

DATE: Monday 11th May 2020
TIME: 7pm
LOCATION: "Zoom" virtual meeting
PRESENT: Cllrs Andrew Hallett (Chair), Mike Barningham, Amanda Coates, Philip Cockburn, David Ingram, Pam Macklewain-Hallett, Christine Mollard, John Noone, Malcolm Young
STAFF: Nick Reed (Clerk), Judith Cockburn (Assistant Clerk, minutes)
IN ATTENDANCE: NYCC Cllr John Weighell, NYCC Cllr Carl Les, PC1793 Sarah Norman, and 4 members of the public (MoP)

001.2021	<p>Standing Orders – to consider and approve an addendum to the Council’s Standing Orders to allow the smooth management of virtual meetings: The Council RESOLVED to approve the addendum to the Council’s Standing Orders, and the Chair then explained how the meeting would be conducted to ensure good order and smooth running.</p>
002.2021	<p>Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation: There were none.</p>
003.2021	<p>Apologies and reasons for absence: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr John Howe.</p>
004.2021	<p>Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 9th March 2020: The Council RESOLVED to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting, and they were signed as such by the Chair.</p>
005.2021 005.1 005.2 005.3	<p>Updates from minutes: (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)</p> <p>005.1 Memorial benches – to discuss further the number, design/s and location of the Memorial benches agreed in principle at March’s meeting: The Clerk reported that at March’s meeting the Council had discussed purchasing five benches for VE75 Day, and that further design options were now available including WW1 commemoration and NHS support. <i>ACTION: Clerk to circulate details of available benches. Councillors to consider suitable places to install new benches on Council-owned land. The number, location, design and costings of benches to be on June’s agenda.</i></p> <p>005.2 Bedale Park Toilets – to note further unavoidable delay to work on improving these toilets: The Clerk reported that the latest update from the contractors was that work may start in May/ June.</p> <p>005.3 Hambleton DC Make a Difference grants – to note the partial approval of both grant applications made by the Town Council to this fund; £1600 for Christmas</p>

	<p>lights; £1300 for the Illuminated Address parade and discussions regarding the cancellation of the latter event:</p> <p>The Clerk reported that Hambleton DC were content to give Bedale TC the grant for the Illuminated Address parade despite its postponement until 2021, and that the monies could be spent during the current financial year to make matters more straightforward for Hambleton DC.</p>
006.2021	Reports of recent activity:
006.1	Reports from external body meetings attended by Town Councillors:
	There was nothing to report
006.2	Reports from District/ County Councillors:
	Cllr Noone reported that the Hambleton DC planning meetings were being conducted virtually every two weeks, and that he would report matters relevant to Bedale at Town Council meetings. The District Council is now operating a mobile COVID-19 test centre at the Civic Centre in Northallerton, and they are also offering disability grants for the adaptation of people's houses. More information on both these matters could be found on the Hambleton DC website.
006.3	NY Police Report - (report attached in Appendix A)
	PC1793 Norman went through the crime figures for April 2020, and thanked Bedale residents on behalf of NY Police for their co-operation during the current lockdown. She reported a small number of incidents of anti-social behaviour related to COVID-19.
007.2021	Financial Statement and Approvals for Payment:
007.1	Retrospective approval of April's financial statement – to formally approve the statement and authorise payments made in April, after the cancellation of April's Council meeting due to COVID 19 restriction:
	The Council RESOLVED to approve April's payments as circulated.
007.2	May financial statement – to approve this statement and authorise payments:
	The Council RESOLVED to approve the following payments: Salaries (Clerk / Asst Clerk / Caretaker / Cleaner / Market Superintendent); Acorn Lighting Services (inspection of Albert Row street lights) £264.58; Bedale Hall Trust (annual office rent) £1,860; Zurich Municipal (annual insurance) £1,694.45; Rialtas (assistance with Joint Burial Authority re-allocation) £84; Hambleton DC (premises licence – Bedale Park) £70; Alpha Signs (3x new Bedale signs) £,2115.60.
	The Council NOTED the following receipts in April: Hambleton DC £32,312.00 (precept #1 of 2); Hambleton DC £10,513.25 (CIL contribution); HMRC £12,288.19 (VAT reclaim Q4).
	The Council's cash book balance on 11 th May 2020 after these transactions was NOTED as being £158,316.33.
007.3	Direct debits – to approve direct debit payments to be taken during 2020-21 by: Opus Energy (electricity to Market Place and to Bridge St toilets), Hambleton DC (Business rates for market), LCC Communications (telephone and broadband), Business Stream (water for Bridge St toilets), and Welcome to Yorkshire (annual membership):
	The Council RESOLVED to approve these direct debit payments for 2020-21

