



## BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES of the Council Meeting held on Monday 1 April 2019, at 7.30 pm in the Lower Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs Adams, Faraday, Handford, Hill, Marshall, Stannard & Taylor. CCllr Ireton. Also, the Clerk Christine Downey and 6 members of the public.

The Council welcomed the returning councillor Brian Handford and the new councillor Howard Hill.

- 211 To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend  
Cllrs Bridgeman, Burton, Swales & Wills.
- 212 To Receive and Record any member's Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in relation to any items on the agenda and to receive and decide members requests for DPI dispensations  
Cllr Marshal declared a personal interest in items 218.1.2, planning application 2019/20318/OUT; and 218.1.3, planning application 2019/20319/OUT.
- 213 To Receive Comment & Concerns - none
- 214 To Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting on 4 March 2019.  
**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting on 4 March 2019 be signed.**
- 215 To Receive the Clerks Report (for information only) – see end of these minutes.
- 216 To Receive the Police Report & allow members to ask questions for information – none available.
- 217 To Receive Reports from CCllr & DCllrs (for information only)  
CCllr Ireton reported that the council is now approaching the ninth year of austerity, the chancellor stated in November that the national deficit is reducing but is still projected to be at 0.8% in 2023/24. So, austerity may be coming to an end but the council is likely to face another period of financial challenge well into and probably beyond the current MTFS period. The lack of a spending review beyond 2019/20 makes it very difficult to make predictions beyond 2019/20 but the sizeable increase in the funding planned for the NHS will mean that there is likely to be proportionately greatly financial pressure in other departments and that is likely to include local government.  
By the end of 2018/19 the council will have made ongoing revenue savings of £157m since the beginning of this current period of austerity, this has been necessary due to increases in demand and the cost of providing services at the same time as government funding has declined. Demand, especially for older people, adults with learning disabilities and children with special education needs has grown significantly and is a strong feature of the year's budget. As a result, the council has to deliver its services in different ways to meet the challenge to do more with less.  
For some time now there has been an acknowledgement that the pressures of adult social care are such that a national solution needs to be provided. The governments promised green paper has again been delayed and is now expected sometime in 2019. In the meantime, there have been numerous incremental interventions by government to help fund adult social care



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which, whilst welcome, continue to be complex and in some cases cause tensions with health partners.

2019/20 is the fourth year in which the government have allowed those councils who provide social care the opportunity to generate an additional social care precept of 2% on the local tax.

- 218 Planning
- 218.1 To Consider and Comment upon New Applications
- 218.1.1 2019/20305/FUL Proposed first floor extension to existing offices at Studio 1, Bentham Industrial Estate, High Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7NB  
**RESOLVED: That the Council has no objections to this application.**
- 218.1.2 2019/20318/OUT Outline application with all matters reserved for 3 no. dwellings (Resubmission of previous outline approval referenced 2018/18982/OUT) at Land Adjacent to Lairgill Lodge, Mount Pleasant, High Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7LA  
**RESOLVED: That the Council has no objections to this application.**
- 218.1.3 2019/20319/OUT Outline application with all matters reserved for 2 no. dwellings (Resubmission of previous outline approval referenced 2018/18982/OUT) at Land Adjacent to Lairgill Lodge, Mount Pleasant, High Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7LA  
**RESOLVED: That the Council has no objections to this application.**
- 218.2 To Receive Planning Decisions
- If any (see Clerks Report)
- 218.3 To Receive Correspondence on Planning Issues
- See Clerk's Report item 2.1 re Public Footpath No 05.5/105, Shakey Bridge, Bentham Modification Order 2010 and note that The Order will be determined by a local inquiry which is due to be held at 10.00am on Tuesday 01 October 2019 at Clapham Village Hall.
  - Two planning applications were received after the agenda for the April meeting was displayed and are not therefore included for discussion. Councillors are asked to consider the applications and inform the clerk of any comments and concerns.
- 219 Highway Matters
- 219.1 To Receive an update on the **street light programme**  
It was reported that all the lights on Wenning Avenue should now be connected and working. Peter Ball from North Yorkshire Highways to instruct Electricity North West to connect the other street lights down Duke Street. There is a contractor appointed to do some cable ducting on our behalf and that will be carried out once the date for the electric supply to be connected is known.
- 219.2 To Consider and Note **Highway Matters** for information  
It was reported that a number of street lights which have been reported as not working through the portal, are now recorded as having been fixed. However, this is not the case and none of them have been fixed. The reports closed down as having been fixed include one street light on corner of Lakeber Drive and Robin Lane that's been out for over a year and a half, two at the bottom of Robin Lane that have been out for a considerable time, and one opposite the school. All of these are now recorded as having been fixed but none of them have actually been fixed.  
**RESOLVED: Cllr Adams will get back on to North Yorkshire Streetlighting and will provide details to Cllr Ireton.**



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It was reported that the dog fouling problem in Bentham is getting worse and also that DCllr Thompson offered the use of some covert cameras several meetings ago, but that these have not yet arrived.

