



BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Council Precept Meeting held on Monday 9th January 2023, at 7.00 pm – in the Lower Hall, at Bentham Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs Adams (chair). Burton, Gerrie, Hill, Jones, Marshall, Paige, Pearce and Stannard.

- 275 Apologies from members unable to attend: -
275.1 To note apologies for absence given in advance.
None.
275.2 To consider acceptance of reasons for absence – if consideration of reason requested.
None.
- 276 Declaration of interest: -
276.1 To note declarations of interest not already declared under members code of conduct or members register of disclosable pecuniary interests.
Please refer to the individual grant applications for the councillor's declarations of interests, item 280.
276.2 To approve dispensation requests – if dispensation request received.
None:
- 277 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 further consultation.
(NB: for non-agenda items members of the council are not permitted to respond, except to ask questions for the purpose of clarification).
None.
- 278 To consider the projected assessment for 2023/24, based on accounts for 2022/23 to end of December 2022, and make any necessary changes. (Paper 2023/18)

RESOLVED: To amend the income item in the budget as follows: -

Item	Draft budget figure	Amended to
INCOME		
Cemetery income	2.300	2,415

RESOLVED: To review the phone bill for the Tourist information Point, with a view to reducing this bill.

Cllr Jones joined the meeting at 7.28 pm.

- 279 To consider any potential special projects: - (Paper 2023/19)
RESOLVED: That the special projects budget be set at £25,500.00 as below, of which £3,780.00 will be raised from the precept, with the balance of £21,720.00 to be funded out of reserves.
- 279.1 Replacing three benches in the cemetery.
RESOLVED: To include £2,000 in budget out of the precept.
- 279.2 Widening of exit doors from Wenningdale Room stairwells to car park.
RESOLVED: Not to proceed with this as a special project in 2023/2024.



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- 279.3 Street Light Projects.
RESOLVED: Not to proceed with this as a further special project in 2023/2024.
- 279.4 Windows in the Ballroom. Total expected cost is £17,000.
RESOLVED: To include £17,000 in budget out of reserves.
- 279.5 Update names of Mayors on Roll of Honour in Town Hall.
RESOLVED: To include £1,000 in budget out of reserves.
- 279.6 Repair the public noticeboard on the side of Town Hall.
RESOLVED: To include £1,000 in budget out of the precept.
- 279.7 Laptops for Councillors.
RESOLVED: Not to proceed with this as a special project in 2023/2024.
- 279.8 Memorial for the late Queen Elizabeth.
RESOLVED: To include £1,000 in budget out of reserves.
- 279.9 Replacement signpost.
RESOLVED: Not to proceed with this as a special project in 2023/2024.
- 279.10 Additional fencing in cemetery.
RESOLVED: To include £500 in budget out of the precept.
- 279.11 Landscaping around parish.
RESOLVED: To include £280 in budget out of the precept.
RESPLVE: To include £1,220 in the budget out of reserves.
- 279.12 Christmas decoration and uplights at Town Hall.
RESOLVED: To include £1,500 in budget out of reserves.

280

To consider and decide upon Grant applications

RESOLVED: That the grant budget be set at £8,281.32 and the following grants be awarded to the applicants: -

	Organisation	Interest declared by	Amount awarded	Notes
1	Age Concern Friday Lunch Club		250.00	
2	Bentham Bonfire	Cllr Stannard.	1,000.00	
3	Bentham News		250.00	
4	Bentham Playing Field Association		4,000.00	
5	Bentham Theatre Group	Cllr Adams (This section of the meeting was chaired by Cllr Hill).	100.00	
6	Collingwood & Longstaffe Charity	Cllr Marshall.	250.00	
7	Community Link Cafe		166.32	
8	Goodenber Play Area Association	Cllr Adams (This section of the meeting was chaired by Cllr Hill).	1,440.00	
9	High Bentham Women's Institute	Cllr Gerrie.	50.00	Limited to £50.00 because the



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				application was late.
10	Lancaster & Skipton Rail Users Group (LASRUG)	Cllr Adams (This section of the meeting was chaired by Cllr Hill).	75.00	
11	SELFA		0.00	
12	St John's Church		0.00	Council not legally allowed to make grants to a church.
13	Stepping Stones		200.00	
14	Victoria Institute, Low Bentham		500.00	
	TOTAL		£8,281.32	

281 To receive minor items, for information only.
None.

282 To agree the precept for 2023/2024 and sign the request for payment
RESOLVED: That the precept for 2023/2024 be set at £123,957.00. The Band D equivalent charge will increase to £96.00. The request for payment to be signed by the Clerk.

283 To adopt the budget for 2023/24.
RESOLVED: That the budget for 2023/24 be adopted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.29.