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Dear resident...

Welcome everyone to the 2021-22 Annual Report of the Town Council, produced as an edition of the Bingley Town Council newsletter. This year saw an end to the COVID years of 2020 and 2021 and we're almost back to normal.

As always, we have seen changes to our councillors this year: Councillors Mick Taylor, Joanne Reynard, John Pennington and Helen Owen all resigned and we have Lewis Kirdale, Maureen Carney, Ros Dawson and Andrew Fenton elected as new Councillors.

Council activities

Litter picks are back now and they have been very successful of late. We believe we may have overcome the historical litter issues in the town centre and can start to change people's mindset about littering. My thanks to everyone involved in helping with litter picking across the Parish and I include in my thanks all the community groups that operate similar ventures.

The volunteer groups across Bingley continue to work together with the Council to the betterment of all. Friends of Myrtle Park, Friends of Bingley Pool, Friends of Prince of Wales Park, Action Stations and others, plus all the Village Societies, all play their part in making Bingley a welcoming place to live and work.

The new Changing Places toilet that completes the provision of public toilets for all the townspeople is almost with us. It is anticipated that this new facility will be open in mid-August.

We have a new consultant helping to complete our Neighbourhood Plan and hope to go out to consultation on the draft Plan over the summer.

We continue to provide a monthly Farmers' Market on the first Saturday of each month and are looking at what we can do to stimulate more interest in it.

All our formal meetings are now recorded and posted on YouTube. The Council's YouTube channel enables our community to watch the meeting itself. We hope to bring this to you in real time but it is really dependant of the performance of local Wi-Fi and the internet service. However, the recordings are published very quickly after the meeting.

We are recruiting a new Administrative Assistant to help us deliver the services we have committed to. Information is on the Council website.

Bingley Pool update

We understand that the District Council have engaged a town planner to develop a bid for a government Levelling Up grant of £20m to develop aspects of the town centre including the Market Square, the pool and the former Town Hall. This bid needs to be submitted by 6th July. We are concerned about the lack of community consultation over this. Irrespective of the outcome of this bid, we remain supportive of the aim of Friends of Bingley Pool - to ensure that Bingley retains a community swimming, health and well-being facility.

Best wishes,
Cllr Philippa Gibbons
Chair,
Bingley Town Council



Bingley Christmas Lights

Bingley Town Council is committed to enhancing the Christmas light displays, not only in Bingley town but also in the surrounding villages.

Crossflatts was the first village to have Christmas lights installed on the lampposts a couple of years ago, followed by Gilstead last year; residents commented that it enhanced the village and brought the spirit of Christmas to Gilstead.

This year it is our intention to install a display in Eldwick at the junction of Warren Lane and



Otley Road: the lamp posts on the roundabout will have rope light fitted similar to the ones in Gilstead last year. There will also be a 15-foot illuminated Christmas tree on the grassed area by the signpost. There is a considerable amount of work that goes on in the background to make it all happen for the festive period. Thanks to town councillors and to Bradford Festival Lights and their contractor - without their support it would not happen.

Changing Places Toilet in Bingley

During 2021 the Council embarked on a plan to provide a Changing Places toilet alongside the existing toilets. Tenders were received for the new facility in October last year and the business case for it was agreed by the Council on December 7th.

The Council, through Bradford Council, applied for grant support from the Government's £30m Changing Places Toilet funding. The Council was successful in achieving a grant of £20,000 to help with the total costs of the project.

The style of facility that was chosen was that of a 'pod' design, that is a pre-constructed toilet that would be manufactured off-site and delivered on the back of a lorry, and then connected to services and finished on site.

We had hoped that the Changing Place toilet would be open and ready for use by May but the contractors were awaiting a start date for the foundations and liaising with Bradford Council regarding Building Control and small changes to the Planning Application. We have now been informed that the site work on this facility will commence in July, with an expected completion date of 18th August.

The Changing Places toilet will be an asset to Bingley and we can be justifiably proud of our town in providing this vital facility as it makes our town more accessible and welcoming to all.

Changing Places toilets are recorded on the Changing Places UK website - www.changing-places.org - and so Bingley will be on the map.

