



## BENTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

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Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### Minutes of Full Council meeting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7:30pm Lower Hall, Bentham Town Hall.

**Councillors Present:** Cllr Adams, Burton, Marshall and Stannard

**Town Clerk:** C. Burrow

**County Councillor** David Ireton

**MOP:** 11

**Bentham News:** 2

**PCSO** Jayne Grace

#### **242 Apologies from members unable to attend: -**

242.1 To note apologies for absence given in advance of the meeting.

**Cllrs Paige and Taylor**

242.2 To consider acceptance of reasons for absence – if consideration of reason requested.

**AGREED**

#### **243 Declaration of Interest: -**

243.1 To note declarations of interest not already declared under members Code of Conduct or members register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

**Cllr Marshall – 251.2 253.3 252.2**

243.2 To approve dispensation requests – if dispensation request received.

**Cllr Marshall requested a dispensation in order to resolve 252.2 according to Standing Orders ensuring the resolution was quorate.**

**APPROVED**

#### **244 To receive Comment & Concerns:**

Public participation – to hear matters raised by members of the public or Cllrs with an interest (that are allowed to speak) either on agenda items or for future consultation. (NB: for non-agenda items members of the Council are not permitted to respond, except to ask questions for the purposes of clarification; the period of time designated for public participation at a meeting shall not exceed 20 minutes unless directed by the chairman of the meeting. A member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes).

**MOP1 – 250.2 – felt outline planning would be a disaster if the area of waste land was turned into the access into the housing estate; going out on to a small, narrow road, with road junctions opposite, everything would have to be transported by truck by that road, noted Fire Brigade and school bus use road, there was chaos further up when the five new properties were built. MOP has no objection to the houses, but concerned over the building process/period, although there will be an increased number of cars using the narrow road, from homeowners and delivery vehicles. MOP concerned about the visibility for the access. A petition has already gathered 60 signatures. MOP suggests alternate access from Robin Lane.**

**MOP2 – 250.2 - From Lakeber Drive, in agreement, has Bentham Town Council the authority to hold them to the detail that was in the planning permission? Concerned about up-holding the**

restrictions of noise and dust, managing the amount of equipment into the space, concerned about the drainage, water main outside house, already had issues in past. Recommendations of who residents could talk to?

Cllr Adams – Planning authority holds the Builders accountable. Drainage issues will be addressed if full planning permission is submitted.

MOP3 – 250.2 - was informed that the area in question cannot be used for access into the land. Is there anyway public can find out?

Cllr Adams – recommend requesting land registry details.

MOP3 – concerns were submitted previously from residents.

MOP4 - 250.2 – stated that they did not receive notification regarding the planning.

MOP5 – resident from one of the new houses towards the top of Duke Street, concerned that their garden may come under investigation for potential contaminated land due to being near Angus Fire, like the neighbour. Concerned they have a house that is 'un-sellable'. North Yorkshire Council have been contacted as part of the shared ownership.

Cllr Adams – recommended contacting Paul Williams from Angus Fire.

- 245 To Confirm the Minutes of the meeting on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 as a true and accurate record.

**RESOLVED: the minutes to be confirmed and signed as a true and accurate record.**

- 246 To Confirm the Minutes of the meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025 as a true and accurate record.

**RESOLVED: the minutes to be confirmed and signed as a true and accurate record.**

- 247 To receive the Police Report & allow members to ask questions for information - If any.  
PCSO Jayne Grace read out all information from appendix A.

PCSO Jayne Grace reiterated reporting suspicious persons straight away in order to dispatch. Parking reports not enforced by the police but by Harrogate Parking Authority. The police deal with unnecessary parking, obstructing the pavement and blocking driveways. Hoping that the parking issue near the Primary School is now resolved.

- 248 To receive a Report from NYC Councillor (for information only) - If any

Cllr Ireton informed that North Yorkshire had approved the establishment of the affordable housing delivery fund, to address the problems created by lack of affordable housing, the funding that has been allocated has been generated by charging twice the level of Council Tax on second homes, it is estimated that this will create an ongoing revenue stream of between 10 to 14 million pounds, the areas that have been agreed to be funded include; delivery of new affordable homes, delivery of homes in rural areas, to support the development of community led housing, to support affordable housing for people with specific needs and housing options for people who are rough sleeping, support to prevent people losing their homes and support to enforce raising standards in the private sector.

Cllr Ireton noted that there are limited second homes in this area, however in other areas of North Yorkshire the amount is more significant.

