

DATE: Monday 9th December 2024
TIME: 7.00pm
LOCATION: Drawing Room, Bedale Hall
PRESENT: Cllrs John Howe, (Chair), Mike Barningham, Amanda Coates, Dawn Culver, Andrew Hallett, David Ingram, Pam Macklewain-Hallett, Christine Mollard, John Noone, and Emma Wells
STAFF: Nick Reed (Clerk, minutes)
IN ATTENDANCE: One member of the public

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| 24.91 | Declarations of interest in agenda items and requests for dispensation There were none. |
| 24.92 | Apologies There were none, all Councillors being present. |
| 24.93 | Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 11 th November 2024 The Council noted that work carried out on the path between Calvert Way and Masham Road will be covered by its own, and/or its contractors' Public Liability Insurance. With this addition it was RESOLVED to approve the minutes as a true record of the meeting, and they were signed as such by the Chair. |
| 24.94 | Updates from minutes (not covered elsewhere on the agenda) |
| 24.941 | Unadopted road between Emgate and Churchyard – the Council heard that this project is almost ready to go, with just some minor queries from Northern Powergrid about the scheme of works. It is confirmed following work from Coxon Brothers that drainage from the site is clear, and the resurfacing work is expected to take place in early 2025. |
| 24.942 | Christmas Market and Lights Switch-on – the Council heard that this day had been a great success, with perhaps 300 people at the lights switch-on and 80-100 bikes from Squires Café attending at lunchtime. The Market Place Christmas tree was noted as being exceptional, and the Council THANKED Kevin Hollinrake MP for performing the lights switch on, and commended the hard work bringing the event together by the Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Market Supervisor, E&P Electrics, Morgan's, and Kayleigh Catford. The Council NOTED comments suggesting that bringing the Bedale Hall and Market Place events back together would be welcome by residents and visitors, and asked the Christmas Lights working group to bear that in mind when discussing 2025 arrangements. |
| 24.943 | Beckside path – the Council NOTED that reinforcement works to the banking are to start in January, and that these works have been approved by North Yorkshire Council and the Environment Agency. |
| 24.944 | Joint Burial Committee – the Council NOTED that Allyson Marr is retiring from the position of Clerk to the JBC, effective from the start date of her successor, and that a new appointment is to be made shortly. The Council THANKED Mrs Marr for her several years of efficient work at the JBC. |

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| <p>24.95 24.951</p> | <p>Reports of recent activity</p> <p>Reports from external body meetings attended by Councillors</p> <p>Cllrs Barningham and Noone had attended a Bedale Hall CIO Trustees meeting, and reported that the Hall's offices are all now tenanted, and that the downstairs toilets are finally re-opened although Hall access remains via the back door while exploratory works continue in the lobby. Cllr Barningham had been re-elected as Chair of the CIO. Cllr Howe had attended a meeting of the Tourist Information Centre Management Committee and reported that 2024 visitor numbers were at the highest level since COVID, and that Edna Wright was stepping back from leading operations, though would continue to volunteer.</p> <p>24.952 Report from North Yorkshire Council member – There was none, NYC Cllr David Webster having sent his apologies</p> |
| <p>24.96</p> | <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; Morgan's £2,210 (grass cutting and grounds maintenance inc Christmas tree installation); G. Walker £1,778.84+VAT (novelties for bonfire/fireworks); MB Audio Visual £1,400+VAT (stage/PA for Xmas Market); Coxon Brothers £640+VAT (drainage at Emgate); Arborlutions £560 (tree work at Burrill Road and Southfields); Street Solutions £524.34+VAT (signage for Remembrance Day parade road closures); Generation (UK) Ltd £460+VAT (bonfire and fireworks fencing); Fireball Band £300 (performance at Xmas Market); W. Braithwaite & Sons £290+VAT (winter planting); Northdale £280.69+VAT (winter planting); North Yorkshire Council £225+VAT (grit bin replenishment); Cherry Tones £200 (performance at Xmas Market); North Yorkshire Scouts £106 (equipment hire for bonfire fireworks); NYC £75 (traffic enforcement for bonfire/fireworks); TWC Facilities £63.88+VAT (soap service for toilets); Wickes £35.61+VAT (sundries re Becksid closure signs); and E&P Electric £34+VAT (fixing hand dryer in Park toilet).</p> <p>The Council noted and approved a credit card payment to Instantprint (£83.02+VAT, signage for Park).</p> <p>Receipts were noted of: £512 (Market stall rentals); £100 (Xmas market stalls); £60 (Bedale Park hire fees); £9,817.58 (donation for bonfire and fireworks); £2,210 (Emgate surfacing contribution with thanks to Bedale Scouts and Guides; North Yorkshire Council £672 (grass cutting contribution); and Skipton Building Society £881.92 (annual interest). The cash book balance after these transactions was NOTED as being £61,760.33</p> |
| <p>24.97</p> | <p>Planning Matters</p> <p>There were no new applications to consider, and no principal authority decisions to note.</p> |
| <p>24.98</p> | <p>Bedale Litter Busters</p> <p>The Council heard feedback from this working group that that, while litter picking and related activities attract many volunteers, there is a need for a wider pool of people to take a leadership role at events. A meeting on 10th December, and feedback from schools regarding potential deeper involvement, will both inform developments, and these will be reported back to January's Town Council meeting.</p> |

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| 24.99 | <p>Royal British Legion</p> <p>Noting a request for support towards the £621.60 cost of purchasing a new standard and associated equipment for formal occasions, the Council RESOLVED to make an award of £200 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, considering that this would be to the benefit of many Bedale-based individuals and organisations.</p> |
| 24.100 | <p>Royal Garden Party</p> <p>Noting that that Yorkshire Local Councils Association is seeking nominations of serving Councillors to enter a draw for tickets to 2025's Royal garden party, the Council RESOLVED that the sitting Mayor should have first refusal on a place in the draw, so long as (as is the case with Cllr Howe) they have not previously attended.</p> |
| 24.101 | <p>Twinning</p> <p>The Council noted that Malcolm Young has stepped down as chair of the Twinning Working Group (while also reporting that the people of Azay-sur-Cher remain keen on the twinning arrangement), and considered how to take the group forward.</p> <p><i>ACTION: This vacancy to be advertised on the Council's website and social media</i></p> |
| 24.102 | <p>Correspondence</p> <p>The correspondence as attached was NOTED.</p> |

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.55 pm.

SIGNED: (Chair)

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