

BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 6 October 2008, at 7.00 pm in the Town Hall

Present Cllrs Adams, Barnes, Burton, Heigh, Marshall, Stannard, Taylor & Wills. Also the Clerk, Mrs Burton, DCllr Camacho, CCllr Ireton & 1 parishioner.

Prior to the meeting proper, Cllrs met with John Sutcliffe the Recycling & Waste Minimisation officer of Craven District Council. He informed them that Craven collected 26.400 tonnes of waste in 2007/8, of which 31.5% had been recycled. 5270 tonnes had been recycled & 3000 tonnes composted. These figures would be improved upon in 2008/9 as the blue bins had been provided to more houses and more paper / card was being recycled as a result. Current projects involve a project to reduce food waste, as it is estimated that 33% of food bought is thrown away, a junk mail campaign, one to increase the use of real nappies, and an Eco Schools award. Cllrs asked questions about the recycling of batteries and plastics, which may happen in the future, but Growth Budgets at Craven have been cut and so plans for a plastics bin in Bentham have been put on hold. Plastics will eventually be added to the kerbside collection. Trade recycling is an issue as Govt incentives only apply to household waste. Craven are currently looking at how other Councils deal with trade waste. Retailers have also reduced packaging by 30% in last 3 years.

Work is being done by NYCC and the district councils to look at extracting green energy from waste – hopefully by 2013, but the technology has not been selected yet. Currently the gas from the Skibden landfill site is used to heat homes in Skipton.

The Chairman thanked Mr Sutcliffe for his time and the meeting proper started at 7.30pm.

92. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend

Apologies were received from Cllrs Barrington, Faichney & Heigh

93. To Receive Declarations of Interest from members present

Cllrs Marshall & Wills declared a personal interest in item 99.1.6, planning application 08/2008/9018

94. To Receive Comment & Concerns

It was agreed to take the comment in item 106.6, Bentham Archive.

95. To Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 1 September were proposed by Cllr Marshall, seconded by Cllr Wills and agreed.

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

A couple of further items for information and two more planning decisions had been added since publication. Cllr Wills apologised for the further delay in providing the flood risk assessment.

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

- PC Barbara Yule gave a break down of the reports in Bentham during September:- 4 of criminal damage to a vehicle and 1 to a house, 3 assaults of which 2 had resulted in arrests, 3 of theft and 2 of disorderly conduct, 1 of money laundering, 1 drunk driving offence and 1 accident outside Bentham Garage. The station at Ingleton is now practically at full strength. Reports in the area are up 33% on the previous year, but still only stand at 74 to the end of September.

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

DCllr Camacho reported that the road closure for the Bonfire is now in place. He confirmed that all Growth Budgets had been suspended and that an extraordinary meeting of the Council would be held this month to discuss the financial problem. He confirmed that the new Council building was under review.

CCllr Ireton added that there were limited alternatives in Skipton and a solution needed to be

found quickly. He reported that Trading Standards and the Fire Service had held a very successful check of electric blankets in Grassington which had highlighted potential problems and also condemned several blankets, which had been replaced by the fire service. He suggested that the Council approach the local fire service to repeat the exercise in Bentham. The Highways Depot on Backgate, Ingleton has been sold and, dependent upon planning approval, will be moving to the Industrial Estate. The future of the ambulance service site is less clear.

99. Planning

To agree the Council Representative to attend the Planning Committee on 20 October, re Fourlands Nursery

RESOLVED: That Cllr Adams should attend

99.1. To Consider and Comment upon New Applications

99.1.1. 08/2008/8878 Erection of 2-bed dwelling at 1 Borrans Cottage, Burton Road, Low Bentham.

This application has already been refused by Craven's planning department

99.1.2. 08/2008/8923 2 Illuminated fascia signs & 1 internally illuminated wall mounted sign at Co-Operative Pharmacy, Stafford House, 24 Main Street, Bentham.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

99.1.3. 08/2008/8929 Amendments to approved permission 08/2007/7180 for Office/Warehousing facilities on site at Green Head. Off Cross Lane, Low Bentham

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

99.1.4. 08/2008/8936 Extend farm dwelling at Tatterthorn Farm, Tatterthorn Road, Ingleton.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

99.1.5. 08/2008/8947 Proposed erection of ground floor lounge & kitchen/diner extension for disabled use & associated access at Western View, Pye Busk, High Bentham.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

99.1.6. 08/2008/9018 Change of use of garage to Builders Merchants & Petrol Sales to allow external storage of materials without compliance with conditions 3 & 4 and amendment to Condition 5 of planning ref 08/2008/8612 at Bentham Garage, Low Bentham Road, Bentham.

