

BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 5 September, at 7.30 pm in the Community Youth Building

Present Cllrs Adams (Chairman), Bridgeman, Handford, Pritchard, Stannard, Swales, Townson & Vendy. Also DCllr Thompson, DCllr Brockbank, the clerk Mrs Burton and 4 parishioners

86. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend
Cllrs Marshall & Taylor
87. 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
88. To Receive Comment & Concerns - none
89. To Confirm the minutes of the previous meetings
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meetings on 4 July, 10 August & 22 August be signed
90. To Appoint Members as Council Representatives for 2016/17 (delayed May 2016)
- 90.1. Council Representatives Bentham Primary School Governor
The clerk explained that despite contact with the school no further information had been forthcoming
RESOLVED: That the position of School Governor be left until more information is received from the school
91. To Receive the Clerks Report (for information only) – see end of these minutes
92. To Receive the Police Report & allow members to ask questions for information
PC Parsons informed the meeting that there had been 33 incidents in Bentham in August, including 4 road traffic incidents and 4 crimes, which consisted of 3 thefts and one domestic assault. The quick reporting of suspicious behaviour in early September had resulted in recovery of a stolen quad bike and the arrest of 3 people.
93. To Receive Reports from CClr & DCllrs (for information only)
DCllr Thompson referred back to his Article in the July Bentham News about changes to kerbside recycling and the demise of the Blue Bag scheme. Feedback has been generally positive, but Craven has various regulations that it must satisfy before the change can be made so they are aiming for April 2017. He added that any resident who is medically unable to put out their bin, particularly for the new communal collection sites in some areas, should contact Craven which offers an assisted service.
DCllr Brockbank added that the Policy Committee would be discussing the Strategic Review of Bring Sites which recommends the closure of all but 5, including those in both High & Low Bentham, with Ingleton & Settle being the closest that will remain. She asked the clerk to send her the Council's response to the original consultation. She also added her support to the comments made regarding the street name signs for 'Clapham Road' (see item 96.3)
94. Planning
- 94.1. To Consider and Comment upon New Applications
- 94.1.1. 08/2016/17206 Demolition of existing single storey flat roof extension & part of existing glazed veranda. Construction of new pitch roof sun lounge with WC/shower/utility at 59 Robin Lane, Bentham
RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application
- 94.1.2. 08/2016/17232 Proposed works to protected trees including removal of some and hedge planting at Craven Concrete, Butts Works, Clapham Road, High Bentham
It was noted that the application included the removal of a large number of protected trees, some of which were important species e.g. oak. Craven had put a total tree protection order on the 415 trees in 5 groups in 1998, but no thinning / pruning had been done historically and so not all were of suitable quality and some were apparently no longer there. The application only surveyed 168 trees, but requested removal of 87 of these with further planting. The Council agreed that, without being tree experts, as many good trees should be saved as possible, particularly as the application appears to request removal of more than 50%, and that Craven's Tree Officer should be asked to look at this application very closely.
RESOLVED: That the Council ask Craven's Tree Officer to scrutinise the application closely to ensure the survival of all sound trees of important species e.g. oak.
- 94.2. To Receive Planning Decisions
- If any (see Clerks Report)
- 94.3. To Receive Correspondence on Planning Issues
- If any (see Clerks Report)

95. Highways Matters

95.1. To receive a letter regarding parking across property entrance on Station Road and agree a response

The resident had attended the Council meeting on 22 August and, as requested, had written regarding the problems with cars parking across her property entrance. PC Parsons agreed to see if the police could do anything about the obstruction and contact the resident regarding the problem. Council also agreed to contact NYCC Highways for a site meeting to see if anything can be done, e.g. Keep Clear signage.

RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be asked for a site visit to discuss a possible course of action to prevent parking across the entrance on Station Road

RESOLVED: That NY Police will contact the resident regarding the continued obstruction and offer advice

95.2. To note that the proposed evening closure of the B6480 by Openreach will be delayed until 12 September - noted

95.3. To receive notification that street name plates will be installed on Clapham Road between Pye Busk and the A65

The clerk had circulated the notification prior to the meeting and had contacted Craven regarding the road names used locally. Craven had described these as 'Type 2 Descriptive Names' rather than 'Type 1 Designated Names'. The Council disagreed with this description as 'Clapham Road' does not start at Pye Busk

RESOLVED: That Craven Street Naming be asked to reconsider as their definition of Clapham Road is obviously incorrect.

