

BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 6 January 2014, at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall

Present Cllrs Adams, Burton, Faichney, Handford, Hey, Marshall (Chairman), Stannard & Vendy. Also DCllrs Barrington and Brockbank, the clerk Mrs Burton and 9 parishioners

Cllr Faichney had called ahead to apologise that he would be late arriving to the meeting.

151. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend
Cllrs Armstrong, Barnes & Hurtleley

152. To Receive Declarations of Interest from members present
Cllr Marshall declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 159.1.3, planning application 08/2013/14119, as the applicant.

153. To Receive Comment & Concerns

Mr Redfern updated the Council on progress with the Passing Places project, thanking it for the letter of support for route signage. LCC had been happy with the proposed signage at Lowgill. The planning application for the 'Imperial Bloomers' was to be discussed under planning and Mr Redfern gave a bit of the background to the project. He also reminded the Council of the CARnival AGM on 27 January.

Two residents living close to the Golf Club voiced their concerns about the current planning application (14119). Both were worried about the loss of screening and increased noise from machinery and golfers using the proposed practice range. Council agreed to take the comments into account during the discussion of the application later in the meeting

154. To Receive the Drop-In Update (for information only)

Cllrs Vendy and Hey had seen two residents, the first had claimed for damage to his vehicle from a pothole in February 2013 and was getting nowhere with NYCC. It had been agreed that the clerk would check when/if the Council had reported the fault to Highways and that the Council would offer what support it could upon receipt of a letter outlining the situation to date from the resident. The second had been looking to set up a mobile catering van and had been supplied with ownership and other local details based up on the Councillors own local knowledge.

155. To Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting on 2 December be signed

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

157. To Receive the Police Report & allow members to ask questions for information

Sgt Hill was in attendance. There had been 75 reported incidents from 1 – 31 December which is quite high for Bentham. Of these 17 were crimes and the detection rate had been quite good. There had been 2 assaults which had both been detected, 2 domestic violence reports resulting in 2 arrests, an arrest for cannabis production, and two arrests had been made following string of burglaries from both residential (4) and commercial (3) premises. There were two reports of criminal damage and also an attempted theft of a land rover which remained ongoing. He confirmed that the only activity at the care homes had been a single assault. Sgt Hill also volunteered to produce a summary report for all the reports in 2013. He agreed to discuss the spate of vandalism and graffiti at the train station with members of Friends of Bentham Station outside the meeting.

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

DCllr Brockbank reported that Friends of Bentham Library had a successful coffee morning before Christmas

159. Planning

159.1. To Consider and Comment upon New Applications

159.1.1. 08/2013/14066 Proposed rear conservatory at Mewith Head, Mewith

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

159.1.2. 08/2013/14109 Suspension from a tree branch of a steel mesh sculpture representing a pair of bloomers near Punch Bowl Hotel, Low Bentham

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

159.1.3. 08/2013/14119 Proposed replacement machinery & equipment store and covered practice area at Bentham Golf Club, Robin Lane, High Bentham

Cllr Marshall declared a DPI and left the room. There were several anomalies on the plans which, Council decided, left it unable to make a decision as to whether to support or object to the application. It was unclear whether the proposed fence was 10m or 3m high, a road and parking area was shown on one plan but not the others, the legend said replacement building but the original was shown on all plans, the footpath appeared in different places on different plans and a bunker practice and putting green shown close to the houses were not mentioned in the report. It was also not clear which trees were being removed or if sufficient screening would remain following the proposed development. The Council

agreed that it should write to Craven Planning Department pointing out the anomalies and asking for clarification. It stated that whilst wishing to support businesses in Bentham it could not do so at the detriment to local residents.

