

BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 5 November, at 7.30 pm in the Lower Town Hall

Present Cllrs Adams, Barnes, Bridgeman, Burton, Faraday, Marshall, Stannard, Taylor & Wills, CCllr Ireton & DCllrs Brockbank & Thompson. Also, the clerk Mrs Burton, and 4 parishioners

109. To Receive Apologies from members unable to attend

Cllr Swales

110. 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.

Cllr Taylor declared a DPI in item 121 as someone who potentially quotes for the work.

111. To Receive Comment & Concerns

Mr Jack Warbrick, a trustee of the ex-Bentham Grammar School archive spoke to offer the Council a portrait of Theodore Bayley Hardy, the most decorated non-combatant of WW1. The impressionist painting by David Hartnup shows the subject in the thick of battle with the words 'Its only me'. The archive has been accepted by the county archive, but they will not take 3-D objects like paintings, so it needs a new home. Because of Theodore Bayley Hardy's connection with Bentham Grammar the trustees felt that the Town Hall would be a suitable place, but it could be offered to the Chaplaincy HQ or to Hutton Roof church if the Council does not wish to accept it on behalf of the town. The Chairman thanked Mr Warbrick and said that the Council would discuss his kind offer later in the meeting.

112. To Confirm the minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting on 1 October be signed

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

A letter had been received from Julian Smith MP announcing a meeting in Skipton with Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, on Thursday 15 November. Those interested in attending should contact Mr Smith before 9 November.

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

No police were present, but a report of 23 incidents between 1 October & 1 November had been sent, which included 4 reports of theft or burglary, 3 of antisocial behaviour, 2 of violence, 1 of criminal damage and 2 road traffic offences.

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

CCllr Ireton said that NYCC's budgeting process was still difficult despite the one-offs announced in the budget (extra money to fix roads and for adult social care). County will need an increase in long term funding to ensure sustainability.

The Extracare site in Bentham is now progressing.

CCllr Ireton has contacted David Cairns of NYCC Highways regarding the yellow lines at Crow Trees in Low Bentham which had been promised 12 months ago.

Questions were asked about the recent spate of fatalities on the A65 between Country Harvest and Newby. NYCC Highways has looked at the seriousness but they are not close enough to generate action. Problems with illegal parking in Bentham was also mentioned, which should be raised with Traffic Enforcement.

DCllr Thompson informed the meeting that the Draft Local Plan had been through the inspector's consultation, which appeared to have gone well. His report was expected before Christmas, which would hopefully allow adoption in early 2019.

DCllr Brockbank mentioned Craven's Nurturing Neighbourhoods, in which Bentham has been selected as a hub. She will report back when further information on the project's development is available.

DCllr Brockbank said that she had asked the Traffic Warden to vary the time of visit to Bentham and the places monitored to make things more unpredictable, and that tickets had been issued.

116. Planning

116.1. To Consider and Comment upon New Applications

116.1.1. 2018/19751/COU Change of use from C3 residential to B1(C) light industrial & B1(A) office (other than A2) at 30A Main Street, High Bentham

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

116.1.2. 2018/19794/FUL Partial demolition & reconstruction of existing barn including full new roof to form 2no. new dwellings at Barn (roadside), Fourlands House Farm, High Bentham

RESOLVED: That the Council had no objections to this application

- 116.2. To Receive Planning Decisions
- If any (see Clerks Report)
- 116.3. To Receive Correspondence on Planning Issues
- If any (see Clerks Report)

117. Highways Matters

- 117.1. To Receive notice advertising application to amend the Register of Common Land at Burn Moor received
- 117.2. To Note that NYCC have approved in principle the recommendations of the VAS Survey Report, allowing parishes to purchase & maintain Vehicle Activated Signs noted
- 117.3. To Receive an update on parking on Hillside Road
The new sign had been installed on the field gate, and seemed to be working. The residents had expressed their thanks
- 117.4. To Consider and Note Highway Matters for Information – none

118. To Note the draft minutes of the Buildings Committee on 24 September – noted

The clerk informed the meeting that the roof of the Community Youth Building had been repaired since the last meeting as several slates had slipped allowing water ingress.
The committee was informed that it could not install any form of racking in the foyer without being in breach of the fire regulations.