95.4. To Consider and Note Highway Matters for Information

It was agreed that Street Naming should be asked to replace the missing and damaged signs on Robin Lane and Lakeber Drive

RESOLVED: That Craven Street Naming be asked to replace the missing Robin Lane sign and the damaged Lakeber Drive sign at the junction of Lakeber Drive & Robin Lane

It was noted that the drain on Hillside Road was still running water

RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be asked to look at the drain on Hillside Road again

Two pavement problems were reported. On Station Road, outside the Barbers, the pavement is of different construction to the rest and several people have fallen recently. Further down, on the south side of Station Bridge the pavement is severely cracked and uneven

RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be asked to look at the pavement on Station Road as described

The previously reported pothole on Belle Bank has not been repaired

RESOLVED: That NYCC Highways be asked repair the pothole on Belle Bank

96. To Note the draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting on 18 July, and consider recommendations, if any - noted

96.1. To agree that 2018 pension contribution rates should be paid from 1 October 2016

RESOLVED: That the Council should pay 2018 contribution rates from 1 October 2016

97. To Note the draft minutes of the Open Spaces Committee meeting on 8 August, and consider recommendations, if any - noted

98. To Discuss the venue for Town Council meetings

Several Councillors expressed the desire to return to the Town Hall as they felt the Community Youth acoustics were poor and the building cold. The Wenningdale Room cannot be used as it is not DDA compliant. There are exercise classes in the Ballroom every evening except Wednesday or Friday, but these only run to 9pm on a Monday. Moving the meeting to a Wednesday does not fit in with all Cllrs or the clerk's work pattern. It was proposed that the Council should return to the Lower Hall. This was passed by 5:1 in the vote, with one abstention.

RESOLVED: That the Council move back to the Lower Hall for the October & November meetings and that the move be reviewed at the end of the November meeting

99. To Receive the proposed B4RN routes across Council owned land – if available – and consider granting wayleaves.

RESOLVED: That this item be held over to the next agenda as the information was not available

100. To Agree the Accounts for Payment
(including some August payments)

Craven District Council	154.15	WPS Ltd	511.20
Mopps	192.00	Hygiene Cleaning Supplies	52.33
Aviva	322.70	Horton Landscaping	970.74
Opus Energy	141.32	L Tyrer & Son	10.80
Orange	47.98	Andrews	41.21
Stannah Lift Services	915.60	Clearglass Cleaning	90.00
Cannon	19.33	Yorkshire Dales Signage	32.40

Yorkshire Water	7.11	Phone Co-Op	23.58
Viking	67.99	R Greenep	146.40
TT Ceilings	56.41	M Harrison	1320.00
MBE Ltd	527.54	L Green	80.00
SWALEC	1399.97	M Green	63.75
British Telecom	379.23	PWLB	23927.45
HB Plumbing & Heating	25.02	Salaries	1769.19

RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment are agreed

101. To consider items of **Correspondence**

101.1. To receive a request from NY Police to hold councillor email addresses in order to send newsletters direct.

RESOLVED: That NY Police emails should continue to be sent to the clerk & forwarded by her

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

Cllr Swales had attended an FOBL meeting with the volunteers regarding the move to Pioneer Projects and confirmed that everything was falling into place for the April 2017 move

Cllr Townson said that 489 completed Extra Care surveys had been received – some 20% of those distributed, with 96% in support of the proposal, although few expressed a required timescale for the provision of such a facility. The results were to be delivered to NYCC on 9 September

Cllr Handford confirmed that the Town Team had agreed maintenance work on the existing Tromp D’Oeil paintings to stop them fading. Funding has been secured for 15, and 2 more have been commissioned. A new leaflet will be produced including the paintings, the Heritage Trail and the Bygone Bentham plaques to encourage visitors. Craven are looking into funding to do up the riverside walks. There is also money available for extra public seating around the town.

