

Council grants nearly £6,000 to back efforts to keep open Bingley Pool

Bingley Town Council has awarded a grant of nearly £6,000 to progress work on saving Bingley Swimming Pool from closure.

The special, one-off grant of £5880.00 to the Friends of Bingley Pool (FOBP) is the largest grant the Town Council has made. The funds will cover the costs of a detailed feasibility study into a Community Asset Transfer of the pool and how it could be kept open and managed as well as an in-depth Building Services survey to assess the condition of the plumbing, ventilation and electrical services.



Bingley Pool

Dr Anna Mdee, co-chair of the Friends of Bingley Pool, said: "We are delighted to receive this support from Bingley Town Council. Without the grant funding, it is unlikely we would be able to go forward in our efforts to keep Bingley Pool open. Now we can commission the specialists who will find out if there

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Planting and floral displays



Floral Display in Bingley Town centre

In June, village societies and other volunteer groups planted out the begonias, geraniums, dahlias and marigolds purchased by the Town Council from Bradford Council.

Cottingley volunteers, Crossflatts, Gilstead and Micklethwaite village societies, Friends of Prince of Wales Park and the Myrtle Park group are all looking after their own corners of the parish, and the Bingley

Bloomers, from Bingley Five Rise Frocks WI, are taking care of the planters at the front of the market area.

Carlton Nurseries of Cottingley have put in place 35 pole-mounted baskets, 9 barrier baskets, 3 tubs and 1 tiered planter in Bingley town centre, as well as some planting by the tree outside the Arts Centre. We hope to propose similar plans for our outlying villages in future years.

The Council's Green and Clean Forum on 10th June included discussion about winter planting and a presentation from Northern Rail. A formal application has now been made to adopt both Bingley and Crossflatts stations, and a group of twelve people have already signed up to start a planned programme to make them more attractive to residents and visitors alike.

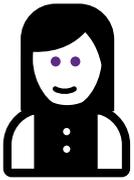


Crossflatts planting in progress

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You Said... We Did



What's going on in Bingley?

One of Bingley Town Council's first priorities was to establish a good system of communications to keep you up to date with our work. A website was quickly established with regular updates, and a monthly mailing goes out to those signed up. For those not online, a quarterly newsletter goes out to key locations around the ward. All council meetings are public and residents are welcome to attend. We also hold regular councillors' surgeries for residents to raise issues, and support many local events by having a stall.



www.bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

The Town Council is also active on social media. Updates are posted on Facebook and Twitter and you can also sign up for our mailing list mailinglist@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Edwina Simpson has led on the campaign to make Bingley beautiful. So far 7 organised litter picks have taken place with the help of residents, local groups and schools to tidy Bingley up. In the last year 328 bags of litter have been collected along with many other assorted fly tipped items.

Bingley Town Council has supported Bingley Green Dog Walkers in their efforts to prevent dog-fouling in the streets, as well as working with local vets to produce puppy packs to promote responsible dog ownership.



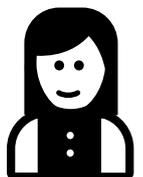
Clean up our town!

Better Christmas Lights



Nearly £4000 was spent on new tree lights and on making the existing lights safe. Further improvements are planned for 2017 with Cllr Mark Truelove liaising with Bradford Council.

Stop the Aire Valley Incinerator!



Bingley Town Council voted to recommend that the planning application of the incinerator be refused. It is now seeking to clarify how air quality monitoring will take place in Bingley.

Cllr Andrew Quarrie is liaising with groups in Bingley and the owner to restore the town clock on the main street to working order.



Make the clock work!

Following the Boxing Day floods and their disastrous effect, Cllr Michelle Chapman has worked with BMDC to create an Emergency Plan for Bingley, to enable us to be better prepared. The emergency box will be housed at the Fire Station.



We need to be prepared for emergencies!

Milner Field Farm



Bingley Town Council has actively supported the campaign against development of an Innovation Centre on the Dairy Farm. The proposal was withdrawn at a late stage.

The Council has moved!

Our temporary new home is at: Cottingley Cornerstone Centre, Littlelands, Cottingley, Bingley, BD16 1AL

Chair's Report

Hello and welcome to this special Annual Report edition of the Bingley Town Council newsletter.

We hope you'll get a good idea of the projects we've delivered and how we've spent our community's money over the council's first, very busy 12 months. Highlights include: the new Christmas lights, the summer flower displays and supporting many of our parish's brilliant voluntary and community organisations, particularly through the new grants scheme.

Looking ahead, we will continue to do the groundwork essential to establish good governance for the council. We are also focusing on getting the market back on its feet, working out how to provide public toilets in Bingley (Bradford Council will shut the public toilets in Myrtle Place in March, unless we can find a solution), creating a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish, attracting more visitors and expanding the floral and planting scheme.

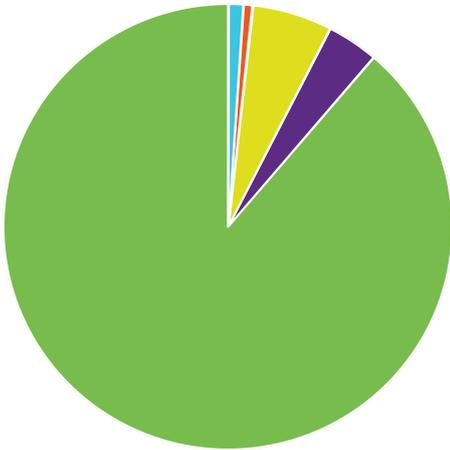
This is just a taste of the council's work. There is a lot of information



on the website and if you have any questions please get in touch with your local ward councillor (details on the back page) or the Town Clerk.

Best wishes, Cllr Ros Dawson,
Chair of Bingley Town Council

How Your Money Was Spent



RECEIPTS

- Precept **£130,000**
 - Council Tax Support Grant **£5,434**
 - Bradford Council Allotment Support Grant **£8,469**
(Bradford Council overpaid the grant; the correct amount is £2,909)
 - Allotment rent **£941**
 - Other **£1,655**
- Total £146,499**

2016 - 2017

PAYMENTS

- Salaries and staff costs **£19,746**
- Subscriptions **£2,106**
- Christmas lights **£3,764**
- Events **£260**
- Litter equipment **£494**
- Grants **£11,033**
(This includes an amount of £1,008 which was paid in error by the bank to Eldwick Juniors Football Club - the amount has been refunded)
- Office costs and administration **£23,252**
(included in this amount is a £5,560 repayment to BMDC for their overpayment of the allotment grant)

Total Expenditure £60,655

With Vat rebate of £2,609 balances to cash book of £63,264

**Carry forward into 2017-2018
£83,235**

GRANTS TO COMMUNITY GROUPS

Eldwick Juniors Football Club* (See above) **£1,068**
Contribution to goals

Micklethwaite Village Society **£1,000**
Contribution to defibrillator

Friends of Prince of Wales Park **£434**
Gazebo and toilets for the Right Royal Do

Cottingley Guides **£2,000**
Contribution to repair of Guide Hut

Bingley Green Dog Walkers **£150**
Promotional material to encourage responsible dog ownership and stop dog fouling.

All Saints, Bingley Bell Ringers **£1,650**
Contribution to repair of bells

All Saints Church **£2,000**
Contribution to safe and accessible path

Ryshworth Rangers Football Club **£755**
Equipment and training

Bingley Walkers Are Welcome **£500**
Contribution to publicity for Bingley's first walking festival

Beckfoot & Bingley Tennis Club **£468**
Contribution towards tennis court improvements

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is a viable way to maintain and keep this facility which is valued by so many people.”