119. To Note the draft minutes of the Finance Committee on 23 October – noted

The bank reconciliation, correct at 30 September 2018, as follows:

	Bank Statement	Plus O/s Receipts	Less O/s Cheques	Balance
Current	81772.60	0.00	5326.88	76445.72
PSPDF	75000.00			75000.00

120. To Consider the current Hire charges for the Town Hall and agree changes for 2019, if any (paper 2018/14)

RESOLVED: That the 2014 Hire rates be maintained for a further year

121. To Consider Open Space work required and quotes received, if any

The various areas outlined were prioritised and the Open Space Committee tasked with getting work completed within its budget.

RESOLVED: That areas identified at the last Open Spaces meeting be prioritised as follows: Butterbergh footpath; Play area boundaries; Bentham Bridge & Mill Lane; with work been done within the Parish Caretaker budget.

122. To Discuss the WW1 Centenary Beacon and agree how the event should be run

Permission from Fourstones Estate had been received and a new 'Flamy Thing' commissioned. The risk assessment was being updated. Cllrs were asked to meet from 2pm on Sunday 11 November to set up, with the beacon being lit at 7pm.

RESOLVED: That available Cllrs meet from 2pm to set up and police the event

- 122.1. To receive a letter from We Are Bentham regarding the WW1 Centenary flying of the Union Flag
The Union flag was flying from the Town Hall.

123. To Agree the Accounts for Payment

Craven District Council	51.26	Thomas Graham	67.61
Aviva	401.22	Tim Wheildon Heating	312.00
BT	50.80	Stramongate Press	1406.40
1&1 Internet	79.12	Play Inspection Company	390.00
SSE	612.48	WaterPlus	252.42
Yorkshire Dales Signs	66.00	Royal British Legion	20.00
Andrews	96.40	NEST	21.23
JLA Ltd	288.00	Salaries	2183.56

RESOLVED: That the accounts for payment are agreed

124. To consider items of Correspondence

- 124.1. To receive a thank you letter from Friends of Bentham School for the 2018 Calendar funds - received
- 124.2. To receive a request from Bentham Playing Fields Association requesting assistance with grass cutting for 2019.

The Council representative on the Playing Fields Committee told the meeting that the Councils precept grant currently paid the insurance for the area, although if the club house was demolished as planned this would reduce payments substantially. The Council agreed to add this area to its current grass tender and assess how it might be able to assist the committee

RESOLVED: That Playing Fields be added to the current grass tender for further consideration by Council when costings are available

124.3. To receive a request from Bentham Christmas Lights to hang lights on the Town Hall as in previous years

RESOLVED: That Bentham Christmas Lights be allowed to hang lights from the Town Hall

124.4. To discuss the offer of a donation of a painting to the Town Hall

RESOLVED: That the portrait of Theodore Bayley Hardy be accepted for the people of Bentham

124.5. To agree a date in November for a K9 Gaslight presentation as discussed at the October meeting
Members of BEST had suggested that the meeting regarding the Anaerobic Digester be held in December to allow better advertising of the event in Bentham News. The clerk had contacted Mr Tod and was awaiting a reply.

RESOLVED: That the K(Gaslight presentation be held in December, if possible, to allow better advertising.

124.6. To note the review of polling districts by Craven and that there are no suggested changes for Bentham.
Noted

Cllr Ireton left the meeting at 8.35pm

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

Cllr Stannard announced that the Playing Fields Association were meeting in the coming week

Cllr Bridgeman said that the Trash & Treasure at the Victoria Institute had been very successful. Further fund raising and Community Link Café transport issues had also been discussed at the recent committee meeting

Cllr Marshall told the meeting there would be a vacancy in the Alms Houses shortly and applications should be made to Ian Wood.

