

## BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 3 July, at 7.30 pm in the Lower Town Hall

Present Cllrs Adams, Bridgeman, Faraday, Marshall, Pritchard, Stannard, Swales, Taylor, Townson & Vendy. Also CClr Ireton, DCllrs Brockbank & Thompson, the clerk Mrs Burton and 5 parishioners

The Dementia Friendly session was cancelled by Ms Gaynor Brown late afternoon on 3 July.

44. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend  
Cllr Handford
45. To Receive & Record any member's Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in relation to items on the agenda and to receive and decide members' requests for DPI dispensations - none
46. To Receive Comment & Concerns  
A resident asked for an update on the status of planning application 08/2017/18023 on Lakeber Drive as no decision had been published as yet. The Chairman explained that the Town Council had no jurisdiction in these matters and Craven Planning Department were the people to contact on this. DCllr Thompson agreed find out what was happening.
47. To Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting  
**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting on 5 June be signed**
48. To Receive the Clerks Report (for information only) – see end of these minutes
49. To Receive the Police Report & allow members to ask questions for information – none present
50. To Receive Reports from CClr & DCllrs (for information only)  
DCllr Brockbank said the Library move had been successful with increased interest and new members. She asked the Council about the directional fingerposts which still required altering. It was noted that these could easily be altered with an allen key, but that the map boards were more problematic as they were not in frames, but completely embedded. These had been installed by the Town Team working with Craven District Council and they should have the artwork etc. DCllr Brockbank agreed to follow this up at Craven.  
DCllr Thompson had attended a Select Committee meeting which had received a report from Inspector Crocker who presented statistics showing that robbery, burglary and drug offences were dropping but that violence against the person, weapons & sexual offences were increasing. The police were monitoring these trends and adjusting their activities to match. North Yorkshire was still the safest county to live in. He mentioned that the second camera van had been delivered and that it was currently spending a great deal of time on the Settle by-pass. The waste management working group had restarted and was looking at possible improvements to the service. Craven was also starting a shared home ownership pilot project building 3 houses for part sale (25-75%) to the eventual occupants with a rent being paid on the council owned part. There was considerable discussion around how such a scheme would work.

*Cllr Ireton arrived at 7.40pm*

Cllr Ireton mentioned the successful Library move and also said that there was no update on the Extra Care project.

51. Planning
- 51.1. To Consider and Comment upon New Applications
- 51.1.1. 08/2017/18017 Conversion of former barn to 3-bed dwelling at rear of 17 Main Street, High Bentham  
**RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application**
- 51.2. To Receive Planning Decisions  
- If any (see Clerks Report)
- 51.3. To Receive Correspondence on Planning Issues
- 51.3.1. To note that the last informal pre-publication draft of Craven's Local Plan is being consulted on from 19 June to 31 July and decide how the Council will respond  
Few Cllrs had had the opportunity to read the full report. It was agreed that responses should be emailed to all Cllrs and collated by the clerk by 10 July when a decision as to the requirement for a meeting would be taken  
**RESOLVED: That Cllrs read the report and make their comments by 10 July, when the requirement for a meeting will be decided upon**
- 51.3.2. Any others (see Clerks Report)

## 52. Highways Matters

## 52.1. To Receive an initial response to the enquiry regarding the Rose Garden

Craven had agreed in principle to the sale or lease of the Rose Garden if public consultation proved to be in favour and planning permission for change of use could be obtained. Various ideas were discussed but it was agreed that Highways opinion on the access feasibility was needed before any progress could be made

**RESOLVED:** That NYCC Highways be consulted regarding the potential access for use as a car park

**RESOLVED:** That a draft flier be compiled for neighbouring properties to gauge opinion on the change if Highways are happy with the access.

## 52.2. To Consider and Note Highway Matters for Information

The blocked gullies in various areas were raised again. The clerk confirmed that she was chasing them on a regular basis and that they 'were on a list'. The tactile paving on the Bull corner had been reported to NYCC Highways as a trip hazard but no response had been received to date. The broken tactile paving at Cleveland Square entrance had been reported previously by Highways would not repair it. The slippery pavement outside the barbers had also been reported previously but nothing had happened. The clerk agreed to pass these to Cllr Ireton

**RESOLVED:** That NYCC Highways be chased again for responses to previously reported problems

**RESOLVED:** That Cllr Ireton be copied in on the previously reported problems so that he can chase / monitor responses.

A large pothole has developed on the B6480 near the Tollbar Nursery development which is forcing cars onto the opposite side of the road

**RESOLVED:** That NYCC Highways be asked to repair the B6480 at the Tollbar asap

Overgrown bushes and trees outside the old Sunday School and on the banking on the narrows at Lairgill are causing problems for buses. NYCC Highways should be asked to get the owners to cut them back

**RESOLVED:** That NYCC Highways be asked to contact the home owners where bushes and trees are causing a problem on the highway.

## 53. To Note the resignation of the Council Coordinator

It was noted that the resignation of the Coordinator had been received and that this was for personal reasons, not due to the job.

## 54. To Receive an update on the appointment of the new caretaker

The applicants for the caretaking position had been of a very high standard. The temporary caretaker Marie Ammundsen had been appointed to the position on a full-time basis. Anne & Louise Chappell had been appointed to share the cleaning post. The new appointments would allow for flexibility and for sickness / holiday cover of both positions, which would leave the Council less vulnerable than in the past.

## 55. To Receive a report from the meeting with the Emergency Planning Officer on 19 June

This had been a very informative meeting where an emergency plan template had been discussed. The aim was to get reciprocal arrangements for mutual relationships between local organisations tailored to Bentham's needs. The group that had met with Simon Wright had agreed to meet again shortly to put the bare bones together and formulate an action plan to complete the plan before going out to other organisations and the public.

**RESOLVED:** That interested Cllrs meet again on 18 September to further discuss the Emergency Plan template – date to be confirmed at the next meeting

## 56. To Further Review and Discuss the Council's grass cutting contract and work done since the last meeting

The majority of areas had been cut once or in some cases twice since the last meeting with a couple of exceptions. Both the clerk & Cllr Marshall had been in contact with the contractor on a regular basis and the service had improved slightly although the standard of cut was variable. It was agreed that the worksheets showing the areas cut on each date were required and that an official letter outlining the Council's concerns should be sent. It was also agreed that the Welcome Walls planting required attention but that other contractors should be approached to do this work

**RESOLVED:** That an official letter should be sent to the contractor outlining the Council's concerns and requesting copies of the work sheets to be provided for each cut

**RESOLVED:** That alternative contractors be approached to provide a weeding service for the Welcome Wall planted areas.

*Cllr Ireton left the meeting at 8.40pm to attend the Ingleton Parish Council meeting*

## 57. To Note the draft minutes of the Open Spaces meeting on 12 June – noted

The new access has now been installed and members of the committee will meet with Hags shortly to agree a start date etc.

## 58. To Agree the Accounts for Payment

It was noted that, as the Council would probably not meet in August, July salaries had been submitted for payment on 1 August.

Craven District Council	50.29	Myers Building Supplies	109.86
Nisbets	251.37	WPS Brokers	15.00
Sports Direct	109.99	Taylor Environmental Groundwork	3648.00
Tim Wheildon Heating	588.48	A Robshaw	63.75
Phone Co-Op	1.18	HMRC	161.80
Yorkshire Water	9.94	NEST June	26.34
JLA	97.68	Salaries June	1870.10
Chemdry	180.00	NEST July	26.34
MBE Ltd	39.00	Salaries July	2220.45

**RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment are agreed**

58.1. To agree to transfer £20,000 from the deposit fund to the current account to cover expenditure until the next precept payment in October

**RESOLVED: That £20,000 be transferred to the current account to cover expenditure to October 2017**

## 59. To consider items of Correspondence

59.1. To vote on the appointment of parish members to Craven's Standards Committee (paper 2017/09)

**RESOLVED: That the Council vote for Stead, Rooze & Simpson**

59.2. To receive an invitation to the launch of Bentham Community Library on Saturday 15 July between 11am and 1pm and agree attendance for clerk to RSVP

**RESOLVED: That Cllrs Swales & Bridgeman represent Council at the event**

59.3. To receive an invitation to attend the Celebrate Craven event at Skipton Town Hall on 11 July - received

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

Cllr Townson said that he would be attending the Playing Fields Extraordinary Meeting on 12 July  
 Cllr Vandy had been unable to attend the last Youth Café meeting and the minutes were unavailable  
 Cllr Swales had attended the Age Concern AGM and said that it had been very busy with members  
 Cllr Bridgeman said that the recent meeting of the Victoria Institute management committee showed that everything was progressing well  
 The quinquennial review of the Collingwood & Longstaffe Alms Houses had been concluded reported Cllr Marshall, and a list of required work was now being studied. The addition of the porches had been completed.  
 Cllr Adams reported that the Goodenber Play Area had held several successful fund-raising events recently.

## 61. Items for next meeting and minor items only

Gaynor Brown will be holding a Dementia Friendly Bentham meeting at the Station on 18 July. Interested parties have been invited said Cllr Townson.  
 Cllr Adams had been invited to a Yorkshire Day Event in Sheffield on 1 August but was unable to attend and asked any interested Cllr to let him know.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.03pm

**AGENDA ITEM 48)****CLERK'S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 3 July 2017****1. Planning Decisions Received Since Last Meeting****1.1. GRANTED**

- 1.1.1. 08/2017/17891 Minor amendment of previously approved application 08/2015/15473 in terms of a reduction of inverter/transformer cabins, solar panels, maintenance tracks, elimination of CCTV cameras & modification of control centre on Land South of Ravens Close Brow, Low Bentham
- 1.1.2. 08/2017/17904 Conversion of existing attached barn into a residential dwelling at The Wenning, Bentham
- 1.1.3. 08/2017/17963 Retrospective application for engineering operations to lower ground levels & construction of a proposed garage at The Red House, Gas House Lane, High Bentham

**1.2. REFUSED**

- 1.2.1. None

**2. Planning Correspondence**

- 2.1. 08/2017/18125 Outline application with some matters reserved for a single storey passive house – WITHDRAWN

- 2.2. Pre-publication Craven Local Plan Drop-In event 3 July at Craven's offices from 2-6pm
- 2.3. Lancaster City Council Local Plan – further consultation to 17 July

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

- 3.1. Hillside access to Low Bentham School Playing Field completed 15/6
- 3.2. Initial grant policy formulated for revision 12/6

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

- 4.1. Celebrate Craven – 11 July across Skipton (&noticeboard)
- 4.2. Lifeline Project Administration notice (response sent 14/6)
- 4.3. YLCA Craven Branch Meeting 21/6 (& email)
- 4.4. YLCA Joint Annual Meeting 15/7
- 4.5. Julian Smith MP surgeries June-August (& noticeboard)
- 4.6. Gas Safety Reports for Town Hall & Community Youth Building
- 4.7. Insurance documents for 2017/18

**5. Items circulated by email**

- 5.1. Temporary Road Closure – Lanefoot 26-30 June
- 5.2. Latest Weekly Rural News Digest 12/6, 19/6, 26/6
- 5.3. Rural Services Network – Rural Residents Survey
- 5.4. Rural Vulnerability Service – Rural Transport June 17
- 5.5. Rural Spotlight – Economy 14/6, Health 22/6
- 5.6. North Yorkshire Now June 17
- 5.7. Better Care Together Meetings, Sedbergh & Kirkby Lonsdale June
- 5.8. Craven Crime & Disorder Committee meeting 28 June
- 5.9. Forest of Bowland Summer Newsletter – June 17
- 5.10. Craven & First World War Newsletter Summer 17
- 5.11. Craven & First World War posters 15/6 (& Noticeboards)
- 5.12. Fields in Trust Newsletter 14/6
- 5.13. Plunkett Foundation Call to Action – Rural Cooperatives
- 5.14. Craven District Council News June 17

**6. Progress on Outstanding Matters**

- 6.1. Co-Option procedure – Clerks Forum request made 8/5, collation in progress
- 6.2. Rose Garden lease / purchase request made 22 May, chased 14 June
- 6.3. Street Lighting further discussed by Open Spaces, meeting with ENW to be arranged
- 6.4. NYCC asked about ditches 20/7, chased 20/11/16
- 6.5. Community Emergency Plan, 03/16 – meeting arranged for June 19
- 6.6. Craven Area Committee requested to consider Bentham School Crossing, 18 January 2016
- 6.7. Replica VC Winners stone confirmed ordered 12/11/15. Delivery dates awaited
- 6.8. Flagpole – donor found, to be progressed
- 6.9. Grasmere Drive bench site location permissions received, costs received, CDC to consider