

BINGLEY TOWN COUNCIL



The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley, BD16 2LF

Minutes of the Full Council meeting of Bingley Town Council held on Tuesday 27th February 2024 at 6.30pm at Little House, Market Street, Bingley

Councillors present: Beckwith, Carney, Clough, Drucquer, Forrest, Gibbons, Goode, Heseltine, Truelove, Williams, Winnard

Councillors absent: Fenton, Gentleman, Malik, Miah, Shaw

In attendance: Eve Haskins (Town Clerk), Nicola Mansfield-Smith (Deputy Clerk)

Members of the public: Six (including Ward Councillors Susan Fricker and Joe Wheatley and David Pearson of West Yorkshire Lieutenancy)

Meeting commenced at 6.30pm.

2324/194 Chair's remarks

Noted the following remarks from Councillor Gibbons:

- Many thanks to all the residents who attended the Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 consultation open day last Saturday, the next one will be held on Sunday 24th March 2024, 10am-2pm at the Town Council offices at the Hub; we would really like feedback on the draft documents so please do attend if possible – the consultation ends on 4th April 2024.
- Thanks to all local community groups who are working together to help Bingley be part of the City of Culture 2025 celebrations; many thanks also to Bradford Council's Ward Officers for their input and special thanks to Ward Councillor Susan Fricker, who is doing a fantastic job pulling everything together.
- Thanks to all litter pickers and Green and Clean Champions who have been out in all weathers doing a very good job for the Bingley community.

2324/195 Apologies for absence

Apologies received, and the reasons for absence approved, from Councillors Fenton, Miah and Shaw.

2324/196 Disclosures of interest

Councillor Goode declared an interest in agenda item 2324/210a as a Trustee of Cottingley Town Hall. No written requests for dispensation had been received.

2324/197 Minutes of previous meetings

Resolved to approve the minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on 9th January 2024 as a true and accurate record.

2324/198 Confidential items due to be discussed after item 2324/213

Resolved to agree that no further agenda items to be discussed in confidence following the exclusion of the press and public in agenda item 2324/213, due to their sensitive nature.

2324/199 Representation from West Yorkshire Lieutenancy

Mr David Pearson of the West Yorkshire Lieutenancy provided a brief update as follows:

Chair..... 1

Date.....

- The Lieutenancy is an ancient institution, and the representatives' role is to represent the monarch locally.
- There are 99 Lieutenancies in the country, plus further numbers in London, and they are responsible for organising royal visits, being responsible for local honours, and making sure that proper protocols associated with the monarchy are followed, e.g. after a royal death.
- Some confusion over the protocols surrounding Operation London Bridge highlighted the need for a better relationship with town and parish councils, therefore closer contact is being sought.
- The Lieutenancy is also responsible for nominations for royal garden parties etc. and are currently taking nominations for next year.
- The Deputy Lieutenant for Bingley is Vicky Reynolds, who was unable to attend this evening, and who regularly attends local events, such as the Remembrance Day parade in Bingley. The Chair reported that the Town Council will be involved in the 80th anniversary of the D Day event in June this year: Mr Pearson expressed an interest for the Lieutenancy to be involved in this in Bingley.
- Several questions from councillors were answered, confirming that the Deputy Lieutenants stand in the stead of royals when they cannot attend events, openings etc., organise royal visits for events and arrange local 100th birthday cards and 60th wedding anniversary cards – for which the Deputy Lieutenant's details can be passed on. It was also confirmed that royal visits need at least one month's notice, longer for more senior royals, and that the West Yorkshire Lieutenancy will certainly be involved at the City of Culture 2025 celebrations once they have been asked by Bradford Council. Mr Pearson also expressed an interest in attending the Five Rise Locks 250th anniversary on 23rd March this year: details to be forwarded to the Canal and Rivers Trust (CRT) to contact him directly to organise this if possible.

Thanks were expressed to Mr Pearson for his attendance; he left the meeting at 7.00pm.

