

DATE: Monday 11th March 2024
TIME: 7.00pm
LOCATION: Drawing Room, Bedale Hall
PRESENT: Cllrs Amanda Coates (Chair), Michael Barningham, Andrew Hallett, John Howe, David Ingram, Pam Macklewain-Hallett, Christine Mollard, John Noone and Emma Wells
STAFF: Nick Reed (Clerk, minutes)
IN ATTENDANCE: Seven members of the public [MoP]

23.139	<p>Declarations of interest in agenda items and requests for dispensation There were none.</p>
23.140	<p>Apologies and consideration of reasons for absence Apologies from Cllr Dawn Culver were received and accepted</p>
23.141	<p>Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 12th February 2024 The Council RESOLVED to approve these as a true record of the meeting, and they were signed as such by the Chair.</p>
23.142 23.1421	<p>Updates from minutes (not covered elsewhere on the agenda) Unadopted road between Emgate and churchyard – The Council heard that the Joint Burial Committee has found a document from 1921 guaranteeing vehicular access to the churchyard from Emgate. The Diocese of Leeds, Northern Powergrid, and Bedale Scouts and Guides, are all willing to contribute financially towards the renovation of the road, and Yorvik Homes are considering patching the road as a goodwill gesture. It is suggested that Yorvik might upgrade the patching to a full resurface if the three other organisations cover the increased cost.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>ACTION: Clerk to progress</i></p>
23.143 23.1431 23.1432	<p>Reports of recent activity Reports of activity from external body meetings attended by Councillors Cllrs Barningham, Coates, Mollard and Noone had attended meetings of the Rector’s Four-and-Twenty and Bedale and Villages Community Forum. The former was monitoring the sustainability of its investment portfolio and had made a grant to Bedale Hall for an automatic back door, and the latter was revising its investment plan for the next 10 years, on which the Town Council would be a consultee. Cllr Mollard reported from a Yorkshire Local Councils Association meeting that as part of the Lords Report Stage of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, the government made an amendment to the Local Government Act 1894 with the aim of clarifying that there is nothing to prevent local councils from funding the physical upkeep of churches and other places of worship.</p> <p>Report from North Yorkshire Council representative There was none, NYC Cllr David Webster having given his apologies for absence.</p>

23.144	<p>Financial statement and approvals for payment</p> <p>The Council noted the financial statement and RESOLVED to approve the following payments: staff salaries and PAYE; E&P Electrics (£4,408.41+VAT, Xmas lights); Bedale Hall CIO (£402.14, office heating); and House and Home (£6.67+VAT, sundries). The Council NOTED the following standing order/direct debit/credit card payments: LCC Communications (£38.53 +VAT, telephone and broadband); and British Gas (£47.20+VAT, electricity – Bridge St Toilets). Receipts were noted of: £238.30 (Market stall rentals); £50 (Bedale Park hire fees); £1,500 (car boot sale fees); £384 (tickets for Mayoral dinner); and £1,300 (NYC members discretionary grant) The cash book balance after these transactions was noted as being £57,643.66.</p>
23.145	<p>Planning Matters</p> <p>Concerning ZB23/01122/FUL, revised plans for eight dwellings on the site of the former surgery on Masham Road, the Council RESOLVED that it strongly opposes this application, on the planning grounds of design, visual appearance and materials, and of the effect of the buildings on Bedale's conservation area. The Council does not find the amended scheme to be in any significant way different to the original in form or substance, and would strongly advocate for the use of stone from the school which formerly stood on the site (itself repurposed from the Bedale tollbooth) in the building frontages, to emphasise the history of the town and of this site. The Council added that the plot is at a key point on the entrance to Bedale. It is to be hoped that other nearby sites including the former bus garage and telephone exchange will also be developed in the near future, and the Town Council would wish to see a custom-built design here as an exemplar/benchmark for the regeneration of Masham Road / Sussex Street. This site offers a unique opportunity to enhance the appearance of what is for many people - residents and visitors - the introduction to the town, and this application does not in any way take advantage of that opportunity.</p> <p>Concerning ZB24/00206/MAN for conversion of part of the ground floor of 18 North End to two dwellings, the Council regretted that there was not enough information available to form an opinion on this application, but noted that there is no objection in principle to a residential part of the ground floor, so long as the frontage remains in commercial use.</p> <p>Concerning ZB24/00435/MRC for variation of conditions to allow a garage attached to the new building at "Greystones", 10 North End, the Council RESOLVED that it has no objection to this application.</p> <p>Concerning ZB24/00469/MRC for variation of conditions related to opening hours and deliveries at the Co-operative Group store, 14 Market Place, the Council RESOLVED that it supports this application.</p> <p>Finally, the Council NOTED the approval by North Yorkshire Council of ZB23/02601/FUL for the construction of the new dwelling at "Greystones" (variation of conditions for which is discussed above).</p>
23.146	<p>Safeguarding policy</p> <p>The Council considered a safeguarding policy for children and vulnerable adults while engaged in activities associated with the Town Council, based on the draft policy circulated to Councillors, and RESOLVED to adopt the policy, and for it to be reviewed no less than annually at the Annual Council Meeting.</p>

