



## **BEDALE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN BEDALE HALL AT 7.00 p.m. ON 7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2019**

#### **PRESENT:**

Chairman of the Town Council, Councillor Mr A Hallett presided.

#### **APOLOGIES:**

Apologies received from Cllrs Howe and Ingram.

#### **1) WELCOME, NOTICE OF MEETING AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised the 'Notice of Meeting' had been posted appropriately.

#### **2) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD 8<sup>th</sup> MAY 2018**

The Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting were approved and signed to be correct.

#### **3) CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT**

The Mayor, Councillor Hallett gave his report, a copy of which is attached.

#### **4) COMMUNITY AWARD PRESENTATION**

There was one nomination received this year plus one posthumous award, two awards were presented.

Ms Susan Perkins accepted the award on behalf of Bedale Community Library.

Councillor Young read the citation for Bedale Community Library.

Councillor Hallett presented Ms Perkins with a framed certificate, a scroll of the citation and a tin of chocolates.

A copy of the citation is attached.

Ms Perkins gave her thanks and added that she was accepting the award on behalf of all the volunteers and Bedale Community Library.



Mrs Eileen Cockburn accepted the award on behalf of Bryan Cockburn. Councillor Noone read the citation for Bryan Cockburn. Councillor Hallett presented Mrs Cockburn with a framed certificate, a scroll of the citation and a potted plant. A copy of the citation is attached. Mrs Cockburn's son read out a short acceptance on behalf of the Cockburn family.

## **5) PRESENTATIONS FROM:**

### **a) Mr Rob Dixon – Bedale First Responders**

Mr Dixon said that the First Responders had been very honoured to be presented with the Community Award two years ago. He explained that the First Responders was run by volunteers who each gave two or three days of their time for free. The First Responders may attend an emergency before the Ambulance Service and give life saving treatment. The First Responders cover a 5-mile radius and in 2018 they gave 275,000 hours of their time voluntarily. The Responders are NOT First Aid qualified but are Life Support trained. He added that they are always looking for additional volunteers.

Councillor Hallett thanked Mr Dixon for his presentation

## **6) QUESTIONS**

None received.

The Meeting Closed at 7:30pm. Refreshments were served afterwards.



## Community Award

### CITATION

Bedale Town Council wishes to acknowledge the valuable contribution made to the community of Bedale by:

### **Bedale Community Library**

This Award is made in recognition of the contribution made by the Trustees and volunteers who have ensured that Bedale Community Library remains open and continues to be an asset to the local community.

Had it not been for a small group of people committed to keeping a library open in Bedale it would have closed due to cuts in County Council spending. As it is, the library is in its third year as a community run organisation. The Trustees and the library's volunteers and supporters have continued to make it a safe and welcoming place for all generations. Ever mindful of the needs of its library users and recognising that changes had to be made to address those needs, a programme of refurbishment has been carried out.

The library not only provides access to books and media; in order to engage with and inform the community it has hosted events by local authors and poets, mounted a display commemorating "Hospital Bedale" among others of local interest, provided first aid courses for new mothers and latterly embraced Makaton training so that the library continues to be seen as an inclusive organisation. Activities are provided to encourage a love of reading and develop creativity in the young. A delivery service is provided for the housebound, those who would otherwise not benefit from the use of the library. This service also helps to address loneliness and isolation.

Thanks to the ongoing commitment of all concerned, Bedale Community Library is able to continue to carry out its aims and objectives by serving the town and surrounding villages.



## Community Award

### CITATION

Bedale Town Council wishes to acknowledge the valuable contribution made to the community of Bedale by:

### **Bryan Cockburn**

This Award is made in recognition of the contribution made to the community of Bedale by the late Bryan Cockburn who is the first person to receive a posthumous award from Bedale Town Council.

Bryan Cockburn was a Bedale Legend. Today we celebrate his enthusiasm and dedication to the life of this town. Bryan was a family man and together with his wife Eileen and two of their four sons set up and developed one of the most successful Bedale businesses. We are rightly proud of our Market Place and Cockburn's butchers is at the very heart of it.

Bryan was involved in several local organisations. He was a serving member of the TIC, previously a member of the Four and Twenty Charity, Chairman of BASA and the Chamber of Trade. He held two school governorships and was a member of the Board of Visitors of Northallerton Prison. All this and a Bedale Town Councillor for 12 years.

He left school in 1952 earning £1 per week working for a local butchers. After two years Bryan went to do his National Service for which he was awarded the Cyprus Imperial Medal and Clasp in the Green Howards, but it is his achievements in the butchery business that cannot be overstated. Bryan joined the National Federation of Meat Traders in 1965 and became Chairman of the Northallerton & District Butchers Association in 1972, then President of the Northern Council of Butchers in 1989. He joined the NFMFT Executive Council representing the Northern Area in 1987, serving on both the Training and Education and Parliamentary Committees. In May 1992 Bryan became National President and in 1996 Chair of the Management Committee until 2009. He continued as Chair of NFMFT until 2012 when he was made a Life Honorary Vice President on retirement from the Executive Council of the National Federation of Meat & Food Traders.



