



See inside for:

- Information on how your money has been spent
- The Town Council's work
- Building civic pride
- Speaking up for our communities

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Chair's welcome

Dear resident,
Welcome to this Annual Report 2019 – the first newsletter since the new team of councillors was elected in May this year.

This report explains what the Town Council is working on and how the precept has been spent. Thank you to those residents who've taken time to provide feedback on the work of the Town Council since it started three years ago. I am very grateful for the many positive comments about the progress made to re-build civic pride, improve our town, and speak up for our community.

Please take part in the consultations being held in September. More details are below. Your views are vital in helping the Town Council set its priorities until 2023, when all councillor seats are next up for election. In the meantime, the hard work continues.

Best wishes, Ros Dawson



Play in the Park days

Bingley Town Council has provided several Play in the Park events during the summer holidays. The events were free to participants with a range of outdoor games on offer along with toilet facilities at each event. At the Myrtle Park Play day a mobile Changing Places toilet facility was also available. The play days were extremely popular with local families, with many enjoying a picnic and meeting up with friends.



Community consultations – please get involved

Bingley Town Council is running a series of community consultations for residents to have their say on important issues for Bingley. The town council would like your views on:

- The town council's priorities for 2020-2023
- The draft Neighbourhood Plan*
- How to spend proceeds from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**

Key priorities for the town council are:

- Good governance
- Management of the Beck Lane and Stanley Street allotments
- A new Bingley Hub – re-providing public toilets and a new central office for the Town Council by refurbishing the closed toilet block in Jubilee gardens
- A Neighbourhood Plan

The consultations will run from Saturday 7 September to Wednesday 25 September. You can make your views known via an online questionnaire, available at www.bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

There is also a paper questionnaire, available from the Town Clerk and at the following events:

- Sat 07/09/19 9am to 1pm – Bingley Market and Bingley Arts Centre
- Mon 09/09/19 2pm to 4pm – Eldwick Church (in the café area)
- Thu 12/09/19 5.30pm to 7.30pm – COPWA (Crossflatts Old People's Welfare Association)
- Mon 16/09/19 1.30pm to 3.30pm – Bingley Methodist Church
- Tue 17/09/19 7pm to 9pm – St Wilfrid's, Gilstead
- Fri 20/09/19 10am to 12pm – Cottingley Community Centre
- Wed 25/09/19 10am to 3.30pm – Bingley Business Expo, Bingley Arts Centre

Town councillors and members of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group will be at the events to help with any questions you may have. Please come along and have your say.

* **Neighbourhood Plan:** This is a document that creates policies that will influence building and development in the Bingley Town Council area until 2030. It will also entitle Bingley to receive a greater proportion of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies.

** **CIL:** This is a charge paid by developers to Bradford Metropolitan District Council. As Bingley has a Town Council it receives 15% of any CIL paid on development in the parish. When we have a Neighbourhood Plan, Bingley will receive 25% of any CIL. CIL can be used to fund a very broad range of facilities. At present, CIL generated in Bingley amounts to around £16K.

What your money was spent on in 2018

Opening balance

£108,348

Receipts

£174,877

Payments

£145,303

Carried forward

£137,922

Receipts

	£
Precept	140,918
Allotment rental	2,092
Allotment grant	2,878
Council tax support grant	11,170
Grants and donations	3,630
Interest	416
VAT	13,773

Total 174,877

Expenditure

Salaries	44,036
NI	3,721
Pension	920
Travel and subsistence	337
Payroll admin	409
Training	1,956
Chair allowance	38
Bank charges	157
Audit	778
Solicitor fees	1,650
Subscriptions	2,483
Insurance	958
Office space	4,517
Printing, stationery	1,676
Newsletter, publicity	4,500
Website and domain	883
IT support	689
Telephone	259
Room hire	1,488
Storage	200
Elections	7,507