**RESOLVED: Clerk to provide Cllr Handford with 20 more sticky signs about dog fouling to be displayed on lampposts.**

**RESOLVED: Cllr Handford to remove and dispose of the old signs saying that members of the public may be videoed.**

**RESOLVED: Clerk to ask for update on position re use of covert cameras.**

It was reported that there have been several requests by members of the public for more dog poo bins, and it was explained that bagged dog waste can be disposed of in any bin. However, the point being made by members of the public is that there are not sufficient bins along the popular dog walking routes. But it needs to be born in mind that any bin must be situated where Craven District Council are willing to collect it, so on the public highway or adjacent to it, and not down a footpath or across a field.

**RESOLVED: Cllr Wills to draw up a list of the areas in question and indicate where along the route would be a suitable position for a bin to be located.**

**RESOLVED: Craven District Council will then be asked to provide bins.**

The narrow stretch between Mount Pleasant and Lairgill has been resurfaced which is appreciated.

220 To Discuss the **Youth Cafe**

220.1 Front door – To consider a quote  
The quote has not yet arrived.

220.2 Electric check and report - to receive an update

Mark Burrow has been instructed to do the electric checks and report recommendations. He did indicate that he would not be able to do this before the end of March, so report awaited.

220.3 Roof and gutters – part of the woodwork that the guttering is attached to is hanging off. To discuss a way forward.

**Resolved: To refer this matter to the buildings committee.**

221 To Agree the Accounts for Payment

Salaries	3548.94
HMRC	938.70
Stannah – Maxi hydraulic service	183.35
YLCA - subscription	723.00
Viking – ink and stationery	170.93
Howsons Ltd– 50% service of fire alarm upstairs	288.00
Kingsdale Projects – Grass cutting	340.00
HB Plumbing & Heating Ltd – Repairs to gents toilets	145.63
Yorkshire Dales Signage & Graphics – Black Bull Car Park signs	564.60
Thomas Graham – cleaning materials	121.98
Yorkshire Water – water rates cemetery	5.24
Craven DC – refuse collection	51.29
Aviva - insurance	401.22
1&1 Internet	8.44



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NEST	175.44
YLCA – Training courses for new clerk	425.00
Welmedical – Defibrillator pads (3 x pair)	107.82
Age concern	100.00
Bentham Youth Cafe	750.00
Bentham Community Bonfire	500.00
Carnival Bentham	500.00
Goodenber Play Area	1000.00
LASRUG	150.00
Community Link Cafe	375.00
Bentham Playing Fields Association	1000.00
Low Bentham Victoria Institute	2500.00
BT	25.08

**RESOLVED: Payments to be approved.**

**RESOLVED: Cllrs Faraday and Stannard to authorise.**

- 222 To Discuss remedial work on cooker  
JLA carried out a service on the oven in October 2018 and were paid for that work. They have since reported “We attended to carry out the annual service on the oven on 29/10/2018 and found that there was no test nipple or gas valve on the oven. Therefore, the oven will be working fine during day to day use, but if for any reason you had to isolate the gas on the oven you would be unable to do so, which is why we have advised these parts should be fitted to the appliance”.  
It was reported to the meeting that there is a gas valve for the oven, that it is in the floor in the kitchen, and that it shuts the oven off if the extractor fan is not on.  
**RESOLVED: Cllr Adams will investigate further.**
- 223 To Receive brief update on signs for Black Bull car park  
Six signs have been installed. There should be eleven, which will run all along the back row. Yorkshire Dales Signage & Graphics will complete shortly.
- 224 To receive very brief update on lift service  
The lift was inspected on 07/03/19 and serviced on 28/03/19. The clerk was present in the town hall on both occasions.
- 225 To consider items of **Correspondence**  
225.1 To note that the Parishes Liaison Meeting at Craven DC offices on Wed 27<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 6.30pm was cancelled due to insufficient agenda items to warrant a meeting
- 226 To Discuss a Council Representative for Bentham and District Dementia Friendly Community.  
Cllr Stannard was proposed and seconded.  
**RESOLVED: Clerk to forward the contact details for the Bentham and District Dementia Friendly Community to Cllr Stannard.**
- 227 To Receive Reports from Councillors who represent the council on other bodies (for information only)  
Cllr Taylor informed the meeting that he continues to receive correspondence from the Bentham Refugee Group, and that they have activities going on, all of which are widely advertised elsewhere.



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Cllr Stannard's report for the Playing Field Association

The Playing Field Association held a very successful coffee morning on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019, it was well attended and raised just over £370. The car boot sales will start up again in April, around Easter time, down on the field. Worth a visit for the burgers and bacon butties.

