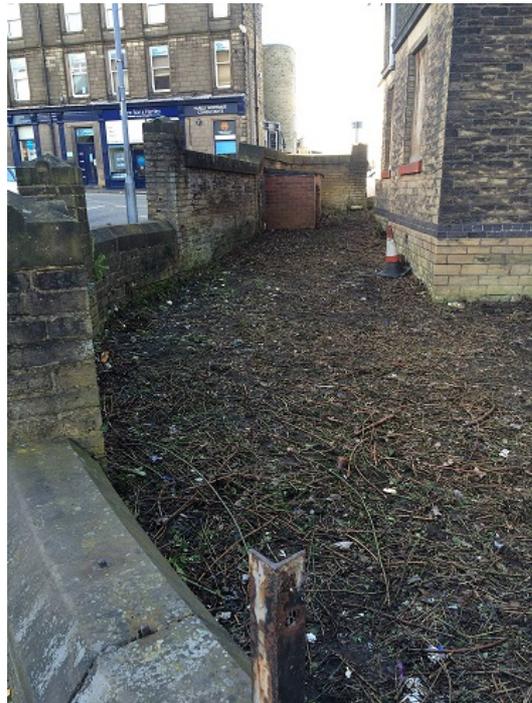


Welcome to Bingley Town Council's March 2017 mailing!

Read on for:

- Progress on derelict buildings
- Riverside repairs
- Visit to Cottingley Care Home
- Green and Clean update
- Adding your events to our website
- New Councillor for Oakwood and Lady Lane
- Annual Town Meeting
- Chair's blog

Picture below: Station Master's House before and after



Progress on derelict buildings

1. Station Master's House

The garden areas around the Station Master's house in Bingley, long a site of major concern to residents, have this week been cleared after Bradford Council

Although Bradford Council have stated that the derelict building itself is structurally sound, they wrote recently to the owners, Whetley Mills Ltd., to formally request that the garden areas be cleared of litter. It is encouraging that the necessary work has been carried out promptly.

Bingley Town Council hopes that pressure will continue to be put on the owners to keep the area tidy, and understands that Bradford Council should exercise its option to serve a Community Protection Notice if any future request is not complied with.

Ros Dawson, Bingley Town Council's chairman, welcomed progress on the issue: 'It is to be hoped that the owner will be encouraged to take action to do up, sell the house or develop it so that it can be brought back into productive use.'

Picture below: A small reminder of what the site looked like only recently

2. Priestthorpe Annex

Other welcome news from Bradford Council was the announcement of a plan to take action on the Technical School/Priestthorpe Annex on Morningson Road. This follows campaigning by residents over many years and, more recently, by Bingley Town Council.

The Annex is held by Bradford Council as Trustees of the former Bingley Science Art & Technical School. A report from the Strategic Director of Corporate Services to the Regulatory and Appeals Committee was discussed at the Committee's meeting on 9th March. The proposal was to sell the building and use the proceeds "for the educational benefit of the people of Bingley."

Cllr Ros Dawson spoke at the meeting, where it was agreed that the public should be consulted about the trustee's plan.

Picture below: Riverside working group



Riverside repairs

A working group of 11 volunteers from Carillion, led by Cllr Michelle Chapman and assisted by Cllr Chris O'Neill, spent two days earlier this month putting right some of the remaining damage from the Boxing Day floods of 2015.

Their task was to tidy an area of the river bank, repairing fencing and steps leading from the river up to the town centre by the blue 'Riverside Walk' arch. This had been a source of worry to many – dog owners in particular were worried that there was nothing to stop their pets falling into the fast-flowing river, and the steps themselves were covered with leaves and moss and impossible to use. Not only has the area been made safe, so that residents are once again able to enjoy it, it also looks a great deal tidier and smarter.

The Loft Café Bar provided welcome refreshments for the work party and many grateful comments have been received from Bingley residents.

Picture below: Carillion volunteer clearing the steps

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Visit to Cottingley Hall Care Home

Bingley Town Councillors were recently invited to meet residents at Cottingley Hall Care Home. Cllrs Goode, Varley and Clough went along on 1st March and found themselves demonstrating their pancake-flipping skills! Our thanks to residents and staff for making us welcome.

Picture below: Cllrs Goode, Varley and Clough at Cottingley Hall Care Home



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saw a whopping 110 bags of rubbish collected in Cottingley and Bingley during the course of three separate litter picks.

Cllr John Goode organised two groups in Cottingley, leading a group of pupils from Cottingley Village Primary School on Friday 3rd and a further group of adults and children on the morning of Saturday 4th. Saturday afternoon's event saw another group ranging around the boundaries of Bingley Cemetery down to the wall by Keighley Road.

Thanks as ever to all who came out to help with this, and we're grateful too to Cottingley Guides and All Saints Parish Church in Bingley for making their premises available for much-needed refreshments on the Saturday.

Dates of litter picks for the rest of the year are as follows (all Saturdays):

29th April (Gilstead Moor), 3rd June, 5th August. 7th October and 2nd December.

Our initiatives in this area are expanding, with Cllr Sara Hardman facilitating litter picks by 2 groups of children from Crossflatts Primary School on 17th March, and a number of individuals signing up to be Bingley's Green and Clean Champions. The Council is ordering some new, longer-length litter pickers and will very soon be in a position to distribute the necessary equipment.

A small group met recently to discuss plans for formal adoption of both Bingley and Crossflatts stations, which would give the community opportunities to make both stations more welcoming and attractive to residents and visitors through planting and other projects.

The Green and Clean sub-committee has been working hard on plans for floral displays in Bingley town centre this summer, and we hope to bring you news of this shortly.

Picture below: Cottingley litter pickers. (c) Philip Whiteoak, Bingley Camera Club



Website – add your community events

We hope you have found our new website useful. We are now working on phase 2 developments, which will include a directory of local community groups and an A-Z of services.

In the meantime, please do consider entering your community event into our Events diary – the calendar is not just for Council meetings!

To do this, go to Events, select Add Event and add the information requested – title, description, time and date, venue details (use one from the drop-down list or create your own), and details of the organiser and any charges. You can even add an image if you have one.

Once you press Submit, your event will be passed to a moderator who will need to approve it before it goes live on the site.

New Councillor for Oakwood and Lady Lane

A by-election was held in the Oakwood and Lady Lane ward on 23rd February, and the numbers of votes cast were as follows:

Maureen Carney, Independent – 168

Andrew Fenton, Conservative – 195

Abdul Malik, Labour – 71

The turnout was 435 out of 1211 electors (35.92%). Our thanks to all candidates for their commitment to the Council and this election, and congratulations to Andrew Fenton, who

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Annual Town Meeting

Bingley Town Council's Annual Town Meeting for 2017 will be taking place on Thursday 27th April at Bingley Methodist Church, starting at 6.30pm.

This is a meeting of the parish or town electors, and not a Council meeting, and by law it has to take place between 1st March and 1st June. It will be an occasion for the Council to inform residents of its activities throughout the year and for residents to ask questions and give their views. Formal notice will be given shortly, but we hope this will enable you to put the date in your diaries.

Chair's blog

Look out for our Chair's latest blog – you'll find it on our website under News!



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

You'll find us on Facebook too - BingleyTownCouncil

With best wishes,

Bingley Town Council

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