126. Items for next meeting and minor items only - none

There being no further business, the ordinary meeting was closed at 8.40pm

127. To Resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Public and Press to be excluded further from the Meeting,

RESOLVED: That the press and public be excluded from the meeting

128. To Further discuss the Black Bull carpark and possible solutions regarding non-customer usage

The Chairman welcomed Mr Fairhurst to the meeting

RESOLVED: That the wording of 'Black Bull Only' parking signs be agreed with Thwaites

RESOLVED: That the Council arrange for production of signs for 12 bays, and a sign for the entrance of the carpark

RESOLVED: That the car park lighting be improved to prevent anti-social behaviour

129. To Discuss options regarding future staffing of the Clerk's Office and agree a way forward

The Chairman thanked the Clerk for her 14 years' service and expressed his sadness at her resignation.

The clerk left the meeting at 9pm, and there followed a full and frank discussion about the way ahead.

RESOLVED: That the chair, vice and chair of finance produce a job description and advert for the post of clerk / RFO including all aspects of the current roll

RESOLVED: That the Finance Committee meet shortly to decide the best way forward with wages / PAYE, the Council accounts and Town Hall bookings

RESOLVED: That the various committees can meet in the absence of the clerk, but the agenda must be circulated as per the legal requirements and a minute taker must be appointed who is not the chairman.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.20pm

AGENDA ITEM 113)

CLERK'S REPORT TO BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL, 5 November 2018

1. Planning Decisions Received Since Last Meeting

1.1. GRANTED

- 1.1.1. 2018/19669/LBC Application for listed building consent for conversion of existing staff room into classroom including replacement of existing windows, forming new door opening & associated ramped / stepped access arrangements externally at Cedar House School, Low Bentham
- 1.1.2. 2018/19706/HH Addition of ensuite to first floor level within barn together with access from main bedroom at Calf Cop Farm, Burton Road, Low Bentham
- 1.1.3. 2018/19707/LBC List Building Consent for addition of ensuite to first floor level within barn together with access from main bedroom at Calf Cop Farm, Burton Road, Low Bentham

1.2. REFUSED

- 1.2.1. none

2. Planning Correspondence

- 2.1. Lancaster City Council Consultation on Local Plan Draft Suggested Modifications 5/10 – 2/11
- 2.2. 2018/19665/OUT Outline planning for a 3-bed house on land next to Poultry Farm on Dumb Toms Lane, Ingleton - WITHDRAWN
- 2.3. 2018/19655/LBC Listed Building Consent for works at Bentham Station - WITHDRAWN

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

- 3.1. Sandy Tod contacted on 17 October, potential dates received
- 3.2. Letter to Youth Café sent 17 October, full response awaited

4. Items for Information – see information folder

- 4.1. Acknowledgment of receipt of letter from Youth Café Chairman
- 4.2. Craven Community Champions Awards
- 4.3. Longstaffe Educational Concert 25/11
- 4.4. JLA reports on service of Kitchen Equipment
- 4.5. AMR gas meter installed 1/10
- 4.6. PAT test certificate
- 4.7. Gas boiler safety certificates

5. Items circulated by email

- 5.1. RSN Rural Bulletin 2/10, 9/10, 16/10, 23/10, 30/10
- 5.2. Rural Funding Digest, October
- 5.3. RSN Sounding Board, Survey on Access to Education for 16-18 year olds
- 5.4. RSN Sounding Board, Survey on Bank Branches in Rural Areas
- 5.5. Craven District News, October 2018
- 5.6. NALC Newsletter 28/9, 17/10, 31/10
- 5.7. NALC CEO Bulletin 28/9, 5/10, 12/10, 19/10, 26/10, 2/11
- 5.8. CFY News 4/10, 12/10, 18/10, 26/10, 2/11
- 5.9. War Memorials news 2/10, 30/10
- 5.10. Craven & WW1 newsletter, 29/10
- 5.11. Nominations for Craven Community Champions Awards 2018

6. Progress on Outstanding Matters

- 6.1. ENW / Letting agent contacted re trees on Lairgill banking 3 July, agent contacting ENW re cabling
- 6.2. LCC contacted re signage at Ravensclose 16 July, considering new signage 13/8
- 6.3. The Council agreed, April 2018, to maintain a dialogue with the landowner regarding Church Beck
- 6.4. Street Lighting phase 1 agreed, progressing phase 2 with NYCC Street Lighting
- 6.5. Craven Area Committee requested to consider Bentham School Crossing, 18 January 2016
- 6.6. Flagpole – donor found, awaiting quotes