

DATE: Monday 11th September 2023
TIME: 7.00pm
LOCATION: Drawing Room, Bedale Hall
PRESENT: Cllrs Amanda Coates (Chair), Mike Barningham, Dawn Culver, John Howe, David Ingram, Christine Mollard, John Noone
STAFF: Nick Reed (Clerk), Christine Brown (minutes)
IN ATTENDANCE: Three members of the public [MoP]

23.64	<p>Declarations of interest in agenda items and requests for dispensation There were none.</p>
23.65	<p>Apologies and consideration of reasons for absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Andrew Hallett, Pam Macklewain-Hallett, and Emma Wells</p>
23.66	<p>Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 11th August 2023, and of the Annual Town Council Meeting held on 15th May 2023 The Council RESOLVED to approve both sets of minutes as a true record of the meetings, and they were signed as such by the Chair.</p>
23.67 23.671	<p>Updates from minutes (not covered elsewhere on the agenda) CCTV The Council noted the confirmation from North Yorkshire Council that the members discretionary grant can be used for the revised project, per item 22.59, as it is still CCTV and still covering Bedale Park. The Clerk met officers on site to discuss the lines of sight in the park for the CCTV installation, and along with Cllr Coates visited the CCTV monitoring facility in Northallerton to look at the potential lines of sight of the new camera. The CCTV installation is expected before the next Town Council meeting.</p>
23.672	<p>Remembrance Day The Council noted that no further information was available regarding local volunteers receiving traffic management training for this event. <i>Action: Cllr Coates to liaise with Bedale Scouts and Guides</i></p>
23.68 23.681	<p>Reports of recent activity Reports of activity from external body meetings attended by Councillors Cllrs Coates, Howe, Mollard and Noone had attended various activities over the church clock 150th anniversary celebration weekend. The Council noted that the event had been successful and commended the organisers.</p>
23.682	<p>Report from North Yorkshire Council representative NYC Cllr David Webster reported that he had recently attended a seminar regarding refugees, emergency plans, the homeless, and housing options. Regarding the emergency plan, Cllr Coates confirmed that Bedale Town Council has one in place. It was noted that the plan should be updated to include a NYC contact. <i>Action: Cllr Webster to notify Clerk of the appropriate contact</i></p>

<p>23.69</p>	<p>Financial matters: Financial statement and approvals for payment The Council noted the financial statement as circulated and RESOLVED to approve the following payments: staff salaries; Morgan’s (£1,995 gross cutting and grounds maintenance, and £880 repainting Bedale Park bollards and chains); PKF Littlejohn (£420+VAT, external audit fee); Bedale Window Cleaning (£225, bus shelter and bandstand cleaning); Darren Garside (£160.00, tree surgery); SLCC (£146, Asst Clerk membership); Rotherham Borough Council (£110.00 Yorkshire Day event); Mayoral expenses (£77.85 travel to undertake duties); TWC Facilities Ltd (£13.08, paper towels); HM Land Registry (£6, searches); and Bedale CIO (£10.00 room hire). The Council also formally approved the expenditure necessarily agreed between meetings of £755+VAT to Rentokil Initial Ltd for rodent-proof stainless steel mesh around the Bedale Park bin store. The Council NOTED the following recurring payments: North Yorkshire Council £56 (business rates for Market); British Gas £98.80 (electricity for Market Place); Opus Energy £27.20 (electricity for Bridge St toilets); LCC Communications £46.90 (telephone / broadband); Yorwaste £91.86 (car boot sale waste collection). Receipts were noted of: £696 (Market stall rents); £20 (Bedale Park hire fees); £50 (Xmas market stall rents). The cash book balance after these transactions was noted as being £54,404.18</p>
<p>23.70</p>	<p>Planning matters The Council considered the following planning applications: Regarding ZB23/01665/FUL for a new dwelling in the grounds behind 4 Sussex Street, the Council RESOLVED to approve the decision necessarily agreed between meetings that the Council object to this application on the grounds that the proposed new residential unit would have a detrimental impact on adjacent properties by being situated too close to its adjoining property, that the new property itself would be lacking in facilities, that the single parking space provided would be inadequate for the new property alongside the existing 4 Sussex Street, and that the impact of the adjacent listed building had not been considered in the application. The Council NOTED the approval by NYC of ZB23/01459/FUL for a single storey rear extension at 30 South End.</p>
<p>23.71</p>	<p>Twinning The Council RESOLVED to take on the work of the Bedale Twinning Association as a Town Council activity and agreed that there should be a working group consisting of members of the public and Councillors. The balance of Twinning Association monies would be transferred to the Council and ringfenced for twinning activity, and it was noted that there will no financial implication to the Council, other than a small amount of staff time. Action: Size and composition of the working group to be on October’s agenda</p>
<p>23.72</p>	<p>Whole Council training The Council RESOLVED to book a session for the full Council, plus Clerk and Assistant Clerk, provided by the Yorkshire Local Councils Association and covering the role, responsibilities, rights and possibilities of a Town Council, at a cost of £384 Action: Clerk to progress</p>

<p>23.73</p>	<p>Staffing Committee</p> <p>The Council RESOLVED to replace the Employment Working Group with a Staffing Committee, following a recommendation from Yorkshire Local Councils Association, and noting National Association of Local Councils guidelines that, employment should be managed by a formal committee of the Council.</p> <p>The Council then APPROVED the Committee’s terms of reference, based upon those circulated, but with the committee to be composed of five Councillors and chaired by the Chair of the Council, and with the note added that the Chair of the Council will usually line manage the Clerk.</p> <p>Finally, the Council RESOLVED to appoint Cllrs Hallett, Howe, Macklewain-Hallett, and Mollard to join Cllr Coates on the Committee.</p>
<p>23.74</p>	<p>Standing Orders and Financial Regulations</p> <p>The Council noted that the de minimis threshold for public contracts has been raised from £25,000 to £30,000, and RESOLVED to approve the revised Bedale Town Council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations as circulated to reflect this change, and to replace four references to “Hambleton District Council” with “North Yorkshire Council” following the creation of the new unitary authority.</p>
<p>23.75</p>	<p>Correspondence (background papers provided)</p>

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.00pm.

SIGNED: (Chair)

DATE:

