

**DATE:** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
**TIME:** 7.00pm  
**LOCATION:** Drawing Room, Bedale Hall  
**PRESENT:** Cllrs Amanda Coates (Chair), Mike Barningham, Andrew Hallett, John Howe, David Ingram, Pam Macklewain-Hallett, Christine Mollard, John Noone, and Emma Wells  
**STAFF:** Nick Reed (Clerk), Christine Brown (minutes)  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Four members of the public [MoP]

23.76	<b>Declarations of interest in agenda items</b> and requests for dispensation There were none.
23.77	<b>Apologies</b> and consideration of reasons for absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Dawn Culver.
23.78	<b>Minutes</b> of the Town Council meeting held on 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2023 The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve these as a true record of the meeting, and they were signed as such by the Chair.
23.79 23.791	<b>Updates from minutes</b> (not covered elsewhere on the agenda) <b>Twinning</b> The Council discussed the size and composition of the Twinning Working Group, and agreed that it would be appropriate for the Group to be comprised of Councillors and interested members of the public, perhaps from the previous independent twinning organisation. <b><i>ACTION: Clerk to contact former twinning organisation members</i></b>
23.792	<b>Remembrance Day</b> The Council noted that Bedale Scouts and Guides have a booked a training day in order to carry out the traffic management of this event, and that the Council's offer to cover traffic management costs is therefore moot as there will be none. The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to make a Section 137 grant of £50 to the Royal British Legion towards the costs of refreshments after the parade on 12th November.
23.793	<b>Deer sculpture</b> The Council noted that the electrical work is now complete ahead of uplighting being installed, and noted with thanks a grant of £1,000 from Bedale and Villages Community Forum towards this work.
23.794	<b>Bonfire and fireworks</b> The Council noted this event is set for 4th November and that stewards and others are required to complete an online safety information exercise in advance of the event. It was suggested that small cards with the JustGiving page link should be made available to distribute on the evening to members of the public. <b><i>Action: Asst Clerk to prepare small cards for distribution</i></b>

<p>23.80</p> <p>23.801</p> <p>23.802</p> <p>23.803</p>	<p><b>Reports of recent activity</b></p> <p><b>Reports of activity from external body meetings attended by Councillors</b> Cllr Mollard had attended a meeting of the Joint Burial Committee, and following her report the Council congratulated the Committee on its recent silver award from BRAMM Bereaved Community Awards.</p> <p><b>Report from North Yorkshire Council representative</b> NYC Cllr David Webster introduced the North Yorkshire area’s information about the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, and suggested that several potential projects by the Council and local charitable organisations might be suitable for funding under it.</p> <p><b>Report from North Yorkshire Police</b> North Yorkshire Police were unable to attend the meeting. The Council noted that there continues to be concern in the town about nuisance activity and that all such incidents should be reported to the police via 101 or online.</p>
<p>23.81</p>	<p><b>Financial matters:</b></p> <p><b>Financial statement and approvals for payment</b> The Council noted the financial statement as circulated and <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the following payments: staff salaries; HM Revenue and Customs PAYE qtr 2); Morgan’s (£1,400, grasscutting and grounds maintenance); M Preston Plumbing and Heating (£1,305.21+VAT, Bedale Park toilets); Bedale Window Cleaning (£180, watering Market Place flowers qtr2); WJPS (£432+VAT, annual IT support and consultancy); Initial Services (£143.74+VAT, annual contract for Bridge St accessible toilet) Mayoral expenses (£79.85, travel); TWC Facilities Ltd (£53+VAT , toilet rolls) and House and Home (£32.09, sundries re car boot sale compound).</p> <p>The Council <b>NOTED</b> the following standing order / direct debit / credit card payments: Land registry (£9, searches); SLCC (£450, training); Net World Sports (£298.95+VAT, football nets); North Yorkshire Council (£56, business rates for market); Opus Energy (£19.04+VAT, electricity – Bridge St toilets); LCC Communications (£48.20 +VAT, telephone/broadband); Yorwaste (£146.98, car boot sale waste collection); and Scottish Water (53.28, Bridge St toilets).</p> <p>Receipts were noted from: £32,132 North Yorkshire Council (precept #2 of 2); £659.50 Market stall rental); £2,370 Bedale Park hire fees (including £2,000 ringfenced for the bonfire/fireworks event); £25 Christmas market stall rents; and £240 car boot sale fees. The cash book balance after these transactions was noted as being £91,996.21</p>
<p>23.82</p>	<p><b>Planning Matters</b> The Council considered the following planning applications: Regarding ZB23/01771/CLP for a certificate of lawfulness to merge 33 and 33a Ash Tree Close; the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> that it supports this application. Regarding ZB23/01924/CAT for works to trees in a conservation area, at The Rectory, North End, the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> that it was unable to comment given the lack of information available on the portal. <i>[Clerk’s note: this was in fact a notification of works circulated for the Council’s information, rather than an invitation to comment.]</i></p>
<p>23.83</p>	<p><b>Hedgehog highway</b> The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve to purchase and distribute 50 “hedgehog highway surrounds” and associated materials, to promote hedgehog conservation to residents, businesses and schools, at a cost of £150.</p>

<b>23.84</b>	<p><b>Mayoral charity dinner</b></p> <p>The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the evening of Saturday 16th March as the date for the 2024 event, and noted that a budget would be considered at a later meeting once options for entertainment and catering had been explored.</p>
<b>23.85</b>	<p><b>Budget setting</b></p> <p>The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to meet on Monday 30<sup>TH</sup> October 2023 at 7.00pm to put forward a 2024-25 budget for approval at November's Town Council meeting. It was noted that this was likely to include a rise in precept for the first time in five years.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><i>ACTION: Clerk to circulate draft budget</i></b></p>
<b>23.86</b>	<b>Correspondence (background papers provided)</b>

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.05pm.

**SIGNED:** (Chair)

**DATE:**