

BINGLEY TOWN COUNCIL



The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley, BD16 2LF

Minutes of the Full Council meeting of Bingley Town Council held on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 6.30pm at St Aidan's Church Hall, Canal Road, Crossflatts, Bingley

Councillors present: Beckwith, Carney, Drucquer, Forrest, Gentleman, Gibbons, Goode, Miah, Truelove, Williams

Councillors absent: Clough, Fenton, Heseltine, Malik, Shaw, Winnard

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

Members of the public: Three (including Ward Councillor Joe Wheatley and Carys Bose of Bradford Council's Youth Service)

Meeting commenced at 6.30pm.

2324/174 Chair's remarks

Noted the following remarks from Councillor Gibbons:

- Happy New Year – we hope it is a good and successful one for Bingley.
- We all need to be cognisant of the news regarding the financial situation for Bradford Council, which may mean cuts in services.
- Full Council training in the Hub next Wednesday 17th January – all councillors need to attend.
- The work on the electrification of the bandstand in Myrtle Park is ongoing.

2324/175 Apologies for absence

Apologies received, and the reasons for absence approved, from Councillors Clough, Fenton, Heseltine, Malik, Shaw and Winnard.

2324/176 Disclosures of interest

No disclosures of interest.

No written requests for dispensation had been received.

2324/177 Minutes of previous meetings

Resolved to approve the minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on 5th December 2023 as a true and accurate record.

2324/178 Confidential items due to be discussed after item 2324/193

Resolved to agree that no agenda items to be discussed in confidence following the exclusion of the press and public in agenda item 2324/193, due to their sensitive nature.

2324/179 Representation from Bradford Council's Youth Service

A representative from Bradford Council's Youth Service, Carys Bose, who covers the Shipley constituency, provided a brief update as follows:

- Run youth provision in every single ward across the district, working with young people aged 11 to 19 years old.
- In Bingley there is the Bingley Youth Café, which is a great space and well used by young people.

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Chair.....

Date.....

- Also run the Connect Group, which was set up with help from Bingley Bubble, and helps young people who need help with poor mental health. This was set up three years ago, although has since morphed into a girls' only project therefore a boys' group has been set up to address the gender gap.
- Also run an inclusion group in Bingley Youth Café for young people with autism, to help them develop social skills.
- There is a youth worker in Bingley Grammar School for a day and a half every week, as well as a youth worker in Beckfoot School.
- Want to enable young people to build up confidence, and to get them involved in the Bradford City of Culture 2025. Plan to move an arts organization, Yorkshire Academy of Creative Arts and Dance, into Bingley Youth Café in time for 2025, which will offer music sessions, drama, photography etc. to ensure that young people feel involved in 2025 celebrations.
- The youth service takes referrals from schools, etc. for young people that need support, and there are a lot of referrals received from the Bingley area.
- Proposed cuts to the service next year, with the plan to merge Shipley and Keighley together.
- Ms Bose answered several questions from councillors, including to confirm that the youth café is used by between 5 and 10 in the boys' group and 15 to 20 in the girls' group, and that they organise public events including raising money for charity; she also highlighted that the youth service work to engage with the young people in Bingley to address the anti-social behaviour in Myrtle Park, Lidl etc. She also confirmed that only the youth service managers are full time, the others only work part time, and that the proposed cuts to the service by merging Shipley with Keighley will reduce the number of advanced practitioners from five to four. She also confirmed that the high referral number in Bingley is due to the fact that many residents of the Bingley area are aware of how to find support for their children.

Thanks were expressed to Ms Bowes for her attendance.

2324/180 Public Participation

None.

2324/181 Representation from Bradford Council Ward Councillors

Bradford Council Ward Councillor Wheatley updated all on recent work in Bingley, including the following:

- The recent bus consultation has now closed, so the West Yorkshire Combined Authority may have more control going forward.
- Leeds Bradford Airport planning application for altered night-time flights is due to be decided on 25th January 2024; this is under the remit of Leeds City Council however others have lobbied for no changes to night flights.
- Still exploring local community banking, a private project in which banking hubs are based at post offices to give residents access to their bank representative on a specific day.
- Ward Councillor Wheatley answered questions from Town Councillors, to confirm that the highways work near Beckfoot School is not yet completed, and has received several complaints from residents, and to confirm that the Boundary Commission took proposals from the political parties of Bradford Council, who have submitted their recommendations which has gone out to consultation and the result will be a decision made by the Boundary Commission. He highlighted that the proposals do not include a splitting of communities, but a necessary changing of electoral numbers as the current Bingley ward is too large. The Town Councillors expressed concerns that the splitting of Eldwick to fall under two parishes may make the village feel fragmented (to be discussed further under item 2324/191c).

2324/182 Ongoing items

- a) Bingley Pool: Councillor Carney reported that the Friends of Bingley Pool are meeting at the end of the month to appoint more trustees. Ward Councillor Wheatley reported that the paperwork is still being undertaken to determine whether there is any interest in companies taking over the building (as a current asset of Bradford Council), however highlighted that the Friends of Bingley Pool's criteria for a new pool has been included in this; he confirmed that this process may take between four to six months.

Ward Councillor Wheatley and Ms Bowes left the meeting at 7.03pm.

Agreed to take agenda item 2324/185 before 2324/184.

2324/185 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

Councillor Williams provided an update from the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group, confirming that the Plan is ready to go to Regulation 14 consultation, including going out to statutory and non-statutory consultees as well as Bingley residents; he also explained that Bradford Council's Local Plan representative had advised that a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) document was required, which Councillor Gibbons subsequently compiled.

Resolved the following:

- To approve the Full Neighbourhood Plan and HRA.
- To agree to move to Regulation 14 consultation.
- To approve the timetable and approach to the Regulation 14 consultation, including a 8 week consultation period commencing in February to avoid the pre-election period [the final dates agreed following the meeting were for the consultation to commence on 12th February and run to 4th April 2024; with two drop-in events taking place on 24th February and 24th March 2024, 10am to 2pm, in the Hub].
- To agree the costs for the Regulation 14 consultation, including the postcards' design, printing and distribution via Leafletdrop; and to agree to delegate the approval of the postcard design to the Town Clerk.

2324/184 Finance

Resolved the following:

- a) To approve the schedule of payments for January 2024.
- b) To approve the bank reconciliations for December 2023.
- c) Christmas costs:
 - (i) To approve the Risk and Resource Assessment form for the Christmas costs for 2024.
 - (ii) To approve the Christmas costs for 2024.
- d) Bandstand concerts:
 - (i) To confirm the prior approval of the Risk and Resource Assessment form for the bandstand concerts for 2024.
 - (ii) To approve the bandstand concerts for 2024.
- e) Five Rise way-marking scheme:
 - (i) To approve the Risk and Resource Assessment form for the Five Rise way-marking scheme.
 - (ii) To approve the Five Rise way-marking scheme.
- f) Play in the Park 2024:
 - (i) To approve the Risk and Resource Assessment form for Play in the Park 2024.
 - (iii) To approve the Play in the Park 2024.
- g) Riverside walk project:
 - (i) To approve the Risk and Resource Assessment form for the riverside walk project.

- (ii) To approve the riverside walk project.
- h) Summer street bunting project:
 - (i) To not approve the Risk and Resource Assessment form for the summer street bunting project, until further investigations have taken place with Bradford Council.
 - (ii) To not approve the summer street bunting project.
- i) To not approve the creation of a 'project pot' using the Public Sector Deposit Fund bank interest, to be earmarked for local projects.
- j) Budget and precept for 2024-25:
 - (i) To agree the budget for Bingley Town Council for 2024-25 at £310,710. This includes reserves of £109,415 for Allotments £15,885, Elections £17,365, General Reserve £56,165, and Hub £20,000.
 - (ii) To approve delegations to committees and Town Clerk as detailed on the budget.
 - (iii) To set the precept for Bingley Town Council for 2024-25 as £238,290, which is £27.77 for a Band D property (0.06% decrease on last year's figure): Town Clerk to send precept demand to Bradford Council accordingly prior to the deadline of 19th January 2024.

2324/186 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: recommended to move funds from the Public Sector Deposit Fund to Unity Bank; agreed to purchase one Speed Indicator Device (SID) for Cottingley; agreed 2Commune as the new website provider; next litter pick to take place on Saturday 20th January near Britannia Street/Britannia Bridge from 10am-12pm.

Resolved to agree the recommendation to transfer £80,000 from the Public Sector Deposit Fund to Unity Bank.

2324/187 Planning Committee

Noted the following update from Councillor Gibbons from the recent Planning Committee meeting: applications were considered and recommendations made, no Planning Panels coming up.

2324/188 Five Rise way-marking

Councillor Gibbons reported that the brown canal signs were moved before Christmas.

Councillor Miah left the meeting at 8.12pm.

2324/189 Biodiversity Duty

Resolved to agree the following regarding the Council's response to the 'biodiversity duty' placed on local authorities introduced by the Environment Act 2021:

- Planning Committee needs to take consideration of biodiversity issues.
- Biodiversity issues need to be considered when reviewing the Allotment Policy.
- To adopt the Biodiversity Policy.

2324/190 Town Clerk's Report

Resolved to accept the Town Clerk's Report.

2324/191 Correspondence

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

- a) Emails from YLCA, including on the revised NALC employee contracts: noted.

- b) Email from Shipley Town Council re invitation to Shipley Emergency Plan liaison meeting, Thursday 18th January 2024, 9.30am-11.30am at Shipley Town Hall: noted that the Town Clerk to determine whether Councillor Heseltine is available to attend.
- c) Email from Baildon Town Council re Boundary Commission proposals regarding Eldwick: noted, concerns were expressed regarding the fact that the Town Council would need to work with the Bradford Council ward councillors from three separate areas due to the proposed splitting of Eldwick, and agreed that wording for a new Facebook post and monthly mailing requesting residents' views of this issue to be agreed via email with input from Councillors Heseltine and Truelove, who will then submit a response on behalf of the Town Council.

2324/192 Promotional items

Resolved to promote the following items for publication:

- Agenda item 2324/184: Budget, precept and projects agreed for 2024-25.
- Agenda item 2324/185: Neighbourhood Plan progress (Regulation 14 consultation).
- Agenda item 2324/186: Litter picks.
- Agenda item 2324/191c: Boundary Commission consultation – to encourage residents' views.

2324/193 Date of next meeting

The date of the next Full Council meeting agreed as Tuesday 27th February 2024 at 6.30pm, at Little House, Market Street, Bingley, BD16 2HP.

2324/194 Exclusion of press and public

There were no 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 8.30pm.