- 249 To consider and comment upon New Planning Applications:

- 249.1 ZA24/26562/FUL Waterford Farm, Mewith, Bentham, Lancaster. Application for full planning permission for alterations and extension to existing dwelling house and conversion of 2 no. barns to form ancillary residential accommodation to the existing dwelling

**NO OBJECTION – NEUTRAL**

249.2 ZA25/26796/HH 11 Holme Park, High Bentham, Lancaster. Application for householder consent for proposed rear extension

**NO OBJECTION – NEUTRAL**

249.3 ZA25/26798/TPO 2 Low Croft, High Bentham, Lancaster. Works to trees the subject of a Tree Preservation Order T1 Oak, crown reduce the sides by up to 1.5m and the top by up to 1m.

**NO OBJECTION – NEUTRAL**

249.4 ZA25/26797/FUL Mount Pleasant House, 24 Mount Pleasant, High Bentham, Lancaster. Application to change of use of ground floor rooms from opticians consulting rooms to residential use as part of existing dwellinghouse, with retained ancillary use of detached former coach house as garage/workshop/store

**NO OBJECTION – NEUTRAL**

**250 To receive and note the following Planning Decisions/Information:**

250.1 ZA24/26369/VAR Wenning View, Low Bentham Road, Low Bentham, Lancaster, North Yorkshire. Granted- Application to vary condition no 18 (Open Space Provision) of planning approval referenced 2021/23212/OUT

**Grants Planning Permission**

**NOTED**

250.2 2022/24484/OUT Outline planning application for residential development with all matters reserved except for access Land North Off Lakeber Drive, High Bentham, LA2 7JG

**Grants Outline Planning Permission**

**NOTED – this is an outline planning application for the right to submit a full planning application for houses, this piece of land was submitted in the Local Plan. Residents have been consulted. There will be another consultation.**

**251 Financial Matters:**

251.1 To receive and note current bank balances; Unity current account as £64,721.89, the Public Sector deposit account balance as £85,000.00 and the Virgin current account as £401.60.

**NOTED**

251.2 To note the pre-authorised salary and pre-agreed contractual payments.

**NOTED**

### 251.3 To approve the payments.

03.04.2025	385	2025 - 2026	Outstanding	ONLINE	£850.00	Training	YLCA	3332
03.04.2025	384	2025 - 2026	Outstanding	ONLINE	£248.96	Lift service	Stannah	1085771448
03.04.2025	383	2025 - 2026	Outstanding	ONLINE	£153.82	Green Bin	Glasdon	3166757
03.04.2025	382	2025 - 2026	Outstanding	ONLINE	£31.68	Sanitary Unit	Citron	30432971
28.03.2025	381	2024 - 2025	Outstanding	DIRDEBIT	£13.30	excess waste	North Yorkshire Council	490082351
28.03.2025	380	2024 - 2025	Outstanding	ONLINE	£49.00	garden waste	North Yorkshire Council	-699130593
20.03.2025	373	2024 - 2025	Outstanding	ONLINE	£80.00	Ceiling tiles	TT Ceilings	14913
20.03.2025	372	2024 - 2025	Outstanding	ONLINE	£360.00	Payroll	Whalley Swarbrick	2287
20.03.2025	370	2024 - 2025	Outstanding	ONLINE	£810.00	Survey	Survey Operations	37313
20.03.2025	369	2024 - 2025	Outstanding	DIRDEBIT	£33.64	Internet	1&1 Ionos	203047251286
13.03.2025	367	2024 - 2025	Outstanding	ONLINE	£990.00	Locum RFO	Elkerlodge Services Ltd	446
13.03.2025	366	2024 - 2025	Outstanding	ONLINE	£765.00	relief caretaker	Ruth Green	jan feb mach
11.03.2025	365	2024 - 2025	Outstanding	ONLINE	£48.00	Training	Vital Skills	499055
13.03.2025	364	2024 - 2025	Outstanding	ONLINE	£340.00	Training	Simply Delicious	1478
13.03.2025	363	2024 - 2025	Outstanding	ONLINE	£70.20	Training	YLCA	3168
20.03.2025	360	2024 - 2025	Paid	ONLINE	£65.94	Internet	SKY	
20.03.2025	361	2024 - 2025	paid	ONLINE	£122.36	Pension	NEST	Feb
20.03.2025	362	2024 - 2025	Paid	ONLINE	£1,785.52	Gas TH	Total Energies	369608630/25
26.03.2025	376	2024 - 2025	Paid	ONLINE	£1,858.93		Salary	Mar-25
26.03.2025	377	2024 - 2025	Paid	ONLINE	£433.38		Salary	Mar-25
26.03.2025	378	2024 - 2025	Paid	ONLINE	£1,452.20		Salary	Mar-25
26.03.2025	379	2024 - 2025	Paid	ONLINE	£1,218.61		Salary	Mar-25
13.03.2025	368	2024 - 2025	Paid	ONLINE	£56.40	Mobile	EE	V02326507273
13.03.2025	371	2024 - 2025	Paid	ONLINE	£227.26	Unmetered Suppl	SSE	IV02554630
13.03.2025	375	2024 - 2025	Paid	ONLINE	£79.49	Waste Water	WaterPlus	wp-inv08535929

### APPROVED – Cllrs Adams and Burton to authorise (staff names redacted)

#### 252 Open Spaces update:

252.1 To receive an update from the Open Spaces committee.

**Cllr Marshall – Parish Caretaker Thomas Brown provided an overview of his ongoing work for the Council, particularly in preparation for autumn and winter projects aimed at keeping the parish neat and tidy. Wildflower Initiatives: Exploration underway to introduce wildflower beds in various locations. The Council is assessing costs, placement, and balance between neatness and biodiversity. Updates and additions to street lighting across the parish are in progress. Challenges noted include additional costs where lights previously mounted on private buildings must now be relocated to standalone poles due to regulations from Electricity NW. Due to limited space at the existing burial ground, the Council is progressing plans to extend the site using an adjacent parcel of land. Originally developed in the late 1960s–70s, the cemetery requires additional capacity. Community suggestions for features such as monuments or reflective spaces are welcomed. Preliminary assessments are being conducted to ensure effective drainage for the burial ground extension. Consideration is being given to managing surface water and ensuring the site remains accessible and suitable for future use.**

252.2 To consider the quote for erection of Duke Street lighting.

**RESOLVED – to ACCEPT the contractor quote.**

252.3 To consider cemetery pricing as recommended by the Committee.

**RESOLVED – to ACCEPT recommendations to bring the Cemetery fees in line with other cemeteries in the area (appendix B).**

252.4 To consider actions from the cemetery extension meeting on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April.

**RESOLVED - architect appointed to plan and receive tenders, feedback to Council in June.**

**253 To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary:**

253.1 Environment Agency Update.

**Meeting notes from 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025, Appendix C**

253.2 To receive an update on the parking near the Primary School.

**RECEIVED as above from PCSO Jayne Grace.**

253.3 Incident on Main Street, Bentham.

**RESOLVED – DIFFERED - to next Council meeting; Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 7:30pm**

253.4 VE Day celebrations.

**ACTION – contact Cllr Taylor for further information.**

253.5 Freedom of Information request to North Yorkshire Council concerning the costs associated with the revised home-to-school transport policy (if received)

**NOT RECEIVED**

253.6 Exit Interview summary.

**NOTED – appendix D.**

**254 Correspondence received:** To receive information on the following new correspondences and decide further action, if any;

254.1 Angus Fire Update

**Read out in full by Mayor Adams (appendix E)**

254.2 Ingleton and Bentham District Twinning request

**Mayor Adams to attend when the guests from France arrive.**

**255 Bentham Business Boost Update**

255.1 To receive an update.

**All shop front grants distributed. Kingfisher mural completed next to the Bentham Club.  
All training courses were well received and provides vital information moving forward.**

255.2 To note the Council will find out if the Vibrant and Sustainable High Street grant application has been successful week commencing Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May.

**NOTED**

**The Council expressed thanks to all involved for their efforts in preparing and submitting the application.**

**256 To receive Reports from Councillors** who represent the Council on other bodies (for information only)

**Cllr Marshall – Collingwood Almshouses – updates and maintenance, Ian Wood is standing down as the Chair being replaced by George Sinclair, balance of trustees, nine properties for elderly relatives.**

**Cllr Burton – Longstaffe Education Foundation – set the dates for the forthcoming year, however some need confirming, details about the grant applications to follow.**

**Cllr Stannard – Potential of reconvening the patient participation group from Bentham Health centre, request Cllr Stannard's support.**