2324/200 Public Participation

1. Car park at Skirrow Street, Cottingley

Three members of the public expressed deep concerns regarding the potential sale of the informal car park at Skirrow Street, Cottingley, by Bradford Council, which has been valued at £40,000. It was reported that this car park has room for 10 cars, and the surrounding houses are very old so do not have parking spaces. Removing these parking spaces will therefore have an impact on the village, including the Town Hall, which is run by trustees who are all volunteers, and holds regular events to accommodate groups including older and less able-bodied people, and already has very limited parking. A petition has been set up in the village, with over 400 names included, and Bradford Council and Philip Davies MP have both been contacted regarding this issue. It was also highlighted that the village of Cottingley is very compact, with a very narrow main street, therefore the parking spaces on Skirrow Street are essential to residents and businesses. Concerns were also expressed regarding access for emergency vehicles; any potential sale of the informal car park land for future development; and the existence of two Tree Protection Orders (TPO) on the trees in the car park. All three members of public requested the support of the Town Council, as the residents of Cottingley feel like a forgotten outlying area of Bingley, and as a small rural community do not feel they should be taking on the losses of Bradford Council. The members of the public also confirmed that they had engaged with Bradford Council's Bingley Rural Ward Councillors on this issue, that they were informed that Bradford Council had no records/deeds on this land. They were also not aware that the Town Council had initially tried to include Cottingley in the draft Neighbourhood Plan as a Special Character Area, removed due to lack of information received: one member of public to liaise with Councillor Williams regarding this following the meeting.

Agreed to take agenda item 2324/210a before agenda item 2324/201.

2324/210a Correspondence

- a) **Resolved** to agree the following regarding the email received from Bingley Rural Ward Councillor Sullivan re the sale of the car park at Cottingley: Bingley Town Council support the retention of the informal car park at Skirrow Street, Cottingley, and to submit a nomination for it to become an asset of community value.

2324/201 Representation from Bradford Council Ward Councillors

Bradford Council Ward Councillors Fricker and Wheatley updated all on their recent work in Bingley, including the following:

- Met with Eldwick Village Society regarding the proposed Electoral Commission boundary changes: consultation has now closed, recommendations expected in May.
- Funding for speed cameras on Bingley bypass has been approved.
- Two Incommunities meetings will be held soon for residents to raise any concerns.
- Working with the organisers of the Challenge Festival, which is due to take place 24th to 26th May this year.
- Working with RSH Artisan Markets to organise a food festival in June/July time and also possible night-time markets.
- Still waiting on the installation of the paintings taken from Bingley Pool commissioned by Jane Fielder – these are currently stored in the Town Council offices at the Hub, wanting to install these in Bingley train station and on the Hub walls prior to the 250th anniversary of Five Rise Locks.
- Thanks to Town Councillors Gibbons and Goode for attending the meetings to organise the celebrations for the 250th anniversary Festival and Bradford City of Culture 2025.

Ward Councillors Fricker and Wheatley left the meeting at 7.43pm.

2324/202 Ongoing items

- a) Bingley Pool: Councillor Carney reported that the Friends of Bingley Pool now have a few more trustees on board, and are in the process of sending a letter to Bradford Council to update them; they will also be sending out surveys to find out what people want, what they lost with the pool going etc. and are looking into fundraising.

Resolved to agree the following regarding the recent parking charges at Bingley Pool: Town Clerk to write to Bradford Council on behalf of the Town Council to express concern regarding the lack of free parking in the town, including recent charges implemented at the old magistrates' court and Bingley Pool, which could prove detrimental to the economy of the town, and recommend a change of approach to encourage footfall in the town – suggest free two hour parking in Bradford Council car parks, with parking charges removed completely after 6pm.

2324/203 Finance

Resolved the following:

- a) To approve the schedule of payments for February 2024.
- b) To approve the bank reconciliations for January 2024.

Agreed to take agenda item 2324/207 after agenda item 2324/203.

2324/207 Planning Committee

Noted the following update from Councillor Clough from the recent Planning Committee meeting: applications reviewed and recommendations made, and a discussion took place regarding the

delegation of planning applications to the council officers in exceptional circumstances, following agreement by committee members via email.

Resolved to agree the delegation of planning decisions to an officer of the council following a majority agreement of councillors via email (to be used in exceptional circumstances only, where deadlines for planning decisions need to be made before a meeting is held): Standing Orders to be amended accordingly when reviewed at an upcoming meeting.

