

BINGLEY TOWN COUNCIL



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

Minutes of the Full Council meeting of Bingley Town Council held on Tuesday 24th September 2024 at 6.30pm at Bingley Baptist Church, Clyde Street, Bingley

Councillors present: Beckwith, Carney, Drucquer, Fenton, Gentleman (Chair), Goode, Hardy, Heseltine, Malik, Miah, Shaw, Truelove, Winnard

Councillors absent: Clough, Gibbons

In attendance: Eve Haskins (Town Clerk)

Members of the public: One (Paul Naylor from Bradford Council's Highways Winter Maintenance Team)

Meeting commenced at 6.30pm.

2425/100 Chair's remarks

Noted the following remarks from the Councillor Gentleman, the Chair of the meeting:

- Summer is officially over, as we move into autumn; let's hope that it is a mild winter for all pensioners who have lost their winter fuel allowance.
- There are still plenty of activities happening in Bingley: free tai chi lessons in Prince of Wales Park this Saturday, also Bingley Creates will be at Damart Café offering pottery etc.; on Sunday there is 'My Kinda Music' in Cottingley Town Hall at 2pm; on Monday Bingley Camera Club will be giving a talk at Bingley United Reform Church; on Saturday 5th October, there will be a 'Willow Weaving' event at Jerr Wood; and on Saturday 19th October the Town Council will be hosting the next community networking event at Cardigan House, Ferncliffe Road, Bingley, from 10am to 12pm.

2425/101 Apologies for absence

Apologies received and the reasons for absence approved from Councillors Clough and Gibbons.

2425/102 Disclosures of interest

No disclosures of interest. No written requests for dispensation had been received.

2425/103 Minutes of previous meetings

Resolved to approve the minutes of the Full Town Council meeting held on 27th August 2024 as a true and accurate record.

2425/104 Confidential items due to be discussed after item 2425/126

No further items to be discussed after agenda item 2425/126 following the exclusion of the press and public, due to their sensitive nature.

2425/105 Public Participation

None.

2425/106 Representation from Bradford City of Culture 2025 team

Item deferred to a future meeting.

Councillor Shaw entered the meeting at 6.42pm.

Chair..... 1

Date.....

2425/107 Representation from Bradford Council's Highways Winter Maintenance Team

Paul Naylor from Bradford Council's Highways Winter Maintenance Team provided an update on the scheme this year, answering questions from councillors and highlighting the following:

- Worked well with the Town Council last year to highlight local areas that required attention, including the footbridge at Britannia Street; please can the Town Council and residents continue to inform the team/Bradford Council Ward Councillors if there are any highways related issues.
- As well as winter maintenance (gritting etc.), the team are also responsible for the winter cleansing operation.
- A challenge for the team this year is the closure of two depots, which means that Ilkley jobs now run from Keighley, and Queensbury jobs now run from Bradford; although this impacts on cleansing predominantly, the depots are used for gritting also so the team will only be working from only two depots going forward. However, it is hoped that there will be improvements in other areas, such as a possible electric gritter and setting up a salt mine for use on the highways (as featured on the BBC News).
- The footpath service around the town centres will still be in place this year; the team work in conjunction with Bradford Council's Parks Department to spread salt in Bingley – Mr Naylor to send the footpath gritting route plan onto the Town Council, and to investigate the gritter that is still stored in Myrtle Park (as reported by Councillor Goode).
- As well as the gritting operation, the team clear gullies and there are three gully wagons assessing the Bradford area, including the Ireland Bridge area in Bingley; the team are also aware of the broken gully at Castlefields, Bingley, which needs further investigation by the gully maintenance team. There are 100,000 gullies in the Bradford area and six gully operatives therefore, again, please can the Town Council and residents continue to report any gully issues to Bradford Council (via Bradford Council's general enquiries number – 01274 431000 – or via the online reporting tool - <https://www.bradford.gov.uk/transport-and-travel/report-issues/report-blocked-gullies-and-drains/>) and the team will aim to respond within 21 days.
- It was reported that there is overgrown vegetation on the Keighley bound slip road onto the bypass: Mr Naylor to highlight this to the cleansing department.

The Town Council thanked Mr Naylor for his attendance at the meeting; he left the meeting at 6.58pm.

2425/108 Representation from Bradford Council Ward Councillors

Councillor Winnard reported the following updates from Bradford Council:

- There are new arrangements for Bradford Council's bulk waste collection service following a review: collections are now only going to be carried out at weekends and residents need to book a slot with the Council (either ring or book online), at a cost of £50 for 3 items.
- Dangerous parking at schools has been highlighted again, with two recent incidents in Cottingley near the primary school, particularly parking on footpaths: the health and safety of the children is paramount here. It was reported that the blocking of driveways is also a major problem in Cottingley near the schools, as well as problem parking on Bradford Old Road and grass verges by Dixons Cottingley Academy. Councillor Winnard agreed to feed back these issues to Bradford Council Wardens to agree a workable solution.
- Another common issue raised is the profusion of weeds/vegetation on footpaths and the sides of roads; an outside contractor is now being used, who spray each of the wards three times per summer, however some roads have been omitted. At the Council Executive next week there will be a debate regarding the use of weedkiller, including the use of glyphosphate.

2425/109 Parking permit charges proposal

Resolved to agree that Councillors Carney and Heseltine to put together a letter to Bradford Council outlining the concerns of the Town Council regarding the implementation of parking permits for residents/visitors parking in specific areas, highlighting the following:

- This will be detrimental to disabled residents, as well as any elderly residents who do not have access to the internet to secure these permits.
- Some areas where the parking permits were introduced to alleviate problem parking (e.g. Poplar House, due to the former Bradford and Bingley Building Society workers) are no longer necessary.
- In some areas where parking permits were introduced, residents were not consulted initially on these plans: to suggest that Bradford Council should consult residents on whether they feel their parking scheme is still relevant, and if not, it should be revoked for that area (i.e. the scheme needs to be reviewed).
- Enforcement, e.g. parking wardens, need to be in situ in necessary areas to enforce these permits where needed (e.g. near Bingley Grammar School).

2425/110 Ongoing items

a) Bingley Pool:

Resolved to agree to support the Friends of Bingley Pool and Bradford Ward Councillors in their campaign to secure funding for the pool, and to send the suggested letter to Anna Dixon MP to request that she keeps the pressure on to secure this funding.

2425/111 Councillor vacancy

No interest has been received on this vacancy as yet; agreed that the co-option process to continue with reviewed dates if no interest is received by the deadline of noon on 27th September 2024.

2425/112 Finance

Resolved to agree the following:

- To receive and approve the schedule of payments for September 2024.
- To agree the bank reconciliations for August 2024.
- To authorise the Chair of the Town Council to instruct on Payroll for the Town Clerk.

2425/113 Election of members to Committees and Working Groups

Resolved to agree the following:

- To elect Councillor Gentleman to the Events, Marketing and Communications Committee (EMACC).
- To elect Councillor Gentleman to the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG).

2425/114 Budget priorities/public consultation

Resolved to agree to undertake a public consultation, via Survey Monkey, to garner residents' views on potential projects/budget priorities for 2025-26: Councillors Gentleman and Gibbons and the Town Clerk to compose some questions to take to the next EMACC meeting for approval, prior to holding the consultation from the end of October to the end of November this year.

2425/115 Policies

Resolved to approve the following policies:

- Information Technology and Cyber Security Policy.
- Publication of Supporting Documents Policy.
- Security Incident Policy.

2425/116 Events, Marketing and Communications Committee (EMACC)

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

- The newly purchased app. facilitated by the website host, Cuttlefish, is working well.
- The Chairman of Bingley Chamber of Trade attended the meeting to provide an update on the Christmas switch on event: this will take place on Saturday 30th November, and they will be applying for a grant from the Town Council for 50% of the total costs; it is the last Christmas event that the Secretary will be undertaking therefore this may need to be taken on by the Town Council from next year.
- Regular meetings, chaired by Bradford Council Ward Councillor Fricker, continue to be held to plan for the City of Culture celebrations next year, and lots of community groups are already part of a large programme for Bingley, for the festival 'Bingley 2025' to be held on the early May bank holiday weekend (3rd/4th/5th May). This event will be themed, with the Saturday being based on heritage, the Sunday celebrating crafts and music, and the Monday focusing on activities, including 'Myrtle Mayhem', the skateboarding competition, and will hopefully also involve local sports groups.
- Councillor Carney is working as a member of the Bingley Remembrance Group to make plans for the VE Day celebration on Saturday 10th May next year.
- Liaising with Bradford Council regarding running an extended series of music events in Myrtle Park bandstand next year, every Sunday from 1st June to 31st August 2025. These will be in conjunction with the Friends of Myrtle Park and Bingley Music Town, who will agree the dates they would like the bandstand for their music events, and then Bradford Council can fill the empty slots.
- The first stage of the riverside walk project has been completed, with the refurbishing of the path and painting of railings, by volunteers from Aire River Trust (ART) and Bradford Council's Rights of Way department. There will be another meeting held with ART with a view to improving it further, which may be a project for next year.

2425/117 Finance and General Purposes (F&GP) Committee

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

- Allotments:
 - The shed has now been dismantled on plot 5, Beck Lane; recommendation that £1,170 is transferred from the Allotment Reserve to cover this cost.
 - Apple tree on plot 6, Beck Lane, needs a crown lift; awaiting confirmation from Bradford Council whether planning permission is needed to do this.
 - Autumn clearing day at Beck Lane on Saturday 12th October, where a skip will be ordered to help plot holders dispose of debris etc.; Councillors Carney, Fenton, Goode and Heseltine to attend to help out and strongly requested further councillor volunteers for this day.
- Grant: Friends of Prince of Wales Park were granted funding to contribute towards the cost of pre-project expenses to regenerate the park/treacherous pathways, which are blocking up the drains, etc., subject to the group gaining relevant permission from Bradford Council.
- Green and Clean:
 - Next litter pick taking place this Saturday 28th September, meeting at Britannia Street near the canal bridge, at 10am – Councillors Carney and Drucquer to attend to allow Councillor Goode to absent himself for some of the time; also agreed with Bingley Remembrance Group that a leaf and litter pick to take place prior to the Remembrance Day event on Sunday 10th November, to meet at Bingley Arts Centre at 8am.
 - Councillor Goode and the Town Clerk have undertaken a thorough assessment of all the planters in the parish, with a view to compiling a tender for the planting and watering contracts.

- Hub: Bradford Council's Youth Café requested to use the Hub as a venue due to the café shutting down, however the committee decided against this due to logistics/potential costs etc., however it was agreed to write to Bradford Council with concerns regarding the closure of the Youth Café.

Resolved to agree to transfer £1,170 from the Allotment Reserve to cover the cost of the dismantling of the shed.

Councillor Malik left the meeting at 7.38pm.

2425/118 Neighbourhood Plan Working Group (NPWG)

Noted the following update from the Town Clerk: no updates since last meeting, agreed that the Town Clerk to contact the consultant with a view to obtaining an update on progress and to agree the next NPWG meeting date.

2425/119 Planning Committee

Noted the following update from Councillor Heseltine: the draft minutes outline the planning application recommendations made.

2425/120 Play in the Park

Resolved to agree the dates for the Play in the Park events in 2025.

2425/121 Five Rise Way-marking (pavement signs)

No updates.

2425/122 Town Clerk's Report

Noted the Town Clerk's Report.

2425/123 Correspondence

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

- a) Emails from the Friends of Bingley Pool, re requesting support for their and the Ward Councillors campaign to save the pool and providing updates: acknowledged, see agenda item 2425/110.
- b) Email from resident re request to open the public toilets early on Saturday 5th October for Myrtle Park runners: Town Clerk reported that the request has been permitted.
- c) Email from Hazelbeck School re litter picks etc.: agreed that the Town Clerk to contact the school to request that a meeting is arranged between their representatives and Councillors Carney, Goode and Hardy to discuss this proposal further.
- d) Email from resident re planning issues re Oakwood Hotel: noted, Councillor Heseltine contacted the resident to respond, as Chair of the Planning Committee, to confirm the Planning Committee's recommendation on this application.

2425/124 Promotional items

Resolved to promote the following items for publication:

- Agenda item 2425/100: Jerr Wood 'Willow Wood' clearing event, 5th October 2024.
- Agenda item 2425/100: Town Council networking event, 19th October 2024.
- Agenda item 2425/107: Representation from Bradford Council's Highways Winter Maintenance team, contact details to report gullies etc.
- Agenda item 2425/108: Changes to bulk wasting, contact numbers/link to page on Bradford Council's website.
- Agenda item 2425/108: Parking permit queries.

- Agenda item 2425/110: Support for Bingley Pool.
- Agenda item 2425/117: Grant for the Friends of Prince of Wales Park.
- Agenda item 2425/117: Liaising with Bradford Council re the closure of the Youth Café, Bingley.
- Agenda item 2425/116: Christmas switch on event, 30th November 2024, including a call for volunteers.

2425/125 Date of next meeting

The date of the next Full Council meeting agreed as Tuesday 29th October 2024 at 6.30pm at Eldwick Memorial Hall, Otley Road, Eldwick, Bingley; and to agree that there will be no Full Council meeting in November, with subsequent Full Council meetings to take place on Tuesday 3rd December 2024 and Tuesday 7th January 2025.

2425/126 Exclusion of press and public

Resolved to exclude the press and public from agenda items 2425/127 and 2425/128 under the provision of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960 s1 (2)), due to their confidential nature.

2425/127 Christmas costs

Resolved to approve Christmas costs for 2024, including a mixture of new moveable lamppost features for Main Street, Bingley, of £12,390 (cost of trees at £2,545 previously agreed at the F&GP Committee, therefore total Christmas costs of £14,935).

2425/128 Staff pay rise

Resolved to approve the incremental pay rise for the Town Clerk, following a successful annual appraisal.

Councillor Hardy expressed thanks to Councillors Heseltine and Winnard for pursuing the culvert issue on Ferndale Road, and to Councillor Shaw for fixing a step.

Meeting closed at 7.20pm.

Actions:

- **Agenda item 2425/109: Councillors Carney and Heseltine to put together a letter to Bradford Council outlining the concerns of the Town Council regarding the implementation of parking permits for residents/visitors parking in specific areas.**
- **Agenda item 2425/110: Town Clerk to send the letter to Anna Dixon MP, outlining the Town Council's support for the Friends of Bingley Pool and Bradford Ward Councillors in their campaign to secure funding for the pool, requesting her to keep the pressure on to secure this funding.**
- **Agenda item 2425/113: Town Clerk to organise for the website to be amended to include Councillor Gentleman as a member of EMACC and NPWG.**
- **Agenda item 2425/114: Councillors Gentleman and Gibbons and the Town Clerk to compile some questions to take to the next EMACC meeting for approval, prior to holding the consultation from the end of October to the end of November this year.**
- **Agenda item 2425/115: Town Clerk to arrange for the reviewed policies to be placed on the website.**
- **Agenda item 2425/117:**
 - **Councillors Carney, Fenton, Goode, Heseltine and any other volunteers to attend to help out at the autumn clearing day at Beck Lane on Saturday 12th October, where a skip will be ordered to help plot holders dispose of debris etc.**

- Councillors Carney, Drucquer and Goode to attend the litter pick this coming Saturday 28th September.
- Town Clerk to arrange for the transfer of £1,170 from the Allotment Reserve.
- Agenda item 2425/118: Town Clerk to contact the Neighbourhood Plan consultant with a view to obtaining an update on progress and to agree the next NPWG meeting date.
- Agenda item 2425/120: Town Clerk to confirm the dates for the Play in the Park events for 2025 with Bradford Council.
- Agenda item 2425/123c: Town Clerk to contact the Hazelbeck School to request that a meeting is arranged between them and Councillors Carney, Goode and Hardy to discuss the litter picking idea further.
- Agenda item 2425/125: Town Clerk to arrange for the agreed Full Council meeting dates for December 2024 and January 2025 to be put on the website/venues booked.
- Agenda item 2425/127: Town Clerk to arrange for the order of the Christmas requirements.