**Mayor Adams stated that Councillor Ryan has resigned as a Councillor. Bentham Town Council now have 5 vacancies.**

**257 Items for next meeting and minor items for information only.**

**Two potholes to be reported on Springfield.**

**Follow up state of road in Lancashire.**

**Meeting to be arranged with the Goodenber Play Area association to move transfer over.**

**258**

Dates of **next meeting:**

Finance meeting – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025 7:30pm

**RESOLVED – request to move due to staff holidays and working hours;**

**Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 at 7:30pm**

Annual Parish Meeting – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025 7:30pm

Full Council meeting – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 7:30pm

**Meeting closed at 21:13**

*C Burrow*

**C Burrow      Town Clerk**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

DRAFT

## Appendix A

Please find your police report for Bentham Town Council meeting 07.04.25

We have had 34 incidents reported between 02.03.25 & 04.04.25

Reports Include General Admin from other Police force, Safeguarding, Abandon call, ASB Personal, ASB Nuisance, Sudden death, Abandon vehicles – DVLA, Broken down vehicle, Road Related Offence – documents, Animal concerns - injured deer – Vets

6 Reports - Concern for safety/welfare/missing person/sexual/hate crime – joint partnership working

7 Reports – Crime violence/safeguarding/domestic/harassment

05.03.25 - Crime violence – playing fields

18.03.25 – Suspect circumstances – chemist – checked in order

30.03.25 – Suspect Circumstances – persons on bikes – Low Bentham Road

03.04.25 – X2 - Concern/harassment

How to report speeding concerns - Speed Management Protocol

[www.northyorkshire.police.uk/search?q=speeding+concern](http://www.northyorkshire.police.uk/search?q=speeding+concern)

North Yorkshire Community Messaging is a free email messaging service from North Yorkshire Police providing news and updates on policing matters that are relevant to you and your local community. Sign up and receive email alerts about policing activity and initiatives in your local area as well as crime prevention advice and information. You will also have the opportunity to reply directly to your neighbourhood team and provide feedback via surveys.

[www.northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk](http://www.northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk)

Working to keep North Yorkshire a safe place to live, visit & work please visit [www.northyorkshire.police.uk](http://www.northyorkshire.police.uk).

Please report & suspect incidents at the time on 101, online or 999 if urgent.

Useful site re Crime and policing in England which allows you to search re incident recorded in your area

[www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk).

Contact Information:

1 Ring 999 in an emergency or to report a crime in progress.

2 Ring 101 to report incidents or provide information.

3 Ring Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111 to remain anonymous.

4 E-mail [SNACraven@northyorkshire.police.uk](mailto:SNACraven@northyorkshire.police.uk)

Kind Regards

Jayne

PCSO Jayne Grace

## Appendix B

Service	Bentham Town Council	Recommended Prices	Ingleton & Skipton Cemeteries	Settle Community Cemetery	Lancaster City Council Cemeteries	Westmorland and Furness Council Cemeteries
Single Grave (5ft)	£265.00	£1100	£1200 (Full grave 30 years)	£530 (plus £75 council fee)	£434-494	£850
Double Grave (7ft)	£365.00	£1590	£2,488 (30 years)	-	£987	-
Reopening (7ft)	£185.00	£250	-	-	-	-
Headstone Fee	£130.00	£195	£234 (incl. first inscription)	£205	£153	£157
Additional Inscription	£39.00	£50.00	-	£75	£51	£57
Ashes Interment	£67.50	£200	£199	£175	£213	£255
Wall Plaque & Space on Memorial Wall	£220.00	£400	-	-	-	-
Space on Memorial Wall	£150.00	£225	-	-	-	-
Interment of Child	-	£350 (claim back)	£381-£1,120 (fee claimed back from Children's Funeral Fund)	16 and under: free	Free (under 1 year), £261 (1-16 yrs)	£400 (1 month to 17 years) (Claimed back from CFF)
Interment of Adult	-		£950 (earthen grave)	-	£882 (over 16 years)	£885
Out-of-Area Fee	-	1 ½ times more	-	Double fees	Double fees	Double fees



## Appendix C

### Report on Environmental Stakeholders' Meeting – Skipton

**Date of Meeting:** 07/04/2025 13:30hrs

**Location:** Skipton

**Attendees:**

- Mayor Gareth Adams, Cllrs Burton and Paige. (Bentham Town Council)
- Paul Williams (Managing Director, Angus Fire)
- Ian Cotton (Communications Officer, Angus Fire)
- Cllr. David Ireton
- John Neville and Lisa Chadwick (Environment Agency)
- Dr Victoria Turner (North Yorkshire Council – Public Health)
- Amanda Creswell and Sam Burton (UK Health Security Agency)
- Vikki Flowers, Pete Crass and Dr Kevin Carr (North Yorkshire Council - Environmental Protection)

**Summary:**

Paul Williams of Angus Fire provided an operational update, largely repeating information previously shared with the Council in March.