<p>23.147</p>	<p>Parking on and around Masham Road <i>Clerk's note; this item was taken between 23.142 and 23.143 for the convenience of MoP</i> The Council heard from MoP that “indiscriminate parking” related to Mowbray School remains a present and growing problem on Masham Road, Ash Tree Road, and Calvert Way. Where this parking is illegal (e.g. overlapping driveways) it has been reported to the Police via 101, although the response has not always been timely. The Council heard these comments sympathetically, and asked residents to collect evidence over time of inconsiderate parking. The Council expressed some sympathy with Mowbray School, who have engaged with the Council and the public on finding an on-site solution, but agreed that the current situation is unsatisfactory. Accordingly the Council RESOLVED to approach North Yorkshire Council Highways and ask for double yellow lines on the corners of Masham Road with Ash Tree Road and Calvert Way, and for H-bars outside houses on the west side of Masham Road whose lines of sight are being regularly affected by the parking discussed. <i>ACTION: Cllr Coates to approach Bedale Police to keep a regular patrol of the area</i> <i>ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Mowbray School</i></p>
<p>23.148</p>	<p>Flag of peace The Council RESOLVED to purchase the official D-Day “flag of peace” to fly from Bedale Hall on 6th June for the D-Day 80 commemorations, at a cost of £36+VAT.</p>
<p>23.149</p>	<p>Community awards and annual meeting The Council RESOLVED to offer a Community Award to one recipient, and advertise via social media for any further public nominations in addition to the two already received, for discussion at April’s meeting.</p>
<p>23.150</p>	<p>Correspondence (background papers provided)</p>

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.10 pm.

SIGNED:

(Chair)

DATE:

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED 8th February – 7th March 2024
(Which is not addressed in the substance of the agenda)

1. From: **MoP** Date: **11/02/2024**
Noting that the lifebelt at Bedale Harbour was situated in an area prone to flooding. [*Clerk's note; this has now been moved to the main footpath.*]
2. From: **Janet Gleeson** Date: **13/02/2024**
Noting that she has retired from covering BTC for the Darlington and Stockton Times, and that it is unlikely that a D&S writer will be regularly attending meetings from now on.
3. From: **MoP** Date: **13/02/2024**
Enquiry about historical information and school visits
4. From: **Incy Wincys Nursery** Date: **13/02/2024**
Comment/enquiry about possibly moving the bin store
5. From: **MoP** Date: **21/02/2024**
Asking whether BTC publishes an official town guide in printed form
6. From: **MoP** Date: **22/02/2024**
Comments about flooding at Southfields and request concerning banking at the east side of the public open space
7. From: **WJPS** Date: **26/02/2024**
Request to provide a reference for other parish councils considering using the company
8. From: **North Yorkshire Council street naming** Date: **07/03/2024**
Certification of registration of new addresses at 11A-F and 15A-H Calvert Way
9. From: **MoP x many** Date: **various**
Questions about car boot sales from beneficiaries AND MoP