

Minutes of a meeting of **Bingham Town Council** held in the Council Chamber at The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 11th April, 2017**, at **7.00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Councillor	J. Stockwood (Chair)
"	J. Costello
"	G. Davidson
"	A. R. Harvey
"	K. Hayes-Heath
"	S. Hull
"	E. Hutchison
"	A. Langford
"	F. Purdue-Horan
"	A. Shelton
"	K. Vallance

In attendance:

2 Members of the public
Clerk (Locum) – Jo Cartmell

1.00 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor informed the meeting that he had attended the Annual Town Meeting and would give a report under Item 10.

2.00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor R. Bird, Councillor T. Kerry and Councillor S. Orr.

3.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Costello declared an interest relating to any item concerning Toothill School.

Councillor Hutchison declared an interest relating to any item concerning Butt Field and Item 13. Grant Aid Application.

4.00 PRESENTATION BY COUNCILLOR G DAVIDSON, MAYOR OF RUSHCLIFFE OF HISTORIC COMMEMORATIVE GIFT

Councillor Davidson presented a Sterling Silver Bowl and Ladle to the Town Council from the Borough Council which was being returned to Bingham as it was formerly presented to Bingham Rural District Council. The Mayor gratefully accepted the gift on behalf of the council and noted that an appropriate place alongside other commemorative gifts would be found to house the Bowl and Ladle.

Continued.....

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Standing orders suspended 7.03pm

5.00 OBSERVATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Queries were raised in relation to:

A – The Annual Town Meeting and Civic Awards Ceremony.

Mr Fowler questioned what level of success had been achieved by combining the Annual Town Meeting and the Civic Awards.

Councillors responded that although the reviews of the ceremony had been mixed, the evening had its successes and there were many positives to build on. Councillors noted that the new event was an attempt to encourage community engagement and that a decision relating to next year's event would be taken later in the year.

B – Car parking and the Train Service from Nottingham to Bingham.

Mr Fox noted his concerns relating to the congestion on Fairfield St. should the new car park open and a proposed increase to the number of train services between Bingham and Nottingham go ahead. The concern being that an increase in the number of cars and an increase in the frequency of the barriers being lowered to allow the trains to cross would have a major impact on the flow of traffic.

Councillors noted that there was a meeting of the Growth Board next week and this item would be raised and that conversations were ongoing to ensure that any development of the Poacher Line and car parking wouldn't have a detrimental impact on the traffic flow through Bingham.

C – Street Sweeping

Mr Fowler asked when the last time that the streets in Bingham had been swept was.

Councillors noted that initial problems with Streetwise had resulted in a perceived reduction in the street sweeping service and noted that the Council would contact the Borough Council to make enquiries.

Standing orders re-instated – 7.17pm

6.00 MINUTES

The Minutes of the of the Full Council meeting held on the 14th February, 2017, Folios 8594 - 8604 having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Mayor as a true record.

Continued.....

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7.00 MATTERS ARISING

- 01 Allotments: The tenant who had been asked to tidy their plot had written back to the Council and provided photographic evidence that the plot had been weeded and tidied.
- 02 Chapel Lane: The Deputy Mayor noted that he would be having a meeting with Crown Estates to discuss overhanging vegetation. Nottinghamshire County Council would not commit to spending money due to proposed development in the area.

8.00 COMMITTEE MINUTES

All Committee Minutes were presented and it was

RESOLVED to approve the following:

- (a) Planning Committee - 28th March, 2017, Folio 8605/8608

9.00 REPORTS FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLORS (COUNTY COUNCILLORS IN PURDAH)

01 Rushcliffe Borough Councillor Purdue-Horan

Councillor Purdue-Horan noted that the meeting of the Resources Committee due to be held on 28th March 2017 had been inquorate and asked if the new committees system which most councillors had supported had led to the meeting not going ahead and if this postponement had disadvantaged the citizens of Bingham.

Councillors were unsure why it was necessary to raise this issue and responded that the public had not been disadvantaged and that all urgent business that could not wait until the next meeting of the Resources Committee had been brought to Full Council.

The Constitution Working Group was asked to consider the attendance at meetings to ensure that this postponement of meetings was kept to a minimum and the option of using substitution councillors on committees should be considered.

02 Rushcliffe Borough Councillor Stockwood

Councillor Stockwood noted that there were forthcoming changes to the Development Control Committee at the Borough Council. It was to be renamed the Planning Committee and public speaking at Committee meetings was to be permitted. The

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9.00 REPORTS FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLORS (COUNTY COUNCILLORS IN PURDAH) Continued.....

composition of the Planning Committee was also to be changed and training for councillors improved.

