

BINGLEY TOWN COUNCIL



Bingley Town Council, Myrtle Place, Bingley, BD16 2LF

Minutes of the Full Council meeting of Bingley Town Council held on Tuesday 25th July 2023 at 6.30pm at Cottingley Town Hall, Main Street, Cottingley, Bingley

Councillors present: Beckwith, Clough, Fenton, Forrest, Gentleman, Gibbons (Chair), Goode, Heseltine, Shaw, Truelove, Williams

Councillors absent: Carney, Drucquer, Malik, Miah, Winnard

In attendance: Eve Haskins (Town Clerk)

Members of the public: Three

Meeting commenced at 6.30pm.

2324/53 Chair's remarks

Noted the following remarks from the Councillor Gibbons, the Chair of the Town Council:

- We are now entering the summer holiday period, so the Play in the Park events will begin every Friday of the holidays, beginning in Gilstead this week.
- The bandstand concerts continue in Myrtle Park, with one taking place this coming Sunday.
- At a recently attended Ward Partnership meeting, the police present reported that the perpetrators of a spate of local burglaries are now in prison, and also reported that there is a national trend for the theft of Range Rovers and Land Rovers; the advice from the police is to keep any wireless keys in a Faraday pouch, especially when at home, so they cannot be cloned from outside the property.
- A planning appeal against the refusal of the planning permission at Crossflatts Cricket Club has been dismissed as from yesterday, therefore there is no planning permission for this development work to go ahead.

2324/54 Apologies for absence

Apologies received, and the reasons for absence approved, from Councillors Drucquer, Malik, Miah and Winnard.

2324/55 Disclosures of interest

Councillors Heseltine and Williams both declared an interest in agenda item 2324/60 as personal acquaintances of two of the potential co-optees.

No written requests for dispensation had been received.

2324/56 Minutes of previous meetings

Resolved to approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 27th June 2023 as a true and accurate record.

Councillor Beckwith entered the meeting at 6.47pm.

2324/57 Presentations by candidates standing for co-option

The Council received presentations, and had their questions answered, from the following candidates standing for co-option to Bingley Town Council (those candidates not providing the presentation left the room while the others provided their presentation):

Chair..... 1

Date.....

- a) Michael Forrest.
- b) Mark Shaw.
- c) Lynne Williams.

2324/58 Exclusion of press and public

Resolved to exclude the press and public from item 2324/59 under the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960 s1 (2)), due to its confidential nature.

2324/59 Candidates standing for co-option

A discussion took place regarding the candidates standing for co-option.

All three candidates entered the meeting at 7.18pm.

Councillor Gibbons explained the voting process: each ward position to be taken at a time, and councillors to vote only once for each position.

2324/60 Co-option of candidates

Resolved to co-opt Michael Forrest for the Crow Nest ward vacancy: voting took place via a show of hands.

Resolved to co-opt Mark Shaw for the Gilstead ward vacancy: voting took place via a show of hands.

Councillor Shaw left the meeting at 7.27pm.

2324/61 Confidential items due to be discussed after item 2324/78

Resolved to agree that no further agenda items to be discussed in confidence following the exclusion of the press and public in agenda item 2324/78, due to their sensitive nature.

2324/62 Public Participation

None.

2324/63 Ongoing items

- BCB Radio request: previously agreed that Councillors Carney, Gibbons, Goode, Heseltine, Williams and Winnard to take part in this radio programme about the Town Council; initial meeting to take place with BCB Radio representative on 10th August at 6.30pm, with a view to the recording taking place in September. Councillor Gibbons requested that all interested members to respond to her with their availability during September.
- Bingley Pool: no updates.
- Climate Emergency: Councillor Gibbons reported that Councillor Williams circulated a document including a motion on the climate emergency status after the agenda pack had been sent out for this meeting therefore this will be considered at the next Full Council meeting.
- Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs): Councillor Gibbons reported that she attended a meeting with Bradford Council representatives today to discuss highways issues and confirmed that Bradford Council are currently redoing policy papers on how they would support town and parish councils with SIDs, therefore this is all on hold until the paper is approved within Bradford Council.

2324/64 Finance

Resolved the following:

- a) To approve the schedule of payments for July 2023.
- b) To approve the bank reconciliations for June 2023.

2324/65 Election of members to Committees and Working Groups

Resolved to elect the following members onto the following committees/working groups:

- a) Events, Marketing and Communications Committee: Councillors Drucquer and Forrest and Mrs Lynne Williams (lay member).
- b) Neighbourhood Plan Working Group: Councillor Forrest and Mrs Lynne Williams (lay member).

2324/66 Events, Marketing and Communications Committee (EMACC)

Noted the following update from Councillor Gibbons from the recent EMACC meeting:

- Bingley Town Council networking event, organised by EMACC, to take place on Saturday 16th September 2023, 10am-12pm: this intends to bring people together to work for Bingley, to make it a better place; EMACC members will be attending and all other councillors welcome also.
- Bingley Business Expo, Wednesday 27th September 2023, 9.30pm-4pm: looking for members to attend a Town Council stall with appropriate material, Councillor Goode agreed to cover the afternoon slot.
- D-Day event for 2024: will be looked at again once Councillor Carney has liaised with Bingley Remembrance Day group.

