

**MINUTES of the Council Meeting held on Monday
21st November 2022, at 7.30 pm – in the Ballroom,
Bentham Town Hall.**

Present: Cllrs Adams (Chair), Gerrie, Hill, Paige and Pearce. The Clerk Christine Downey and three members of the public.

- 202 Apologies from members unable to attend: -
- 202.1 To Note Apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.
Cllrs Burton, Jones, Marshall and Stannard.
- 202.2 To consider acceptance of reasons for absence. **None.**
- 203 Declaration of interests: -
- 203.1 To Note Declarations of Interest not already declared under members Code of Conduct or members register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. **None.**
- 203.2 To approve dispensation requests. **None.**
- 204 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; The period of time designated for public participation at a meeting shall not exceed 20 minutes unless directed by the chairman of the meeting. A member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes).
- A member of the public reported concerns regarding the ongoing dispute relating to the Punch Bowl, Low Bentham. This matter will be considered by the council at item 210.
- 205 To consider the suggestion from PC Ian Hunt regarding Police Drop-In Surgeries, and to agree a way forward. (Paper 2022/188)
RESOLVED: That a suitable room at the Town Hall to be made available for the police drop-in session. Clerk to liaise with PC Hunt and make the necessary arrangements.
- 206 To Confirm the Minutes of the previous meeting of 7th November 2022. (Paper 2022/189)
RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of 7th November 2022 are agreed and be signed.
- 207 To consider and agree the arrangements for the site meeting with Elaine Hiser of Craven District Council regarding Section 106 monies due from the Felstead development. (Paper 2022/190)
RESOLVED: Clerk to ask Cllr Marshall to meet those attending the site meeting at the clerk's office at 2pm on Thursday 24th November.
RESOLVED: Cllr Marshall and the other councillors attending to take the interested parties on a tour of the Goodenber Road Play Area and the Bentham Playing Field, followed by a discussion of all the options at the town hall.
- 208 **To agree the Accounts for Payments as: -**

Viking		81.44
Viking		226.81
Walk the Plank		5,040.00
Waterplus		79.52

1 & 1 Internet Ltd		18.00
BT Group Plc		64.32
Craven District Council		<u>1.70</u>
TOTAL		5,511.79

RESOLVED: Approved

RESOLVED: To be authorised by Cllrs Adams and Hill.

209 To consider a transfer to or from the deposit account and to agree a way forward.

As at 15/11/2022	Bank statement balance	+ Outstanding receipts	- Outstanding Payments	Balance as per cashbook
Current Account	17,858.11	260.05	(5,427.77)	12,690.39
PSDF	95,000.00	0.00	0.00	95,000.00
Total	112,858.11	260.05	(5,427.77)	107,690.39

RESOLVED: That £15,000 be transferred from the PSDF deposit account to the current account.

210 To consider the situation at The Punchbowl, Low Bentham and to agree a way forward.

RESOLVED: Clerk to write to the licencing manager at Craven District Council and to the Chief Constable, making representations regarding the seriousness of the problem, the importance of compliance with the current arrangements/requirements, and the strength of concern of local residents, and also asking for updates on the situation. Chairman to approve draft letters.

211 To agree the Town Council response to the Bentham Masterplan survey.

RESOLVED: Bentham Town Council response submitted online by Cllr Adams.

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

MINOR ITEMS

- Cllr Pearce gave an update on the river Wenning concerns: She has visited the group at Staveley who are working to clear the river there and are applying for "bathing status". They have prepared a 70-page application to Defra, which might it might be useful to review.
- Please let the clerk have items for an agenda by Tuesday of the week before the meeting at the latest.
- The online briefings on the transition to North Yorkshire Council, the new unitary council for North Yorkshire from April 2023, are on Monday 26th November 2022 at 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm, and on Wednesday 30th November 2022, 10.30 am to 12 pm. Email containing joining instructions was circulated to all councillors today.
- The clerk will get a lock smith to look at the problem locking the Ballroom door.
- Tables and chairs from the townhall are not usually hired out for outside events.
- An Item that has been on an agenda, or a similar item, cannot be repeated for a period of six months, as per the Standing Orders.
- The heating arrangements need looking at and checking.

213 Date of next meeting; **5th December 2022.**

214 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, that the public and press be excluded further from the meeting, whilst item 201 is considered.

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

215 To consider items of correspondence received regarding the Community Youth Building, and agree a way forward, if any.

It was reported that as the council decided to sell the asset before it was listed as an asset of community value, and it was up for sale on the open market before it was listed as an asset of community value, that the council believes that the initial moratorium period of six weeks should run from the date of the listing.

RESOLVED: Not to appeal the listing as an asset of community value.

RESOLVED: Clerk to inform Craven District Council that Bentham Town Council decided to sell the property on 22nd April 2022, and that it has been up for sale on the open market since May 2022.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.41 pm.