<p>008.2021</p>	<p>Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) alterations - to note information from PKF Littlejohn, re-appointed Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments Ltd as external auditors, regarding alterations to the submission deadlines for completed AGARs and potential alterations to the period of exercise of Public Rights:</p> <p>The Clerk reported that although under the recent statutory instrument (see item 010) Bedale TC had the option to defer the AGAR until August 2020, the internal audit had been able to go ahead remotely and the AGAR was ready for approval at June’s meeting.</p>
<p>009.2021</p>	<p>COVID-19 response – to note the work of community groups offering help to vulnerable townspeople, formally approve financial support already given by this Council (£500 for N Yorks Scrubs, up to £500 and staff time for Bedale COVID-19 Mutual Aid), and consider any other potential financial support the Town Council may wish to give Community organisations:</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the Council had received letters of thanks from North Yorkshire Scrubs for the donation of equipment worth £500, and from Bedale COVID-19 Mutual Aid for the donation of up to £500. The COVID-19 Mutual Aid group details had been added onto the Council’s Facebook page and the Clerk had assisted with setting up the group’s finances and publicity.</p> <p>The Council RESOLVED to formally approve these donations, which had previously been agreed by email consensus due to time constraints.</p>
<p>010.2021</p>	<p>Annual meetings – to confirm, per an online discussion, that the Annual Town Council Meeting will be deferred to 10th May 2021, in accordance with Local Authorities and Police Crime Panels (Coronavirus) [Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panels] (England and Wales) Regulations 2020, and that the Annual Parish Meeting will be deferred until such time it can be held safely “in person”:</p> <p>The Chair explained that by deferring the Annual Town Council meeting until May 2021 then the Council’s policy and practice documents were deemed to be re-approved, and the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Council representatives were deemed to be appointed for another year.</p> <p>The Council RESOLVED to defer the Annual Town Council Meeting to 10th May 2021 and the Annual Parish Meeting until further notice.</p>
<p>011.2021</p>	<p>Steps between Bedale Beck and Brookside Avenue – to note that these steps are currently closed pending repair by North Yorkshire County Council and to consider funding the re-attachment of a handrail at a cost of labour time only once the steps are re-opened:</p> <p>The Clerk reported that NYCC Highways will be shoring up the steps to avoid further slippage before the handrail is re-attached.</p> <p>The Council RESOLVED to approve the funding of the re-attachment of the handrail once the steps had been repaired.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>ACTION: Clerk to liaise with NYCC</i></p>

<p>012.2021</p>	<p>Bus shelter cleaning – to consider the appropriate regularity for cleaning the bus shelter, while COVID-19 precautions are in place and after they are lifted: The Council RESOLVED to approve weekly cleaning for three months, and then review the situation again.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>ACTION: Assistant Clerk to liaise with window cleaner</i></p>
<p>013.2021</p>	<p>YLCA representative – to appoint a councillor to replace Cllr Coates as a voting representative to the YLCA alongside Cllr Mollard: Cllr Mollard explained to Council that the Hambleton YLCA had four meetings per year at either Northallerton or Easingwold. No councillors put themselves forward for this position which thus remains empty until further notice.</p>
<p>014.2021</p>	<p>Bedale Hall flag – to formally agree supporting half the cost of the purchase of an NHS flag to fly at the Hall, at a cost of £22.48: The Council RESOLVED to approve this expenditure.</p>
<p>015.2021</p>	<p>Planning applications and decisions – to consider planning matters including: 20/00811/FUL – revised application for a 59-unit extra care facility at Easby’s Field, off Queen Anne’s Drive. The Clerk explained that the refusal of the original application has been appealed to the Secretary of State. This new application to Hambleton DC has been submitted concurrently to that process. The Council heard comments on this new application from three members of the public, NYCC Cllrs Weighell and Les, and Cllr Barningham. After discussion, the Council RESOLVED to object to the application on the same planning grounds as previously – traffic, parking, design, and landscape – and also on the grounds of density and, given that this application is very little altered from the first one, recent planning history.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Action: Clerk to inform Hambleton DC</i></p> <p>The Council NOTED planning decisions made by consensus between meetings to support application 20/00554/LBC for replacement windows and front door at 2 Albert Row, and to have no objection to application 20/00607/FUL for various works at Springfield Farm. The Council NOTED APP/G2713/W/20/3245637, an appeal to the Secretary of State against the refusal of planning permission for three dormer bungalows behind 5 South End (Eccles Heddon Solicitors). Finally, the Council NOTED the approval of application 20/00164/FUL for replacement roof tiles at the White Bear, South End.</p>
<p>016.2021 Item 12</p>	<p>Correspondence – (background papers provided – see Appendix A) Letter from Hambleton DC confirming that Bedale TC is not eligible for a small business support grant: The Clerk had contacted YLCA for advice who had advised that, while precepting bodies are not eligible for small business support grants, the National Association of Local Councils is lobbying for some of the COVID-19 support to principal authorities to be trickled down to town and parish councils, as they</p>

Item 14	<p>believed this was the government’s intention. The Clerk had circulated a draft letter and the Council RESOLVED that this letter should be sent to the Chair and Chief Executive of Hambleton DC, copied to YLCA and the clerks of Hambleton’s other market towns.</p> <p>Letter from MoP complaining that a vehicle was persistently parked on a verge on Stapleton Close. The Clerk confirmed that the Police had been informed and were dealing with the complaint.</p>
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The Chair closed the meeting at 20:28pm.

SIGNED: (Chair)

DATE:

Appendix A

Hambleton Command : Town and Parish Council Report

Town or Parish	Bedale Including Aiskew
Report Completed By :	6782 Lees
Data Reporting Period :	April 2020

Crime and ASB Data

Qualifier	No of Incidents	
Anti-social behaviour	11	
Auto crime	0	
Burglary :	<i>Commercial : 0</i>	<i>Residential : 1</i>
Criminal Damage	0	
Theft (including from shops)	0	
Violence Against the Person	10	
Other crimes including Drugs	4	
TOTAL THIS PERIOD	26	

Coronavirus: Statement following Government announcement on 10 May 2020

(taken from NYP Website)

This is our latest statement on the Coronavirus changes announced by the Prime Minister on Sunday 10 May 2020.

Assistant Chief Constable Mike Walker said:

“Firstly my thanks goes to the vast majority of people who have stayed at home so far and helped to save lives. It has been and continues to be a difficult and challenging time for many people and it’s important not to lose sight of why we have had these measures imposed to begin with.

“As the Government’s restrictions and regulations change, the police’s role will too.

“At this moment in time, we are working with police nationally, and as more detailed information, guidance and changes to the regulations become clear, we will share them with our communities and what it means for policing locally. The core British principle of policing by consent will continue to be at the heart of our approach.”

In the meantime, please follow the Government’s advice at www.gov.uk/coronavirus and:

- Stay at home as much as possible
- Work from home if you can
- Limit contact with other people
- Keep your distance if you go out (2 meters apart where possible)
- Wash your hands regularly
- Self-isolate if anyone in your household has symptoms

*We urge residents to be on lookout and report suspicious activity or vehicles at the time any suspect activity occurs using the national 101 non-emergency number.
Always dial 999 in an emergency or if a crime is in progress.*

Appendix B

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED 1st April – 11th May 2020

1. From: **MoP** Date **01/04/2020**
Request for information about the Eden family, Bedale farmers in the 18th century – referred to NY Records Office and local family history groups
2. From: **Hambleton DC** Date **01/04/2020**
Annual public toilet data check
3. From: **Citizens Advice** Date **02/04/2020**
Update of covid-19 support offered
4. From: **NY Police** Date **08/04/2020**
Request for information about the status of parks and open spaces in Bedale over the Easter weekend and generally
5. From: **Citizens Advice** Date **15/04/2020**
Update of covid-19 support offered
6. From: **Bedale High School** Date **20/04/2020**
Information about PPE made by school staff and distributed within the community
7. From: **RAF Bedale and Leeming Branch** Date **22/04/2020**
Request for information about the status of the Illuminated Address parade
8. From: **MoP** Date **23/04/2020**
Concern about insecure netting above a building in town causing birds to get trapped – referred to building owner, NY police and RSPCA
9. From: **North Yorkshire Scrubs** Date **27/04/2020**
Letter of thanks for donation and update on progress
10. From: **Bedale Covid-19 Mutual Aid Group** Date **29/04/2020**
Letter of thanks for donation and update on progress
11. From: **NYCC Public Health Improvement Team** Date **29/04/2020**
Survey about the impact of covid-19 on older people
12. From: **Hambleton DC** Date **29/04/2020**
Confirmation that as a precepting organisation BTC is not eligible for small business support grants as currently constituted
13. From: **VE Day 75 Pageantmaster** Date **01/05/2020**
Confirming the postponement of public events on 8th May, and outlining appropriate actions in the current circumstances and the hope to reconstitute the events at some point
14. From: **MoP** Date **04/05/2020**
Complaint about vehicle persistently parked on verge
15. From: **Northern PowerGrid** Date: **04/05/2020**

Request to hand-dig under Wycar Green to investigate and repair an underground electricity cable – *replied granting permission having consulted councillors*

16. From: **NYCC Highways**

Date **05/05/2020**

Information about a road closure between Mile House Farm and White Cross on 11-12 May