DATE: **Monday 14th September 2026**
TIME: **7.00pm**
LOCATION: **Drawing Room, Bedale Hall**
PRESENT: **Cllrs Christine Mollard** (Chair)**, Simon Austwick, Mike Barningham, Amanda Coates, David Emison, Craig Hoyland,** and **Jack Smith-Eccles**
STAFF: **Nick Reed** (Clerk), **Joanne Thomson** (minutes)
IN ATTENDANCE: **Five members of the public**

26.63	**Declarations of interest in agenda items** Cllr Barningham declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 26.562.
26.64	**Apologies** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Andrew Hallett, David Ingram, and Pam Macklewain-Hallett.
26.65	**Minutes** of the Town Council meeting held on 10th August 2026 The Council RESOLVED to approve these as a true record of the meeting, and they were signed as such by the Chair.
26.66 26.661	**Updates from minutes (not covered elsewhere on the agenda)** **Christmas:** The Council heard that the Christmas brochure has been popular among local businesses and organisations, with eight extra pages needed to accommodate increased advertising. Bedale High School is confirmed to provide entertainment for late night shopping on Friday 27th November, with at least a dozen shops open which would not usually be. As well as the two-day Craft Market in Bedale Hall and (Saturday only) the Methodist Chapel, Chantry Hall will be open all weekend for community groups, school choirs, competitions and refreshments, and there will be a Christmas Tree Festival at St Gregory's Church. It was noted that issues still to be resolved include a photographer for Santa's grotto, the cost of the road closure ahead on the lights switch-on, and finding a company acceptable to North Yorkshire Council to manage the installation of the lights.
26.662	**Bedale Hall:** The Council heard that North Yorkshire Council will shortly be considering he potential use of unspent Community Infrastructure Levy funds for the remaining capital work at the Hall, which if approved would enable Bedale Hall CIO to take on the lease of the building. A decision is expected before the end of the calendar year.
26.663	**Stell Solar Farm:** The Council considered a request from residents objecting to planning application ZB25/00872/SCR that the Council write to North Yorkshire Council, asking that the cabling route from the proposed solar farm be included in the project for planning purposes, and particularly for the consideration of whether an Environmental Impact Assessment is necessary. The Council RESOLVED to send such a letter, and also to express concern over Highways Technical Note 2, which includes the construction of many new passing places including six on Lord's Lane.
26.664	**Benches:** The Council heard that positive feedback has been received from parishioners following the installation of the new benches at St Gregory's Churchyard and the junction of Firby Road and Queen Annes Drive.

26.67	**Report from North Yorkshire Council member / North Yorkshire Police** The Council noted the reports circulated from NYC Cllr David Webster and North Yorkshire Police, a representative of which was present at the meeting and added the recent vandalism at the bandstand to their list of current incidents.
26.68	**Financial statement and approvals for payment** The Council noted the financial statement and RESOLVED to approve the following payments: staff salaries and PAYE; Morgan's (£1,785, grass cutting and grounds maintenance); Bedale Window Cleaning (£595, bandstand / bus shelter / watering flowers); K. Catford (£112.50, marketing support); JT Atkinson & Sons (£64.56+VAT, sundries); and North Yorkshire Council (£50+VAT, Sunday Market parking suspension). Credit card payments were noted and APPROVED to: HSE Docs Ltd (£8.99+VAT, model policy and practice documents); Jati Ltd (£608.34+VAT, new benches per item 26.61); and WePrintLanyards (£20.01+VAT, lanyards for councillors). Receipts were noted of: £208.50 (Market rents); £150 (car boot sale fee); and £55 (Yorkshire Day event councillor contribution). The cash book balance after these transactions was NOTED as being £25,951.57
26.69	**Planning Matters** The Council considered 26/04176/FUL for a two-storey dwelling with parking, amenity space and vehicular access at 49 South End; and 26/04231/FUL for a single storey extension to replace an existing utility room at 30 South End, and RESOLVED that it has no objection to either application. There were no new principal authority decisions to note.
26.70	**"Bedale Spotters"** The Council considered a proposal to fund, under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, some or all of the cost, not exceeding £900, of an 8-page A6 leaflet to enhance the experience of visiting Bedale Park for 3-9-year-old children. The Council RESOLVED that it did not wish to cover the full cost of this project, but would be willing to consider a smaller donation if partner organisations were to be found to contribute.
26.71	**20s Plenty** Noting existing policy to support a 20mph speed limit throughout the parish except on the B6268 and B6285, the Council RE-AFFIRMED this policy and RESOLVED to add North End (south from the church), Market Place, South End (north from the Southlands Estate turning), and Masham Road (from the Market Place junction to the national speed limit sign beyond Mowbray Academy) to the areas for which a 20mph limit is advocated.
26.72	**Remembrance Day** The Council RESOLVED to contribute £50 to the Royal British Legion for a wreath, and £70 to the Bedale Riverside Club towards refreshments, under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, for the Bedale Remembrance Day parade and reception, taking place on Sunday 8th November.
26.73	**Correspondence** (background papers provided)

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

SIGNED: **(Chair)**

DATE: