

News Digest no. 32 from Bingley Town Council - June 2019

Dear resident

Welcome to this first newsletter of the new council, elected in May. Details of the town councillors for each ward are below. One seat in Bingley Central is still vacant and we're pleased to have received several applications from residents interested in being co-opted onto the Council.

There may be some new faces but the council's commitment to caring for and improving our environment continues: for starters, this Saturday there's a litter pick – 8 June, 10am until 12 noon, meet at Britannia Bridge. All welcome, including older children accompanied by an adult. Every half an hour you can offer makes a difference.

The summer floral displays are starting to be installed so, together with the bedding plants provided to horticultural groups, there'll soon be some welcome splashes of colour brightening up the parish.

News of several other council initiatives are explained further in this newsletter: taking action to address the climate emergency, a new puffin crossing, the revitalised market, an update on the new office/toilet project – and efforts to gather info about Bingley Music Live.

In the coming months, the council hopes to be holding several consultations and I hope you'll get involved, express your views and help shape our community and the council's activities over the next four years.

Councillors will be have a stall at Bingley Show and hopefully at other community events in the next couple of months – please pop along and say hello.

Finally, I was delighted and privileged to be elected Chair again, with Helen Owen as vice chair, and of course will continue to serve and work as best I can for Bingley. Thanks for all the support and encouragement.

Kind regards,
Ros Dawson
Chair, Bingley Town Council

Picture below: part of the Bingley Bloomers Incredible Edible project; a tub of veg growing in the Market Square



Your new Town Councillors

Fifteen new councillors were elected on 2 May and signed the acceptance of office at the Annual General Meeting of the Council on 14 May. Their details are as follows:

Dale Barton, Crow Nest (Liberal Democrat)

John Brazendale, Crow Nest (People First), tel: 07864 796739

Howard Clough, Cottingley (Conservative), tel: 07939 023377

Ros Dawson, Priestthorpe (Independent), tel: 07720 882512

Rachael Drucquer, Crossflatts and Micklethwaite (Green Party), tel: 07708 507679

John Goode, Cottingley (Independent), tel: 07703 456792

David Heseltine, Eldwick (Conservative), tel: 01274 565468

Abdul Malik, Bingley Central (Independent), tel: 07876 787870

Ashraf Miah, Cottingley (Independent), tel: 07703 456792

Helen Owen, Gilstead (Independent), tel: 07976 304941

John Pennington, Crossflatts and Micklethwaite (Conservative), tel: 07836 261557

Edwina Simpson, Priestthorpe (Independent), tel: 07932 191558

Mark Truelove, Eldwick (Supporting Eldwick on Bingley Town Council), tel: 07809 690398

Steve Williams, Lady Lane and Oakwood (Conservative)
Geoff Winnard, Gilstead (Conservative), tel: 07497 003681

Email addresses are in the format name.name@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

A co-option process is currently underway to appoint a councillor to the unfilled Bingley Central ward place, and a decision will be made at a special meeting of the full council on Tuesday 18 June.



Markets in 2019

Come along and enjoy the next monthly market! The last one, on 1 June, was a great success with a great range of stalls selling fresh food and crafts – and entertainment from Heaton Hillbillies.

The markets are taking place on the first Saturday of the month, i.e. 6 July, 3 August, 7 September, 5 October, 2 November and 7 December. We look forward to seeing you there.

Office/toilets conversion project

The lease forming the basis of the Community Asset transfer of the toilet block from Bradford Council to Bingley Town Council was signed in March. However, Bradford Council then imposed further restrictions on the document. In April, the Council agreed responses to Bradford Council's proposals and is now

waiting for a reply. There has been a delay due to the departure of the case officer at Bradford Council and the need to recruit a replacement. As such, the Council has yet to assume responsibility for the site.

Notwithstanding this, planning approval for the conversion project has been successful, and the next step will be to put the project out to tender. The business case for the application for borrowing approval has been approved by the Council, and a tender specification will be approved shortly. Once all consents are received, e.g. the finalised lease, the Council will make an application for borrowing approval for £163,500 from the Secretary of State.

In addition, work continues to progress the installation of a Changing Places facility.

Picture below: Summer bedding plants at Myrtle Park depot awaiting distribution to local horticultural groups



Climate Emergency

The Council has responded to several key international and UK government reports and formally declared a Climate Emergency, noting Bradford Council's declaration of a Climate Emergency in January this year and a similar vote by the House of Commons on 1 May.

The Council is committed to taking action to reduce carbon emissions, not just to mitigate the damaging consequences of inaction but also to work towards

benefits including better health and cleaner, safer working environments and the opportunities for new technologies and innovation that can aid job creation.

The Council has resolved in principle to set up an Environmental Working Group, which will comprise both councillors and non-councillors. Terms of reference are to be drawn up and it is hoped that actions will include:

- supporting the Council to examine, alongside legal and financial implications, the environmental implications regarding CO2 emissions of all the decisions it makes.
- seeking ways to help and encourage the Bingley community to reduce direct and indirect CO2 emissions and become resilient changes caused by the changing climate.
- researching funding available and making to recommendations for budget provision for grant schemes from 2020-2021 onwards that will enable carbon-reduction activities in Bingley and providing guidance on grant criteria.

The council is also requesting Bradford Council keeps us up to date on progress on the reduction of carbon emissions and involves us in the new Bradford District Change Board.

A letter is being written to Philip Davies MP to ask him to seek information on government action on climate emergency from the Minister of State for Energy and Clean and to advise on any sources of funding to facilitate action at a local level.

New Puffin crossing

The Council was pleased to learn at its May meeting that a puffin crossing may soon be put in place on Chapel Lane, between the library/Five Rise Shopping Centre and the carpark.

This much-requested facility has come about following the removal of equipment from Main Street as part of the roadworks carried out to accommodate the Lidl development. The equipment is awaiting testing and, if suitable, the Town Council will then seek information from Bradford Council about a date for installation.

Picture below: Begonias and osteospermum awaiting collection



Bingley Music Live

At its April meeting, the Town Council raised concerns about the cancellation of the Bingley Music Live event, and resolved to ask Bradford Council for the rationale for cancelling this event, when other events are staged in the district as loss leaders/at a loss in order to benefit the local economy. It is also asking for the economic impact assessment carried out on BML 2018 (the Town Council is aware that NGI Solutions were contracted to do research) and any assessment of economic impacts of cancelling the 2019 event (the Town Council was advised at its meeting that the Rugby Club and two hospitality businesses alone stand to lose £125,000).

The Council has also requested the following information:

- full details of income and expenditure for BML for the last two years and information about when items were booked for the current year.
- future plans for BML to put the event onto a sound financial footing and deliver it in future years.
- reasons why Bradford Council had turned down its proposed contractor to run the event for the current financial year

Finally, the Council has also requested that Bradford Council offers full support to the Rugby Club as it goes through the process of attempting to stage a new event in place of Bingley Music Live.

Dates for your diary:

Community Litter Pick – Saturday 8 June, Britannia Bridge, Bingley, 10 am to 12 pm

The next meetings of the Town Council are at 6.30pm on:

Tuesday 18 June, 2019, Small Hall, Bingley Methodist Church, Herbert Street, Bingley (Extraordinary Meeting of full council for co-option of new Councillor)

Tuesday 25 June 2019, Small Hall, Bingley Methodist Church, Herbert Street, Bingley

You can see all our meeting dates in the calendar of the Events section of our website, and a full listing is available as a separate document, updated weekly, in the Documents section of the site.

Finally....if you've made it this far, please do share this newsletter with friends and family and encourage them to subscribe too.



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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Bingley, BD16 1AL**

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