

BINGLEY TOWN COUNCIL



The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley, BD16 2LF

Minutes of the Full Council meeting of Bingley Town Council held on Tuesday 5th December 2023 at 6.30pm at Bingley Baptist Church, Clyde Street, Bingley

Councillors present: Beckwith, Clough, Fenton, Forrest, Gentleman, Gibbons, Goode, Heseltine, Malik, Shaw, Miah, Williams, Winnard

Councillors absent: Carney, Drucquer, Truelove

In attendance: Eve Haskins (Town Clerk)

Members of the public: Six (including Ward Councillors Susan Fricker and Joe Wheatley, Paul Naylor, Bradford Council, and Ben Pugh, Bradford City of Culture 2025)

**Apologies to residents:
due to technical reasons, this meeting was not recorded
and therefore it has not been possible to place it on YouTube.**

Meeting commenced at 6.30pm.

2324/151 Chair's remarks

Noted the following remark from Councillor Gibbons:

- Happy Christmas season to everyone!
- The Bingley Christmas lights switch on event took place last weekend, which was very well attended. Many thanks to Bingley Chamber of Trade for organising it.
- We are coming to the end of the Bingley Neighbourhood Plan process, following a recent meeting with Bradford Council regard the Regulation 14 consultation: all documents and a proposed timetable will be brought to the next Full Council meeting in January.
- All councillors need to be mindful that we have the mandatory Full Council YLCA training on 17th January next year, looking forward to seeing everyone there.

2324/152 Apologies for absence

Apologies received, and the reasons for absence approved, from Councillors Carney, Drucquer and Truelove.

2324/153 Disclosures of interest

No disclosures of interest.

No written requests for dispensation had been received.

2324/154 Minutes of previous meetings

Resolved to approve the minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on 31st October 2023 as a true and accurate record.

Chair..... 1

Date.....

2324/155 Confidential items due to be discussed after item 2324/173

Resolved to agree that no further agenda items to be discussed in confidence following the exclusion of the press and public in agenda item 2324/173, due to their sensitive nature.

It was agreed to take agenda item 2324/157 before 2324/156.

2324/157 Representation regarding Bradford City of Culture 2025

A representative from Bradford City of Culture 2025, Ben Pugh, the Head of Production and Event Operations, provided a brief update on the City of Culture 2025 progress, as follows:

- Following the official designation of Bradford being agreed as City of Culture 2025 in May last year, they had two main employees during 2022, including the Chief Executive, and there are now over 60 people working for the team, a wide balance of people, 50% from Bradford, with most from West Yorkshire.
- Had a recent visit from the City of Culture judging panel of the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, who checked progress and seemed broadly happy with plans to date, especially that Bradford are focused on the whole district, unlike previous winners, although they did highlight that our scope was not yet sufficiently national, which we are now focusing upon.
- We have just launched an invite for people to join the youth panel, recruiting young people between the ages of 16 and 22, to join our board sub-groups so is a great opportunity for them to get involved. They will attend six to eight meetings per year, and there will be training opportunities, support and development in place for them. All details are on the website.
- Regarding grants: Bingley Arts Centre was one of 21 organisations who were awarded a grant to improve access and facilities, this ensures that the Bradford 2025 money being spent in the district delivers a legacy. We have also partnered with Unlimited to provide grants for disabled artists. Further funding opportunities are highlighted on the website with grant rounds in February, spring and autumn. Groups will need to put in proposals for events in 2025 to be included in our whole program for the year. For the spring grants we will be broadening our reach to include community groups, to take part in broadest terms of activities. All creative and community grants have surgeries/support mechanisms in place to make it as open as possible. Then in autumn there will be micro-grants available, for re-painting, new signs, etc.
- Mr Pugh answered several questions from councillors to confirm that the celebrations for the year will be district wide: the team have a digital map of the district to ensure an equitable spread of the funding, and there is a programming team and an engagement team, who have a plan in development regarding artist residencies (funding not secure as yet); he also highlighted that not all big events will be in city centre but will be spread across the region, including in Bingley. He confirmed that the teams are currently looking at where gaps exist across the district and are making direct approaches to local areas and that major public announcements letting people know where things are happening will be made in September next year: need to get the funding secured first. Mr Pugh also confirmed that there are team and board members from Bingley, and that the approach to allocating grants is done by committee, therefore is open to scrutiny.

Thanks were expressed to Mr. Pugh for his attendance – he left the meeting at 7.03pm.

2324/156 Representation regarding Bradford Council's Winter Operation 2023-24

A representative from Bradford Council, Paul Naylor, the Divisional Manager at the Highway Delivery Unit, provided a presentation highlighting that Bingley has a very good gritting operation in plan, with both Bradford Council and Town Council grit bins, and directed residents to their website which outlines the priority 1 and priority 2 routes. He highlighted one problem area as Ghyll Wood Drive, as the Bradford Council drivers are not able to get up the street to grit the road due to the parked cars,

however all residents will be sent a letter to move their cars out of the way for future gritting. He answered several questions from councillors, confirming that he is trying to promote Bradford Council's service, to help people; and agreed to arrange a site visit for reported areas of concern at Britannia Bridge, Bingley, Stone Gate off Lady Lane, Heights Lane, Gilstead Lane opposite the old post office, and the gully on Keighley Road opposite the new Anchor housing complex between Bingley and Bingley Grammar School. He also confirmed that permission is required from Bradford Council Ward Councillors to move grit bins.

Thanks were expressed to Mr Naylor – he left the meeting at 7.30pm.

2324/158 Public Participation

1. Progress with the Neighbourhood Development Plan

A member of the public expressed congratulations to the Town Council for the progress with the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

2. Bradford Council's Local Development Framework consultation

The member of the public also expressed disappointment regarding the recent consultation from Bradford Council on the proposed Local Framework for Bingley due to it being badly publicised and the lack of guarantee for funding for these plans, and wished to know whether the Town Council have responded to this consultation. Councillor Gibbons reported that the Town Council did consider how these plans fitted in with the draft Neighbourhood Plan for Bingley initially, however did not respond as a body.

3. Gilstead Councillors

The member of the public also queried the lack of attendance of the two Gilstead councillors, Councillors Shaw and Winnard, at events in Gilstead, including committee meetings of Gilstead Village Society and the Remembrance Day event. Both councillors stated that they always attend the Remembrance Day event in Bingley town centre, Councillor Winnard reported that he had sent apologies to the Gilstead Village Society for his non-attendance and Councillor Shaw reported that he has been unable to attend any recent events due to personal reasons.

Agreed to take agenda item 2324/170h prior to agenda item 2324/159.

2324/170 Correspondence

h) Email from Local Government Boundary Commission for England re electoral review of Bradford Council – draft recommendations:

Discussion took place regarding the above consultation, and concerns were expressed that proposals include changing the boundary, which would cut through Eldwick village, meaning that part of it would be in Bingley parish and part of it in Baildon parish. Ward Councillor Wheatley explained that reviews of wards take place every 20 years, and that the boundary needs changing as Bingley and Bingley Rural are both too large; he advised that alternative plans can be put forward via the consultation.

Resolved that the Town Clerk to arrange for the consultation to be publicized to encourage residents to share their views on these proposals prior to the deadline of 5th February 2024 to allow the Town Council to put these views forward in an official response.

2324/159 Representation from Bradford Ward Councillors

Councillor Wheatley updated all on recent work in Bingley, including the refurbishment at Crossflatts Rec, which following consultation will get a zip-wire, and the City of Culture 2025 funding received by Bingley Arts Centre; he also reported that they are currently awaiting the decision for potential funding of £19,000 for the basketball courts following on from the successful funding from the Lawn Tennis Association for nets/courts in Myrtle Park, and previously in Cottingley. Following on from recent

correspondence with a resident regarding local issues including Bingley Pool, he also reported that he responded to this: agreed the Town Clerk to forward this email onto the Full Council for their information.

The Ward Councillors left the meeting at 8.00pm.

2324/160 Ongoing items

- a) Bingley Pool: Councillor Gibbons reported that Councillor Carney had passed on an update from the Friends of Bingley Pool that they held their AGM last month, so have got new Trustees however they are still looking for more; they will also try to re-engage with Bradford Council within the first quarter of the new year.

2324/161 Christmas tree for 2024

Resolved to agree not to purchase an artificial illuminated Christmas tree for 2024.

2324/162 Finance

Resolved the following:

- a) To approve the schedule of payments for November/December 2023.
- b) To approve the bank reconciliations for October 2023; November 2023 to be approved by Finance and General Purposes Committee next week.
- c) To agree the following regarding the budget for 2024-25:
 - Allotment reserve to be increased by £10,000.
 - Updated budget to be considered again at the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting next week.
 - Recommended budget, with the figures incorporated for the end of Quarter 3 2023-24, to be agreed at the next Full Council meeting in January 2024.

2324/163 Emergency Support Sub Committee

Noted the minutes and the following update from Councillor Heseltine from the recent Emergency Support Sub Committee meeting: held the training meeting with Bradford Council's Emergency Planning Officer, and currently awaiting the notes from a subsequent meeting attended by Councillor Heseltine, the Assistant Ward Officer and the former Bradford Emergency Planning Officer before Councillor Heseltine and the Town Clerk meet to discuss the best, and most realistic, next steps, for the Town Council, on whether this committee should be a support group or a response group.

2324/164 Events, Marketing and Communications Committee (EMACC)

Noted that the last meeting was only last night, so minutes not yet circulated, so the following update was given by Councillor Gibbons: primarily discussed the celebrations for the 250th anniversary of Five Rise Locks, which the Canal and River Trust (CRT) are organising for the weekend of 23rd March 2024, and agreed to recommend to the Full Council that £5,000 be earmarked from the Regeneration and Tourism cost centre in the budget to support this event. Also discussed the D Day Operation commemoration event on 6th June 2024, which Bingley Remembrance Group will be organising and may approach the Town Council for funding for a beacon for Market Square. Also agreed to hold another local community groups' networking event at Cardigan House next month, with a focus on how the CRT can be supported in their event for the Five Rise Locks anniversary.

Resolved to agree to earmark £5,000 from the Regeneration and Tourism cost centre of this year's budget to support the CRT in the Five Rise Locks anniversary event.

2324/165 Finance and General Purposes (F&GP) Committee

Noted the following updates in the circulated minutes from the recent F&GP Committee meeting, including on Green and Clean: two grants were awarded, £500 to Micklethwaite Village Society for a contribution towards sourcing and building a stone planter to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Society, and £480 to The Friends of Prince of Wales Park to contribute towards short handrails to help visitors to navigate the steep steps within the park, to maintain as much access as possible into the park; the last litter pick was held prior to the Remembrance Day event on 12th November, with only a small amount of volunteers and the final order is now in from local groups for the summer bedding plants.

2324/166 Planning Committee

Noted the following update from Councillor Heseltine from the recent Planning Committee meeting: applications were considered and recommendations made.

2324/167 Five Rise way-marking

Councillor Gibbons reported that the brown canal signs will be ready before Christmas; and she will continue to liaise with companies regarding better quality plaques for waymarking.

2324/168 Bradford TramTrain proposal

Resolved to agree to write to Bradford Council to inform them that Bingley Town Council support Bradford TramTrain scheme proposal in principle and feel it should be given due consideration.

2324/169 Town Clerk's Report

Resolved to accept the Town Clerk's Report.

2324/170 Correspondence

Resolved to receive the following correspondence and agree necessary actions as follows:

- a) Email from Bradford Council re school fishing experiences project: noted.
- b) Email from Natural Sciences Curriculum Group at Eldwick Primary re potential links with the Town Council: noted, agreed that the Town Clerk to contact them to find out what they want the link to consist of.
- c) Email from YLCA re Royal Garden Party nominations 2024: **Resolved** to nominate Councillor Heseltine for long service to Bingley and the Prince of Wales Park.
- d) Emails from 'Loo of the Year' re award nomination: noted, Councillor Gibbons confirmed that the cleaning team will be attending the ceremony.
- e) Email from Bradford Council re their Winter Operation 2023-24: see agenda item 2324/156.
- f) Email from Bradford Council re statutory consultation to change admissions arrangements at Trinity All Saints Primary School, Bingley: noted.
- g) Emails from resident re the future of Bingley Pool, with the suggestion that the Town Council write to Bradford Council for an update on this issue: see agenda item 2324/159.
- h) Email from Local Government Boundary Commission for England re electoral review of Bradford Council – draft recommendations: see agenda item 2324/170h.
- i) Email from Road Safety at Bradford Council re Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs): agreed that this issue to be referred to the next F&GP Committee meeting for further discussion/recommendation.

2324/171 Promotional items

Resolved to promote the following items for publication:

- Agenda item 2324/151: Successful Christmas lights switch on last Saturday.
- Agenda item 2324/156: Presentation received from Bradford Council on their Winter Operation.

- Agenda item 2324/164: Events being considered for 2024 by the Events, Marketing and Communications Committee (EMACC).
- Agenda item 2324/168: Broadly supportive of the Bradford TramTrain proposal.
- Agenda item 2324/170h: Local Government Boundary Commission for England electoral review of Bradford Council draft recommendations consultation, to publicise the consultation to encourage people to share their views on this prior to the deadline on 5th February 2024 to allow the Town Council to put their views forward.

2324/172 Date of next meeting

The date of the next Full Council meeting agreed as Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 6.30pm, at St Aidan's Church Hall, Canal Road, Crossflatts, Bingley, BD16 2RH.

2324/173 Exclusion of press and public

There were no agenda items to exclude the press and public from under the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960 s1 (2)), due to their confidential nature.

Meeting closed at 8.52pm.