Bingley Town Council Events Diary

June 2022		
Tue 28	6.30pm	Full Council meeting. Bingley Baptist Church, Clyde Street, Bingley.
July 2022		
Sat 2	10am - 2pm	Bingley Monthly Farmers' Market.
Tue 12	6.30pm	Planning Committee meeting. The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley.
Wed 13	6.30pm	Finances & General Purposes Committee meeting. The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley.
Sat 23	10am	Community Litter Pick.
Tue 26	6.30pm	Full Council meeting. Venue tbc.
Fri 29	11am - 3pm	Play in the Park event, Gilstead Rec.
August 2022		
Fri 5	11am - 3pm	Play in the Park event, Myrtle Park.
Sat 6	10am - 2pm	Bingley Monthly Farmers' Market.
Tue 9	6.30pm	Planning Committee Meeting. The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley.
Wed 10	6.30pm	Finances & General Purposes Committee meeting. The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley.
Fri 12	11am - 3pm	Play in the Park event, Crossflatts Rec.
Fri 19	11am - 3pm	Play in the Park event, Cottingley Rec.
Fri 26	11am - 3pm	Play in the Park event, Eldwick Rec.
Tue 30	6.30pm	Full Council meeting. Venue tbc.
September 2022		
Fri 2	11am - 3pm	Play in the Park event, Myrtle Park.
Sat 3	10am - 2pm	Bingley Monthly Farmers' Market.
Sat 10	10am	Community Litter Pick.
Tue 13	6.30pm	Planning Committee Meeting. The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley.
Wed 14	6.30pm	Finances & General Purposes Committee meeting. The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley.
Tue 27	6.30pm	Full Council meeting. Venue tbc.
October 2022		
Sat 1	10am - 2pm	Bingley Monthly Farmers' Market.
Tue 11	6.30pm	Planning Committee Meeting. The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley.
Wed 12	6.30pm	Finances & General Purposes Committee meeting. The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley.
Sat 22	10am	Community Litter Pick.
Tue 25	6.30pm	Full Council meeting. Venue tbc.

Youth Involvement Working Group

The Youth Involvement Working Group will be a group of Councillors and residents determined to listen and understand how young people in Bingley would like to be heard and represented.

This is an exploratory group with no pre-set conclusions, where we intend to be led by young people in this town.

After a designated period of listening to the youth of Bingley, next steps will be determined and the group will transform into delivering a platform for young people to be heard.

If you are aged 16 or above and would be interested in being involved in this group, please contact enquiries@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk



How your money was spent 2021 – 2022

Opening balance

£219,337

Receipts

£204,940

Payments

£259,970

Carried forward

£164,307

Income

	£
Precept	187,396
Bradford Council Allotment Support Grant	2,560
Allotment rent	2,358
Grants/donations	7,016
CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy)	2,817
Toilet cash	2,686
Bank interest	107

Total 204,940

Payments

Salaries and staff costs	78,930
Subscriptions	3,112
Running costs: office	4,771
Other office and administrative costs	7,841
Running costs: toilets	19,679
Changing Places facility	36,873
Repairs and maintenance	1,524
Building works	4,227
PWLB loan repayment	10,225
Elections	12,406
Professional fees	22,577
IT support	6,747
Newsletter / publicity	4,914
Seasonal (including Christmas lights)	11,747
Neighbourhood Plan	4,010
Allotments	2,407
Emergency support (including grit bins)	1,175
Green & Clean (including floral displays)	13,216
Tourism & Regeneration (including markets and Play In The Park)	2,569
Grants	11,020

Total Expenditure 259,970

Balance carried forward 164,307

Small amounts of rounding have been allowed in the above figures.

Grant funding

The Town Council has a Grants Policy which supports local organisations and voluntary groups in the parish.

The following grants were awarded in 2021-22:



Greener/Cleaner Parks & Streets - £200

Community gardening and litter picking equipment for Cottingley.



Toilet Twinning - £120

Twinning of the two Hub public toilets with some in developing countries, as suggested by the local Soroptimist International group.



Friends of Myrtle Park - £1,200

Contributing to the provision of a professionally produced external wall-mounted history interpretation board.



Bingley Little Theatre - £2,000

To replace performance lighting with energy efficient ones.



Bingley Remembrance Group - £500

Towards supporting the annual Remembrance Sunday service.



Crossflatts Cricket Club - £7,000

For installation of a two-lane, non-turf practice adjacent to the pitch.