103. Items for next meeting and minor items only

A request for street lighting to be kept on near the Oakroyd bakery (currently switched off between midnight and 5am) had been received. Council agreed that an updated map of the current status of streetlights was required before any request could be made

Friends of Bentham Station have agreed to twin with Mytholmroyd and visited there on 2 September. A return visit is programmed for 9 September

Cllr Pritchard asked that, following the closure of Toobys, a home could be found for the low energy light bulb recycling box.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.50pm

AGENDA ITEM 91)

CLERK’S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 5 September 2016

1. Planning Decisions Received Since Last Meeting

1.1. GRANTED

1.1.1. 08/2016/16604 Change of use of Playing Field to residential development of 2No dwellings on land at Bank View, Burton Road, Low Bentham

1.1.2. 08/2016/16777 Construction of Agricultural Building at Hill Top Farm, Birkwith Lane, Low Bentham

1.1.3. 08/2016/16863 Variation of conditions 2 & 4 of approved application for caravan site (08/2006/6868) to allow revised site layout (increasing the number of caravans from 19 to 26) & revised wording for the holiday occupancy restriction at Toll Bar Gardens, Wennington Road, Low Bentham

1.2. REFUSED - none

2. Planning Correspondence

2.1. Further concerns regarding the Punch Bowl Hotel and use of land for motor homes.

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

3.1. Information on School Governor chased 6/7

3.2. Bentham Auction informed about road closure by NYCC 7/7 – see agenda item

3.3. NYCC asked about ditches 20/7

3.4. Black Bull corner – stick on tactiles 5/7

3.5. Dog Fouling / Gates letters sent to Hillside Road 13/7

3.6. Stonegate resident sent letters 13/7

3.7. Settle Stories asked for more information 20/7, response awaited

3.8. Housing Allocation comments passed to Planning Policy 11/8

3.9. Confirmation of acceptance of offer for sale of Low Bentham Playing Field passed to agents 15/8

4. Items for Information – see information folder

- 4.1. Confirmation of Planning Permission for Low Bentham Playing Field (copy to agents)
- 4.2. Stannah test certificates
- 4.3. MP Surgeries Sept-Dec (Bentham November 18)
- 4.4. Letter to Quaker Meeting re Low Bentham Playing Field
- 4.5. Thank you letter for clearance of Butts Lane footpath
- 4.6. The Clerk Magazine / Clerks & Councils Direct Magazine
- 4.7. Craven Area Committee, Gargrave 8 September

5. Items circulated by email

- 5.1. Latest Weekly Rural News Digest 11/7, 19/7, 26/7, 1/8, 8/8, 16/8, 23/8, 30/8
- 5.2. Rural Vulnerability Service – Rural Broadband 14/7
- 5.3. Rural Opportunities Bulletin 6/7, 3/8, 31/8
- 5.4. Spotlight on Rural Housing 20/7, Young People 27/7, Fuel Poverty 10/8, Rural Transport 18/8, Heart of Village 24/8
- 5.5. RSN Rural Conference, September 5&6
- 5.6. North Yorkshire Now Newsletter 4/7, 1/8, 2/9
- 5.7. NYP Newsletter, July
- 5.8. White Rose Update 27/7
- 5.9. Craven District Council News August
- 5.10. Rural Action Yorkshire (RAY) newsletter 3/8 & 26/8
- 5.11. Ward Councillor Grant Fund information (& to interested parties)
- 5.12. SLCC News Bulletin
- 5.13. Craven Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter
- 5.14. Fields in Trust Newsletter 8/7, 5/8, 12/8
- 5.15. Historic Towns Forum events, 8/7, 4/8
- 5.16. NYP Country Watch newsletter, June
- 5.17. NYP Initiatives – Community Messaging System & Antisocial Behaviour help site
- 5.18. Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter 16/8
- 5.19. NY Warm & Well Project 2/8
- 5.20. Craven WW1, Raikeswood Open Day 4/8
- 5.21. Craven Volunteer Training Programme 2016
- 5.22. Tesco Bags of Help programme update 31/8

6. Progress on Outstanding Matters

- 6.1. Letter to Bentham Auction Mart sent 27 May, response awaited
- 6.2. Bentham Flag – no progress to date
- 6.3. Meeting with Planning Policy still to be arranged
- 6.4. Community Emergency Plan, 03/16 – committee to organise meeting and report back
- 6.5. Craven Area Committee requested to consider Bentham School Crossing, 18 January
- 6.6. Replica VC Winners stone confirmed ordered 12/11. Delivery dates awaited
- 6.7. Flagpole – donor found, to be progressed
- 6.8. Grasmere Drive bench site location permissions received, costs received, donor awaited