10.00 OTHER REPORTS

01 Annual Town Meeting.

The Mayor noted that the revamped Annual Town Meeting and Civic Awards had been well received by some attendees and less so by others.

The Mayor noted four items of feedback for Councillors to consider:

- i) Cycles Lanes: To be addressed through the Car Park Working Group
- ii) Toothill School: Temporary relocation of Newark School to site of the former Youth Club: Letter to Toothill School.
- iii) Community Chest: Should funding be made available for a new Community Centre: To be addressed by the Community Building Working Group.
- iv) Request for a letter of thanks to be sent to the former Clerk on behalf of the residents of Bingham: Mayor to forward a letter.

It was **RESOLVED** that the four items raised at the Annual Town Meeting be actioned as outlined above.

11.00 CAR PARK GROUP UPDATE AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Councillor Hutchison presented her report and recommendations:

- a) To support the proposal from the County Council to make the entrance to Union Street inaccessible from Market St. by prohibiting the right-hand turn.

RESOLVED that the Car Park Group Recommendations, as detailed above, be agreed.

Councillor Hayes-Heath wished the council to demand that the car park proposals move forward as the Town desperately needed two rapid turnaround car parks.

Councillor Hutchison explained that there was an issue with delays from the Borough Council which Councillor Hayes-Heath asked the four Borough Councillors to address.

Councillor Davidson noted that commercially sensitive matters which had held up the process were being addressed at the forthcoming meeting of the Growth Board and that concrete proposals will be made at a meeting prior to the end of May. Councillor Hull agreed to report back from the Growth Board.

Continued.....

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12.00 GRASS CUTTING CONTRACT AND GROUND STAFF

Councillors were provided with a report from the Grass Cutting Working Group which highlighted two quotes for the outsourcing of the Grass Cutting commitments for 2017/18:

Firm A: £4,124.55

Firm B: £1,835.00

The recommendation from the Grass Cutting Working group was to accept the quote from Firm B subject to one trial cut to assess the work carried out.

RESOLVED that the recommendation be accepted and Firm B would be appointed subject to carrying out a trial cut.

13.00 GRANT AID APPLICATION:-

(a) Vale of Belvoir Cycling Club

Councillor A. R Harvey proposed that a grant of £250.00 be made to the Vale of Belvoir cycling Club to be put towards equipment for the kids club; this was seconded by Councillor Hull **AGREED** by members.

14.00 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Several councillors had attended the RCAN information evening relating to the production of a Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Harvey was due to hold a meeting with Jenny Kirkwood to discuss how RCAN could assist the Town Council with moving forward with the Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Harvey was looking for information relating to applying for funding, engaging with the public for the consultation process and setting up a steering group.

15.00 TO CONSIDER ANY CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

(a) Kirk Hill/Chapel Lane road closure: Noted.

(b) Natwest closure

Councillors were extremely disappointment to hear about the closure of the local branch of Natwest and raised concerns about the implications for local business and people with restricted travel. It was felt that for a large town to be left without a main bank after receiving assurances from Natwest less than a year ago that there was no intention to close the branch, was outrageous. It was

RESOLVED that the Mayor would write to Natwest on behalf of the town council expressing its concerns relating to the proposal and the lack of consultation.

Continued.....

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15.00 TO CONSIDER ANY CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED Continued.....

The four members of the Borough Council present were also asked to send a letter reinforcing the message from the Town Council which they agreed to do.

(c) Community Payback Project:

Discussions relating to the new working format of the Community Payback Project were **REFERRED** to the next **RESOURCES COMMITTEE** meeting for consideration.

(d) Eaton Place:

The Clerk noted that no objections had been received from Rimcroft Ltd in relation to the proposals for the Summer Fair subject to the Town Council carrying out all the necessary Health and Safety requirements. It was also noted that the Rimcroft Ltd were looking to cosmetically upgrade Eaton Place and once ideas had been obtained from the designers, a meeting would be requested with the Town Council to discuss the plans.

The Clerk was asked to speak to Rimcroft Ltd and encourage a meeting to take place at the earliest opportunity. Councillor Vallance wished to thank Councillor Hayes-Heath for his work in liaising with Rimcroft to ensure these proposals were carried forward.

23.00 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE NEXT BUSINESS, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS PROPOSED, SECONDED AND CARRIED

The following matters were discussed:-

- 01 PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES 109, 110 & 111
- 02 UPDATES ON COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCE MATTERS
- 03 STAFFING ISSUES

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m

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CHAIRMAN.

Date: