

**MINUTES of the Council Meeting held on Monday**  
**20th December 2021, at 7.30 pm – in the The Lower Hall, Bentham**  
**Town Hall.**

Present: Cllrs Bridgeman (Chair), Burton, Faraday, Hill, Marshall, Stannard and Taylor. The Clerk Christine Downey. And one member of the public.

- 254 Apologies from members unable to attend: -
- 254.1 To Note Apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.  
**Cllrs Adams, Swales and Wills. DCllr Brockbank.**
- 254.2 To consider acceptance of reasons for absence.  
**None.**
- 255 Declaration of interests: -
- 255.1 To Note Declarations of Interest not already declared under members Code of Conduct or members register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.  
**Cllrs Marshall and Taylor declared an interest in respect of item 258.1. (Planning application).**
- 255.2 To approve dispensation requests.  
**None.**
- 256 To Receive Comment & Concerns: Public Participation – to hear matters raised by members of the public or Cllrs with an interest (that are allowed to speak) either on agenda items or for future consideration. (NB: for non-agenda items Members of the Council are not permitted to respond, except to ask questions for the purposes of clarification).  
**NONE.**
- 257 To Confirm the Minutes of the previous meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021. (Paper 2021/224)  
**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 are agreed and be signed.**
- 258 To consider and comment upon New Planning Applications: -
- 258.1 2021/23432/FUL. Proposed conversion of existing agricultural barn and shippoon to provide 2 no holiday let units. Bowker House, Mewith Lane, Low Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7DQ.  
*Councillors Marshall and Taylor left the room.*  
**RESOLVED: That the council has no comments on this application.**  
*Councillors Marshall and Taylor returned to the room.*
- 258.2 2021/23497/FUL. Reinstatement of the original shop door to provide separate access to the existing domestic accommodation over the shop. 38 Main Street, High Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7HN.  
**Application temporarily withdrawn.**
- 258.3 2021/23552/FUL. Removal of concrete store to be replaced with stone-built cottage. 17 Main Street, High Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7HQ.  
**RESOLVED: That the council has no comments on this application.**
- 259 To consider the draft tender specification document for the Bentham Masterplan consultant and to agree a response. (Paper 2021/225)  
**RESOLVED: That the draft tender specification document is approved.**
- 260 To consider funding from CDC Welcome Back Fund and agree a way forward. (Paper 2021/226)  
 It was reported that item 5 on the list of suggestions (replanting of the planters on School Hill) has already been completed.  
**RESOLVED: All of the other suggestions were approved.**  
**RESOLVED: That Cllr Marshall will reply to Lynn Whitaker at CDC.**  
**RESOLVED: That Cllr Marshall will enquire if money is available from the fund for the proposed new Heritage Trail map.**

**RESOLVED: Clerk to forward an update of the position regarding the proposed new Heritage Trail map to Cllr Marshall.**

261 To consider the position regarding the new bridge/style/gate on the Heritage Trail and agree a way forward. (Paper 2021/227)

**RESOLVED: Not to install the timber bridge. To replace the gate in the hedge line that is failing instead.**

**RESOLVED: To take advice on what is acceptable to the land owners.**

262 To consider suggestions for special projects for 2022/2023 with a view to obtaining cost estimates for the precept meeting. (Paper 2021/228)

No	Potential project	RESOLVED	Estimated cost
1	Work for fire risk assessment.	Clerk pursuing quotes for training.	To be advised.
2	Widening of exit doors from WR stairwells to car park.	Cllr Farady to speak to Tyrers about specifications and quote.	To be advised.
3	Cemetery wall plaques.	Carry forward to next year.	N/A
4	Drainage at cemetery	Carry forward to next year and Cllr Taylor will follow up possible options with an expert in the field.	N/A
5	Bicycle track at PHPF.	Cllr Bridgeman has requested quotes and will chase them up.	To be advised.
6	Windows in the Ballroom.	Cllr Hill requesting quotes.	To be advised.
7	Cost of additional employees.	Estimate for an administrator, at £12 an hour x 20 hours per week.	£12,480
8	Cost of washing all the pavements.	To be added to the suggestions for Lynn Whitaker of CDC to consider funding from the Welcome Back Fund.	N/A
9	Public toilets	To be considered as part of the Bentham Masterplan.	N/A
10	Post hole in School Hill with 16amp electric supply for Christmas Tree.	Include an estimated cost of £5,000 for consideration on the potential special project list. But make it for a multi-functional hole with electric.	£5,000

263 Items for next meeting and minor items for information only.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

Cost of Calendar to be discussed and reviewed.

Lighting fault at Community Youth Building. No immediate action required, add as agenda item for next meeting.

Volunteer Policy.

**MINOR ITEMS**

Cllr Stannard will chase up a quote for repairing the Town Hall clock if the clerk provides him with the contact details of the recommended company.

264 Date of next meeting: TUESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.05.