

BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 7 March 2011, at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall

- Present Cllrs Adams, Brown, Burton, Faichney, Marshall, Procter & Yaman, DCllrs Barrington & Brockbank. Also the Clerk, Mrs Burton & 2 parishioners
220. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend
Cllrs Barnes & Hurtley, CClr Ireton
221. To Receive Declarations of Interest from members present – none
222. To Receive Comment & Concerns – none
223. To Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting on 7 February be signed
224. To Receive the Clerks Report (for information only) – see end of these minutes
The clerk confirmed that the dog bin by the cemetery was finally in place. She added that the draft license for Cleveland Square had been received finally that morning, too late to be listed on the agenda. She asked Cllrs to look at it during the meeting for discussion in April.
225. To Receive the Police Report & allow members to ask questions for information – none present
226. To Receive Reports from CClr & DCllrs (for information only)
DCllr Barrington mentioned that pay & display parking had been mentioned at the Craven Budget meeting on 28 February, with Craven looking for increased revenue. It is unlikely to be discussed until 2012/13. The Blue Bag system had also been discussed at the meeting and it had been revealed that these can be replaced by communal blue bins with agreement from Craven Waste Management.
Craven are considering sale of the Banks Way garage site. Following questions of access, DCllr Barrington agreed to make further enquiries.
The North Craven Community Action Fund had been voted on during the previous few days and awards had been made to Burton Play Area, Ingleton Tourist Information, Burton Recreation Field Toilet Block, Looking Well Lantern Procession, Ingleton Over & Under Festival & Bentham Bee Keepers.
DCllr Brockbank confirmed that the Library Action Group had declined to make an official declaration of interest in running the Bentham library, but had agreed to keep talking to NYCC.
She also talked about Superfast Broadband which NYCC is wanting to roll out across the county. She promised to find out more about the scheme, which looks to use public buildings as local hubs, and report back.
227. Planning
- 227.1. To Consider and Comment upon New Applications
- 227.1.1. 08/2011/11291 Detached two storey dwelling with separate single garage, driveway & front garden at Plot 5, The Sidings, Harley Bank, Low Bentham
Cllrs had no problems with a house on the site but were concerned about the stability of the site boundary bearing in mind the previous problems
RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application providing the site boundary is considered safe.
- 227.1.2. 08/2011/11349 Alterations & extension to Bentham Grammar School. Demolition of non-listed building within curtilage; internal alterations to split building into residential accommodation associated with school; cutting back buttress wall in playground area; alterations to courtyard building to form new entrance to kitchen / laundry at Bentham Grammar School, Low Bentham
RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application
- 227.1.3. 08/2010/11263 Proposed partial demolition of existing conservatory & erection of single storey extension at 2 Butterbergh, Bentham
RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application
- 227.2. To Receive Planning Decisions
If any (see Clerks Report)
- 227.3. To Receive Correspondence on Planning Issues
If any (see Clerks Report)
228. Highways Matters
- 228.1. To report on a meeting with NYCC Highways regarding speeding on Summerhill
Cllrs Burton, Marshall & Yaman had met with David Cairns of NYCC Highways and Summerhill residents to discuss the problems with speeding traffic. It had been agreed that more signage, even if allowed would not solve the problem and that rumble strips would be too noisy. The Council agreed to ask the police to monitor the area, and the residents would provide registration numbers and times of offenders. NYCC Highways agreed to provide signage warning of 'no footpath, pedestrians in the road'.

It was recognised that speeding is not limited to this part of Bentham, and is becoming an increasing problem with no police intervention. The Council agreed to apply for the mobile speed matrix to be used on the entrances to High Bentham i.e. Robin Lane, Moons Acre, Springfield at Pye Busk and Summerhill, where complaints had been received recently and to ask the police to monitor these areas.

RESOLVED: That the mobile speed matrix be requested for speed analysis at Moons Acre, Summerhill, Springfield at Pye Busk and Robin Lane near the Golf Club.

