

BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 4 January 2016, at 7.30 pm in the Community Youth Building

Present Cllrs Adams, Bridgeman, Cowling, Faichney, Marshall, Pritchard, Stannard, Swales, Taylor, Townson & Vendy. Also CCllr Ireton, DCllr Brockbank, the clerk Mrs Burton and 6 parishioners

168. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend - none

169. To Receive Declarations of Interest from members present - none

170. To Receive Comment & Concerns - none

171. To Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting on 14 December be signed

172. To Receive the Clerks Report (for information only) – see end of these minutes

173. To Receive a Drop In Session Update (for information only)

Residents from Waterside Potteries had attended to lobby Cllrs for a special motion regarding the Claybarn planning comment.

174. To Receive the Police Report & allow members to ask questions for information – none present but a report was circulated

Cllr Pritchard arrived

175. To Receive Reports from CCllr & DCllrs (for information only)

CCllr Ireton informed the meeting that the NYCC grant from central government was being cut by £21m, £10m more than expected, meaning that the county would have had a 36% cut in funding compared to 19% for inner London and 21% for metropolitan areas – despite it being more expensive to provide services in rural areas. He agreed that lobbying the local MP, Julian Smith, might be useful as these cuts are drastic.

He confirmed that the recent flooding in the Craven area had left a lot of water damage but little structural damage as seen in other parts of North Yorkshire.

DCllr Brockbank said that Craven would collect Christmas trees free of charge from those who register for the service before 17 January, otherwise they will charge £23 for a bulky waste collection. Members of the Garden Waste Scheme can leave them out with their brown bin.

Settle will be one of the stopping points on the Tour De Yorkshire on 29 April 2016. ‘Tour Maker’ volunteers can register on the Welcome to Yorkshire website. There will be road shows for Craven Businesses on 12 January at Settle Victoria Hall and 9 February at The Falcon Manor Hotel.

Yorkshire Water has agreed to suspend charges for those forced out of their homes by flooding. More details are on their website.

She agreed to look into the problem of non-emptying of the recycling bins on Grasmere Drive carpark

176. Planning

176.1. To Consider and Comment upon New Applications - none

176.2. To Receive Planning Decisions

- If any (see Clerks Report)

176.3. To Receive Correspondence on Planning Issues

176.3.1. To receive a letter from residents of Waterside Potteries regarding the Claybarn Planning Application.

The letter asked the Council to reconsider its recent decision not to oppose the above planning application. No request for a special motion had been received as required for the subject to be discussed again. It was pointed out that the subject had been fully discussed at the time and a vote taken as per the democratic process.

177. Highways Matters

177.1. To Receive further correspondence regarding the School Crossing from a resident of Moons Acre

It was noted that the resident was asking for removal of the hump on the crossing which causes considerable noise and disturbance to residents. Council agreed to support this request

RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be asked to remove the hump from the school crossing

Cllr Ireton left the meeting

177.2. To Consider and Note Highway Matters for Information

The speed signs on Springfield above Pye Busk have disappeared.

There are a number of blocked drains about the town causing considerable problems during the current wet weather. Cllrs should report them to the clerk who will make a list and notify NYCC Highways

The retaining wall across from the cottages on Mill Lane and near to Cloudsbank is in poor repair and ‘defying gravity’, and needs attention.

RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be informed of the identified problems

178. To Note receipt of a letter from Bentham Parochial Church Council requesting transfer of the maintenance of St Margaret’s Churchyard to the Council, and that in accordance with the Council resolution on 6 May 2015 (item 20.2) this request has been refused. Maintenance will therefore pass to Craven District Council

Information received from Bentham Parish Church Council on the day of the meeting suggested that it was the Council's responsibility to notify Craven District Council of its decision to refuse to accept maintenance responsibility for St Margaret's Churchyard.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk notify Craven District Council of the Council's decision to refuse to take over maintenance of St Margaret's Churchyard

179. To Receive notice of changes to the **External Audit Regime** and the formation of a new sector led body for audit, and to decide whether to remain opted in or to opt out.

RESOLVED: That the Council remain opted into the new Sector Led Body for Audit purposes

180. To Agree the Accounts for Payment

Craven District Council	151.71R Hill	110.80
Mopps	576.00Horton Landscaping	2567.04
Aviva	311.66B&CE Armstrong	55.20
EOn	89.18Andrews	214.16
Orange	23.99HMRC	533.55
	Salaries	1547.11

Council noted that the payment to Horton Landscaping included a further discount and was for invoices issued since 1 August. It completed all grass cutting payments for the season and all parish caretaker work to date.

RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment are agreed

180.1. To receive notice from YLCA regarding increases to subscription fees

The National Association of Local Councils has agreed to increase subscriptions by 18% this year. YLCA has decided to subsidise part of this increase from reserves and so the actual increase will only be 4.8%.

181. To consider items of Correspondence

181.1. To receive notice from the Queen's Pageant Master regarding the Queen's 90th Birthday beacon celebrations and to consider taking part.

It was agreed that the Council should register for the beacon celebrations on 21 April and contact the Landowner regarding the possibility of having the beacon close to the Big Stone again

RESOLVED: That the clerk register the Bentham beacon, and Council contact the landowner to request permission

182. To Receive Reports from Councillors who represent the Council on other bodies (for information only)

Cllr Townson said that the Extra Care Group had invited NYCC to a meeting to try and get firm commitment regarding the next tranche of spending on Community Care

Cllr Cowling informed the meeting that the Refuge Support Group would be collecting clothing at the Methodist Hall on 13 January to be taken to Bradford. There will be an information day on 6 February in the Town Hall and a fund raiser in March.

Cllr Vendy reported that the British Heart Foundation have awarded Bentham one defibrillator, cabinet and training pack (10 inflatable dummies & training DVD). A committee is being formed and further fund raising considered.

183. Items for next meeting and minor items only

The Council was asked to consider using the Lower Town Hall for CPR training.

The clerk said a letter had been received from Austwick Parish Council regarding the cut in funding and uncertain future of Settle Swimming Pool. It was agreed this should be put on the next agenda.

Due to Cllr availability issues the Precept meeting will be held on 18 January

There being no further business, the public part of the meeting was closed at 8.22pm

184. 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 remainder of the business, the Public and Press to be excluded further from the Meeting, whilst the tenders for Grass Cutting in Bentham for 2016 for 3 years be discussed and agreed

RESOLVED: That the grass cutting contract be awarded to Horton Landscaping at a cost of £5648.44 pa

RESOLVED: That a monitoring document be formulated to ensure adequate review of the contract throughout the season

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.07pm

AGENDA ITEM 172)

CLERK'S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 4 January 2016

1. Planning Decisions Received Since Last Meeting

1.1. GRANTED

- 1.1.1. 08/2015/16134 Change of use & alterations to redundant building (including extension to replace existing) to form office / reception / workers' accommodation at Bentham Golf Club, Robin Lane, High Bentham
- 1.1.2. 08/2015/16136 Change of use of land & siting of 17 no.holiday lodges, 3 no. camping pods, 1 no. shower pod & 1 no. toilet pod at Bentham Golf Club, Robin Lane, High Bentham

1.2. REFUSED

- 1.2.1. none

2. Planning Correspondence

- 2.1. none

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

- 3.1. none

4. Items for Information – see information folder

- 4.1. Changes to supported bus services from April 2016
- 4.2. Rough Sleeping – Streetlink in Craven
- 4.3. Sponsored Swim Challenge for British Heart Foundation and Manorlands Hospice

5. Items circulated by email

- 5.1. Latest Weekly Rural News Digest 14/12, 23/12, 4/1/16
- 5.2. Rural Economy Spotlight
- 5.3. LASRUG newsletter Dec 2015
- 5.4. Fields in Trust update 22/12
- 5.5. Seasons Greeting from NY Police, 22/12
- 5.6. RAY News 21/12
- 5.7. Rural Housing Enablers News, Winter 2015
- 5.8. Way ahead for Neighbourhood Watch, 14/12
- 5.9. Julian Smith – Flooding Update 29/12
- 5.10. Rural Vulnerability Service – Rural Transport 29/12
- 5.11. NY Police, Craven Newsletter, 4/1/16
- 5.12. NY Police, Way Ahead for Neighbourhood Watch Summary Report 4/1/16

6. Progress on Outstanding Matters

- 6.1. Unmetered Supply for street lights – awaiting info from NYCC
- 6.2. Bentham flag details sent to WeAreBentham 23 March, awaiting response
- 6.3. Community Emergency Plan generic template & Burton Plan to be considered – meeting to be arranged
- 6.4. Replica VC Winners stone confirmed ordered 12/11. Delivery dates awaited
- 6.5. Flagpole – donor found, to be progressed
- 6.6. Grasmere Drive bench site location permissions received, costs received, donor awaited