If you have any queries about this information please contact the Town Clerk:

Email townclerk@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Phone 07529 222679

The Town Council's Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Groups

Bingley Town Council currently has four Committees:

- Events, Marketing & Communications Committee
- Finance & General Purposes Committee
- Planning Committee
- Staffing Committee

and one Sub-Committee of the Finance & General Purposes Committee:

- Emergency Support Sub-Committee

It also has four Working Groups, which report to the Full Council:

- Changing Places Working Group
- Climate Emergency Working Group
- Neighbourhood Plan Working Group
- Youth Involvement Working Group

The membership of the Committees, Sub-Committees and Working Groups is as follows:

- **Finance & General Purposes Committee**
Councillors Carney, Gibbons, Goode, Kirdale, Miah and Truelove.
- **Planning Committee**
Councillors Clough, Drucquer, Fenton, Gibbons, Heseltine and Truelove.
- **Staffing Committee**
Councillors Clough, Dawson, Drucquer, Gibbons, Truelove and Winnard.
- **Emergency Support Sub-Committee**
Councillors Fenton, Goode, Heseltine and Winnard.
- **Events, Marketing & Communications Committee**
Councillors Dawson, Gibbons and Kirdale.
- **Changing Places Working Group**
Councillors Kirdale, Malik and Williams.
- **Climate Emergency Working Group**
Councillors Barton, Drucquer and Kirdale, and non-councillor member Ruth Quinn.
- **Neighbourhood Plan Working Group**
Councillors Dawson, Gibbons, Truelove and Williams, and non-councillor members John Dekker, Andrew Quarrie, Mick Taylor, Tony Urwin and Martyn Weaver.
- **Youth Involvement Working Group**
Councillors Carney and Kirdale.



Top: New lighting at Bingley Little Theatre; **centre:** information board in Myrtle Park; **above:** Unveiling of the refurbished Jubilee stone in Bingley.

Climate Emergency Working Group Update

The recently relaunched Climate Emergency Working Group is full of enthusiasm and fresh ideas.

The group are working more closely with local community organisations and collaborating with neighbouring councils, and are keen to co-ordinate with local groups whilst not duplicating the work of nearby bodies and councils.



We hope to rediscover the energy of earlier in the year to deliver positive and tangible environmental change for the people of Bingley.

If you are aged 16 or above and would be interested in being involved in this group, please contact enquiries@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

GREEN & CLEAN REPORT 2021 - 2022



The main areas covered by Green & Clean this year were litter, plants and floral displays.

Litter

Due to Covid 19, organised litter picks were suspended for most of 2021.

However now Covid restrictions have been lifted, Bingley Town Council has set out a program of regular Community Litter Picks for 2022, at around six weekly intervals. All litter picks are published on Bingley Town Council's website and Facebook page.

Thanks to an excellent, early morning response from volunteers in November 2021, we were able to clear Bingley Arts Centre area in preparation for the Remembrance Day Parade.

Extra event

In early April, 2022 Bingley Town Council teamed up with Friends of Myrtle Park, in support of the

'Clean Aire' campaign, organised by the Aire River Trust. Jointly, we covered the whole of Myrtle Park and all the accessible river-bank areas, from Crossflatts to Bingley Rugby Club.

Two weeks later, with the co-operation of Crossflatts Village Society, a total of 33 bags of rubbish/recyclables were collected.

A huge thank you from Bingley Town Council to all our helpers - with the continued support from local volunteers, who attend our organised events, and to our many Green & Clean Champions, who litter pick in their local areas, Bingley Parish is a much greener and cleaner place.

Plants

Bingley Town Council continue to offer summer and winter bedding plants to community groups throughout the Parish.

These plants are purchased at cost from Bradford Metropolitan District Council and are donated to local groups free of charge.



Floral Displays

Currently, twelve local groups benefit from the scheme, allowing them to create superb displays for everyone to enjoy.

Earlier this year Bingley Town Council agreed three year contracts, to plant, water and maintain the floral displays throughout the Parish.

Dates for litter picks

Upcoming Town Council organised litter picks will take place on the following dates:

- Saturday 11th June
- Saturday 23rd July
- Saturday 10th September
- Saturday 22nd October
- Sunday 13th November
- Saturday 10th December

Litter picks are from 10am until 12 noon and locations for meeting are confirmed nearer the time so please check the Bingley Town Council website, or Facebook page for details.

Bingley Precept Information

When agreeing the budget for 2022-2023 at a meeting in January this year, the Council agreed to increase the precept, which is what residents pay to keep the Town Council operating.

In 2020-21, the precept was £187,396 – which equates to £22.07 per Band D property per year, and this year (2022-23) the precept was increased to £237,457 – which equates to £27.79 per Band D property annually, and is a rise of 25.9%.

Historically, the precept for Bingley has been substantially below that of surrounding areas, including Baildon, Keighley, Ilkley and Shipley, where the cost per Band D property per year is as follows: Baildon £48.83; Keighley £48.11; Ilkley £47.11; and Shipley £30.01.

The rise in the precept will help to cover increasing operating costs at the Council, including the addition of a new part-time member of staff, and will

therefore enable us to provide services and projects which enhance Bingley as a place in which to live, work and visit.

This year's precept will support the following projects:

- **Operating costs to subsidise the public toilets in the town centre, including a new build Changing Places facility.**
- **Provision of grants to local groups and voluntary organisations.**
- **To facilitate the completion of the Neighbourhood Plan.**
- **Provision of plants to local groups around the parish.**
- **Provision of Christmas trees and Christmas lights in the parish, including a new tree in Eldwick this year.**
- **Provision of Speed Indicator Devices in the parish.**

Our full budget for 2022-23 can be found on the Council's website.

If anyone has any questions regarding the budget for 2022-

23 and the precept, please contact the Town Clerk on: townclerk@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk.

Bingley Neighbourhood Plan *Update*

Work on developing the Neighbourhood Plan has picked up speed following the appointment of a new Planning Consultant in December 2021. The previous version of the plan has been revised and is now more focussed on planning matters so it is easy for planners to use and will have greater impact.

The new draft Neighbourhood Plan will be going to full Council for approval soon. After this approval the draft Plan will begin a series of statutory steps to allow it to become 'made'. First the Plan will go out for formal community consultation, known as Schedule 14 consultation. We will announce the Schedule 14 consultation with details of how the documents can be

accessed and comments provided. We expect to run this consultation for eight weeks over the summer, so please watch out for this.

Following this consultation, the Plan will be revised, as appropriate, and then submitted to Bradford Council. Bradford Council will run a further consultation (Schedule 16 consultation) for a minimum period of six weeks and then submit the document for Independent Examination.

The final draft Plan will then be produced and will be subject to a formal Referendum, with registered voters determining whether the plan is adopted and 'made' so that it becomes an official document that must be given consideration in planning decisions.



Play in the Park – Summer 2022

Play in the Park was back in 2021 and Bingley Town Council are delighted to announce the Play in the Park programme for summer 2022.

We will be putting on six events to provide some much needed enjoyment for children and some relief for parents looking for a free and fun activity to keep the kids entertained during the long summer holiday.

Expect bouncy castles, sports equipment, space hoppers and giant boards games. All events will run from 11am to 3pm and the dates and locations are as follows:

- **Friday 29th July 2022**
Gilstead Recreation Ground
- **Friday 5th August 2022**
Myrtle Park
- **Friday 12th August 2022**
Crossflatts Recreation Ground
- **Friday 19th August 2022**
Cottingley Recreation Ground
- **Friday 26th August 2022**
Eldwick Recreation Ground
- **Friday 2nd September 2022**
Myrtle Park

Bring the kids, a picnic and enjoy the free entertainment.

We are hoping to secure for each event a portaloos and disabled toilet so that all of our residents can enjoy the day.



Contact your Councillor

Dale Barton – Crow Nest – Liberal Democrat

dale.barton@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Robert Beckwith – Crownest - Independent

07504697043 robert.beckwith@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Maureen Carney – Crossflatts & Micklethwaite – Independent

07707 326560 maureen.carney@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Howard Clough – Cottingley – Conservative

07939 023377 howard.clough@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Ros Dawson – Priestthorpe – Independent

07720 882512 ros.dawson@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Rachael Drucquer – Crossflatts & Micklethwaite – Green Party

07708 507679 rachael.drucquer@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Andrew Fenton – Gilstead – Independent

07738 755051 andrew.fenton@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Philippa Gibbons – Priestthorpe – Independent

07730 809326 philippa.gibbons@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

John Goode – Cottingley – Independent

07703 456792 john.goode@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

David Heseltine – Eldwick – Conservative

01274 565468 david.heseltine@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Lewis Kirkdale – Bingley Central & Myrtle Park – Independent

07500 019074 lewis.kirdale@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Abdul Malik – Bingley Central & Myrtle Park – Independent

07876 787870 abdul.malik@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Ashraf Miah – Cottingley – Independent

07738 570492 ashraf.miah@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Mark Truelove – Eldwick – Independent

07809 690398 mark.truelove@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Steve Williams – Lady Lane & Oakwood – Independent

07891 878760 steve.williams@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Geoff Winnard – Gilstead – Conservative

07971 395710 geoff.winnard@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

To contact the Town Clerk at Bingley Town Council, please email enquiries@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk or call 07529 222679