Total 79,162

Service delivery

Emergency support (grit bins)	1,400
Allotments	5,387
Neighbourhood plan	3,430
Repairs	300
Regeneration and tourism	7,856
Green and clean	15,263
Grants	17,887
Christmas and events	7,706

Total 59,229

VAT on payments

6,912

Grants to Community Groups

Bingley Camera Club Laptop	£500
Bingley Congs Cricket Club New path to car park	£2,000
Friends of St Ives Trees/shrubs for Betty's Wood	£836
Riverside Riding for the Disabled Competitive opportunities for riders	£1,500
Bingley Little Theatre Marketing for establishing a cinema	£300
Bingley Walkers are Welcome Room hire for conference	£250
Cottingley Community Association Christmas lighting	£1,782
Cottingley Community Centre Two new projectors	£450
Cottingley Town Hall Restoration of great organ	£2,000
Friends of Prince of Wales Park Access path improvements	£1,536
Gilstead Village Society Lasering and lettering of war memorial	£500
Trinity & All Saints Community Kitchen Chairs for community kitchen	£2,000
Bingley Chamber of Trade Entertainments at Bingley Christmas Fayre	£2,000
Eldwick Church/Eldwick Goldies First year operating costs	£500
Parkrun Contribution to park run in Bingley	£2,000
Refund of unspent grant	£267
Total	17,887

For more information on the Community Groups and the grants they received please see **pages 6-7**.

Climate Emergency

The Council declared a climate emergency in May 2019 and has now set up a working group that will comprise four councillors and four non-councillors. Their task will be to work alongside local groups and statutory organisations to reduce Bingley's impact on the climate, mitigate the effects of climate breakdown on the town and help Bingley become resilient to changes caused by the climate breakdown. Links are already being made with other local councils and groups keen to take action on this issue.

Crosley Wood

At our full council meeting in June InCommunities shared with us their plans for the site where the three high rise blocks currently stand on Crosley Wood Road. InCommunities plan to build 93 new homes on the site. Half of these will be made available for affordable rent (which is defined nationally as being no more than 80% of the market cost + service charges). Another 25% will be available for shared ownership meaning that the tenants will have to take out a mortgage to pay for half of the property while still paying rent to the housing association. The other 25% will be sold at market rate for the benefit of the housing association. The Council is pleased to see that, after a difficult period of upheaval for Crosley Wood residents and considerable support given by councillors, some elements of rented housing will be retained on this site.



Green and Clean

The summer 2019 floral displays are again being provided and managed by Carlton Nurseries, this year with added features in Crownest, Eldwick, Gilstead, Poplar House, Priestthorpe and Bingley Town Centre. The Council was pleased with the success of its small-scale wildflower planting on the banking at the junction of Ferncliffe Road and the A650 sliproad. An order is being prepared for winter bedding and bulbs for community groups and village societies for their own local planting. We are grateful to Eldwick Village Society for their contribution towards this year's displays.

Bingley Bloomers (from Five Rise Frocks WI) have planted up the blue market square planters and the Main Street 'Bingley' planters, and have also been active in the new Incredible Edible Bingley project. Along with Gilstead Village Society and Friends of Myrtle Park, they have been planting vegetables and herbs in public spaces for residents to pick and eat as part of a national project that galvanises communities by growing and celebrating local food. Look out for salad leaves, courgettes, runner beans and strawberries! See the Keeping Bingley Beautiful Facebook page for other Green and Clean activities run by local groups,



including Friends of Prince of Wales Park, Friends of St Ives, Action Stations and the Jerr Wood Action Group.

The next Green and Clean Forum will be held on Saturday 28 September, from 10am to 12pm at Cardigan House, Ferncliffe Road, Bingley. Anyone with an interest in keeping our green spaces tidy and well planted or a clean environment in general is welcome to attend. Along with speakers, there will be the usual round-up and sharing of activity from local groups.

Community Litter Picks

The Council's programme of community litter picks continues, and the next dates are:

- **Saturday 12 October**
- **Sunday 10 November (Remembrance Sunday)**
- **Saturday 7 December**



Bingley Market – fresh food and local produce. You asked, we delivered.



A return of a thriving market to Bingley was the most requested measure identified by residents in 2016. After a trial run in 2018, the Town Council organised markets began in April this year and take place on the first Saturday of every month from 9am to 1pm

The market has quickly established itself with regular stalls selling bread, baked goods, cakes, pies, pretzels, gluten free sausage and cheeses. Crafts include handmade jewellery, dog treats, pyrographic wooden ornaments and locally produced soaps. The hog roast is always popular along with great coffee and crêpes.



Live entertainment from local musicians, including the Heaton Hillbillies, Richard Stirland and Cornell Daley add to the occasion. In October, look out for the fantastic Voices of Yorkshire choir, in November we have acoustic music by Dave Prater and in December we welcome the Bradford and Airedale Youth Choir who will get us in the festive mood with some seasonal songs.

If you've got views on the market, please make them known in September's Community Consultations (see **page 2**).

Office/toilets conversion project and Changing Places

In May, planning permission was granted for the conversion of the public toilets in Jubilee Gardens into offices for the Town Council and two standard accessible toilets. The lease for the toilet block has been signed. The Council has received borrowing approval for £163,500 from the Secretary of State, and can now apply for a loan from the Public Works Loan Board.

A tender for the conversion works was issued on 9 July and the deadline for the receipt of sealed bids from contractors is 23 August. A recommendation from the Council's Project Manager, Bowman Riley, as to the successful contractor will be considered by full council.

The Changing Places (CP) project group continues to pursue the installation of a CP facility at Bingley Pool. It was agreed at the July full Council meeting to fund an electrical appraisal of the Pool in connection with this and to investigate funding for a



modular CP facility as a back-up solution. Changing Places are completely accessible and provide sufficient space and equipment for people who are not able to use the toilet independently.

At the July meeting, a representative from Friends of Bingley Pool (FOBP) raised concerns about the progress of the transfer of the pool to the group from Bradford Council. The Town Council agreed to write to Bradford Council asking that the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) be prioritised and that the pool remain open for a further year at Bradford Council's expense to enable the transition from Bradford to FOBP to take place. The Council is also requesting a meeting about the CAT with the Chief Executive and has agreed to discuss concerns with FOBP.

Recently awarded grants and donations, some testimonials and encouragement to apply!

In June, **Action Stations**, the group that has adopted Bingley's railway stations, was awarded £500 towards the cost of new planters for Bingley. **Plastic Free Bingley** was given a £100 donation in May for PFB-branded T-shirts and venue hire for an open meeting, held at Cardigan House on 18 May. A further £100 donation went to the **Jerr Wood Action Group** to go towards £100 for publicity materials, refreshments and activities for a Great Get Together on 22 June.

How Town Council grants are benefitting the Bingley community

Groups receiving Town Council grants are required to provide a report on how they have used the funds. See some extracts below from organisations awarded grants in previous years.

£835.60

Over 1,000 trees were felled from the Betty's Wood area of St Ives in autumn 2017 due to disease. **The Friends of St Ives** had the idea of planning a 'Flowering Avenue' of older saplings, that would bloom and fruit quickly and provide immediate colour and sustenance for wildlife.

A grant of £835.60 enabled the Friends to plant an avenue of trees and shrubs on 5th January this year. Pam Laking, for Friends of St Ives, reports that "everything appears to be growing healthily".



and Photoshop and run tutorials and workshops, which has attracted new members.

Christine Taylor, Treasurer of Bingley Camera Club, says, "Having this new facility has enabled members of the club to view their efforts in higher quality resolution and also enabled visitors to display their photographs at their best".

£720

The Town Council paid £720 for rain jackets and tracksuits for **Bingley Juniors AFC**

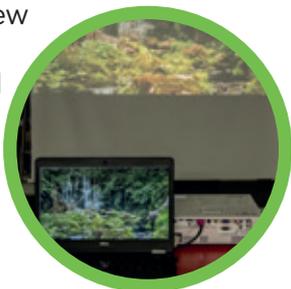
under 12 and under 14 teams to enable them to take part in tournaments and an exchange involving teams from Hamm in Germany.

Andy Thirkell, Vice Chairman of Bingley Juniors AFC, said, "We would like to thank you for supporting our venture, your donation [...] helped the boys feel good about themselves and really part of a team".



£500

Bingley Camera Club was awarded £500 for the purchase of a new laptop. This has allowed the Club to use software such as Lightroom



£500

Bingley Belles is a community cycling club for women of all abilities set up in 2017. It organises social rides that are suitable for beginners and the more adventurous.



A grant of £500 from the Town Council helped with various costs, including bike maintenance sessions and beginners' cycling lessons. Jenny Butterworth and Sarah White of Bingley Belles say that the money "has really helped us to attract more members, improve local women's health, and provide a support network for local women."

£451

Cottingley Village History Society applied to the Town Council for £451 to purchase three display screens, two A boards and two sign holders for Cottingley Heritage Centre.

Clive Harrison, Archivist for the History Society, reports that, "The display boards have enabled us to cover a wide variety of subjects and in addition we had a special display during 'National Heritage Week'."



£300

A modest grant of £300 was awarded to **Bingley Little Theatre** towards the initial cost of marketing its very successful

Community Cinema venture at Bingley Arts Centre.

With several films a sellout, the initial programme has been extended and enhanced,

and Ian Smithson of Bingley Little Theatre deems the venture “a huge success” [...] “all the people I speak to in the audience are very happy that we have created the Cinema in the Community for them.”



Apply for a grant!

If you are involved in a local community group that could benefit from funds for a specific project that you're planning, why not consider applying for a grant or donation from the Town Council?

Grants of up to £500 are available to community organisations with a constitution and bank account. Well-established community organisations with a track record of providing significant benefit to Bingley parish residents can apply for a grant of up to £2,000.

The next deadlines for grant applications are:

- 15 September 2019
- 15 January 2020

The Town Council can also make donations of up to £100 to informal groups and applications are normally decided on monthly. Please see our website for all criteria and application documentation or email enquiries@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Priestthorpe Annex

The trustees of the Priestthorpe Annex (who are councillors on Bradford Council's Regulatory and Appeals Committee) decided the interest on the £226K proceeds from the sale of the site on Mornington Road will be allocated annually as grants for educational purposes (likely to be a total of c. £4k).

Bingley Town Council has requested detailed information from the trustees including clarification about governance of the trust and grant scheme and has suggested a number of amendments. For example, the Town Council would like representatives from Bingley on the Trust; for grant-giving meetings to take place in Bingley; and that a project with clear support from local people can receive a grant from the capital as well as from the accrued interest. The Council is also asking if the Trustees will consider having discussions about transferring the sale proceeds to the Town Council's stewardship.

Meanwhile, the site owners have advised that work to convert existing buildings to housing is due to start in August with the new builds starting in 2020 and the total project taking 18 months. The founders' stone from the Annex will be incorporated in the new build.

New look for town centre benches



Huge thanks to the members of The Rotary Club of Bingley Airedale for undertaking the task of refurbishing the eight benches around the market square in the centre of Bingley. This work greatly enhances the ongoing work to smarten up the civic area. Rotarians hold many fund-raising events locally including a Brass Band Concert to secure monies to re-invest in the town.

Above, left to right: Paul Simpson, Secretary; Michael C. Heaton, Founder President and Service Group Chairman; Deiniol Williams, Fellowship Chairman; and David Phillips, President.



If you want to share details of a local organisation you're involved in, you can upload information about events and meetings to the calendar on the Bingley Town Council website: www.bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk/events/community/add

Bingley Business Expo

The successful Bingley Business Expo returns to the Arts Centre on Wednesday 25 September and Bingley Town Council is delighted once again to support this event.