**Bedale** Town  
Council

Bryan Cockburn helped to put Bedale on the map. 1936 - 2018



## Chairs Report 2019

Good evening and welcome to the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting.

At last year's Annual Parish Meeting we were celebrating the massive success of our part in the 2018 Tour de Yorkshire and this with the race only passing through Bedale. The organisers were so impressed by the events laid on to entertain visitors and townspeople alike in support of the tour, along with the incredible turnout to watch the cyclists speed through and the atmosphere and excitement generated by the crowds, that they wanted to come back this year.

Once again Bedale has done itself proud, rising to the occasion and providing the stage for the finish of an international cycling event. Being awarded a Finish for the Tour de Yorkshire is a great honour and a reflection of the confidence that the organisers had in Bedale to put on a show worthy of this event.

The Tour de Yorkshire comes with a massive entourage of support vehicles and personnel. All are necessary to stage this event, provide for the safety of riders and spectators and broadcast it across the world.

Contributing to this success were the many groups, organisations and individuals who gave up their time on the Management Committee planning and executing all that was going on in the background to make the day a great success for all concerned. This was a Community event involving the Town Council, Brand Bedale, the Community Forum, Bedale Golf Club, BASA, Wensleydale Railway, the three schools and St Gregory's Church and not forgetting the many individuals who helped. It is worth mentioning that Hambleton District Council were very supportive during the process with funding and a dedicated liaison officer.

I would like to thank our Town Clerk, Nick Reed, for Chairing the Management Committee and for his part in the planning, co-ordination and liaison with Tour de Yorkshire, Hambleton District Council and the other organisations who contributed to make this event the success that it was.

If I have missed mentioning an organisation or someone I apologise. A very big thank you must go to Bedale's residents and its local businesses for putting up with the disruption and the displacement caused by the parking restrictions and road closures.

Wherever I go as soon as I mention that I am from Bedale people are quick with their praise and compliments about the town and its people. With the



number of international visitors that came for the race Bedale's reputation will be spread even further.

Regarding international relationships, in October last year Bedale Twinning Association hosted a group of French people to finalise the twinning process with Azay-sur Cher. The visitors were shown how much Bedale and the local area have to offer with the intention of attracting others to come and stay. There was also the opportunity to strengthen the links between our local schools and associations with those of Azay.

The visitors went away very impressed by what they had seen, the welcome that they had received and the charm of Bedale. Local businesses benefitted from the visit and will continue to do so in the future. A group from Azay will be coming over in September and have booked local holiday cottages for their stay.

How Bedale is seen by visitors is very important and to this end the Council has carried out some cosmetic work to improve the look of the town. You may have noticed that benches and seating areas around the town have been repaired, refurbished and repainted making sitting on them to rest and enjoy watching life go by a more attractive proposition. The posts and chain fencing around Wycar and the Wynd have been repainted and now look clean and fresh.

Bedale Litter Busters deserve a mention here as they continue to turn out to pick up litter and rubbish in the town and surrounding areas; they also support the clearing up operations before and after events. They go further than this by painting railings, bike stands and telephone boxes. They have also planted out additional tubs of flowers to further improve the look of the town. Worthy recipients of last year's Community Award, they continue with their excellent work to keep the town looking good. Positive comments from visitors on how clean and tidy Bedale looks reflect this.

This year saw another significant event with Bedale becoming the second town in the country to be awarded the recognition of being a Makaton Friendly Town. Coverage on local television news reported Bedale as also being the second town in the world to achieve this recognition; this is fantastic news. This achievement is due, in no small part, to the drive and enthusiasm of Karen Pickles, Deputy Head of Mowbray School who first brought the idea to the Town Council for its support.

The response from local businesses, organisations and groups to sign up for training in Makaton signing has been amazing. Bedale quickly achieved the numbers required to be recognised as a Makaton Friendly Town. Makaton



signers have featured in the press and TV news coverage of the Tour de Yorkshire in Bedale thereby further raising the Makaton profile.

There have been concerns expressed by residents over parking and traffic issues in Bedale. As a result, Disc Parking should be extended from the Market Place to the Masonic Hall on South End towards the end of the year. In order to address concerns over the number of heavy vehicles using Wycar and the Wynd a weight restriction has been suggested as a solution. This has the support of the Highways Department and will be progressed.

The Council is looking to develop facilities in Bedale Park; new picnic benches have been installed and are being well used. As the children's play area is in need of updating, a revamp of that section of the Park is being considered. In order to make best use of this space and be able to provide equipment and facilities that would appeal to a range of ages and abilities and include wheelchair accessible equipment, it is hoped that a working party made up of interested parties can be formed to achieve this.

Bedale is heavily reliant on its volunteers giving up their time to provide the events that Bedale is noted for. Events such as Yorkshire Day, the Bonfire, Autumn Fair, Christmas Fair and Lights to name a few. Then there are the other organisations such as the Community Library, the Museum, Meals on Wheels, Community First Responders and the Churches. A special thank you to them all; from the Council.

Cllr. Andrew Hallett  
Chair  
Bedale Town Council