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

100. Highways Matters

100.1. To receive and discuss draft proposals for altering Parking on Station Road and consider a course of action

Drawings had been received from David Cairns showing that a large amount of the official parking would be lost if it was moved to the other side. There was some discussion as to whether it would actually improve the flow and whether it would prevent the current illegal parking that causes so many problems at the crossroads. It was agreed to ask for another meeting with Mr Cairns to consider the situation, including the unrestricted parking, more fully before advertising the potential changes more widely.

RESOLVED: That Councillors meet again with Mr Cairns to consider all the parking on Station Road, including the unrestricted spaces.

(Cllr Barnes left the meeting)

100.2. To note the Public Local Enquiry regarding Hillside Road stopping up will be on Tuesday 18 November from 10am in the Lower Town Hall. Details will be published when available.

100.3. To Consider and Note Highway Matters

A pothole has developed on Cross Lane.

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

A request for double yellow lines for 100yards on Goodenber Road had been received. Cllrs doubted that this would solve the parking problems being experienced, but agreed to raise the suggestion with NYCC Highways.

RESOLVED: That a request for longer double yellow lines o Goodenber Road be raised with NYCC Highways.

101. To Consider the LDF Consultation Documents (see paper 2008/15) and agree an appropriate response

101.1. Strategic Housing Market Assessment

The Council agreed that this was a very comprehensive document, and were not aware of any deficiencies within it.

101.1.1. Affordable Housing

It was agreed that there was a real need for affordable housing across Craven, and that some new policy to ensure its continued provision was put in place. Whilst recognising that the current climate did not bode well for development, the document is to last for 15 years and therefore needs to be realistic in its proposed levels. Previously 40% was suggested and the Council agreed that this was a realistic level to strive towards.

RESOLVED: That a level of 40% affordable housing should be considered by the LDF policy.

101.2. Strategic Housing & Employment Land Availability Assessment

The SHELAA will be the foundation of the Site Allocations document which will be approved next year. Land not on the SHELAA is unlikely to be considered for development. The Council noted that the school sites and Felsteads were absent from the maps of High & Low Bentham.

RESOLVED: That the missing sites for potential development be reported.

102. To Note the minutes of the Market Committee meeting and to agree the proposals put forward

RESOLVED: That a new No Parking sign be erected at the entrance of the Cleveland Square

RESOLVED: That a quote be obtained for liability disclaimer signage

RESOLVED: That the Council consider narrowing the entrance with large stones and using a chain to close the Square on market days.

RESOLVED: That the Rating Review form be completed and returned to the Valuation Office

102.1. To agree a response to Craven regarding the new lease

RESOLVED: That the Council ask for clarification of the ownership of the perimeter walls before agreeing to sign the lease

RESOLVED: That the Council find out about liability due to trips etc once the lease is signed.

RESOLVED: That the Council ask for Craven to do some work to bring the Square up to adoptable standard before the Council agrees to sign the lease, or that the Council do the repairs in lieu of rent

103. To Note the minutes of the Town Hall Maintenance & Marketing Committees and to agree the proposals put forward

RESOLVED: That the check sheets for the end of events be introduced

RESOLVED: That the caretaker be asked to show new users around the facilities

RESOLVED: That the fitting of 'tamper proof' stats and some way of reducing the use of the lights on the stairs & landing should be considered to reduce energy bills

RESOLVED: That small meetings should be encouraged to use the Wenningdale Room

RESOLVED: That the gas contract price with British gas should be fixed for 2 years

RESOLVED: That the clerk to look into more permanent solutions to the curtain problems

RESOLVED: That purchase of a flag pole be considered after Christmas

RESOLVED: That the clerk find a suitable course for the caretaker for ladders & lifting.

RESOLVED: That photos and copy should be supplied for a website gallery to promote the building

RESOLVED: That the marketing leaflet be progressed emphasising 'Events for the Family'

RESOLVED: That Council look into holding a Christmas Event to raise funds for charity and promote the use of the Ballroom.

103.1. To agree the hire rates for 2009

RESOLVED: That the hire rates be increased by 2.5% for 2009

103.2. To approve the revised Fire Risk Assessment

Following a second internal review the Council agreed to adopt the revised Fire Risk Assessment, but agreed that the next review should be done professionally to ensure that all aspects continue to be covered.

RESOLVED: That the revised fire risk assessment be adopted

104. To Receive the response from Kidde Products regarding Land for Allotments, and to consider an appropriate course of action.

Kiddes had written explaining that the land behind the Farrier is a void space to separate the fire

testing facilities and effluent lagoon from adjacent neighbours and as such is unsuitable. The Council agreed to re-advertise in Bentham News to try and find some land locally.
RESOLVED: That the need for allotment land be re-advertised in Bentham News

105. To Agree the Accounts for Payment

The accounts were proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Hurlley.

Mopps 440.62 J Burton 798.46
Stannards 650.00 R Green 475.58
British Gas 173.83 C Louth 89.60
Yorkshire Water 24.97 W Dowbiggin 84.00
Craven District Council 104.00 P Howard 122.50
EON 56.01 Phone Coop 5.16
B & CE Armstrong 41.30 AOL 14.99
Horton Landscaping 43.48 Dash4Maps 55.90
Hygiene Cleaning Supplies 102.39 Multimedia Shop 170.81
John Marshall & Son 122.20 Bowling Club 750.00
Stannah 134.58 Playing Fields Association 500.00
Howsons 352.50 Victoria Institute 300.00
Cannon 14.21 Tourist Information 500.00
Norwich Union 259.48 Youth cafe 250.00
HMRC 85.12 Community Bonfire 250.00
Goodenber Play Area 250.00

105.1. To Consider moving the Council's Broadband Account from AOL to Orange (see paper 2008/16)

RESOLVED: That the Council move their Broadband account to Orange

105.2. To Reproduce at cheque for BT in payment of Clerks & Town Hall phones, to replace that lost in their system

The clerk explained that 2 cheques had been sent to BT after the last meeting, the first had been cashed and the second lost in BT's system – and she had been assured that it could only have been shredded. Council agreed to reissue the cheque, but requested that the previous cheque be stopped, and BT invoiced for the associated costs

RESOLVED: That the BT cheque be reissued, but that BT be invoiced for the associated charges

105.3. To agree a date for the Budget Review Meeting

RESOLVED: That the Budget Review meeting be held on 23 October, time & place to be confirmed.

106. To consider items of Correspondence

106.1. To note date of meeting to discuss proposed New School for Bentham on 13 October 2008, at 7.30pm.

- received

106.2. To note the date of the Craven Area Forum meeting at Bentham Town Hall on 21 October 2008 at 7pm

- received

106.3. To appoint a Representative to attend the Policing Issues seminar at Granville St on 14 October

The Cllrs present were unable to attend, the clerk agreed to contact those absent to see if they were available.

RESOLVED: That the clerk contact absent Cllrs to check their availability.

106.4. To receive notification of the Result of the Election of a Parish Representative to the Craven Area Committee, showing that William Kirkpatrick has been elected

- received

106.5. To receive notification of change of procedure for notification of Planning Applications & Decisions, which will now be posted every Friday.

- received

106.6. To consider a request for support for a Bentham Archive as a possible future s106 request.

David Johnson told the Council that he and other residents in Bentham held a large amount of local history which needed a local home, otherwise in time it will be lost to the county archive in Northallerton. In the future there may be large developments on any or all of the school sites (Low B Primary, High B Primary & Sedbergh Junior) and he asked that the Council support the call for the establishment of a local centre.

RESOLVED: That the Council consider the establishment of a local archive at sometime in the future

106.7. To receive letters regarding Loose Horses on the Moor and to consider a response.

The clerk explained that this was not a Council matter, and that she had passed copies of the correspondence to the Commoners Secretary, the Land Agent and the police. The police had responded that this would be a civil matter if the horses caused an accident.

RESOLVED: That the action taken be reported to the complainants

106.8. To consider the consultation paper on the Making & Enforcement of Byelaws

RESOLVED: That the paper be reviewed and considered before the 20 November.

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

Cllr Wills had attended the LASRUG AGM, where a Northern Rail executive had told the group to get more aggressive in it's requests for more trains.

Cllr Wills asked for the Bentham Common Lands Charity to be added to the November agenda

Cllr Marshall had attended a Development Group meeting and informed the Council that Craven were inviting developers to consider the Station Road car park scheme.