The pool, used by hundreds of children and adults every week, including Bingley Swimming Club and Bingley Lifesaving Club, is currently owned by City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council. However, Bradford Council intends to close the facility in 2020.

Ros Dawson, Chair of Bingley Town Council, said: “Residents tell us they want to see Bingley Pool kept open, if it is viable. Allocating the grant funding to support the Friends of Bingley Pool’s feasibility study and survey helps us achieve this priority.

“We are grateful for the work being done by the Friends. They are all volunteers who put in a lot of time and effort working with Bradford Council to improve the existing

facility and looking at how to keep it open so that it can be enjoyed by future generations. The pool is also vital to efforts to regenerate our town and maintaining and developing footfall to the town centre.”

FOBP is a charitably incorporated organisation and membership is free. It has already raised funds to help to improve the changing rooms at the pool.

The funding for Friends of Bingley Pool is an exceptional, one-off grant and was agreed by a meeting of the Town Council on Tuesday (June 27th). The council also operates a grant scheme which awards up to £2,000 and is open to applications from organisations working to benefit residents in the parish. More details are available on the Town Council’s website or from the Town Clerk. Since the scheme was established in 2016, eight other organisations have received funding totalling over £7,000.

Green & Clean News

✔ Community litter picks 7 events so far -

Myrtle Park, Crossflatts, Bingley town centre, canal towpath, Cottingley, Gilstead Moor

Additional, separate sessions with Crossflatts Primary, Cottingley Primary and Bingley Grammar Schools.

The next litter pick is at Healey Lane, 2pm-4pm on Saturday 5th August.

Photos clockwise from top: Bingley Grammar School litter pickers, Bingley Green Dog Walkers, litter pick on Gilstead Moor.



✔ Green and Clean Champions scheme

16 people signed up, equipped with their own litter picker, gloves and bags.

✔ Promoting responsible dog ownership

Working with local vets - produced materials for the surgeries’ welcome packs for new dog owners.

✔ Education

Assemblies on littering and dog-fouling at Cottingley Primary and Eldwick Primary.

✔ Bin survey

Identified unsightly and unhygienic bins to be replaced and potential spots for additional bins.

See our website for future litter pick dates and how you can make a difference in your area

A Neighbourhood Plan for Bingley

Bingley Town Council is to move ahead with the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish. The decision follows a very well attended meeting at Cardigan House on 30th May where the feeling was positively in favour of the proposal.

At the meeting, Councillor Mark Truelove presented the many aspects and benefits for Bingley residents of having our own Neighbourhood Plan. The group

were shown examples of Plans created by other town and parish councils in the Bradford District.

The Plan, possibly a project taking up to three years, will create policies to shape future development in the area and could cover history and heritage, business, the economy, housing, traffic, recreation and leisure.

The Town Council is now applying for a grant to cover the costs of an expert consultant who will advise the Town Council on its Plan. A working-group will also be formed which will

include residents with relevant skills and knowledge.

One of the many benefits of having a Neighbourhood Plan is increased revenue from new developments in the district. Currently the council will receive 15% of any Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), but with a Neighbourhood Plan, the parish will receive 25%.

STOP PRESS: Bradford Council is now carrying out a consultation about the Neighbourhood Plan. Details at www.bradford.gov.uk/consultations

Action to regenerate Bingley

Everyone wants our community to thrive and the Town Council has already started on some strategies and projects to increase footfall and help regenerate our town. These will be developed over the next year.

Bingley Market

Thank you to all those who completed the recent survey and shared their ideas about how to revive our market. The results are being collated and analysed and we are taking advice from a consultant from NABMA (National Association of British Market Authorities). The aim is to publish a clear plan of action in the Autumn.

In the meantime, the Town Council supported the Easter Eggstravaganza, organised by the Bingley Chamber of Trade and Commerce, and the Canal Festival. Both these events attracted many people to the town centre. We are also in discussions with Bradford Council about the possibility of running the market square itself.

Bingley Pool

The Town Council is backing efforts to keep a pool and gym in the town centre. It recently gave a grant to fund necessary consultancy and survey work (see front page).



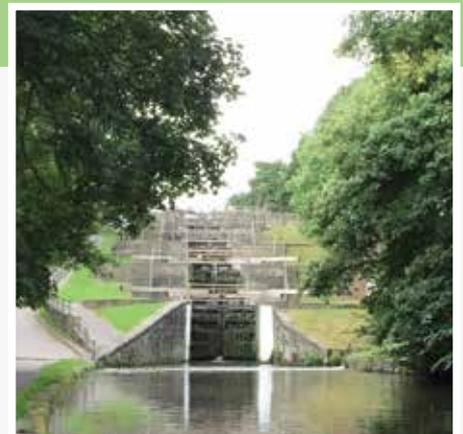
Cllrs Mark Truelove, Michelle Chapman and Ros Dawson at the Easter Market Eggstravaganza

Tourism

Bingley and area has many unique assets, particularly the Five Rise Locks, a beautiful stretch of the Leeds to Liverpool Canal, historic buildings and parks and green spaces. We will be working with partners, including the Canal and Rivers Trust, to develop a tourism strategy. This is also likely to lead to better sign-posting and maps for visitors of key places of interest in our area.

Derelict buildings

Led by Cllr Ros Dawson, we campaigned for progress on the Station Master's House, an eyesore for many years. Bradford Council responded by implementing an order that resulted in the grounds being tidied. Shortly afterwards the



Five Rise Locks

building was put up for sale. The empty former Technical School on Mornington Road is likely to be disposed of soon by its trustees, Bradford Council. The central Bingley site, formerly the Bradford and Bingley Building Society HQ, is to become a Lidl store and we are sharing our views with Lidl to ensure safe and easy access to the pool and park.

Light and floral displays

The council provided new Christmas lights for 2016 and is aiming to buy further lights for the town centre this year. There has also been investment in planters, plants and floral displays across the parish with the council working with horticultural community groups. It's all part of moves to make our parish more attractive for residents and visitors.

Website

The Town Council's new website has been warmly received, with appreciative comments received about its design – by Digital Nomads – and its useful content. As at 11th July, since its launch in February, the site has had 3,128 unique visitors making 4,960 visits, with 12,248 page views.

All Council meetings and events are listed, and relevant documents – agendas, minutes and supporting documents – are available for download. You can also get details of your local councillors and find out which committees they are active on. Regular news items provide updates on Council activities, to add to information provided on the Council's Facebook page and printed newsletters.



The Town Council's website

Since the launch, the events calendar has been enhanced to enable local organisers to enter details of their own events. New listings of local community groups, enabling groups to add their own details including a picture, and an A-Z of services and facilities will shortly be added.

Bingley Town Council Diary

All formal meetings are open to the public.

Everyone is welcome to attend.



Date	Time	Event
22 July	9:00	Bingley Show
25 July	17:45	Councillors' Surgery, Bingley Scout Hut
25 July	18:30	Full Council Meeting, Bingley Scout Hut
27 July	10:00	Market Survey Meeting (Internal Meeting), Squires Room, BAC
5 Aug	14:00	Litter Pick, Healey Lane
8 Aug	18:30	Planning Committee Meeting, Cardigan House
14 Aug	18:00	Events, Marketing and Communications Sub-Committee, Bingley Methodist Church
29 Aug	18:30	Full Council Meeting St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Gilstead
9 Sept	10:00	Green and Clean Forum, Cardigan House, Bingley
12 Sept	18:30	Planning Committee Meeting, Cardigan House, Bingley
13 Sept	18:30	F&GP Committee Meeting, Cottingley Cornerstone
26 Sept	17:45	Councillors' Surgery, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Bingley
26 Sept	18:30	Full Council Meeting, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Bingley

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