DATE: **Monday 12th October 2026**
TIME: **7.00pm**
LOCATION: **Drawing Room, Bedale Hall**
PRESENT: **Cllrs Christine Mollard** (Chair)**, Mike Barningham, Amanda Coates, David Emison, Andrew Hallett, Craig Hoyland, David Ingram, Pam Macklewain-Hallett** and **Jack Smith-Eccles**
STAFF: **Nick Reed** (Clerk), **Joanne Thomson** (minutes)
IN ATTENDANCE: **One member of the public**

26.74	**Declarations of interest in agenda items** Cllr Barningham declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 26.84.
26.75	**Apologies** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Simon Austwick.
26.76	**Minutes** of the Town Council meeting held on 14th September 2026 The Council noted that Cllrs Hallett, Ingram and Macklewain-Hallett had been shown as both present (incorrectly) and having sent and had accepted their apologies and reasons for absence (correctly). The Council RESOLVED that the minutes be updated to reflect this, and that the Chair should sign them as a correct record of the meeting once this has been done.
26.77 26.771 26.772	**Updates from minutes (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)** **Christmas:** The Council heard that a company with appropriate qualifications and permissions has been found to install and maintain the Market Place Christmas lighting. The booklet is going to print in mid-October, 16 town centre businesses are participating in the Friday late-night shopping event, and plans seems to be going well for the Christmas weekend. **Bedale Hall:** The Council heard that North Yorkshire Council is considering whether to allocate unspent Community Infrastructure Levy monies to the Hall repairs, thus enabling the Bedale Hall CIO to be in a position to accept a lease on the building. Kevin Hollinrake MP and NYC Cllr David Webster have been vocal in their support for this project, and a decision is expected around the turn of the year.
26.78	**Report from North Yorkshire Council member** The Council noted the report from NYC Cllr David Webster as circulated, noting that NYC is forecast to be in deficit by £17 million in this financial year and next, mainly as a result of their statutory duties in the areas of adult social care and transport to schools.
26.79	**Reports back generally** Noting requests from Councillors, the Council RESOLVED to bring this back as standing agenda item, on the basis that matters relevant to the Council are reported rather than having attended a meeting.
26.80	**Financial statement and approvals for payment** The Council noted the financial statement and RESOLVED to approve the following payments to receive a financial report and approve payments including: staff salaries and PAYE; Morgan's (£3,750, grass cutting and grounds maintenance including annual hedge cut); WJPS

DRAFT

	Software (£554+VAT, annual business IT support); PKF Littlejohn LLP (£420+VAT, external audit fee for 2026-27); Yorkshire Local Councils Associations (£210, training day); TWC Facilities Ltd (£143.75+VAT, supplies for Park toilets); Arborlutions (£150, tree work at Stapleton Close); and North Yorkshire Council (£50+VAT, parking suspension for Sunday Market). Credit card payments were noted and approved to: Jati Ltd (£608.33+VAT, new benches); We Print Lanyards (£35.57, lanyards); and HSE Docs (£9.79+VAT, model document). Receipts were noted of: Market rents £205; Fireworks crowdfunder £24.04; Xmas booklet advertising £1,610; Joint Burial Committee PAYE £395); Fireworks donations via car boot sale £1,142; and North Yorkshire Council precept #2 of 2 £49,755. The cash book balance after these transactions was NOTED as being £66,744.09
26.80	**Planning Matters** The Council considered 26/0578/-FUL for a single storey extension at "The Greets", 106 South End, and RESOLVED that it has no objection to the application. There were no new principal authority decisions to note.
26.82	**Wall on Wycar Green** The Council considered comments and complaints about persistent damage to the stone wall at the North end of Wycar Green opposite the Methodist Church. Noting that, while the Green and the wall are Town Council assets, North Yorkshire Council Highways, JT Atkinson and Sons, and the Methodists could be considered stakeholders in this issue, the Council asked the Clerk to consider possible options and how they could be funded, to be considered at a Council meeting in the near future.
26.83	**Citizens Advice** Noting the impressive quality and quantity of advice offered to Bedale residents over the previous year, Council RESOLVED to make a grant to North Yorkshire Citizens Advice and Law Centre in the figure of £350 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972.
26.84	**Bedale Youth Venue** The Council RESOLVED to make a grant of £1400 to Bedale Youth Venue under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, noting an impressive level of takeup for this service among local young people.
26.85	**Town Investment Plan** The Council heard that a further TIP meeting had been held in September, with a draft set of priorities and values drawn up for internal circulation to relevant officers and members at North Yorkshire Council. This will result in a draft plan being produced by December, which will then be put out for further consultation.
26.86	**Twinning** Noting recent correspondence from the twin town of Azay-sur-Cher, the Council noted that having a Councillor nominated to lead the Twinning Working Group and act as a first point of contact would be helpful, and RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Smith-Eccles to this role.

26.87	**Bedale Play Area** The Council noted a recent understandable rise in comments and complaints about the condition of the younger childen's play area in Bedale Park, given that the tube slide has now been closed as beyond repair for well over a year. The Council RESOLVED not - yet - to add a sum to the 2027-28 precept to cover the removal of the slide and renovation of the area with new play equipment, but to reconsider the issue at the budget setting meeting and/or November's full Council meeting.
26.88	**Budget Setting** The Council RESOLVED to set the date for the draft budget proposal for 2026/27 to be the Monday 2nd November 2026.
26.89	**Correspondence** (background papers provided)

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.55pm.

SIGNED: **(Chair)**

DATE: