

## BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 7 July 2008, at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall

Present Cllrs Adams, Barnes, Burton, Faichney, Heigh, Marshall, Stannard, Taylor & Wills. Also the Clerk, Mrs Burton & 4 parishioners.

### 41. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend

Apologies were received from Cllrs Barrington & Hurtley and from DCllr Camacho & CCllr Ireton. Cllr Stannard had sent word that he would be late as he was attending the last Governors Meeting for Low Bentham Primary School and would arrive when the meeting had finished.

### 42. To Receive Declarations of Interest from members present

Cllr Faichney declared a prejudicial interest in item 49.1.2, planning application 08/2008/8666. Cllrs Wills & Marshall declared a personal and a prejudicial interest respectively in item 49.1.6, planning application 08/2008/8707. Cllr Heigh declared a personal interest in item 49.1.8, planning application 08/2008/8729. These were recorded in the book.

### 43. To Receive Comment & Concerns

A resident of Hillside Road indicated their desire to comment on items 50.2 and 50.3, the traffic calming measures and stopping up on Hillside Road. The Chairman decided to take these comments at the appropriate time during the meeting.

### 44. Presentation of Bible to Mayor by the Gideons

Mr John Ellershaw of the Gideons thanked the Council for the opportunity to make the annual presentation of a bible to the Mayor, explaining that it was relevant to every experience in life and a source of help. He presented the bible to Cllr Adams and Mr William Robinson gave a short prayer. Cllr Adams thanked them for the presentation.

### 45. To Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 2 June were proposed by Cllr Heigh, seconded by Cllr Wills and agreed.

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

Since publication permission for several planning applications had been granted and the white lining on Doctors Hill completed. This information would appear in the version of the report circulated with the minutes.

Cllr Wills added that the Flood Risk Assessment for Station Road was almost complete. The Church Beck project was in hand, but the unfortunate death of Mr Turner had delayed discussions regarding work on that part of the beck. Estimates for the repairs to the Egerton Lodge sign have been requested.

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

- None present

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

CCllr Ireton had sent word that the Efficiency Savings at County over the last 3 years had amounted to £28.7 million, which is ahead of the Government targets.

### 49. Planning

#### 49.1. To Consider and Comment upon New Applications

49.1.1. 08/2008/8653 Two storey side extension at 8 Goodenber Crescent, High Bentham.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

49.1.2. 08/2008/8666 Retrospective planning permission for summer house & garden shed at 4 Collingwood Drive, Low Bentham.

Cllr Faichney declared an interest. Council were surprised that a shed required planning permission and asked Cllr Faichney a point of information. He explained that the original planning

application had required the houses to be built further away from the wall and a requirement was imposed that nothing should be built adjacent to the wall. The Council agreed that this condition should be checked and that if the buildings are not in line with the original planning consent then they should be removed.

RESOLVED: That the original planning consent should be checked, and if these buildings are not in line with the conditions imposed then the application should be recommended for refusal.

49.1.3. 08/2008/8673 Proposed alterations & extension to existing dwelling at Orchard Corner, Clifford Hall, Burton In Lonsdale.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

49.1.4. 08/2008/8694 Replacement windows at St Boniface Church, 31 Robin Lane, High Bentham

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

49.1.5. 08/2008/8702 Installation of river flow monitoring station at Rose Cottages, Mill Lane, Low Bentham.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

49.1.6. 08/2008/8707 New agricultural cattle housing with underground slurry and midden at Ridding Lane Farm, High Bentham.

Cllrs Wills and Marshall declared an interest and left the room.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

49.1.7. 08/2008/8723 Two storey side extension over garage & alterations to existing house, and installation of LPG tank (resubmission 08/2007/8106) at Beckside, Mewith Lane, High Bentham.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

49.1.8. 08/2008/8729 Single storey extension at 28 Millholme Drive, Bentham.

Cllr Heigh declared a personal interest.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

49.1.9. 08/2008/8735 Conversion of Barn to B1 Workplace & living accommodation at Mill Dam Farm, Mewith, High Bentham.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

49.1.10. 08/2008/8736 To vary condition on 08/2005/5537 for permission to run for further 5 years at Clay Barn, Pottery Field, Waterside Potteries, Burton In Lonsdale.

A comment from Burton Parish Council was read pointing out that this was creeping development of an area that is outside the development envelope. A touring caravan was replaced with a static residential unit and tarmac paths etc have been installed. The Council pointed out that the applicant was originally given 2 years and was expected to look for an alternative site during this period and asked if there was any evidence of this occurring. The concern was expressed that 8 years gives the feeling of permanence and makes it all the more likely that the area will not be put back as it was.

