



## **BEDALE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN BEDALE HALL AT 7.00 p.m. ON 8<sup>th</sup> MAY 2018**

#### **PRESENT:**

Chairman of the Town Council, Councillor Mrs C Mollard presided.

#### **APOLOGIES:**

Apologies received from Councillor Pointon.

#### **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 2nd MAY 2017**

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

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

The Mayor, Councillor Mollard gave her report, a copy of which is attached.

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

There were five nominations received this year and one award was presented.

Claire Garrod accepted the award for her contribution to the setting up and running of Bedale Litter Busters.

Councillor Coates read the citation for Claire Garrod.

Councillor Mollard presented Ms Garrod with a framed certificate and Councillor Noone presented her with a bottle of wine.

A copy of the citation is attached.

Ms Garrod gave her thanks and added that she was accepting the award on behalf of all the volunteers.



## 5) PRESENTATIONS FROM:

### a) Mrs Susan Perkins – Bedale Community Library

Mrs Perkins presented an overview of the changes to the running of the library since 2017 when it changed to Bedale Community Library. Mrs Perkins said that North Yorkshire County Council still supplied the book stock but the running of the library was done by volunteers. There are seven people running the library as Trustees and an additional 40 volunteers working shifts. There are 4 public computers and staff help people use them to produce documents, print and access online services. The library has recently extended its opening hours and now is open every day except Sundays and Bank holidays, they have a Facebook page for people to access information and to contact them. The library offers a Citizens Advice Service on Tuesday mornings. The library is making changes to the children's area to improve its offering to younger readers. They also offer Home Library and Information Service (HLIS) for housebound people.

The library are holding an author event on 7<sup>th</sup> June to encourage more people to become "Friends of Bedale Community Library" at a cost of £15 per year to help with the running of the library and ensure its future success.

### b) Mike Barningham – Bedale Hall CIO

Mr Barningham explained that in 2014 Bedale Hall Management decided to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and this process was completed in Autumn 2017. They are currently in the process of transferring the lease for Bedale Hall from Bedale Town Council and Aiskew and Leeming Bar Parish Council which will then allow them to access grant funding for future projects. Mr Barningham explained that when North Yorkshire County Council left the Hall in 2012 they lost £29k in revenue but since then they have attracted new business lettings and as these businesses have grown they have rented more office space. The Hall employs a Hall Manager, Caretaker and Cleaner. The current project is to refurbish the Ballroom with funding from Aviva and a MAD grant from Hambleton. The outside, west side of the Hall has recently been



repaired including draught proofing the windows. The next room to be refurbished is the Drawing Room. The future wish list is: separating the water metered supply, a chandelier in the Ballroom and to decorate the upstairs.

**c) Mrs Donna Stothard and Mrs Janet Stevens – Brand Bedale**

Mrs Stothard introduced herself and explained that she had run her business, Bedale Beauty successfully for 26 years and Mrs Stevens also introduced herself and said that she had run her business, Red House successfully for 16 years.

They explained that since Brand Bedale had been formed, they had attracted 70 members who pay a fee and the monies help with marketing of both Bedale and businesses within Bedale town. The group had help organise, along with Bedale Town Council, Bedale Hall and the Forum events such as Yorkshire Day, Autumn Festival, Christmas Festival and the Tour de Yorkshire event. They were in the process of producing a Business Directory 2018-19 which would be delivered to 6500 homes. The future plans for Brand Bedale were to develop a Digital Marketing Plan, organise networking and training events and look at funding opportunities. The planned events for 2018 included a Classic Car Gathering on 17<sup>th</sup> June, a Yorkshire Day free to trade market on 31<sup>st</sup> July and the Christmas Festival.

**d) Ms Anne Gregg – Treasurer of Dales Centre**

Ms Gregg explained the background of the Dales care which has now re-opened as Dales Centre.

Dales care was officially opened in June 1992 by Princess Alexandra, Social Services funded the care provided and there were 8 staff employed. Fundraising events were held to help with the upgrading of the building and services provided. In 2010 they received Lottery funding to extend the main room and make it more user friendly. They received funding from the Freemasons which was used to build a new bathroom for assisted bathing. In 2015 Dales care lost the £15k funding from Social Services and the Alzheimer's group also lost their funding which meant the Dales



care lost another £10k in income. In 2016 the centre used their capital to keep going temporarily but then had to close as this was no longer viable. The centre received public donations which enabled them to carry out essential building work. The Management team then came up with a new Business Plan; the day care had to go and the new centre would become a Day Centre, a Community Hub for all the community to meet new people and alleviate isolation and loneliness.

