

Welcome to Bingley Town Council's February 2017 mailing!

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New logo and website

Bingley Town Council recently commissioned a new logo to replace the old coat of arms and reflect its status as a newly-fledged and forward-looking local council. The logo, which can be seen above, was designed by local designer Emma Gregg of Fullstop Studios, and the six segments aim to represent the six areas that make up the parish - Bingley, Cottingley, Crossflatts, Eldwick, Gilstead and Micklethwaite.

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site that we have been running for a number of months, and will give you easy access to all the basic information you might want about the council and what it does, including agendas and minutes of meetings, details of committees, headshots and contact details for individual councillors, a list of upcoming meetings and various options for getting in touch.

The site will also have a news function, and so the next mailing will come to you direct from the site. As a subscriber to our mailing list your details will be transferred direct to the website's database. Anyone wishing to sign up as a new subscriber can do so quickly and easily online.

Phase 2 of the development will include a directory of local organisations, an A-Z of services and a facility to upload local events. We will continue to maintain our Facebook page and hope that our new methods of keeping you informed meet with your approval.

Chair's Blog

Our Chair, Cllr Ros Dawson, has just started a blog on our interim website - you'll find it at this link -

<http://bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk/wordpress/index.php/chairs-blog/>

Precept for 2017/18

In December, the council agreed its [budget](#) and set its precept. The precept for 2017/2018 will be £15.96 per Band D household. This is an increase of 52p on the 2016/2017 amount and is still one of the lowest in Bradford District.

The budget has been set to cover the costs of the activities and responsibilities that the council must meet - its statutory obligations - as well as prioritising areas for action based on feedback so far from residents. City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council (CBMDC) is proposing further cuts in services, including closing all public toilets, but we understand that will not happen in the forthcoming financial year so, consequently, we have not made provision this year for any assets or services that we may take on from CBMDC, if that is what local residents want.

Picture below: Bingley Arts Centre



Maths students meet Bingley councillors

Several of our local schools have recently been taking part in a project designed to help young people use and apply their maths skills - the 4LC Forward Learning Community real-life maths community project. On Thursday 9th February, groups of pupils involved in the project presented their ideas for ways to spend the council's budget to several councillors at Bingley Arts Centre.

All the councillors were greatly impressed by the amount of thought and preparation that had gone into the work and by the confidence of the presenters. Two schools - Bingley Grammar School and Crossflatts Primary - had ambitious ideas for the old BBBS site, including a leisure and retail park (with cinema and trampoline park) and flats. Priestthorpe Primary School was also keen to deal with an eyesore, the Annex across the road, which they hoped to bring back into use with extra classrooms, a gym and an underground tunnel to escape the speeding traffic.

Saltaire Primary School devised a community garden for the centre of Bingley which made use of lots of recycled materials, and Beckfoot Grammar School continued the horticultural theme with their plans for planters in which the town could grow healthy fruit and vegetables, along the lines of the Incredible Edibles project pioneered in Todmorden. Finally, Eldwick Primary School's group had acted on their concern about speeding drivers in local streets and designed and costed new signage urging motorists to slow down.

Councillor Chris O'Neill is the Council's link with the project and is now coordinating a report with councillors' feedback on the presentations and project. Some of the projects relate directly to concerns and items already on

Welcome to our new Admin Officer

Following a recent recruitment campaign, we are delighted to announce the appointment of our new Admin Officer. Laura Jowett will be starting in this new post for the Council on Monday 6th March. She will be employed for 18 hours per week, generally but not always, working Monday to Wednesday. Laura's main responsibilities will be the website, allotments, planning and general administration support. We're sure she'll have plenty to do!

Picture below: All Saints Church, Bingley, a recent grant recipient.

Photo © Terry Brown



Eight local groups awarded funds for their projects

At the February meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, seven local groups were awarded funds through the Council's grant scheme for local organisations. The successful applicants in this second round of funding were:

All Saints Church, Bingley - contribution to a safe and inclusive path to the

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£1,650.60

Beckfoot and Bingley Tennis Club - lines and nails for court - £468

Cottingley Guides - contribution to step to Guide Hut - £2,000

Friends of Prince of Wales Park - gazebo and toilets for park event - £434

Ryshworth Rangers football club - training equipment and coaching/First Aid training - £755

Bingley Walkers are Welcome - advertising for a walking festival - £500

Picture: Flowers planted by volunteers at 3-Rise Locks on the canal



Green and Clean matters

Several local groups were keen to take advantage of the reduced-price summer bedding plants on offer from CBMDC, and £600-worth of begonias, dahlias, marigolds and geraniums have now been ordered for displays in various parts of the parish. Our thanks to all the volunteers who will be undertaking the work of planting and maintaining, complementing the planting provided by CBMDC itself. Councillors are now taking advice on the best way to use the main part of its G&C budget to provide floral displays in the centre of Bingley itself.

The CBMDC enforcement team took action recently following our reports of a litter 'grot spot' by the Magistrate's Court, requiring the owner to clear up the

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The canal towpath, and Britannia Bridge in particular, was the focus of our litter pick on 4th February, and many thanks to all who came along to help, especially those who tackled the impenetrable shrubbery. We are now looking forward to the the first weekend in March, when we will be running two litter picks as part of the Great British Spring Clean event being run by the Keep Britain Tidy campaign. Meet on Saturday 4th March, 10 am at the Parade in Cottingley near the noticeboard, or at 2pm at the Bailey Hills entrance to the cemetery - all equipment provided. Further details from Cllr John Goode (07703 456792 or Cllr Edwina Simpson (07932 191558).

A couple of reminders

A reminder for residents in the Oakwood and Lady Lane ward that the election for your new councillor takes place on 23rd February. The polling booth will be sited in the layby on Lady Lane.

Finally, the second edition of our printed newsletter is now available and is being distributed to various locations around the parish. Look out for it in your local store or at a nearby meeting venue or surgery. We will also be sending it electronically to all mailing list subscribers.



Our next mailing will be in mid-March. Please do forward this email to anyone you think will be interested, and encourage them to sign up for future mailings at mailinglist@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Our interim website has agendas and minutes of meetings and other useful reports and documents. You'll find it at www.bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk.

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With best wishes,

Bingley Town Council

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