RESOLVED: That police be asked to monitor speeding in these areas

228.2.To receive an update on Wenning Avenue

The new surface and improved drainage on the unadopted part of the road is now complete

228.3.To receive a further update from Robinsons Brewery regarding the Coach House Footpath

Robinsons have instructed their Ulverston depot to repair the footpath beside the Coach House

228.4.To receive further information regarding the Public Footpath 05.5/105 Shakey Bridge Modification Order 2010 following the NYCC committee meeting on 25 February

NYCC Footpaths have agreed with the Secretary of State and asked him to confirm the order to modify the Shakey Bridge footpath

228.5.To receive a letter from LCC regarding Drainage Issues on the B6480

LCC confirmed that they will check the drains and gullies close to the North Yorkshire border to try and improve the drainage issues on the B6480 at this point. Council agreed that the road surface between Ravensclose and the county border was also in need of further remedial work

RESOLVED: That LCC be asked to make repairs to the B6480 between Ravensclose and the county boundary

228.6.To Consider and Note Highway Matters for Information

There is a large pothole developing on Main Street between Langdales and the Horse & Farrier. There are also potholes on Skipton Gate and on Ravensclose just short of the county boundary. The manhole cover at the junction with Tatterthorn Road has become loose. In Low Bentham the drains under the bridge are blocked again and the road edge is falling away near to the sewage works entrance

RESOLVED: That the Highways issues be reported to NYCC Highways

229.To agree a response on the Craven Market Town Improvement Programme and the Bentham Walkabout (paper 2010/27)

Council agreed that it would be wrong to spend Craven money on repairing and improving areas in private ownership and thought that the available funds should be used to improve Craven / NYCC owned areas such as improving Grasmere Drive car park, replacing damaged road signs and litter bins and repainting faded road markings.

RESOLVED: That the Market Town Improvement money be spent on Craven and NYCC owned areas including Grasmere Drive car park.

230. To receive a response regarding streetlights on Hillside Road and to formally agree to proceed

Following assurances from NYCC Street Lighting that the replaced street lights will be adopted by NYCC and not cost the Council in the future it was agreed that the Council will pay for the replacement of the two dangerous street lights owned by Craven District Council

RESOLVED: That NYCC Street Lighting be asked to replace the two dangerous street lights on Hillside Road.

231. To receive the NYCC Parish Charter and agree a response, if any (paper 2010/28)

RESOLVED: That the Council agree with the Parish Charter

232. To consider the idea of placing a Memorial on School Hill as suggested by Churches Together

Council were supportive of this idea, but agreed that more information was required in terms of size, design and location. Churches Together were asked to come back with a firm proposal for discussion.

RESOLVED: That Churches Together should come back with a firm proposal for a memorial on School Hill

233.To receive an update on the Community Youth Building

The final certificates of electrical safety have been received and the building is now ready to handover to the Youth Café. It is expected that this will happen in the next few days.

It was agreed that Cllr Procter should now represent Council on the Youth Café committee

RESOLVED: That Cllr Procter should represent Council on the Youth Café committee

234.To receive an update on the Library Consultation

Craven District Council adopted the following motion ‘The Council supports the retention of all libraries in Craven, including the mobile library service, and that the Council is concerned at the further proposed reduction in services to rural areas. Furthermore, if cuts to the library service are to be made the Council demands equality for rural areas with the cuts applied fairly and equally across all libraries in North Yorkshire’

The Town Council’s letter had expressed similar themes and, like the Library Action Group, had asked to continue a dialogue in the absence of an official expression of interest.

235. To Agree the Accounts for Payment

Craven District Council	638.94	Yorkshire Water	219.67
Mopps	384.00	JBL Joinery	113.50
EOn	56.02	Clearglass Cleaning	90.00
Aviva	292.52	British Gas	401.50
Fisher Wrathall	162.00	Electrosupplies	297.96
AFY Fire Protection	324.80	R Green	482.33
CM Slinger & Son	250.82	J Burton	957.17
Horton Landscaping	954.00	Bowland Experience	90.00
NYCC	120.00	Wenning Leisure	189.80
British Telecom	272.34	Orange	23.99

RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment are agreed

It was agreed that the clerk should purchase a reasonable number of stamps before the price goes up.

236. To consider items of Correspondence

236.1. To receive a letter regarding the Trees in Low Bentham Playing Field entrance and agree a response

A request from new residents of Stonegate Cottages to chop the lime trees at the entrance to Low Bentham Playing Field was discussed. Council noted that the trees were reduced by 1/3 in early 2008 following inspection by an arboriculturist who concluded that the trees were healthy and sound. He also recommended five yearly inspections, so the trees will be re-inspected in 2013.

RESOLVED: That the new residents be informed of the arboriculturist advice and work done to the Low Bentham Playing Field Trees

236.2. To receive a request for support for the Dales Integrated Transport Alliance and agree a response

DCllr Barrington explained that DITA was hoping to tap into a government fund for sustainable transport to support evening and weekend services that will be cut by NYCC

RESOLVED: That the Council write a letter of support for the Dales Integrated Transport Alliance

236.3. To receive a decision from the Post Office regarding a service from the Victoria Institute

The Council welcomed the news that the new service would start on Wednesday 9 March

236.4. To receive a request for support from Sue Ryder – Manorlands Hospice, and agree a response

It was agreed that, deserving as the charity may be, the Council needs to spend its grant money to the benefit of Bentham people and organisations. A letter should be sent explaining the Council's grant making procedure, and asking the organisation to apply again at precept time.

RESOLVED: That Sue Ryder – Manorlands Hospice be asked to apply for a grant at the next precept, but be made aware of the Council's policy of donating to local organisations first.

237. To Receive Reports from Councillors who represent the Council on other bodies (for information only) – none

238. Items for next meeting and minor items only

The clerk drew Council's attention to information from NYCC that road closures for Royal Wedding street parties could be applied for, free of charge, up to 14 March 2011.

The new houses and apartments on Bargh's Meadow are now being viewed by the potential tenants, for occupation in April.

The Community Service, usually held in October, will be moved to May this year.

It was reported that one of the ramps in the new skate park has bubbles in the surface that may need some attention.

The clerk agreed to report this to the Playfields Association.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.35pm

AGENDA ITEM 224)**CLERK'S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 7 March 2011.****1. Planning Decisions Received Since Last Meeting**

1.1. GRANTED – none

1.2. REFUSED

1.2.1. 08/2010/11259 Extension to approved scheme to convert existing stables to holiday accommodation. Resubmission of previously refused application 08/2010/10887 at Bull Copy, Tatterthorn Road, High Bentham.

2. Planning Correspondence none**3. Information Regarding Items Discussed at last Council Meeting**

- 3.1. NYCC contacted re Hillside lights 9 February – see agenda item
- 3.2. Toll Bar Gardens response sent 11 February and acknowledged
- 3.3. Community Governance Review comments sent 14 February and acknowledged
- 3.4. Funeral Directors & Stonemasons notified of Cemetery Fee changes on 15 February
- 3.5. Letter to Robinsons Brewery re Coach House footpath sent 16 February – see agenda item
- 3.6. Comments re Low Bentham Post Office sent 16 February – see agenda item
- 3.7. Library consultation response sent 25 February & acknowledged

4. Items for Information – see information folder

- 4.1. Craven Residents Feedback Panel Bulletin 5 – no response required
- 4.2. White Rose Update, Feb 2011
- 4.3. Cleveland Square Update (stuck in legal!)
- 4.4. HMRC guidance on parish council clerks PAYE
- 4.5. North Yorkshire Strategic Housing Market Assessment update
- 4.6. Call for expressions of interest for running Skipton Town Hall
- 4.7. YLCA advice notes
- 4.8. YLCA Training & Development programme 2011
- 4.9. Garden Waste collection restart notice
- 4.10. Speeditree, Christmas Tree Installation & Lighting System Information
- 4.11. LASRUG Newsletter, March 2011

5. Items circulated by email

- 5.1. North Craven Area Action Fund information
- 5.2. Latest Weekly Rural News Digest, 7/2/11, 14/2/11, 21/2/11 & 7/3/11
- 5.3. Rural Services Network Online update
- 5.4. Craven Residents web focus group meeting
- 5.5. Morecambe Area Action Plan notification
- 5.6. NYCC Waste PFI, various updates
- 5.7. Transport Police newsletter March
- 5.8. Energy Saving Trust Newsletter February
- 5.9. Green Communities Announcement
- 5.10. Northern Voice February
- 5.11. Historic Towns Forum Update, March 2011
- 5.12. Craven Community Newsletter, February 2011
- 5.13. Ecohouse Tour, Craven District Council 21 March 2011.
- 5.14. RegioFlash News, 7 March

6. Progress on Outstanding Matters

- 6.1. Grasmere Drive Parking Charges, in hands of CDC – budget consideration
- 6.2. Highways letter (B6480 lining) sent 22 December, response awaited
- 6.3. Green Communities & BEST meeting arranged held 18 November – notes awaited
- 6.4. Cemetery dog bin post position sent to Craven, relocated late January 2011, bin now in-situ
- 6.5. Green Smithy bench – license received, bench delivered, to be placed asap
- 6.6. Low Bentham Playing Field, pipes & cables map awaited
- 6.7. Quality Status – Statement of training intent to be considered
- 6.8. Legion Hut Lease – no response since 2009