2324/67 Finance and General Purposes (F&GP) Committee

Noted the following update from Councillor Gibbons from the recent F&GP Committee meeting:

- Allotments inspections have now taken place and the first allotment forum of the year with plot holders will be held this Thursday.
- Business Case process is being revised by Councillor Williams.
- Councillors Gibbons and Williams are working on the new website with the staffing team, agreed that Councillor Forrest to be involved also.
- Requested quote for electrification on bandstand as the original one has expired.
- Continue to focus on necessary work on the Hub building.
- Approved the purchase of a new laptop for a member of staff.

2324/68 Planning Committee

Noted the following update from Councillor Clough from the recent Planning Committee meeting: applications were considered and recommendations made after intensive discussion on a potential housing development.

2324/69 Staffing Committee

Noted the following update from Councillor Clough from the recent Staffing Committee meeting:

- Councillor Winnard was elected as Chair and Councillor Clough elected as Vice Chair for the municipal year.
- Approved the Lone Working Policy.
- Agreed to increase the hours for the Admin Assistant to allow her to focus on allotment issues.
- Agreed to keep the office hours as open to be public on Mondays and Wednesdays, 10am-12pm.

2324/70 Green and Clean

Noted the following update from Councillor Goode on Green and Clean:

- Litter picks: next litter pick due to be held on 12th August; subsequent litter picks to be held on 30th September, then prior to the Remembrance Day event on Sunday 12th November.
- Plants: summer plants are all looking good; autumn plants now ordered.
- Brackets: not had an update from Carlton Nurseries on these; Town Clerk to verify whether these have now been fitted.

- Canal litter bins: Councillor Gibbons reported that Bradford Council have proposed to adopt eight of the litter bins on the tow path in the Bingley area.

2324/71 Five Rise Way-marking (pavement signs)

Noted the following update from Councillor Gibbons on the Five Rise way-marking scheme: the signage work is now with the sign shop; no further updates from the Canal and River Trust so Councillor Gibbons to chase this up.

2324/72 Annual Report 2022-23

Resolved to approve the Annual Report 2022-23, subject to a minor change regarding budget provision for the SIDs for clarity.

2324/73 Town Clerk's Report

Resolved to accept the Town Clerk's Report.

2324/74 Correspondence

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

- a) Email from Ward Councillor Fricker re funding application for renovation of bandstand in Myrtle Park, Bingley: noted, agreed that this issue to be revisited when an update has been received.
- b) Email from resident re concerns re traffic/need for a crossing at Eldwick Primary School: Councillor Gibbons reported that this issue was queried with Highways at Bradford Council today, who confirmed that a new crossing patrol worker has been employed for this area; Town Clerk to pass this information onto the concerned resident.
- c) Email from Professor of Transport Geography, University of Salford, re Bradford TrainTram proposal: noted, agreed to invite Professor Knowles to a future Full Council meeting to provide a presentation on this proposal.
- d) Email re closure of Bingley train station ticket office consultation: noted, agreed that the Town Clerk to respond to this consultation strongly objecting to this ticket office closure, on the following grounds: concerns regarding safety elements - Bingley train station is a difficult station to navigate, especially for those with restricted mobility, as well as the prospect of increased anti-social behaviour in an unattended station, which will deter people from travelling. In addition, the fear of being fined if a ticket is not purchased before getting on the train will also deter residents from travelling; the Town Council would therefore prefer for it to remain open to serve the population of Bingley, which is an ageing population.
- e) Email from a resident re a request for a crossing at Eldwick Primary School: see agenda item 2324/74b above.

2324/75 Council priorities

Resolved to agree the following regarding Council priorities:

- Neighbourhood Plan to continue to be a priority, to ensure it is adopted in the next couple of years and then the Council will need to focus on how to address the aspirations within it.
- Engaging with younger people should be a priority, to help attracting people to Bingley and keeping them here. Agreed that the Council should strive to work with the Youth Service at Bradford Council for advice and support on how to engage with young people: Town Clerk to contact the Youth Service representatives to invite them to a Full Council meeting to discuss this further.
- The provision of the SIDs, as well as road safety in general in the town, to continue to be a priority.
- Improvement of the riverside paths and parks in the town to continue to be a priority.

2324/76 Promotional items

Resolved to promote the following items for publication:

- Agenda item 2324/60: Co-option of two new councillors.
- Agenda item 2324/65: New members of committees/working groups.
- Agenda item 2324/70: Upcoming litter picks.
- Agenda item 2324/72: Annual Report to be printed/delivered very soon.

2324/77 Date of next meeting

The date of the next Full Council meeting agreed as Tuesday 29th August 2023 at 6.30pm at Eldwick Memorial Hall, Otley Road, Eldwick.

2324/78 Exclusion of press and public

Resolved to exclude the press and public from items 2324/79 and 2324/80 under the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960 s1 (2)), due to their confidential nature.

2324/79 Staffing issues

Resolved to agree an incremental pay rise for a member of staff following a successful appraisal.

2324/80 Council culture

A discussion took place regarding the culture of the Town Council, where it was emphasised that, although councillors may sometimes have opposing views, all debate should take place in a respectful manner and all councillors need to recognise that any decisions coming out of Council meetings are democratic decisions of the Council as a whole.

Meeting closed at 8.28pm.