RESOLVED: That the Council object to this application on the grounds of creeping development and permanence, and request the application be decided by the Planning Committee following a site meeting.

49.1.11. 08/2008/8763 Two storey extension to side of 12 Hillcroft, High Bentham.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

49.2. To Receive Planning Decisions

- If any (see Clerks Report)

49.3. To Receive Correspondence on Planning Issues

- If any (see Clerks Report)

## 50. Highways Matters

50.1. To Consider Parking on Main Street, and possible improvements

It was noted that the alterations to Main Street had been done quickly and efficiently, but several Cllrs questioned whether the pavement level had been lifted high enough. It was reported that a vehicle had hit the bank during the morning and the Clerk agreed to report this to NYCC Highways.

RESOLVED: That the vehicle strike of Barclays on 7 July be reported to NYCC Highways

The continuing problems of traffic on Main Street were discussed at length. It was agreed that moving the parking between Robin Lane and Station Road has been a success, with traffic able

to get away from the centre of the town more easily. Currently all the other priorities bring traffic to the centre, and this causes problems. Traffic lights on the junction are not an option due to the number of roads converging within a small space, the width of the roads and the fact that this would remove all parking and so speed traffic up. It was agreed that a meeting with Highways should be requested, to consider the possibility of moving the parking on the rest of Main Street and on Station Road to reverse the priorities.

RESOLVED: That a meeting should be arranged with NYCC Highways to look at options for altering the priorities by moving parking on both Main Street and Station Road.

50.2. To Consider a request for traffic calming measures on Hillside Road

Residents of Hillside Road are unhappy that, following the commencement of building on the garage site on Hillside Road the volume of traffic at the top of the road has increased, as it is now the only turning point. This area has always been relatively quiet and one where the younger children play and much of the traffic is travelling at speed, posing a danger to the children and other residents. It was pointed out that traffic-calming schemes are required to be self-policing, and that surveys will be required to prove the problem. It was also suggested that residents should report persistent offenders to the police

50.3. To Decide a response to Yorkshire Housing regarding the Stopping Up on Hillside Road

The traffic problems on Hillside have been exacerbated by the development of the garage site for affordable housing. The problems caused by delivery vehicles will be reduced once this building project is completed but the turning space appears to have been stopped up despite the objection of the Council.

The residents pointed out that the new development had increased problems in the area with both parking and turning, such that an ambulance called on 17 June had to wait 20 minutes before it was able to get to its destination on the road, which they felt was unacceptable. It was suggested by the Council that the residents get photographic evidence of the problems, and the Council would seek an early meeting with Yorkshire Housing and NYCC Highways to discuss the stopping up, the problems and possible solutions.

RESOLVED: That the Council seek an early meeting with Yorkshire Housing and NYCC Highways to discuss the stopping up on Hillside Road and possible solutions to the problems caused.

50.4. To Consider and Note Highway Matters

It was reported that contaminated water had been coming up the grate at the end of Goodenber Road and flowing as far as the Conservative Club at the weekend. The clerk agreed to ask NYCC Highways to check for blockages.

A large number of road signs have disappeared in the Dumb Tom, Nutgill, Tatterthorn, Linghaw area.

Large ruts have developed at Bracken Hill Road end, which are a danger to vehicles.

RESOLVED: That these problems be reported to NYCC Highways for their attention.

Cllr Stannard arrived and apologised for being late.

51. To Review the Council's Standing Orders and propose necessary amendments (paper 2008/07a/b)

RESOLVED: That the revised Standing Orders be adopted, and reviewed after 12 months.

52. To receive an update on the Low Bentham Playing Fields Project

The meeting on 30 June had raised several proposals. United Utilities had been contacted and had agreed to peg out the locations of their underground cables. They will also consider a cage for the substation, but headroom will be a deciding factor. Estimates had been requested for the trash gate, which will be funded by Craven District Council. The first quote for fencing has also been received. Getting a new cover for the valve chamber is proving more problematic as neither United Utilities or Yorkshire Water seem to be aware of its existence.

There was considerable discussion about getting the site levelled with some Cllrs wishing to get quotes for the work to be done by contractors and others believing that the money would be better spent on equipment later when there was an offer to do the work voluntarily from Low Bentham residents and businesses.

RESOLVED: That the voluntary solution for the levelling of the site be accepted. However if the continued poor weather prevents work being done during the summer then this should be reviewed at the October meeting

53. To consider a request for funding of High Bentham After School Club from NYCC  
A letter from the Extended Schools Cluster Coordinator was read requesting help in funding the ASC until Christmas. Whilst recognising the benefit of such a club the Council does not have ready funds for such a project. Grant funding is considered at the Precept meeting in January and late requests, however worthwhile, cannot be considered as there is no budget for such expenditure.