In December 2017 the new Dales Centre re-opened with a Christmas lunch. The centre is now run on reduced staff and volunteers, opening Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-2pm offering a two course lunch, tea and coffee. The average daily attendance is 35. Other organisations hire the building to help with running costs and the service is funded by users and grants.

6) **QUESTIONS**

None received.

The Meeting Closed at 8:00pm. Refreshments were served afterwards.



## Community Award

### CITATION

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

### **Claire Garrod**

Claire has been instrumental in setting-up and establishing Bedale Litter Busters, a team of volunteers carrying out the invaluable task of keeping Bedale tidy. Claire has been the driving force behind this amazing community venture which has taken on the task of keeping our town free of litter and dog waste.

The Bedale Litter Busters have grown from one or two dedicated volunteers to 10 to 20 plus volunteers who meet up and "bust" various "litter hot spots" in and around the town and the surrounding area.

Claire is also working towards setting up the "Mini Litter Busters" which will mean encouraging the current Litter Busters to bring their children and grand-children on their regular litter busts. Claire has even organised a number of "litter pre-sweeps" of the Bedale Junior Football pitch to ensure that the pitch is free of dog waste.

The Town Council and the community of Bedale would wish to show their appreciation for all your efforts in managing this successful community venture.

Dated: 8th May 2018



## Chairman's Report

The Council Year started with a Civic and Community Service at St Gregorys Church...a wedding. A Christening and the civic service...How much more Community involvement could we get; I am still getting comments from other councils about it they all thought it was wonderful!!

This, I feel, just shows what Bedale is all about, I could list all the things that have happened in town this year and all the events I have been privileged to attend but that would take forever.

As usual the Council has dealt with all the usual 'everyday' things like tree maintenance, Playground safety checks and maintenance, this also applies to street furniture too. We have also spent a large amount of money on upgrading the Bridge street car park toilets, hopefully the new pay door system will discourage vandalism which has been one of the main problems.

One of the main things that made a difference this year is the formation of Brand Bedale...Yorkshire Day (along with the usual Yorkshire Teas by the TIC), The Autumn Festival and their involvement with the Christmas Festival and they have done all this whilst running their own businesses. Dedication!

Another group that has made a big difference to the town is the Bedale Litter Busters...A group of dedicated local people who are keeping our town clear of litter and anything else that shouldn't be on the pavements, grass verges and sports grounds and open spaces. Well done and thank you.



The Flowers around the Market cross and in town have now become a regular sight, along with the Christmas lights in the planters and the Christmas tree lights Again the Christmas tree lights switch on was very well attended...could have been the lure of Santa and his chocolates!

In November the new Memorial Garden outside St Gregory's was dedicated. Our thanks to The Royal British legion.

An event that always makes me proud to be part of the Bedale Community is the Remembrance day parade...a very moving and well attended service every year.

Every year we say that the Community Bonfire and Firework display is the one big highlight of the year and last November it was no different an amazing display again and our thanks to all involved but I have to say last Saturday and the Tourd'Yorkshire Well, Wow what could be said about that Amazing and again our thanks to everyone involved with the organising, the artwork, the decorating of the town, and the running of the event on the day.

I haven't heard one negative comment about the day!.... and to follow that the circus is in town this week too!

Personally I have represented Bedale at numerous events The official Yorkshire Day in Sheffield, many military events at RAF Leeming and Air and Army Cadets, Art shows, band concerts civic services in other towns, Freedom parades, as well as representing BTC on the Hambleton area group of the YLCA and the JEB.



**Bedale** Town  
Council

As I mentioned last year a Twinning Association had been set up with a view to Twinning Bedale with Azay sur Cher in France. This has now happened, a group of 6 including myself went to Azay in April and at a ceremony, myself and the Town's Mayor, signed a Declaration of Friendship between our two towns. A delegation from Azay will be coming to Bedale in the autumn, they are all very eager to visit Bedale and we hope this will bring more visitors to the area along with forging links with the local schools, sports groups, businesses and other community groups.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers in Bedale whether that be from the library, the Community Forum, meals on wheels, churches, schools everyone. Bedale would not be the place that it is without you all. Also to my fellow Councillors, Thank you for your commitment and dedication to the Town Council and to the Town of Bedale.

Thank you.