst item 88 is considered.

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting.

88 To consider possible restorative action in relation to recent break in and to agree a way forward.

RESOLVED: That appropriate restorative action would be: pay the costs of the break in; give a written apology; and attend fire safety/awareness training if a suitable session can be arranged.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed at 8.55 pm.