

**DATE:** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026  
**TIME:** 7.00pm  
**LOCATION:** Drawing Room, Bedale Hall  
**PRESENT:** Cllrs Christine Mollard, (Chair), Mike Barningham, Amanda Coates, Dawn Culver, David Emison, Andy Hallett, Craig Hoyland, David Ingram, and Pam Macklewain-Hallett  
**STAFF:** Nick Reed (Clerk), Christine Brown (minutes)  
**IN ATTENDANCE:** Two members of the public

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| 25.115                                  | <b>Declarations of interest in agenda items</b><br>There were none.   |
| 25.116                                  | <b>Apologies</b><br>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Emma Wells.  |
| 25.117                                  | <b>Minutes</b> of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on 12 <sup>th</sup> January 2026<br>The Council <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve these as a true record of the meeting, and they were signed as such by the Chair.   |
| 25.118<br>25.1181<br>25.1182<br>25.1183 | <b>Updates from minutes (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)</b><br><b>Bedale Town Improvement Plan:</b> The Council noted that the plan is now in its consultation period with drop-in events at Bedale Methodist Church (26 Feb 3-7pm,) and Bedale Hall (2 March 10am-2pm and 7 March 10am–12pm), and an online survey, and that these have been widely publicised including via the Council’s online presences.<br><b>Information boards:</b> The Council heard that these board have moved forward to the production procurement stage at North Yorkshire Council, and will be printed in coated aluminium to maximise their lifespan.<br><b>North Yorkshire Council boundary review:</b> The Council noted the final recommendation from the Local Government Boundary that the new Bedale and Aiskew NYC constituency include this parish alongside Rand Grange, Aiskew (but not Leeming Bar), Firby, Well, Snape with Thorp, Thornton Watlass, Thirn, Rookwith, and Burrill with Cowling, with a draft Order [the legal document which brings the recommendations into force the draft recommendations] to be laid before Parliament. |
| 25.119<br>25.1191                       | <b>Reports of recent activity</b><br><b>Reports of activity from external body meetings attended by Councillors:</b> Cllrs Barningham and Mollard had attended a meeting of the Bedale Rector’s Four-and-Twenty and reported that there are several vacancies on this body at present. Cllr Barningham also reported from a meeting of Bedale Hall CIO that the Hall had commissioned condition, and energy efficiency, reports, and the Council noted that Cllr Mollard and the Clerk are to attend a meeting in February regarding the Hall’s lease and ongoing foyer/roof works. Cllr Mollard had attended a personnel meeting at Yorkshire Local Councils Associations, and reported that YLCA’s Chief Officer, Sheena Spence, was  |

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| 25.1192       | <p>retiring after 26 years in this role, and will be replaced by Paula Shillaw, previously Clerk at Pateley Bridge Town Council.</p> <p><b>Reports from North Yorkshire Council representative:</b> Councillors noted the report circulated from NYC Cllr David Webster.</p>  |
| <b>25.120</b> | <p><b>Financial statement and approvals for payment</b></p> <p>The Council noted the financial statement and <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the following payments: staff salaries and PAYE; Bedale Hall CIO (£1,584.63, utilities for Bedale Park toilets 2025-26); Tracsis Events (£853+VAT, road closure for Christmas lights switch-on); K. Catford (£750, research and development of Vibrant High Streets funding bid); Arborlutions (£495, crown lift of beeches and oaks in Bedale Park); Play Inspection Company (£379+VAT, annual inspections of all play areas); Society of Local Council Clerks (£316, membership for Clerk); Bedale Window Cleaning (£165, bandstand and bus shelter cleaning); and Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (£73, training).</p> <p>There were no credit card payments to note and approve.</p> <p>Receipts were noted of: £339 (market stall rentals); £900 (2026 car boot sale fees); £25 (2025 car boot sale caterer); £148 (SLCC, refund of membership for Asst Clerk); and £287.84 (cash contributions to Fireworks event).</p> <p>The cash book balance after these transactions was noted as being £39,990.71.</p>  |
| <b>25.121</b> | <p><b>Planning Matters</b></p> <p>Regarding ZB25/02229/CAT, for felling and removal of approximately 100 salix fragilis (crack willow) within a conservation area from the north bank of Bedale Beck between the Leech House and to the entry of the Mill Race, the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> that it supports this application, having been contacted by parishioners concerned over the visual amenity of these self-seeded trees and their tendency to shed and/or fall into Bedale Beck, and considering the proposals put forward by the applicants a sensible solution to these problems.</p> <p>Regarding ZB26/00028/CAT for felling and stump grinding of a sycamore within a conservation area at 18 North End, ZB26/00052/CAT for felling of a eucalyptus tree impacting a garden wall at 16 Wycar, and ZB26/00096/FUL for a single storey rear extension at 17 South End, the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> that it supports these applications.</p> <p>The Council noted the granting of: ZB25/00855/FUL for various works at 5 Masham Road; ZB25/01787/ASV for three sponsorship signs at the relief road roundabout; and ZB25/02123/FUL for a garage extension at 14 Bowe Crescent.</p> <p>Regarding ZB26/00048/CAMP, for a caravan rally of no more than 20 units at Bedale Camping and Caravanning Park on 17-23 June 2026, the Council noted this information.</p> |
| <b>25.122</b> | <p><b>Complaint</b></p> <p>The Council considered a formal complaint made about the allocation of car boot sale dates by a Bedale organisation. After being addressed by a representative, with a response from the car boot sale working group and a discussion, the Council <b>RESOLVED</b> that the decision had been appropriately made. The Council also <b>RESOLVED</b> to review the terms of reference for the car boot sale working group to further clarify the process of deciding eligibility for car boot sale allocation.</p>   |

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| <b>25.123</b> | <p><b>Local Planning Enforcement Plan</b></p> <p>The Council considered the draft Plan circulated by North Yorkshire Council. Noting that it has no major changes to the existing process, and that the existing process is regarded as being effective, the Council NOTED the Plan but had no comment to make.</p>  |
| <b>25.124</b> | <p><b>Church clock</b></p> <p>Noting that although it is on church property the Council has the power to do this under the Parish Councils Act 1957, the Council RESOLVED to continue funding the annual service and maintenance of the clock on the tower of St Gregory’s Church for a further three years from 1 April 2026 - 31 March 2029, at a cost of £250 per year.</p>   |
| <b>25.125</b> | <p><b>Christmas events</b></p> <p>Noting that Bedale and Villages Community Forum is not running a Bedale Christmas Festival in 2026, the Council RESOLVED to form a working group of Cllrs Coates, Emison, Hoyland, Macklewain-Hallett, and Mollard, the Clerk, community organisations and venues, and businesses, to develop Christmas activities around the 2026 lights switch-on. A representative of Bedale and Villages Community Forum confirmed that they would be available to join and that the Forum would be able to contribute a little financially.</p> |
| <b>26.126</b> | <p><b>Correspondence</b> (background papers provided)</p>  |

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.45 pm.

**SIGNED:** (Chair)

**DATE:**