

## **BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 8 February at 7pm in the Wenningdale Room**

Present: Cllrs Adams, Bridgeman, Faichney, Marshall, Pritchard, Stannard (Chairman), Swales, Taylor, Townson & Vendy, and the clerk, Mrs Burton.

211. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend

Cllr Cowling

212. To Receive & Record any members Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in relation to items on the agenda and to receive and decide member's requests for DPI dispensations

None

213. To Receive Comments and Concerns

None

214. Planning

214.1. To Consider and Comment upon New Applications

214.1.1.08/2016/16561 Application to change use of an existing building used for A1 (retail) to a facility for the provision of D1 (education) at West Stonegate, 13 Main Street, Low Bentham

The Evaglates Care Home are leaving their current premises and moving nearby into West Stonegate. The company which owns the current building will then be free to do what they want with it, possibly providing another care facility in the village.

The barn is currently passed as a retail outlet. The Evaglates already causes problems in the village with the noise from the youngsters which often appear to be out of control and from the numerous police visits, often late at night. Parking is a real problem as staff do not use the off street parking with the current building or the public car park, but park on the road, on the bus stop and on yellow lines for long periods. The new facility makes no provision at all for staff parking which means up to eight staff will need to park in the vicinity, and the building is surrounded by yellow lines, which will make parking for residents more of a problem. The youngsters are not well controlled and have caused numerous problems in the area, including damage to property, such that many of the children living in the vicinity will no longer play outside and elderly residents are nervous of coming out when the youngsters are outside. West Stonegate is the neighbouring property to the Victoria Institute, which is used for children's dance classes several evenings a week and numerous meetings for senior citizens during the day. This closer proximity could well lead to intimidation of the vulnerable attendees of the Victoria Institute

**RESOLVED: That the Council should express its concerns regarding the history of the establishment and fact that the new property will exacerbate these known problems, whilst acknowledging that these are not actually planning issues.**

**RESOLVED: That the Council should object to the loss of one of the few remaining retail sites in Low Bentham**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.25pm