

# BINGLEY TOWN COUNCIL

The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley, BD16 2LF



## Annual Town Meeting for the parish of Bingley

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Held at Bingley Methodist Church Hall, Herbert Street, Bingley, BD16 4NU

Chaired by Councillor Steve Williams, Chair of Bingley Town Council and minutes taken by Eve Haskins (Town Clerk)

Also present: Councillors Barton, Beckwith, Carney, Clough, Gibbons, Goode, Heseltine, Kirdale, Truelove and Winnard.  
Nicola Mansfield-Smith (Deputy Clerk)  
Three members of the public (including representative from local groups, Five Rise Frocks and the Friends of Myrtle Park)

Meeting commenced at 6.30pm.

### 1. Welcome

Councillor Williams welcomed everyone to the fifth Annual Town Meeting of Bingley, and noted the disappointing lack of attendees: he assured everyone that the Annual Town Meeting next year will be better advertised to encourage residents to attend.

He reported on the work of Bingley Town Council over the last year, highlighting the following:

- Arranged very successful, regular litter picks: thanks to everyone who has helped out to make a difference to Bingley, including community groups.
- Provided more Christmas lighting in the parish in the last year, including a tree in Gilstead.
- Provided additional grit bins at the request of residents, where appropriate.
- Established the Changing Places Working Group, who have been working on providing a Changing Places facility in Bingley town centre, work on which will commence this year.
- Continued to facilitate the monthly Farmers' Markets, although they have been very quiet.
- Arranged for the Play in the Park events, facilitated by Bradford Council and paid for by the Town Council; these will also be taking place this year.
- In January this year, agreed a rise in precept to cover the increasing cost of Town Council activities: the budget is on the website, and councillors are happy to answer any questions on this decision. It is a small financial increase, and is substantially lower than in neighbouring towns, including Baildon, Ilkley, Keighley and Shipley.
- All formal meetings are now recorded and posted on YouTube to increase transparency, although the official record of the meetings are still the official minutes.
- Changes to the composition of the Town Council included the resignation of Helen Owen, John Pennington and Jo Reynard, and the election of Councillors Maureen Carney, Ros Dawson, Andrew Fenton and Lewis Kirdale.

- Changes to the staffing team, with the recruitment of the new of Deputy Clerk and a new Town Clerk.
- All committees and working groups will be appointed at the Annual Meeting of the Council later this month. Thanks were expressed to all councillors and lay members who work in these groups.
- This evening there will be presentations from the local Women's Institute group, Five Rise Frocks, the Friends of Myrtle Park and Bingley Remembrance Day Group on the work undertaken with the Town Council grants received.

## 2. Apologies

Apologies were noted from Councillors Dawson, Fenton and Miah.

## 3. Previous minutes from 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Previous minutes from the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 were approved as a true and correct record.

## 4. Presentations by local groups

Five Rise Frocks Women's Institute:

The group meet every Wednesday morning to look after Market Square, and it was noticed last year that the Jubilee Stone needed refurbishment. After liaising with the local gardening group for advice and Bradford Council for permission, a quote was obtained to undertake it professionally. It was decided to re-cover the regaling and inscription, in time for the Jubilee this year. The cost was covered via local fund-raising, with lots of support from the public, then two town councillors advised to apply for Town Council grant, and Bingley Chamber of Trade also supported the work as well as two local cafes. The group continued to craft fundraise, and £1023.25 was eventually raised. The extra money is going to be used to plant a plum tree also and to acknowledge everyone who helped support the work.

Friends of Myrtle Park:

Many thanks for the support and 2 grants, including £9,304 CIL funding that was used to refurbish the park hub, which was originally the veterans hut, and an extra £306 for the history board. The hut used to be cramped and dark, however thanks to the Town Council grants and to Bradford Council for the external refurbishment, the windows and doors were replaced before internal the internal refurbishment took place. The Town Council grant was used to strip back the interior, which uncovered rotting floorboards therefore there was an extra job to replace the whole flooring. The Town Council then transferred the original funds granted for the history board to the flooring work. The Friends are very pleased with the work done, as it is tasteful and in keeping with the age. The hub now has laminate flooring and bright light walls. The grant was also to fund 3 display boards on the wall, regarding the history of the park, what it meant to people in the pandemic, a homage to bowling club and a children's corner. Since opened hub last October, there have been over 300 users, including park runners, Action Stations, jazz group, Bingley Bells etc. and there will be an information day for the Bingley Men's Shed that is being formed. There have been lovely comments from all that have used it. The hub was used by the public for the Easter trail, where there was a fantastic response with 150-200 people attending.

**Bingley Remembrance Day Group:**

Councillor Carney provided further information on Bingley Remembrance Day Group, as follows: it was formed in 2019 to take over the organization of the Remembrance Day Parade and service when it was announced that the Bingley branch of the Royal Legion would be closing. Remembrance Day events were organized in 2019 and 2021 (although not in 2020 due to the pandemic) and on both occasions the Town Council have provided a £500 grant. Last year there were between 1500-1700 people in attendance, including lots of children and local groups such as the Brownies, Guides and Cubs; there was also an increase in the number of veterans taking part and another school being involved. The Group will be encouraging more veterans and schools to be involved this year.

**Bingley Little Theatre:**

Councillor Williams reported that Bingley Little Theatre were unable to attend, however they had sent in a letter of thanks with photographs of the work undertaken with their Town Council grant.

**5. Open forum**

Everyone in attendance networked informally.

**6. To close the meeting**

Councillor Williams thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.20pm.