Angus Fire has installed a new treatment plant for surface water, costing nearly £2 million. While permitted for installation, the plant is not yet authorised for operation or discharge. Currently, 3.9 million litres of potentially contaminated water remain stored on site. The Environment Agency has not confirmed a timeline for issuing the relevant permit. An interim solution via a Local Enforcement Possession Order may be pursued to allow temporary operation of the plant if applied for.

The Environment Agency (EA) outlined the current position in regard to the discharge of PFAS from the Angus site and this was still being reviewed as to why it may have occurred. The Angus' EA permit was for operations such as combustion plant and clean water discharge. It does not cover the discharge of items such as PFAS. There is still a possibility for prosecution. However, they expressed their desire to work with everyone involved for a resolution and the balance of working with an operating company. They did state that they were impressed with the actions Angus' had taken to date and the expediency of them. However, the site has been determined a 'Site of High Public Interest (SHPI)' and this would bring additional oversight and potential additional scrutiny. Therefore, the issuing of a full permit may take months rather than weeks as the process is rather complex and needs to be robust and carefully drawn up and approved. The EA would look to put out public information where possible.

North Yorkshire Council acknowledged limited communication with local authorities to date, explaining that their remit is focused on private water supplies. The only two boreholes within five kilometres of the site have been tested and are free from contamination, with ongoing monitoring in place. They explained the definition of "contaminated land" *which is any land which appears to the local authority in whose area it is situated to be in such a condition, by reason of substances in, on or under the land that – (a) significant harm is being caused or there is a significant possibility of such harm being caused; or (b) significant pollution of controlled waters is being caused, or there is a significant possibility of such pollution being caused.*

**Public Health Context:**

Representatives from North Yorkshire Council Public Health and the UK Health Security Agency emphasised that research into the long-term health effects of PFAS exposure is still developing. Everyone is exposed to "forever chemicals". No current UK health-based standards exist specific to PFAS exposure, knowledge is increasing. A government-led study is expected next year to explore potential health implications further.

**Public Engagement:**

North Yorkshire Council proposed hosting a public meeting in Bentham to address community concerns. It was agreed in principle to collect questions from residents following the next *Bentham News* (mid-May) and to hold a public meeting in late June or early July. Vikki Flowers (NYC) will coordinate the questions and distribute them to relevant agencies for response at the meeting. Vikki also agreed to liaise with Yorkshire Water.

**Conclusion and Next Steps:**

The meeting was viewed as productive and informative by all three attending representatives from Bentham. Planning will now proceed to organise a public meeting in Bentham in June or July, with further details and public engagement to be announced in due course.

## Appendix D

### Summary of Councillor Exit Interviews – Bentham Town Council

#### Motivations for Becoming a Councillor

- Desire to contribute to the well-being of children, families, and the local community.
- Interest in making Bentham the best it can be.

#### Most Fulfilling Aspects of the Role

- Giving the local community a voice.
- Representing residents and linking organisations to improve collaboration.
- Learning about local government processes.

#### Challenges Faced

- Resistance to new ideas and an entrenched hierarchical structure.
- Slow decision-making and excessive focus on trivial issues.
- A perceived lack of transparency, fairness, and respect among councillors.
- Restricted opportunities for open discussion and informal idea-sharing.
- Communication issues regarding public initiatives like the Bentham Masterplan.

#### Council Operations and Support – Suggested Improvements;

- A more welcoming environment for new councillors, including an introduction session and mentorship ('buddy' system).
- An introductory pack explaining council procedures.
- More open communication and equal treatment of all councillors.
- Increased transparency in decision-making.
- More flexible meeting structures to encourage progress on initiatives.

#### Council Effectiveness

- Concerns over internal alliances influencing decisions rather than community needs.
- Poor public communication, especially regarding key projects.
- Positive feedback on support from the Town Clerk but a need for more friendly and approachable councillors.

#### Representation of the Community

- Councillors felt limited in their ability to drive real change.
- A need to rebuild trust between the council and the community.
- Suggestions for more informal engagement, such as public 'cafés' on key issues, suggestion boxes, and youth engagement through schools.

#### Reasons for Leaving

- Time commitment.
- Disagreement with council policies and internal operations.
- Unpleasant working environment, including patronising behaviour and lack of mutual respect.
- Frustration with the slow pace of meaningful change.
- Lack of formal acknowledgment upon resignation, which some found disrespectful.

#### Recommendations for Retaining Councillors

- Encouraging a more positive and open culture.
- Allowing more informal discussions before formal agenda setting.
- Greater enthusiasm and support for initiatives like the Bentham Masterplan.
- Improved communication and transparency from council leadership.

#### Advice for New Councillors

- Be prepared for challenges and slow progress.
- Develop strong resolve and seek allies for support.
- Engage with the community in a friendly and open manner.

## Appendix E



Date: 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Bentham Town Council

Dear Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Town Councillors

Firstly, I would like to thank you and County Councillor David Ireton for making the time to visit us at Angus Fire.

We were pleased to be able to provide you with an update on the progress we are making and to show you our new stormwater treatment facility. We will add photographs of the treatment facility on our microsite [www.derbs.co.uk](http://www.derbs.co.uk), so that members of the Bentham community can also view the cutting-edge technology that we have acquired to remediate PFAS in stormwater.

This proven technology has been configured over several months, to ensure that the Surface Activated Foam Fractionation (SAFF) process and the secondary carbon filtration process are as effective as possible and can achieve the best possible PFAS removal rates consistently and in full compliance with the Environment Agency's site permit requirements.

To aid this, the treatment facility has been configured to focus on the removal of PFAS identified in stormwater at the Angus Fire site which will ensure that the entire process remains as efficient as possible.

The Environment Agency came to Angus Fire on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April to inspect the stormwater treatment facility, understand the technology in greater detail, assess its automated control systems, and view the associated bulk storage. The meeting went extremely well, and the Environment Agency were impressed both with what Angus Fire had done and the speed with which it had been achieved.

The latest updates (aligned to our strategy of 'Containment, Characterisation and Corrective Action/Remediation') are as follows:

### Containment

We continue to collect rainwater that will eventually be processed by the new stormwater treatment facility.

We envisage completing the commissioning of the stormwater treatment facility and sample testing of pre and post treated water in the next 7-10 days and will then discuss our results with the Environment Agency. We should be able to start processing collected stormwater by the end of April, subject to agreement from the Environment Agency.

### Characterisation

As weather conditions improve, our independent Environmental Consultants will now move on to their next phase of PFAS investigations on the River Wenning, working alongside an eminent Hydrologist and PFAS pollution expert from Liverpool John Moores University. We would expect to obtain results from their work towards the end of May.

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#### Angus Fire Ltd

Station Road, High Bentham, Nr Lancaster LA2 7NA UK • Tel: +44 (0)1524 264000 • Fax: +44 (0)1524 264180  
Email: [general.enquiries@angusuk.co.uk](mailto:general.enquiries@angusuk.co.uk) • Web: [www.angusfire.co.uk](http://www.angusfire.co.uk)

Registered office: Station Road, High Bentham, Nr Lancaster LA2 7NA UK • Registered in England No. 8441992  
AF/LH/Bentham/06.13





We have received initial feedback from our independent consultants into the claim that Angus Fire's redundant deep borehole had contaminated, via an aquifer, the deep borehole at the Caravan Park. This claim is factually incorrect. Firstly, there is no definitive evidence that the Angus Fire redundant deep borehole has contaminated any aquifer. Secondly, analysis undertaken by our Environmental Consultants shows that the Caravan Park extracts its water from a separate aquifer and there is no direct connection between either aquifer. Lastly, regular water quality sampling by North Yorkshire Council has consistently indicated that groundwater at the Caravan Park is not impacted by PFAS.

Corrective Action/Remediation

Our objective remains that as we become aware of matters that provide clear guidance on corrective action/remediation and in agreement with the Environment Agency, we will look to implement. The stormwater treatment facility is a good example of that, as are the surveys, cleaning, inspection and repair of the on-site drainage network at Angus, which ensures that any contaminated stormwater is collected and remains on site.

We will continue to keep North Yorkshire Council, in addition to the Bentham Town Council, fully updated on our progress.

Once again, I would like to thank the local community for their continued support and the positive messages we have received. We take this matter extremely seriously and remain committed to addressing the challenges in front of us, however long that takes.

Yours faithfully.

*Paul Williams*  
Managing Director

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**Angus Fire Ltd**

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