Bingley Town Council mailing no. 27

Many of you will be pleased to see progress being made with the development of the Priestthorpe Annexe site on Mornington Road. We have an account of the latest news below as well as an invitation to interested parties to submit proposals for educational uses of the proceeds of the sale.

Thank you to those who expressed an interest in being co-opted to the Council to fill the vacancy in Oakwood and Lady Lane ward. We will be considering applications at an Extraordinary Meeting being held on Tuesday 4th December.

We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas Fayre and Lights Switch-on last weekend as much as we did, and congratulations to Bingley Chamber of Trade and volunteers for a very successful event. Do take a moment to admire the new custom-made light at the corner of the Market Square that has been made to a design by Jasmine Stross of Eldwick Primary School, who won the competition run by the Town Council.

Best wishes,
Ros Dawson
Chair, Bingley Town Council

Thank you to Michael Revill of Bingley Camera Club for his photos of the Christmas events on 24th November.

Picture below: Jasmine Stross with Jacqui Blay and Paul Griffiths of Pulse Radio at the Christmas Lights Switch-on

Christmas celebrations – and new lights

Bingley Town Council was delighted to support Bingley Chamber of Trade's very successful annual Christmas Fayre and Lights Switch-on on Saturday 24th November.

We hope residents are enjoying this year's additions to the town's Christmas lights, which this year included a custom-made light designed by Jasmine Stross from Eldwick Primary School, the winner of a competition run by the Town Council in local primary schools. Jasmine was presented with a plaque for her school and a prize by celebrities Paul Griffiths and Jacqui Blay from Pulse Radio and former Bradford City football player Gary Jones at the lights switch-on.

Picture below: Priestthorpe Annexe, now awaiting redevelopment

Plans for Priestthorpe Annexe and funds for education in Bingley

Mark Ellis, a representative from Padd Construction, the company that has recently purchased Priestthorpe Annexe on Mornington Road, Bingley from Bradford Council, attended the full council meeting on 27th November to outline the company's proposals for the development of the site.

The company has made the building safe by means of scaffolding and footpath closures, and has submitted an application to demolish the building. It is hoped demolition could start in January; this will be done by hand both for safety reasons and to ensure disruption to local residents and businesses is kept to a minimum.

A planning application for six family town houses on the site is due to be submitted next week. These will be 2.5 storeys high with integral garages and all but one having an external parking space, and there will be an amenity space at front and rear. Access to car parking will be from Kell Street. It is anticipated that work will be able to start on site in March/April and will take 12 months to complete. It is possible that the former gymnasium building can be retained and potentially developed into two additional dwellings.

Bradford Council has now clarified the process by which the proceeds of the sale (the purchase price was £226,000) will be allocated to educational uses in Bingley in accordance with the terms of the convenant on the building. A decision on this will be made by the trustees following the submission of a joint report from Estates and Property and the Council's City Solicitor acting for the

trustees.

The Town Council is to write to local schools about the opportunity to make suggestions about how the proceeds can be used. Any organisation wishing to make proposals can share them with the Town Council and/or should write to the solicitor for the trustees by letter or email letter setting out their proposals by 31st December 2018.

The address for proposals is:
Richard Winter – Solicitor for the Trustees
Deputy Team Leader, Property, Commercial and Development Team
Room 302, 3rd Floor, City Hall, Bradford, BD1 1HY
Email: richard.winter@bradford.gov.uk

The report with an assessment of the proposals and recommendations will be presented to Bradford Council's Regulatory and Appeals Committee early in 2019.

New councillor to be co-opted for Lady Lane and Oakwood ward

Three residents have applied to be co-opted to the Town Council to represent Lady Lane and Oakwood ward following the resignation of Andrew Fenton (no petition was received by Bradford Council requesting an election).

The co-option process will take place at an Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council on 4th December. The co-optee will hold office for the remainder of the Council's initial three year term, which comes to an end in April 2019 when all seats will be up for re-election.

A future for Bingley Market

Responding to consistent requests from residents to rejuvenate the town's market, the Town Council ran four trial Summer Markets in Bingley in June, July, August and October 2018 in conjunction with Yorkshire Farmers Markets. It has subsequently asked for feedback on the events from residents through a questionnaire, and a full report, including feedback from both Yorkshire Farmers Markets and traders, was presented to the council meeting on 27th November to form the basis of a decision as to how or whether to build on the initiative for the future.

Overall, feedback on the markets was positive, and the Council felt that it was important to build on the successes of the pilot. It has agreed to scope out a paid role for a community engagement/events manager to lead on developing the market and potentially other events and projects. The Council will work with Yorkshire Farmers Markets to develop a plan for up to 9 monthly markets next year, which would include finding a new stall provider. A sum of £5,000 is to be allocated from the regeneration budget to support the delivery of the markets including licences, advertising/branding and other set-up costs.

Delilah's

The Town Council submitted an objection to the application for a permanent licence for Delilah's, on the site of the former Bijou nightclub on Chapel Lane. A representative from the Council will be attending the licensing hearing on 29th November to present the Council's views.

Tender for floral displays

The Council is currently advertising a tender for a three-year floral display contract, to provide summer and winter displays throughout the parish from summer 2019. This is to build on the successful schemes run since summer 2017 and to ensure a continuous service until winter/spring 2022.

The tender has been advertised in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations in the Telegraph and Argus and on the Contract Finder website and the Yortender website. The deadlines for submissions is 12 noon on Monday 3rd December. Councillors will consider the applications at the Extraordinary Meeting on 4th December.

Aire Valley incinerator

At its meeting on 27th November, the Council considered information from the Environment Agency about the consultation process regarding Endless Energy's application to operate an incinerator at Keighley in the Aire Valley. The incinerator received the go-ahead from Bradford Council earlier in the year but requires an environmental permit from the Environment Agency before it can begin operating.

The Council agreed to follow up on its earlier objection to the incinerator by writing to the Environment Agency before the 13th December deadline to register its concerns in relation to a number of environment-related aspects of the proposals, i.e. concern about particular weather conditions (cloud inversions) in the valley, the current lack of local monitoring and therefore no baseline for pollution measurement, and the potential for accidents at a site next to a nursery.

Car parking issues

Town Councillors will be meeting with representatives from Bradford Council and West Yorkshire Police and a number of local residents on 7th December to discuss concerns about car parking in the town, including the recent imposition of evening and weekend charges in town centre car parks and irresponsible and illegal parking by parents dropping children off at schools across the parish.

Closure of Crossflatts Post Office

Crossflatts Post Office on Keighley Road closed on 30th October due to the resignation of the Postmaster. The Town Council has been advised by the Post Office that they are working hard to restore services in the area as soon as possible and that they have had initial discussions with a retailer in the area who is interested in the Post Office opportunity. Discussions are at an early

stage and the potential new partner is considering the business opportunity and incorporating the Post Office alongside their retail offer.

Toilets update

At its meeting on 27th November, the Town Council agreed to appoint a Project Manager to manage the work of converting the now disused toilet block into two standalone public toilets and an office for the Town Council. This follows a full tendering, shortlisting and interviewing process. The Project Manager will now work with the Town Clerk and a project group of councillors to develop the proposals, submit a planning application and manage the conversion work on site. Once the sum required for the conversion is known, an application will be made for a loan from the Public Works Loans Board.

The draft Heads of Terms for the Community Asset Transfer of the public toilets from Bradford Council to the Town Council are currently being scrutinised by the Town Council's legal advisors, who await responses to their queries from Bradford Council. A meeting is being held on 30th November with Bradford Council representatives to develop a full specification for the installation of a Changing Places facility in Bingley Pool.

Meeting with District Councillors

The Town Council recently organised a meeting with its six District Councillors and was pleased to meet with Councillors David Heseltine and John Pennington on Saturday 17th November to discuss current areas of activity and concern and identify ways of working together for the benefit of the town. It was agreed that this was a successful initiative and it was proposed that another meeting be held in the near future.

Christmas Tree festival

The Town Council will once again be contributing to the Christmas Tree Festival at All Saints Parish Church, Bingley. The Festival takes place over the weekend of 14th-16th December and this year's theme is local or national events in the past 500 years.

PS If you haven't yet seen our Autumn newsletter, you'll find it here.

Picture below: Jasmine Stross's winning Christmas light design.

Dates for your diary:

Community Litter Pick, Saturday 8th December, 10 am to 12 pm, details tba

Green and Clean Forum, Saturday 12th January, 10 am to 12 pm, Cardigan House, Ferncliffe Road, Bingley

Annual Town Meeting, Thursday 7th March, venue tba

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

Tuesday 4th December 2018, Bingley Methodist Church, Herbert Street, Bingley (Extraordinary Meeting)

Tuesday 18th December 2018, Eldwick Church Hall, Otley Road, Eldwick

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.

BINGLEY Town Council

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

Cottingley Community Centre, Littlelands, Cottingley, Bingley, BD16 1AL
http://www.bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk
Town Clerk tel: 07703 188660 / townclerk@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

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