The Expo is an opportunity to showcase the skills, expertise and services of businesses based in Bingley and the Town Council will continue its efforts to promote our area as a great place to work and invest.



Contact your Councillor

Dale Barton – Crow Nest – Liberal Democrat
dale.barton@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

John Brazendale – Crow Nest – People First
07864 796739 john.brazendale@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Howard Clough – Cottingley – Conservative
07939 023377 howard.clough@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Ros Dawson – Priestthorpe – Independent
07720 882512 ros.dawson@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Rachael Drucquer – Crossflatts & Micklethwaite – Green Party
07708 507679 rachael.drucquer@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

John Goode – Cottingley – Independent
07703 456792 john.goode@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

David Heseltine – Eldwick – Conservative
01274 565468 david.heseltine@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Richard Holmes – Bingley Central & Myrtle Park – Independent
07837 603406 richard.holmes@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Abdul Malik – Bingley Central & Myrtle Park – Independent
07876 787870 abdul.malik@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Ashraf Miah – Cottingley – Independent
07738 570492 ashraf.miah@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Helen Owen – Gilstead – Independent
07976 304941 helen.owen@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

John Pennington – Crossflatts & Micklethwaite – Conservative
07836 261557 john.pennington@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Edwina Simpson – Priestthorpe – Independent
07932 191558 edwina.simpson@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Mark Truelove – Eldwick – Independent
07809 690398 mark.truelove@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Steve Williams – Lady Lane & Oakwood – Conservative
07891 878760 steve.williams@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Geoff Winnard – Gilstead – Conservative
07497 003681 geoff.winnard@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk

To contact Bingley Town Council, please email enquiries@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk or call **07703 188660**.

Toadwatch!

In the four days leading up to 24th March 2019, 21 toads died under the wheels of cars on the short stretch of road between the Leeds & Liverpool Canal swing bridge and Micklethwaite village. The toads come down off the moor to breed in the canal and get trapped on the road between the stone walls.

If anyone is interested in helping with a Toadwatch patrol there in 2020 please contact Cllr Dale Barton dale.barton@bingleytowncouncil.gov.uk who will work in co-operation with Cllr Rachael Drucquer.

There is information about Toadwatch patrols on the web at: <http://toadwatch.org/Patrols/patrols.htm>

There are also other local patrols at Riddlesden, St Ives and Leeming, near Oxenhope.



Diary

Date	Time	Event
September		
Mon 2	2pm	Events, Marketing and Communications Sub-Committee meeting, Cottingley Community Centre
Mon 2	6.30pm	Neighbourhood Plan Working Group Meeting, Crossflatts Community Centre, St Aidan's Square
Wed 4	4pm	Climate Change Working Group, Cottingley Community Centre
Sat 7	9am	Bingley Market
Sat 7	9am	Community Consultation Event, Bingley Market and Bingley Arts Centre
Mon 9	2pm	Community Consultation Event, Eldwick Church, café area
Tue 10	6.30pm	Planning Committee Meeting, Cardigan House
Wed 11	6.30pm	F&GP Committee Meeting, The Board Room, Cottingley Community Centre
Thu 12	5.30pm	Community Consultation Event, Crossflatts Community Centre
Mon 16	1.30pm	Community Consultation Event, Methodist Church Hall
Tue 17	7pm	Community Consultation Event, St Wilfrid's, Gilstead
Fri 20	10am	Community Consultation Event, Cottingley Community Centre
Tue 24	6.30pm	Full Council Meeting, St Wilfrid's Hall, Gilstead
Wed 25	10am	Bingley Business Expo, Bingley Arts Centre
Sat 28	10am	Green and Clean Forum, Cardigan House
October		
Tue 8	6.30pm	Planning Committee Meeting, Cardigan House
Wed 9	6.30pm	F&GP Committee Meeting, The Board Room, Cottingley Community Centre
Tue 29	6.30pm	Full Council Meeting, Cardigan House