Cllr Adams reminded the meeting that the Community Bonfire will be on 1 November.

108. Items for next meeting and minor items only

Cllr Stannard mentioned that unsuitable routes for sat-navs can be reported to Highways and suggested that some of the routes through Bentham should be reported.

Cllr Burton asked for recent problems with the Town Hall to be considered and it was agreed that they should be discussed at a later date.

Cllr Adams asked if another Cllr could attend the Methodist's Old Folks dinner on October 9 as he will be away. He also mentioned that the Civic Service collection had raised £200 for charity.

The clerk had received a query from the planning department regarding the Dalesview Amenity area. The Council confirmed that it's opinion on the matter had not changed and that it needed to cover it's own costs.

The Council also confirmed that it did not require a piano in the Town Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.55pm

AGENDA ITEM 96)

CLERK' S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 6 October 2008.

1. Planning Decisions Received Since Last Meeting

1.1. GRANTED

1.1.1. 08/2008/8765 Detached garage at 17 Pye Busk Close, High Bentham.

1.1.2. 08/2008/8872 Engineering works to form driveway at front of 33 Robin Lane, Bentham.

1.1.3. 45/2008/8623 Retention of Agricultural building at Tatterthorn Road, Ingleton

1.1.4. 08/2008/8756 Single storey extension at 1 Moons Acre, High Bentham.

1.2. REFUSED

1.2.1. 08/2008/8878 Erection of 2 bedroom dwelling at 1 Borrans Cottage, Burton Road, Low Bentham.

2. Planning Correspondence

- 2.1. Appeal at Gill Farm, Wennington re Vehicle Repair business - WITHDRAWN
- 2.2. Letters regarding planning application 08/2008/8905, stone processing at Fourlands
- 2.3. North West Regional Spatial Strategy to 2021 published 30/9/08

3. Information Received Regarding Items Discussed at last Council Meeting

- 3.1. Main Street Parking – letter to be circulated once Station Road discussed (agenda item 100.1)
- 3.2. Cleveland Square – (agenda item 102)
- 3.3. Holes on Banks Way & Robin Lane have been filled (email 5/9/08, information folder)
- 3.4. Heritage Trail, passed to Footpaths Group, reply awaited via Cllr Barrington
- 3.5. Letter to Inspector Franks sent regarding Anti Social Behaviour & police response.

4. Items for Information – see information folder

- 4.1. LASRUG Newsletter, August 2008.
- 4.2. NW Roadworks map, September – November 2008.
- 4.3. Minutes of May Area Forum in Ingleton.
- 4.4. Child Safety Seat Fitting Checks, 29 October, Cleveland Square – displayed notice boards.
- 4.5. New Timetable for 581, Horton – Settle – Ingleton (put in TIP)
- 4.6. The Hub, Autumn 2008.
- 4.7. Minutes for annual meeting of Craven Branch of YLCA, 19 June & Agenda for meeting on 11 October.
- 4.8. Minutes for meeting of Joint Executive of YLCA, 19 July
- 4.9. Standards Board Newsletter, September 08.
- 4.10. InfoRegio News, September 2008
- 4.11. Proof of PAT tests, Fire Alarm & emergency lighting tests & boiler checks, September 08.

5. Progress on Outstanding Matters

- 5.1. Hillside Road – full details of public local inquiry awaited.
- 5.2. Remedial work on trees on Butts Lane arranged by NYCC Highways (see email 12/8/08)
- 5.3. Goodenber Road drain – passed to inspector for action 28/7/08
- 5.4. Missing road signs Dumb Tom / Tatterthorn / Nutgill – passed to inspector for action 28/7/08
- 5.5. Church Beck – response from Graham Tarn received showing work in hand
- 5.6. The uneven kerb at the Victoria Institute has been investigated and repairs instructed (email 24/6/08)
- 5.7. A permanent solution for Dumb Tom triangle is still under consideration (email 9/7/08)
- 5.8. The Egerton Road sign is at Ingleton Depot awaiting repair (email 10/6/08)
- 5.9. Dalesview Amenity land – progress chased early September 2008.
- 5.10. Railings outside HSBC to be considered, but 2008 budget for signs/lines 'already spent'.
- 5.11. Flood risk assessment on Station Road – information still awaited from Cllr Wills.
- 5.12. Legion Hut Land – holding email received 10/7/08
- 5.13. Garage Sites – holding email received 10/7/08