

# MINUTES of the Council Meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July, at 7.30pm – in the Lower Hall, Bentham Town Hall

Present: Cllrs Burton, Gerrie, Hill, Marshall, Paige, Ryan & Stannard. The Temporary Clerk, Mrs Burton, & one member of the public

Cllr Adams had messaged to say he had been delayed so Cllr Hill took the chair and started the meeting at 7.30pm

93. Apologies from members unable to attend: -

93.1 To Note Apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.

Cllr Jones

93.2 To consider acceptance of reasons for absence

None

94. Declaration of Interest: -

94.1 To Note Declarations of Interest not already declared under members Code of Conduct or members register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

None

94.2 To Approve Dispensation Requests – if dispensation request received.

None

95. 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 consultation.

None

96. To confirm the Minutes of the previous meeting on 3 July 2023 (Paper 2023/151)

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting on 3 July 2023 are agreed and signed**

97. To consider written applications for the office of councillor and to fill vacant seats by co-option,

None

98. To receive the Police Report & allow members to ask questions for information - If any.

Received

99. To receive a report from the Public Safety Officer & allow members to ask questions for information – if any.

None received

100. To receive the Clerks Report (for information only). (Paper 2023/152)

Received

101. To receive a Report from County Councillor (for information only) - If any

None received

102. To consider and comment upon New Planning Applications.

102.1 ZA23/25145/CPE. Application for a certificate of lawful development for the removal of B1 Restriction To Existing Dwelling House to allow an unrestricted dwelling. Fold Bank, Mewith Lane, Mewith, Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7AX

**RESOLVED: The Council has no objections, neutral**

102.2 To receive Planning Decisions – see Clerks Report

Cllr Adams arrived at 7.37pm but did not take the Chair

103. Highway Matters

103.1 To receive information from NYC regarding the review & renewal of subsidised bus services and agree a response, if any (Paper 2023/153)

It was agreed that the problem with Bentham's bus service is the County boundary. Lancaster is the closest urban centre and where health care is sourced. The current services are not working well. A minibus is not big enough for the job but NYC seem unable to offer a better service. Outside the box thinking is needed – could the Age Concern bus be used – research into demand and current service use is needed. Could the current Kirkby service be streamlined, or rerouted within the current service? How many people use the service?

**RESOLVED: That Cllr Gerrie continue his dialogue with NYC Passenger Transport to see what service demand is and whether there is any flexibility within the current availability to improve availability**

103.2 To consider the new Local Transport Plan engagement for stake holders and agree a response (Paper 2023/154)

**RESOLVED: That Cllr Adams use the Council's recent discussions to formulate a stakeholder response to the survey**

103.3 To Consider and Note Highway Matters for Information

None

104. To agree the Accounts for Payment

To	For	Amount
Howsons	Fire Alarm & Emergency Lights service. Replace emergency light & fan as estimate CYB Fire alarm service	824.98
Citron Hygiene	Sanitary disposal	30.53
Stannah Lift Service	Lift Servicer	222.65
Ruth Green	Caretaker cover	30.00
Mark Burrow Electrical	Repair fault on TH lights	62.27
James Hallam Ltd	Council insurance	4299.37
James Hallam Ltd	Insurance	437.66
Jo Burton	Admin cover (July)	610.00
Morecambe Trade Windows	Child locks	218.40
Waterplus	CYB waste water	23.42
Salaries	July wages	1461.61
BT	TIP phone	63.86
SWALEC	Street Lighting	106.75
Ionos 1&1	Internet	18.00
Waterplus	Town Hall wastewater	79.72
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>8489.22</b>

**RESOLVED: That the accounts be approved for payment**

**RESOLVED: That Cllrs Gerrie & Marshall authorise payments**

105. To consider the following Correspondence: -

105.1 To receive NY Council's Parish Charter (paper 2023/155) received

105.2 To receive an invite from Craven District of Sanctuary for the Council to pledge support, and agree a response, if any (Paper 2023/156)

**RESOLVED: That the Council agree to pledge support to Craven District of Sanctuary**

105.3 To receive a letter from Julian Smith MP regarding grants for the installation of defibrillators and a new Government fund for swimming pools (Paper 2023/157)

**RESOLVED: That the Council consider applying for 3 further defibrillators**

106. To receive Reports from Councillors who represent the Council on other bodies (for information only) - If any.  
Cllr Stannard confirmed that Bentham Bonfire will be on 28 October  
Cllr Gerrie said that, following the Masterplan meeting with NYC, the final report will be completed for approval  
Cllr Adams had attended a Goodenber Play Area meeting. The section 106 monies from Felsteads and the Lottery Funding is still approx. £10K short of the full amount for the complete plans so extra funding is being sought.

107. Items for next meeting and minor items for information only.  
It was commented that litter bins are going missing around the town, specifically Police Yard  
Cllr Hill said that a conifer in the Cemetery required removal. He agreed to circulate pictures so that a decision could be made at the next meeting  
Cllr Paige asked for Christmas Lights and the Town Hall to be added to the next agenda.

108. Date of next meeting.  
4 September 2023, although potentially 7 August if necessary

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.11pm**