Councillor Clough left the meeting at 8.07pm.

2324/204 Events, Marketing and Communications Committee (EMACC)

Noted the following update from Councillor Gibbons from the recent EMACC meeting: the Festival to celebrate the 250th anniversary of Five Rise Locks was discussed, as were other events taking place locally, including the Challenge Festival in May and Easter and Christmas events organised by Bingley Chamber of Trade.

Resolved to agree the following:

- To approve the Risk and Resource Assessment form for supporting the 250th anniversary celebrations of Five Rise Locks.
- Town Clerk to contact the organisers of Eldwick and Gilstead Gala (due to take place on Saturday 29th June 2024) to respond that the Town Council do not wish to hold a stall at the event this year however to enquire whether they need any volunteers to help out.

2324/205 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:

- Grants: two grant payments agreed to be paid now, the other two applications were approved in principle however payment to be deferred until April due to the grant budget pot now being depleted.
- D-Day commemoration costs: agreed to earmark £2000 for this event.
- Green and Clean: extremely successful litter pick last Saturday, 14 members of public attended and 28 bags of rubbish collected; next litter pick to take place prior to the CRT Festival on 23rd March; need to consider cleaning up after events as well as before.
- Future of Emergency Support Sub Committee (to be discussed under agenda item 2324/214).
- Reviewed the CCTV Policy and CCTV Privacy Impact Assessment.

Resolved to ratify the Allotments Policy.

2324/206 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG)

Councillor Gibbons provided an update from the NPWG as follows:

- Delivery of leaflet publicising Regulation 14 consultation queried, as not all residents have received them.
- 38 people attended the Regulation 14 open day on 24th February, the majority attended to obtain more information on the draft Plan; next open day to take place on Sunday 24th March.

2324/208 Five Rise way-marking

Councillor Gibbons reported that meetings have been held with Highways at Bradford Council, who were not so keen on the bronze plaques so now investigating the costs etc. of carved paving stones.

2324/209 Town Clerk's Report

Resolved to accept the Town Clerk's Report.

2324/210 Correspondence

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

- b) Email from Bradford Council re Council Tax Base Band D equivalent 2024-25 update, which impacts the precept amount (reduction): noted.
- c) Emails from residents and Baildon Town Council re the Boundary Commission proposals re Eldwick: noted, confirmed that submission has now been made by the Town Council.
- d) Emails from YLCA, including on the Public Sector Equality Duty: noted.
- e) Email from Loo of the Year Award 2024: noted, agreed not to apply again this year.
- f) Email from Bradford Council's Assistant Ward Officer re recent Bingley Rural Ward Leadership meeting held on 18th January 2024: noted.

2324/211 Promotional items

Resolved to promote the following items for publication:

- Agenda item 2324/199: Representation received from West Yorkshire Lieutenancy.
- Agenda item 2324/202: Town Council support for free parking in Bingley.
- Agenda item 2324/204: CRT Festival for 250th anniversary of Five Rise Locks.
- Agenda item 2324/205: Town Council support for D Day Commemoration.
- Agenda item 2324/206: Neighbourhood Plan – Regulation 14 consultation/next open day.
- Agenda item 2324/210a: Town Council support for Skirrow Street car park, Cottingley.
- Agenda item 2324/206: Neighbourhood Plan – Regulation 14 consultation/next open day.
- Agenda item 2324/212: Annual Town Meeting date.

2324/212 Date of next meeting

The date of the next Full Council meeting agreed as Tuesday 26th March 2024 at 6.30pm, at St Aidan's Church Hall, Canal Road, Crossflatts, Bingley; and to agree the date of Tuesday 7th May 2024 at 6pm for the Annual Town Meeting 2024.

2324/213 Exclusion of press and public

Resolved to exclude the press and public from agenda item 2324/214 under the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960 s1 (2)), due to its confidential nature.

2324/214 Emergency Support Sub Committee

Resolved to agree the following regarding the future of the Emergency Support Sub Committee, following recommendations from the F&GP Committee:

- Emergency Support Sub Committee to be disbanded, effective immediately, due to concerns that the Town Council does not have the resources or expertise to be an emergency response group.
- Town Council to provide community resilience support where necessary, including grants to local groups.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm.