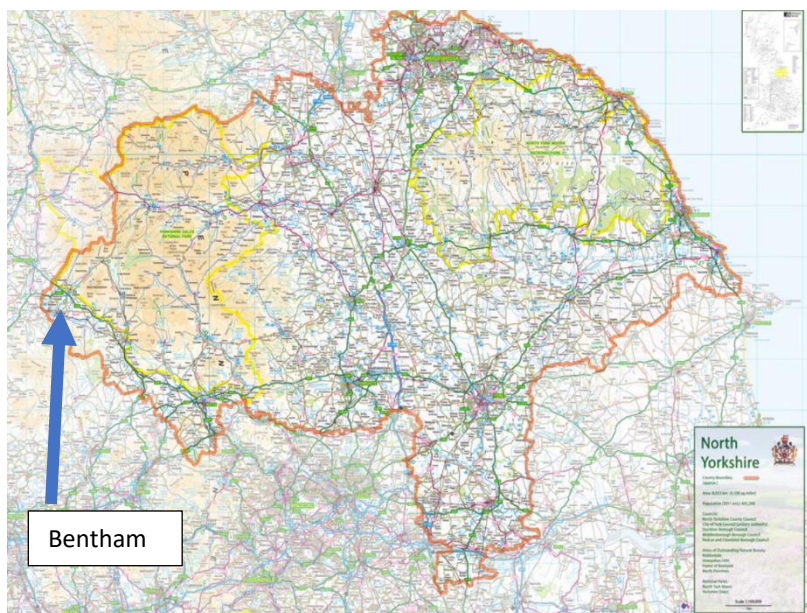


Bentham Boost – The Journey...



www.benthamtowncouncil.gov.uk – Resources – Masterplan



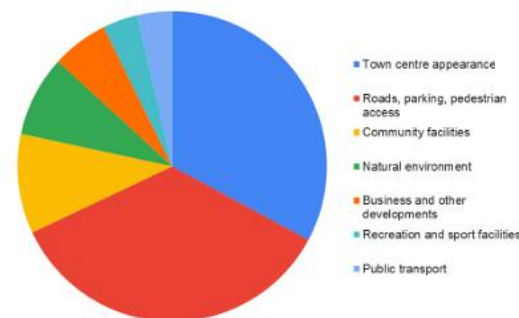
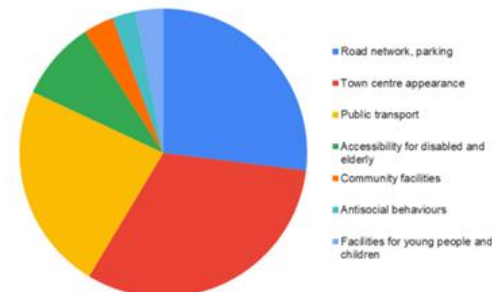
Creating a Distinctive Future
March 2024



Residents were asked what is the worst thing about Bentham?

And...

What small thing would make the centre of Bentham better and what change would you like to see immediately?



Bentham Business

Boost was created! A group of dedicated volunteers to form a partnership, two Bentham Town Councillors and business owners of Bentham; a group of people who are committed to improving Bentham.

Initial pilot funding was £20,000:

- 12 monthly case studies in the local newsletter;
- A photo bank of digital images to be used by businesses as promotional materials;
- Shop front improvements grants;
- Planters;
- Training;
- And our beautiful Kingfisher.

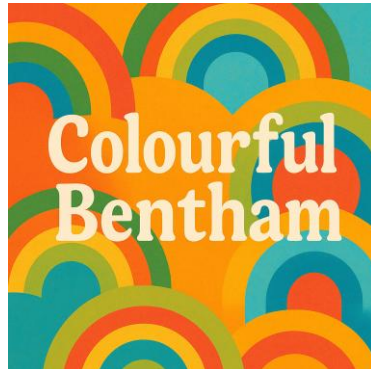




This led to a successful application

in **Phase 1** of the Vibrant and Sustainable High Street Mayoral Fund from the YNYCA of £40,000. This has been used to employ a Partnership Co-ordinator, conduct an options appraisal to improve the infrastructure of Bentham Main Street by making the area more accessible, easing parking issues and having a multifunctional communal space. To hold networking events such as a gathering at the Golf Club, a wreath making workshop and a Men's Pilates and well-being check workshop. Also, to extend the training available with more courses that were oversubscribed in the pilot and additional First Aid training.

Phase 2 application, also successful, of £50,000 extends on the idea of Colourful Bentham, re-imagining the spaces around Bentham Main Street, imagine lava running along walls and pavements, a river flowing with stepping stones, rainbows arching across walls, trails of art work, mapped around the town; finding the three blind mice or the three little pigs, chalkboards to express ourselves and planters with herbs for all to use. Bringing together the community; Bentham Community Primary School, Bentham Older People Together and Bentham and District Dementia Friendly Community.



Pride and creativity are taking off in Bentham, building on our original art work:



Impact of the initial pilot:



Phase 2: re-imagining of dull spaces:



And the future for Bentham; it certainly looks bright and most certainly will be colourful!