RESOLVED: That the request for funding for the After School Club be turned down due to lack of funds.

54. To consider the Bentham Common Lands Charity response and to confirm the appointment of a trustee

It was confirmed that Ingleton had reappointed Mr Aitchison as their representative and Burton had appointed Cllr Mason.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Wills be appointed as the Council's new trustee

RESOLVED: That the secretary be asked to report to the August Council meeting if a meeting of the trustees has not been called prior to this date.

55. To note the minutes of the Cemetery Meeting and

55.1. To agree the proposed fee increases, with effect from 1 September 2008 (paper 2008/11)

RESOLVED: That the new Cemetery fees be adopted from 1 September 2008.

55.2. To agree the proposed rules and regulations (paper 2008/12)

The clerk explained that these have been requested by the auditors, to ensure that the Council is fully covered. The draft regulations have been agreed by the main organisations operating in the cemetery.

RESOLVED: That the draft Cemetery Rules and Regulations be adopted with immediate effect

55.3. To consider memorial safety and appropriate testing thereof.

It was agreed that a further Cemetery committee meeting be called to decide upon a suitable procedure to test the safety of the memorials within the cemetery. The Council recognised the sensitive nature of topic and the need to ensure that any problems are dealt with in a suitable manner.

RESOLVED: That a further Cemetery Committee meeting be called.

56. To discuss the problem of Parking in Cleveland Square on Market Days and the Health & Safety issues

Parking is becoming a problem in Cleveland Square on Market Days with a few persistent offenders. The Council recognised that, despite the small size of the market, the H&S risk of vehicles in the Square at the same time will leave the Council liable in the event of an accident. It was agreed that the legislation regarding clamping of illegally parked vehicles, i.e. those still in the square after 7am, should be looked into.

RESOLVED: That the possibility of clamping vehicles parked in Cleveland Square on market days be actively pursued.

57. To Agree the Accounts for Payment

The accounts were proposed by Cllr Barnes, seconded by Cllr Wills and agreed.

Horton Landscaping 86.96 R Green 456.18

Hygiene Cleaning Supplies 85.59 C Louth 89.60

Cannon 14.21 Norwich Union 259.48

EOn 539.90 HMRC 72.78

Craven District Council 204.00 W Dowbiggin 56.00  
Multimedia Shop 55.19 P Howard 122.50  
Mopps 660.93 Phone Coop 6.58  
Fattorini 114.18 Dash4it 31.86  
Stannah Lift Services 134.58 Dell 45.98  
J Burton 729.06 AOL 14.99

58. To consider items of Correspondence

58.1. To consider information from Cllr David Heather regarding Castleberg Hospital and to agree

an appointment to the proposed North Craven Health Liason Group.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Barnes be appointed as Bentham Town Council Representative on the North Craven Health Liason Group.

58.2. To consider a further request for assistance from the Ramblers Association re Ridding Footpath

The Council repeated it's belief that this is outside of it's remit and is between the Ramblers Association and the relevant land owners.

58.3. To consider the request for ideas and the use of TH equipment from The Little Red Bus  
RESOLVED: That the Little Red Bus be allowed to use Town Hall tables and crockery for the Open day on 30 July

58.4. To consider the request from Blooming Bentham for support of the Market Arch Mural Project

The clerk told the meeting that as the owners of Bartle House are going to develop the property, the group were now considering completing the project during the summer of 2009. The Council noted that none of the proposed areas were actually owned by the Council and as such its permission was not required. The ensuing discussion centred around the suitability of the area for a mural, the public reaction to such a mural and the possibility of it encouraging graffiti. It was proposed that the Council not support the project. An amendment to this proposal, such that the Council support the project on the understanding that any designs be carefully discussed and agreed with Bentham residents, was made. The vote defeated the amendment by 6 to 3.

RESOLVED: That the Council will not support the Market Arch Mural Project.

58.5. To note the request to District & County to incorporate the SJS Sports Hall into community facilities.

Cllr Ireton had sent a message that Leisure Facilities were the responsibility of the District Council not the County, and certainly not the Education Authority so the new primary school could not be expected to provide 4 badminton courts. The Council noted that until the Governors of Sedbergh announce their plans for the Junior School there is little that anyone can do about the facilities. The Council was certainly not in a position to make such a purchase, and was not in a position to ask the District until the future of the building is clear.

58.6. To receive the consultation document for Lancashire's Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2008-2020

The Council noted Lancashire's proposed targets for the collection and recycling of both household and commercial waste in the future, and decided that Craven District Council should be made aware of them.

RESOLVED: That a copy of the consultation document be passed to Craven District Council.

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

Cllr Wills informed the meeting that the Bonfire will be held on 1 November

Cllr Burton reported that the Youth Café is in the process of moving into the Station building. A Manageress has been appointed who, along with the Youth Leader and volunteers will run the Youth Café. Rvd Low and her husband, John, who have been instrumental in getting the Café going have moved to Bingley. In their place Anne Yaman has been appointed secretary and Cllr Burton, Chairman.

Cllr Stannard had attended the last meeting of the Governors of Low Bentham Primary School as

it will close at the end of the summer term.

Cllr Heigh had been to the Playing Fields meeting and reported that the committee were still awaiting the outcome of various grant applications for the stage 3 developments.

Cllr Marshall had attended a meeting of the Collingwood & Longstaff Charity. Stephen Dawson had been appointed as a new trustee.

60. Items for next meeting and minor items only

Cllr Wills asked for an update on progress with the new school. Cllr Burton asked for an update on progress with the Cleveland Square lease, Legion Hut Land and Garage Sites. The clerk agreed to make the necessary requests and add these items to the August agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.50pm  
AGENDA ITEM 46)

CLERK' S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 7 July 2008.

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

##### 1.1. GRANTED

1.1.1. 08/2007/8180 Conversion of two storey warehouse building to 3 dwellings (amended plans) at Armstrongs Garden Centre, King Street, Bentham – GRANTED.

1.1.2. 08/2008/8395 Off road parking space at Greycarth, 11 Robin Lane High Bentham – GRANTED

1.1.3. 08/2008/8517 Replacement pavilion at Springfield Bowling Club, Springfield, High Bentham – GRANTED

1.1.4. 08/2008/8561 Single storey kitchen extension & double garage at Egerton Lodge Farm, Burton Road, Low Bentham - GRANTED

##### 1.2. REFUSED

1.2.1. 08/2008/8513 Demolition of existing glass houses & poly tunnels and formation of stone processing building, separate office and staff accommodation, and change of use of site to stone storage at Ingleborough Nurseries.

#### 2. Planning Correspondence

2.1. 08/2008/8713 - Fascia Sign at Co-Op, Main Street, Bentham – permission not required

#### 3. Information Received Regarding Items Discussed at last Council Meeting

3.1. Church Beck – response from Graham Tarn received (see Information Folder) showing work in hand

3.2. The uneven kerb at the Victoria Institute has been investigated and repairs instructed (email 24/6/08)

3.3. A permanent solution for Dumb Tom triangle is still under consideration (email 10/6/08)

3.4. The Egerton Road sign is at Ingleton Depot awaiting repair (email 10/6/08)

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

4.1. Letter & Press Release re departure of Gill Dixon, CEO Craven DC, with effect 13 June.

4.2. Dog Warden Service Update

4.3. Craven District Council Corporate Plan 2008-2011

4.4. LDF Monthly Update, June 2008

4.5. CravenRail 11, Selrap Newsletter Summer 2008.

4.6. Invitation to Morecambe Bay NHS Trust meeting re Single Equality Scheme

4.7. Assembly Essentials – Publication of Yorkshire & Humber Regional Spatial Strategy

4.8. Note on Decisions taken by Regional Executive Board of Yorkshire & Humber Assembly on 22/5

4.9. 'Facing the challenges for Yorkshire & Humber' press release – Integrated Regional Framework

4.10. The Hub, Voluntary Organisations Newsletter, June – August 2008.

4.11. YLCA Joint Annual Meeting 19/7, minutes of last year and annual report.

4.12. Local Councils Update, June 2008.

- 4.13. Summer Roadworks in South West (copy in TIP)
- 4.14. InfoRegio News May 2008
- 4.15. Country Air, Spring 2008.
- 4.16. The Playing Fields, Spring 2008.

5. Progress on Outstanding Matters

- 5.1. Dales View amenity area – letter sent 19 May.
- 5.2. Railings outside HSBC to be considered, but 2008 budget for signs/lines 'already spent'.
- 5.3. Request for consideration of land to rent for allotments – holding letter received from Kiddes 22/4/08
- 5.4. Hillside Road stopping-up – Council's refusal to remove objection has been noted, proposed solution awaited – see current agenda
- 5.5. Flood risk assessment on Station Road – information still awaited from Cllr Wills.
- 5.6. School Hill Gate – school considering appropriate response.
- 5.7. Doctors Hill – white lining work completed
- 5.8. Cleveland Square Lease – solicitor sent chasing letter 7 May
- 5.9. Legion Hut Land – holding email received 25 April
- 5.10. Garage Sites – holding email received 25 April