- 228 To Discuss the Clerk's hours  
**RESOLVED: To discuss in the finance committee meeting.**
- 229 To Discuss date for council training evening if required  
No dates have been received as yet, but now that there is a full council once again it would be good to organise an evening of training for councillors to attend that will cover the roles and responsibilities.  
**RESOLVED: To circulate the potential dates on receipt.**
- 230 Items for next meeting and minor items only  
It is the Tourist Information Point coffee morning on 6<sup>th</sup> April. The involvement of as many councillors as possible was request. Assistance and raffle prizes are needed.
- 231 Date and time of next full council meeting  
The date of the Annual Parish Meeting is Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April, at 7.00 pm in the Lower Hall.  
**The next full council meeting is Monday 29th April 2019, at 7.30 pm in the Lower Town Hall.**  
This is the meeting for May 2019, being held early because Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019 is a bank holiday.
- 232 Date and time of Building Maintenance committee meeting  
**RESOLVED: That the date and time of the next building maintenance committee meeting will be Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April. To meet at 6.30 pm at the Youth Club, clerk to bring the youth club key.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20.06.

### CLERK'S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 1 April 2019

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

##### 1.1. GRANTED

- 1.1.1. 2018/19190/REM Approval of the appearance, landscaping, layout and scale as reserved by condition in outline consent referenced 08/2014/15067 for 16 dwellings at Felstead, Low Bentham Road, High Bentham, Lancaster
- 1.1.2. 2018/20046/FUL Proposed agricultural building at Stoneley Barn, Mewith Lane, High Bentham
- 1.1.3. 2018/20048/FUL Proposed family dwelling house and garage at Sandy Hill, Low Bentham Road, High Bentham, Lancaster
- 1.1.4. 2019/20206/HH Construct two storey side extension, form new access and create parkin and turning area to rear of property at Fern Cottage, Burton Road, Low Bentham, Lancaster

##### 1.2. REFUSED

- 1.2.1. none



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## 2. Planning Correspondence

- 2.1. The Planning Inspectorate, Title of Order: Public Footpath No 05.5/105, Shakey Bridge, Bentham Modification Order 2010. The order will be determined following a local inquiry which is due to be held at 10.00 am on Tuesday 01 October 2019 at Clapham Village Hall, Cross Haw Lane, Clapham LA2 8DZ. The inquiry is currently scheduled to last 1 day.

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

- 3.1. Town council invited to provide suggestions for the naming of the branch road off Felstead View no later than the end of May.
- 3.2. Signs up in the Black Bull Car Park
- 3.3. Highways portal is working with the council log in.
- 3.4. Clerk drafted letter to Youth Café re DBS checks.
- 3.5. Site meeting with HAGS took place 21.03.19, minutes have been circulated. Provisional date for remedial work is Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019.
- 3.6. Letter sent to YLCA requesting advice on position re HAGS, MUGA and finger entrapment issue.
- 3.7. Grass cutting contracts prepared.
- 3.8. The willow tree at PPHF has been removed.

## 4. Items for Information – see information folder

- 4.1. The Clerk, March 2019
- 4.2. Clerks & Councils Direct, March 2019

## 5. Items circulated by email

- 5.1. Craven DC: Public Consultation on the Proposed Main Modifications to the Publication Draft Craven Local Plan: 19/02/19 – 01/04/19
- 5.2. Craven DC: Clarification re: Public Consultation on the Proposed Main Modifications to the Publication Draft Craven Local Plan: 19/02/19 – 01/04/19
- 5.3. Lancaster City Council: Lancaster District Local Plan 2011-2031 Notice of Examination Hearings
- 5.4. NAL Winter 2018 survey
- 5.5. Link to CDC Local Plan Consultation Main Modifications from Linda Brockbank
- 5.6. Charity Trustees welcome pack for FoBL from Linda Brockbank
- 5.7. Details of kick stool for Bentham Community Library from FoBL
- 5.8. YLCA One Day Conference – Killing the Golden Goose – ‘Over Tourism’
- 5.9. Westminster Insight: Third Sector Commissioning Conference 22 May
- 5.10. Howard Matthews request for councillors contact details on website
- 5.11. Public Sector Deposit Fund – factsheet
- 5.12. Westminster Insight: Customer Insight Conference 30 April
- 5.13. Dementia 2020: Road Map to Delivery 30 April
- 5.14. LASRUG Newsletter March 2019
- 5.15. Rural Services Network Call on Government for a Rural Strategy
- 5.16. NALC Legal Briefing L01-19 – Updated guidance on Purdah
- 5.17. NYCC Temp road closure Mount Pleasant High Bentham 25 – 27 March for carriageway patch works
- 5.18. PC Andy McClurg, PC AGM’s 2019 (Annual Parish Council Report for Ingleton and Bentham)
- 5.19. YLCA request for information from Sutton on the Forest Parish Council – Defibrillators
- 5.20. YLCA New code of Audit Practice Consultation

## 6. Progress on Outstanding Matters