



## **BEDALE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN BEDALE HALL AT 7.00 p.m. ON 2<sup>nd</sup> MAY 2017**

#### **PRESENT:**

Chairman of the Town Council, Councillor Mrs C Mollard presided.

#### **APOLOGIES:**

Apologies received from: Councillor Reid.

#### **1) WELCOME, NOTICE OF MEETING AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised the 'Notice of Meeting' had been posted appropriately.

#### **2) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD 3<sup>rd</sup> MAY 2016**

The Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting were approved and signed.

#### **3) CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT**

The Mayor, Councillor Mollard, gave her report, a copy of which is attached.

#### **4) COMMUNITY AWARD PRESENTATION**

There were four nominations once again this year.

Maggie Leathart accepted the award for her contribution to Bedale Library service, Nathalie Garner-Ibbitson for her contribution to Bedale Library service, Sandra Anderson for her contribution to The Millings care home service and Patrick Murphy accepted the award on behalf of the Bedale Community First Responders for their contribution to the voluntary community service they provide.

Councillor Young read the citation for Maggie Leathart, Councillor Hallett read the citation for Nathalie Garner-Ibbitson, Councillor Noone read the citation for Sandra Anderson along with a "Folk Afternoon Ode" which had been written by a resident of The Millings and Councillor Wilkinson read the citation for the Bedale Community First Responders.



Councillor Mollard presented each with a framed certificate and a bottle. Copies of the citations are attached.

Award recipients all gave their thanks.

## **5) PRESENTATIONS FROM:**

### **a) Mr Nigel Parkin – Upstairs at Institution**

Mr Parkin presented an overview of his Boutique and Café business. He has been trading in Bedale for 12 years, firstly as “Minx” selling evening dresses. His concept for a café; first with a boutique second; has evolved over time changing to match customer demand. The business focus is on three key areas: Quality of the product, quality customer service and quality of the environment. This combined with attention to detail is aimed to enhance the customer experience.

The business won Tearoom of the Year Award 2016 in November last year and because of the subsequent rise in popularity has since added additional seating as a result. Around 3500 people visit the café per month; these figures have been consistent for the past 12 months with Sundays being very busy.

A new Gin Lounge has recently opened on the top floor of the premises selling craft gins and this is proving to be very popular. His plans for the future: Include a joint project with Wensleydale Railway to serve Afternoon Teas in a newly refurbished dining coach. This is due to commence at the end of May 2017 on trains running between Bedale Station and Redmire Station.

### **b) Karl Mason – Masons Yorkshire Gin**

Mr Mason explained that it has been 4 years since he started the business with his wife Cathy. His business stemmed from a comment he put on Facebook about G & T on Fridays which then grew into a Facebook Group. Within 3 months there were 10,000 followers on his Facebook Group. He then started receiving free gin from Craft Gin Producers who wanted their product to appear on Facebook to advertise their product. From there Karl and Cathy decided that



they wanted to produce their own flavour gin. They had a contact with a shop in Northallerton who agreed to sell their product.

On 13<sup>th</sup> June 2013 “World Gin Day”, with 120 bottles, Mason’s Yorkshire Gin was launched. All 120 bottles sold within four days. The business soon expanded and they moved into a unit at Bedale Station where they are today.

The business has won 14 International awards and sells all over the world. In 2016 they produced 77,000 bottles at Bedale Station in a copper still called “Steve”.

Mr Mason said that he would love to see a brown tourist sign directing people to “Bedale Distillery” and aims to continue to grow his business here.

### **c) Mrs Sandra Anderson – The Millings**

Sandra who is the Manager at The Millings care home explained that the home which is privately owned has room for 36 residents over 55years of age. They currently have 3 residents over the age of 100 with the average age being 88 years. The care home is run by five directors all from caring backgrounds. In 2016 the home received a CQC rating of “Outstanding” and was the first home to receive a “Customer Care Award”. They are also in the “20 most recommended Care Home providers in Yorkshire and Humber”.

The care home has 55 staff, mostly local people, and 3 volunteer activity staff. They also take students for work experience.

The home uses local suppliers and takes its residents to do local activities within the community. The home is involved with local schools; the children have regular visits to the residents. They also have visits from animals which benefits the residents. The home undertook a project with Durham University last year regarding Archaeology which the residents all enjoyed.

The future plans for the Care Home is to replace the windows, extend the Car Park and refurbish the resident’s rooms.



6) **QUESTIONS**

- a) Cllr Barningham asked Karl Mason whether the increasing popularity for craft gins would affect his business. He answered that this had quite the opposite effect and he was happy with the competition.
- b) Cllr Pointon asked Karl Mason if they have any visitors who ask to look where the gin is made. Karl said that on average 12 people a day ask to have a look around.

The Meeting Closed at 8:00pm. Refreshments were served afterwards.



## CITATION

Bedale Town Council wishes to acknowledge the valuable  
Contribution made to the community of Bedale by

### **Maggie Leathart**

Maggie has worked in Bedale Library for 13 years and has been regarded by many people as being the 'face' of the Library during that time. She made it a warm happy and welcoming place where users were made to feel that each and every one of them mattered.

Maggie was unfailingly professional, committed, cheerful, efficient and courteous and provided an exceptional service during her tenure. She is, and will remain very much, missed for her kind heart and gentle manner.

Aside from the responsibilities of her role which she carried out with grace and effectiveness; many people coming to the library have benefitted from the assistance and guidance she has given them, whether it involved help with creating CVs, filling in job applications, completing forms or solving problems getting on line. She had a sympathetic ear; some regulars would come and sit for a chat and air their problems. Maggie proved to be a good listener and people went away feeling better for having been able to off load.

Efficient and committed to the last, Maggie has left Bedale with a Library which was well-run; this has made it much easier for those who were to follow, to continue where she left off. The Library will continue to serve the community and Maggie can be justifiably proud of having been an integral part of this. In return, the Town owes her a debt of gratitude for everything she has done.

Dated: 2nd May 2017



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### **Nathalie Garner-Ibbitson**

Nathalie showed a high degree of professionalism and commitment to Bedale Library during the six years that she worked there. Her valued role within the Community has been recognised through the level of support that she has received from library users.

Nathalie had a special affinity for the children. She showed a particular talent for craft work and for creating displays. She put these skills into themed displays which served to brighten up the Library, make it more interesting and give the children's area a homely feel. Her 'Paddington Bear' has pride of place here.

Nathalie was noted for making the story time sessions for younger children really fun and interesting through her use of props to enhance the stories. This level of commitment served to instil a love of books and reading in these young people and has encouraged them to become members of the Library. She also ran workshops for the children which allowed them to exercise their own creativity.

Nathalie made the Library a safe and friendly place where everyone was made to feel welcome. She should feel justifiably proud that her contribution has helped to make Bedale Library the heart of the Community.

Dated: 2nd May 2017



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### **Sandra Anderson**

The Millings is a great business in the heart of Bedale, an investor in people and it provides a 5\* service to the residents in the home with Sandra as the Registered Manager.

The family have two homes, one in North End, Bedale and another in Kirk Hammerton, York. Both homes have acquired an "Outstanding" accreditation from the CQC inspection report. To put this into perspective, only "1 in 130" Care Homes in the country are accredited as "Outstanding".

Their other awards include: Customer First 2016, Best Activity Coordinator Award 2013, Living Wage Foundation, and Care Home Awards 2016. The list goes on!

The Town Council and the community of Bedale would wish to show their appreciation for all your efforts in managing this outstanding, successful business over the years.

Dated: 2nd May 2017



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### **Bedale Community First Responders**

The Bedale Community First Responders are local volunteers who work with the Yorkshire  
Ambulance Service.

They are based in the local community and are trained and equipped by the  
Ambulance Service to provide basic life support, defibrillation and CPR and to attend life  
threatening medical incidents. The Community First Responders are often able to arrive  
on scene before the Ambulance Service. Their quick response provides vital reassurance  
to patients and their families and their actions have saved lives in and around the Bedale  
area.

The Town Council and the community of Bedale would wish to show their  
appreciation for their dedication and willingness to step in, in times of  
emergency.

Dated: 2nd May 2017





## **Chairman's Report 2016/2017**

Another busy year for the Town Council who have dealt with issues such as regular tree pruning to more serious issues such as vandalism.

The major event of the year was the opening of the Bedale, Aiskew and Leeming Bar bypass. It has made a noticeable difference to the feel of the town with the removal of heavy lorries and large vehicles going through the high street. Our challenge now, as a Council along with the whole community, is to make sure that Bedale is a place not to be "bypassed" by tourists and visitors to the area.

The Council website is now up and running and is hopefully being used by locals as well as visitors. Well done to both Charlie and Judith who have spent long hours putting it together and keeping it up to date.

The outcome from campaigns to save the Masham Road Allotments and to keep open the Library have both been successful. The Allotments had a grand opening day in June and the Library became Bedale Community Library in April.

As usual all the children's play areas and equipment have been updated and regularly checked for safety issues, this also applies to all the street furniture.

Last year the Council was approached by a town in France with a view to twinning with Bedale. We are now in the process of setting up a "Twinning Association" to enable us to take this forward.

The Bandstand in Bedale Park has been used by Bedale Brass Band for concerts and is also a favourite for wedding photo shoots too. We hope that this coming year will see it used more often for a variety of events.

Bedale began blooming into summer with an array of flowers around the Market Cross and in the centre of town, our thanks to Yvonne Rose, who again organised these displays. Also thanks to HDC and Yvonne for organising the "Brightening up Bedale" event, it made a vast difference to the look of the town.

The Christmas Lights switch on was again a popular event, making the town look even better with the new Christmas lights, lights in the plant containers and many shops staying open late.



As usual the year has been busy for Bedale with the Bedale Scouts and Guides Festival, the Beer Festival, Christmas Festival, Tuesday Markets, Saturday Car Boot Sales and until recently the Sunday Food Market and of course not forgetting one of the most popular events of the year the Bonfire and Fireworks display. It is wonderful to see the town so packed full of people and to hear the complimentary comments from locals as well as visitors. The Town Council would like to thank all the people who give up their time to organise and run these events. It is very much appreciated.

Personally, I have represented Bedale at many events throughout the year, including the official Yorkshire Day celebrations, Art exhibitions and musical concerts, Military and Civic parades and dinners. As Chairman of the Council I am always proud to lay the wreath on behalf of the town at the Remembrance Day Service.

Over the coming months the Council along with Aiskew and Leeming Bar Parish Council will have to come together to work on the Community Governance Review, which has been triggered by the petition to Hambleton DC to join Aiskew with Bedale.....The Councils future looks busy!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Councillors for all their commitment and dedication to the town of Bedale and to the Town Council.

Thank you.