RESOLVED: That the anomalies within the plans presented should be pointed out to Craven Planning Department and that a request be made for these to be clarified before a decision is taken

159.2. To Receive Planning Decisions
If any (see Clerks Report)

159.3. To Receive Correspondence on Planning Issues
If any (see Clerks Report)

160. Highways Matters

160.1. To Receive a reminder of the meeting with Craven regarding potential plans for the top of Station Road on Wednesday 15 January

RESOLVED: That the meeting will take place at 4pm, with as many Cllrs attending as possible

160.2. To Receive notification that Mill Lane will be surface dressed early in January 2014 - received

160.3. To Receive notification from Network Rail as to their ownership of land around the Station, showing that they do not own the pot-holed area of the Station approach
Council considered the possibility that this piece of land may not actually be owned by anyone. It was agreed that the clerk should do a search of the Land Registry to see if anything is held there in the absence of any response from Angus Fire. It may be that old photos might give some idea as to where the historic boundaries were. Once ownership is known steps can be taken to get the land up to highways standards and adopted.

RESOLVED: That a Land Registry search be performed to try and ascertain ownership of the relevant area

160.4. To Receive a comment from NYCC Highways that the Station Road pavements between Wenning Bridge & Angus' are not wide enough and so dropped kerbs will not be installed.- received

160.5. To Consider and Note Highway Matters for Information

Notification had been received from Burnmoor Graziers of their application to Defra to carry out restricted work on Burnmoor, namely the installation of a 1044m long fence on the Mewith Lane boundary and a cattle grid on a track to West Borronhead.

RESOLVED: That the notice be displayed on Council noticeboards

The fence on Mill Lane near to Cloudsbank has fallen over. It was noted that, being covered with ivy this was now a considerable hazard as it covered a considerable drop below

RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be advised of the problem with the fence on Mill Lane.

161. To receive a reminder of the meeting with David Smurthwaite on Thursday 16 January at 1pm to discuss Craven District Open Space Assessment, looking at Town Council owned sites – received

162. To Adopt the new NALC Standing Orders as amended at the December Council meeting (paper 2013/25)

RESOLVED: That the new NALC Standing Orders, as amended in December, be adopted

163. To Note the draft minutes of the Marketing Committee meeting on 9 December - noted

164. To Receive confirmation from the Church Commissioners of the closure of St Margarets' Church, the amalgamation of the Bentham Parishes and the formation of the Ingleborough Team Ministry - received

165. To Agree the Accounts for Payment

EOn	728.61	SELRAP	15.00
NYCC	120.00	Toobys	17.98
Hygiene Cleaning Supplies	61.79	Horton Landscaping	408.00
K Hartley	100.00	Cannon	19.33
Greenfoot Gardens Ltd	50.00	HMRC	518.29
Stream Computers	30.00	R Green	499.20
Stannah Lift Services	156.58	J Burton	930.37
Craven District Council	101.00	Orange	23.99
Mopps	576.00	Aviva	326.89

RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment are agreed

165.1. To agree the replacement of the damaged street light on Wenning Avenue at an approximate cost of £600
Council noted that the work needed doing urgently and that the clerk had already instructed Mr Taylor to proceed. It was suggested that other Council owned lights should be surveyed to ensure that no others were in a similar state

RESOLVED: That the damaged street light be replaced

RESOLVED: That other Council owned lights be inspected

- 165.2. To agree to replace the Tourist Information printer and to set a suitable budget
RESOLVED: That the TIP printer be replaced and a budget of £100 be provided to the clerk
- 165.3. To consider the damaged bench on Low Bentham Road and to agree a way forward
The Parish Caretaker had provided two quotes using different style of Enviropol bench which are low maintenance. The Council opted for the shorter one in brown
RESOLVED: That the damaged bench be replaced by a brown enviropol bench of 1.5m length at a cost of £445 – and that the commemorative plaque be transferred
- 165.4. To receive a reminder that the Precept meeting will be held Monday 13 January at 7pm – received
166. To consider items of Correspondence
- 166.1. To Receive a request from Bentham Common Land Charity for continued support for payment of their Public Liability insurance (£174.15 contribution)
RESOLVED: That this request should be considered at the Precept Meeting
- 166.2. To Receive notice that the CARnival AGM will be held on 27 January 2014 – received
167. To Receive Reports from Councillors who represent the Council on other bodies (for information only)
Cllr Burton said the Youth Café had a very successful Christmas Party with over 50 youngsters taking full advantage of the new disco equipment.
Cllr Marshall said that the Collingwood & Longstaffe Charity had provided Christmas hampers for the tenants and that improvement works continued.
168. Items for next meeting and minor items only
The Council congratulated We Are Bentham on the very successful Christmas light display in the town. It was also noted that the Bentham & Beyond calendar had sold out for the first time.
Cllr Adams raised the subject of parking on Main Street. The clerk said the subject was pencilled in for the February agenda, following the meeting with Craven regarding possible changes on Station Road.
The clerk agreed to report recent vandalism at Low Bentham primary School to NYCC.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.57pm

AGENDA ITEM 156)**CLERK'S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 6 January 2014****1. Planning Decisions Received Since Last Meeting****1.1. GRANTED**

- 1.1.1. 08/2013/14001 Erection of 2 storey building providing staff welfare office accommodation. Resiting of 2 existing car parking spaces at Over Raygill, Dumb Toms Lane, Ingleton

1.2. REFUSED

- 1.2.1. None

2. Planning Correspondence

- 2.1. Copy of Objection letter to planning application 08/2013/14119, Golf Club
2.2. CDC Local Development Plan Information Service – individual Cllrs can sign up for emails
2.3. 'Asian Spice' enforcement notice closed following refurbishment
2.4. Kirkwells Planning News, Winter 2013/14
2.5. Submission of LCC Development Management Development Plan Document & Morecambe Area Action Plan

3. Information Regarding Items Discussed at last Council Meeting

- 3.1. Unity Trust forms sent 3 December
3.2. Letter to CDC re Council Tax Localisation Grant & setting precept sent 3 December
3.3. Changes to Cemetery layout still outstanding

4. Items for Information – see information folder

- 4.1. Whiterose Update, December
4.2. CARnival AGM, 27 January
4.3. Craven YLCA Branch meeting, Skipton, 13/1/14 at 7pm
4.4. Wray direction sign to be replaced shortly, NYCC 3/12
4.5. Countrywatch information from NYP
4.6. Bentham Line Annual Report 2013

5. Items circulated by email

- 5.1. Latest Weekly Rural News Digest, 2/12, 9/12, 16/12, 23/12/13, 6/1/14

- 5.2. North Yorkshire Now, 2/12
- 5.3. Craven Community News, December
- 5.4. Rural Opportunities Bulletin, 4/12
- 5.5. Rural Vulnerability Service, Fuel Poverty 12/12, Transport 18/12
- 5.6. Rural Services Network, Spotlight on Rural Health, 5/12
- 5.7. YLCA Information notes, 23/12
- 5.8. SLCC Bulletin, 4/12 & 18/12
- 5.9. Yorkshire Dales Leader Eburst, 12/13
- 5.10. Dales Connect Bulletin, Winter 13/14
- 5.11. RAY News, December
- 5.12. Craven Area Committee, 12/12 (and noticeboards)
- 5.13. RegioFlash, EU Policy Bulletin, 5/12 & 23/12
- 5.14. Julian Smith Reporting Back, Autumn 2013
- 5.15. Fields in Trust Ezine, 9/12
- 5.16. LASRUG Newsletter, December

6. Progress on Outstanding Matters

- 6.1. Clerks Contract – awaiting HR input
- 6.2. Low Bentham WI letter sent 12/11, repair effected & invoice awaited
- 6.3. Car park project – quotes for lining requested
- 6.4. School Playing Field – awaiting responses
- 6.5. Station Road pedestrian access / parking restrictions meeting 26/9, Cllrs to canvass opinion
- 6.6. Response to Notice of Intention re St Margaret's Churchyard sent 13/6
- 6.7. Letters to Hopleys & NICEIC regarding electrical installation sent 13/6, Hopley reply 22/6 – information collated but not sent yet, awaiting decision.
- 6.8. Tourist Information / WC signs ordered March 2013, put on hold until Town Team sign review completed
- 6.9. Low Bentham Playing Field, pipes & cables map awaited
- 6.10. Quality Status – Statement of training intent to be considered