

## BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 6 July, at 7.30 pm in the Community Youth Building

Present Cllrs Adams, Bridgeman, Cowling, Faichney, Marshall, Stannard (Chairman), Townson & Vendy. Also CCllr Ireton, DCllrs Brockbank & Thompson, the clerk Mrs Burton and 7 parishioners

46. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend  
Cllrs Pritchard & Swales

The Chairman began the meeting by welcoming DCllr Thompson to the meeting having been elected in May

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

48. To Receive Comment & Concerns

A resident mentioned that there were still problems on Hillside Road in the Sanctuary Housing area. The mix of elderly and young families was causing some friction with noise and intimidation with several people moving out. The situation needs witnesses to talk to the police and landlords, but residents are loathe to do this.

49. To Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting on 3 June be signed

50. To Co-Opt a further member to Council for the rest of this Council

Three applications had been received and circulated to Cllrs prior to the meeting. The clerk explained that a clear majority was required, which may take more than one vote if not achieved in the first round.

**RESOLVED:** That voting should be by signed ballot

The votes were counted by the clerk and agreed by CCllr Ireton

**RESOLVED:** That Robert Taylor be coopted for the remaining Council term

- 50.1. To agree appointment to committees following co-option

In view of Cllr Taylor's expertise it was suggested, and agreed, that he should take a place on the Open Spaces Committee, and that Cllr Stannard should move to the vacant position on the Marketing Committee. Cllr Taylor should also be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Finance Committee

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr Taylor be appointed to the Finance & Open Spaces Committees

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr Stannard be moved from the Open Spaces Committee to the Marketing Committee

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

The clerk pointed out that some planning decisions had been received since the original publication date. She also mentioned that a new planning application concerning the Gypsy Camp at Waterside Potteries had been received since the agenda had been posted. The Council agreed that an extra meeting should be held to ensure that its comments were received by Planning in the consultation period as no extension was allowed.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council meet on Monday July 13 at 7pm to discuss the extra planning application

52. To Receive a Drop In Session Update (for information only) - none

53. To Receive the Police Report & allow members to ask questions for information – none present

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

DCllr Thompson informed the meeting about the Super Connected City Scheme, giving grants to any business to improve internet connections. B4RN has been accepted as an approved supplier

DCllr Brockbank mentioned a few areas about the parish which required grass cutting.

CCllr Ireton asked whether any progress had been made with the school parking / speeding problems – see item 56.2.

55. Planning

- 55.1. To Consider and Comment upon New Applications

55.1.1. 08/2015/15789 Application for advertisement consent for 2no externally illuminated fascia signs, 1no internally illuminated projecting sign and 1no non illuminated service board at Stafford House, Main Street, Bentham – ALREADY APPROVED

55.1.2. 08/2015/15815 Change of use of part agricultural land to form extension to existing services yard including formation of new access from Dumb Toms Lane at Over Raygill, Dumb Toms Lane, Bentham  
**RESOLVED:** That the Council had no objections to this application

55.1.3. 08/2015/15848 Alterations to exiting site entrance walls introducing new stone pillar detail & sett finish to entrance area at Ford House, Low Bentham Road, High Bentham  
**RESOLVED:** That the Council had no objections to this application

- 55.2. To Receive Planning Decisions

- If any (see Clerks Report)

- 55.3. To Receive Correspondence on Planning Issues  
 [ If any (see Clerks Report)
56. Highways Matters
- 56.1. To Receive information on the planned resurfacing of Mewith Lane during July – received  
**RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be asked to consider provide better maps in future as the size and resolution of those supplied with this notification was unreadable.**
- 56.2. To Receive responses from NYCC Highways and NY Police regarding child safety and the school following requests made and to agree a response, if any  
 The police have been active in the area but confirm that much of the parking is inconsiderate rather than dangerous. They did suggest that a lower speed limit and/or further traffic calming measures would be useful. Ken Martin's response refused vehicle activated signs (no speed related collisions) and painting on the road (waste of money) and would only consider double yellow lines in the area. David Bowe went to great length to explain why a 20mph zone could not be introduced, again stating that no accidents had occurred. The Council agreed to write to Mr Bowe again asking what could be done. As the school only opened in February any historic speed data is irrelevant, and waiting for an accident before acting does not seem sensible when problems are obvious. The School should be asked to write to Mr Bowe outlining their concerns.  
**RESOLVED: That Mr Bowe should be asked to provide his solutions to the problems**  
**RESOLVED: That the School be asked to write to Mr Bowe to add weight to the Council's arguments**
- 56.3. To Consider and Note Highway Matters for Information  
 The mirror in Low Bentham had finally been replaced.  
 The clerk confirmed that David Bowe had still not responded about the Station approach despite the promise of a 21 day response and being chased. CCllr Ireton agreed to follow this up.
57. To Note the draft minutes of the Open Spaces Committee on 8 June, and consider recommendations, if any – noted  
 An update was given on the problems with the grass cutting this season and the hope that they were almost resolved. The Council was asked to come up with ideas for a commemoration of the end of WW1 in 2018
58. To Receive a request from the solicitor regarding the requirement for searches associated with the purchase of Low Bentham School Playing Field, and agree a response.  
**RESOLVED: That no searches are required as the area is not to be developed and its history is well documented**
59. To Consider information regarding the Neighbourhood Planning meeting, and agree a way forward  
 The clerk had contacted Gargrave Parish Council by email and telephone but had been unable to speak to the relevant person. The Cumbrian contact had responded but her manager now required a fee for her travel & preparation time of some £190.  
**RESOLVED: That the clerk continue to try and contact the Gargrave Parish Council representative**  
**RESOLVED: That Craven DC be asked for assistance in getting started on a Neighbourhood Plan**
60. To Consider the proposals for the future of Bentham Library (paper 2015/09 & paper 2015/10)  
 The papers outline NYCC's strategy to dispose of the costs for community libraries, which require the volunteers to raise the costs (less income) plus the running costs. These vary hugely dependant upon the library concerned as some rent out space so have high incomes, some are in rented space and so have no maintenance costs. In Bentham the cost would be some £950 plus potential running costs of another £2000 which threatens the ongoing viability of the Library.
61. To Receive further information from AEDdonate regarding fundraising for a defibrillator and agree a way forward  
 AEDdonate had confirmed that with their scheme a defibrillator would cost £1800 if kept inside and £2300 if stored outside. The Ambulance Service will only give directions if the unit is within 200m, which would mean at least 2 units would be required to cover both High & Low Bentham. DCllr Thompson confirmed that the unit at Burton Village Hall, purchased through First responders had been considerably cheaper than the AEDdonate quoted price.  
**RESOLVED: That the Council should look at other sources of Defibrillators before making a decision**
62. To Receive further information from Electricity North West regarding the replacement of the substation at Ellergill Beck (Low Bentham Playing Field) as requested and agree a response.  
 Cllrs Stannard & Marshall had met with Gregg Davies who had taken over following Paul Wyre's retirement. Mr Davies had confirmed that ENW would not purchase the field. He had agreed to reconsider the placement of the substation and would forward amended plans shortly, with it closer to the road. Initial contact had been made with a land agent.  
**RESOLVED: That this subject should be further discussed at the extra meeting on 13 July**
63. To Agree the Accounts for Payment

Craven District Council	149.04	R Piper	98.50
Mopps	192.00	NYCC	120.00
Aviva	311.66	Phone CoOp	5.58
EOn	92.15	HCS Ltd	93.62
Orange	23.99	Seasons Blinds	186.00
Stannah Lift Services	1706.34	W Dowbiggin	91.80
Yorkshire Water	5.59	Salaries	1719.03
		HMRC	533.54

**RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment are agreed**

64. To consider items of Correspondence
- 64.1. To consider a request from Settle Stories for a contribution to save the images in the WR Mitchell Collection, and agree a response  
The Council agreed that this was a worthy cause, but acknowledged that its grants policy did not allow it to donate more than £50 outside the precept grant window.  
**RESOLVED: That a grant of £50 be sent to Settle Stories for the WR Mitchell Collection archive, and a letter encouraging a precept grant application in October**
- 64.2. To consider a request for parish council nominations to the Craven Standards Committee, and agree a response, if any  
**RESOLVED: That Bentham Town Council does not put forward a nomination**
- 64.3. To consider a request for parish council nominations to the NYCC Craven Area Committee, and agree a response, if any  
Cllr Swales had expressed some interest in this committee and it was agreed she should be asked if she wished to be nominated  
**RESOLVED: That Bentham Town Council nominate Cllr Swales for membership if she wishes**
- 64.4. To receive notice of the proposed closure of St Margaret's Churchyard - received
- 64.5. To receive information that the new chairman of Craven DC is Cllr Robert Mason – received
- 64.6. To receive a request for nominations for the NYCC Community Awards Scheme  
**RESOLVED: That details are scanned and distributed to Cllrs**
- 64.7. To note YLCA Joint Annual Meeting on Saturday 18 July, and agree attendance, if any.  
**RESOLVED: That Bentham Town Council will not attend the YLCA meeting**
65. To Receive Reports from Councillors who represent the Council on other bodies (for information only)  
Mrs Hey had sent a Longstaffe Education Trust report. Grants had been awarded to some applicants at the recent meeting. An application form is to be developed to assist in the selection of recipients. A musical fund raising event had been discussed.  
Cllr Vendy said the recent Table Top Sale at the Youth Café had raised £120, but the poor weather had reduced attendance. A successful holiday club had been run in the Easter break and the Bentham Bake Off was being repeated. Grants had been received from Craven Dragons Den & the Police Property Fund.  
Cllr Bridgeman had attended the Victoria Institute Management Committee meeting where the BBQ on the 18 July had been discussed.
66. Items for next meeting and minor items only  
Council were reminded that 29 July is the 'Day in the Life of Bentham' day and will be accompanied by digital photography workshops at the school & the Looking Well.  
It was noted that NYCC Highways had removed the electrics from the old school signs & resurfaced the pavements without removing the signs themselves  
The state of the hedge on Station Road by the Station was commented upon again.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.00pm

**AGENDA ITEM 51)**

**CLERK'S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 6 July 2015**

**1. Planning Decisions Received Since Last Meeting**

**1.1. GRANTED**

- 1.1.1. 08/2015/15694 Remove 1x long limb from (TPO protected) beech tree overhanging church roof at St Margarets Church, Station Road, High Bentham
- 1.1.2. 08/2015/15699 Construction of new clubhouse at Burton in Lonsdale Bowling Club, Recreation Field, Old Moor Road, Burton in Lonsdale
- 1.1.3. 08/2015/15757 Installation of sewage treatment plant with outfall to watercourse at Over Raygill, Dumb Toms Lane, Ingleton

- 1.1.4. 08/2015/15789 Application for advertisement consent for 2no externally illuminated fascia signs, 1no internally illuminated projecting sign & 1no non illuminated service board at Stafford House, Main St, Bentham
- 1.1.5. 08/2015/15790 Application seeking permission for reserved matters comprising access, appearance, landscaping, layout & scale for approved outline application 08/2014/14386 (resubmission of withdrawn 08/2015/15304) at Town Head Farm, Burton Road, Low Bentham

## **1.2. REFUSED**

- 1.2.1. 08/2015/15473 Installation of solar farm & associated infrastructure (with potential capacity of 5MW) on Grazing Land, Ravensclose Brow, Low Bentham
- 1.2.2. 08/2015/15583 Retrospective application for construction of greenhouse at Scarfes Barn, Mewith Lane, Low Bentham

## **2. Planning Correspondence**

- 2.1.** Craven Planning Focus, June
- 2.2.** 08/2015/15552 Outline Planning Permission For The Construction Of A Detached Four Bedroom Dwelling/Integral Double Garage With Details Relating To Scale And Access Included For Consideration. (All Other Matters Reserved For Subsequent Application). (Resubmission Of Withdrawn Application 08/2014/14883) at Greenhead Lane, Low Bentham to Planning Committee 6 July

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

- 3.1.** Craven Clean Safer & Green consultation returned 5/6
- 3.2.** BIU contacted 5/6
- 3.3.** Annual Return sent to auditors 5/6
- 3.4.** Bus subsidy questionnaire completed 10/6
- 3.5.** Neighbourhood Planning – contacted Cumbria 10/6 & Gargrave 16/6, chased 29/6, response awaited
- 3.6.** Letters to Highways re school safety sent 23/6

## **4. Items for Information – see information folder**

- 4.1.** Better Homes Craven (& noticeboard)
- 4.2.** Julian Smith MP surgery timetable (& noticeboard)
- 4.3.** Correspondence regarding St Margarets signage on Highway
- 4.4.** Day in the Life of Bentham 2015 – 29 July

## **5. Items circulated by email**

- 5.1.** Latest Weekly Rural News Digest 8/6, 15/6, 22/6, 29/6
- 5.2.** RSN News – Spotlight on Rural Economy 24/6
- 5.3.** Rural Opportunities Bulletin, 3/6 & 1/7
- 5.4.** Rural Vulnerability Service, Fuel Poverty 10/6, Rural Transport 17/6
- 5.5.** Craven Newsletter, June
- 5.6.** North Yorkshire Now Newsletter, June
- 5.7.** SLCC News Bulletin, 5/6, 11/6
- 5.8.** White Rose Update, June
- 5.9.** LASRUG newsletter, 19 June
- 5.10.** NY Police Country Watch Newsletter, June & July
- 5.11.** Craven & First World War Project, Summer News
- 5.12.** Historic Towns Forum newsletter, Green Events June
- 5.13.** Sustaining a Vibrant Community, Skipton 14/7 (& noticeboards)
- 5.14.** NY Neighbourhood Watch Assoc AGM, Northallerton 7/7
- 5.15.** NY Police Community Fund open for applications
- 5.16.** Police & Crime Commissioner surgery, Skipton 24/6
- 5.17.** Julian Smith MP surgery dates June / July (& noticeboards) – Bentham 3/7
- 5.18.** RAY Community Friendly Building Events (June 18 & 23)
- 5.19.** RAY News 25, 25/6
- 5.20.** North Yorkshire Health & Wellbeing Board newsletter, June
- 5.21.** YLCA training courses, June / July
- 5.22.** Great British High Street Competition (copied to We Are Bentham & Town Team)
- 5.23.** Skipton Puppet Festival, October (& noticeboard)
- 5.24.** NYP 'Not in My Name' Campaign
- 5.25.** Fields in Trust July update

## **6. Progress on Outstanding Matters**

- 6.1.** Letter to David Bowe re Station approach 18 May, chased 22 June.
- 6.2.** Unmetered Supply for street lights – awaiting info from NYCC
- 6.3.** Low Bentham School Playing Field draft heads of terms accepted 9 March, awaiting solicitors / planners
- 6.4.** Bentham flag details sent to WeAreBentham 23 March, awaiting response
- 6.5.** Community Emergency Plan generic template & Burton Plan to be considered – meeting to be arranged
- 6.6.** Replica VC Winners stone confirmed ordered 12/11. Delivery dates awaited
- 6.7.** Flagpole – donor found, to be progressed
- 6.8.** Care Home meeting – date proving difficult – to be arranged
- 6.9.** Cowan Bridge new town comments sent to Lancaster City Council. Burton Parish response requested and awaited
- 6.10.** Grasmere Drive bench site location permissions received, costs received, donor awaited
- 6.11.** Tourist Information / WC signs ordered March 2013, put on hold until Town Team sign review completed