

Minutes of a Meeting of the **Community Committee** of Bingham Town Council held in The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 1st April, 2008**, at **7.30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Mrs. M. Stockwood – Chairman  
 " G. Davidson  
 " A. Hall  
 " Mrs. J. Marshall  
 " F. Purdue-Horan

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Jessica Molineaux - Ruscliffe Community & Voluntary Services  
 Carolyn Perry - " " " "

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

There were no declarations of interest received.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor Mrs. S. Hull.

**1.00 MINUTES:**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 29th January, 2008, having been circulated prior to the meeting, be taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a true record .

**2.00 PRESENTATION - RUSHCLIFFE SUPPORTS' PILOT PROJECT:**

Carolyn Perry and Jessica Molineaux of Rushcliffe Community & Voluntary Services gave a presentation to explain the basis for this pilot project in Bingham. The aims of the project were to:-

- Show how capacity building within the voluntary and community sector can increase access to improved low-level support for older people.
- Explore cross-sector collaboration as a means of improving access to low-level support.
- Improve access to relevant community information for older people and their carers.

When the presentation concluded, there was an exchange of ideas and questions. The Committee expressed its whole-hearted support for the pilot project and invited the representatives to the 13th May, 2008, meeting to provide an update on progress.

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### **3.00**      **COMMUNITY ISSUES:**

#### 01      Community Building Working Group

The Chairman summarised the notes of the Working Group meeting held on the 11th February, 2008, and County Councillor Suthers was invited to join the meeting to update on the Moorlands situation. The bottom line on this issue was that the Town Council had no legal or moral right to the land or building, but the County Council had accepted the building was under-used and appeared willing to explore any mutually beneficial arrangements for the use of the building.

In response, the Committee considered that it should be made clear to Nottinghamshire County Council that the Town Council was unable to afford to pay the large licence fees proposed (previously reported). The Committee also agreed to ask Nottinghamshire County Council to identify what proposals it had to make Moorlands more available to the community and to request County Councillor Suthers to facilitate a meeting with representatives of Nottinghamshire County Council.

Arising from the Minutes of the Community Building Working Group of the 11th February, 2008, the Town Clerk was asked to establish whether Frincon Security (now believed to be called Rimcroft) in north east London, plus the agent, Lambert Smith Hampton, had been contacted and to verify the current situation concerning the Co-op agents and the LiftCo inquiry (via Councillor Hall).

The Clerk was also asked to enquire of C. Bullett at Rushcliffe Borough Council concerning the use of compulsory purchase powers. (Councillor Davidson indicated he would be willing to meet).

### **4.00**      **PROMOTION ISSUES:**

#### 01      Town Fair

There was nothing substantive to report.

#### 02      Garden Competition

It was agreed that the following be invited to judge the 2008 entries:-

Councillor F. Kerry  
Mr. B. Gardner  
Mrs. L. Black (2007 winner)

The Committee also considered options for future years and it was agreed that this matter be considered further at the next meeting.

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**4.00** **PROMOTION ISSUES** continued.....

03 Christmas Lights

Members were invited to offer their views on the 2007 display and to consider arrangements for 2008. The Committee asked that its appreciation be recorded for the hard work of Brian Gardner and Neil Roberts in preparing the Christmas trees for display – this was much appreciated. It was agreed that this matter be further considered at the next meeting.

**5.00** **BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES:**

01 Precinct Clock

It was agreed that a fresh approach be made on this matter on the basis that the Town Council would be retaining the clock in public ownership and siting to be on licence from the building owner.

**6.00** **CORRESPONDENCE:**

01 Building Better Communities – Annual Event Invitation

It was agreed that Councillor Davidson would attend as the Council's representative.

02 Letter from Community Concern dated 26th February, 2008. Referral from Council

The Chairman read the content of this letter that requested information about the Community Centre project.

The Committee concurred with an outline response suggested by the Chairman. This matter was also affected by the following item, which effectively meant that the Town Council may have to consider the merits (or otherwise) of not being able to attract substantial public sector partners. The view was that over the next few weeks the Town Council should review the Community Centre issue and the business case as previous studies may no longer be robust enough, due to the passage of time, to demonstrate effective sustainability.

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**6.00**      **CORRESPONDENCE continued.....**

03      Health Centre – Letter from Nottinghamshire County Primary Care Trust (P.C.T.) to Community Concern

This letter dated 26th March, 2008, was submitted by Councillor Purdue-Horan. The letter revealed that although Bingham desperately needed a new health centre and that funding was expected to be committed this year, with building starting in 2009, the P.C.T. had appeared to have had a change of heart.

A further countrywide review was to take place, and any new build proposal would have to be viewed in the broader context of the county as a whole, rather than just a particular borough.

Nothing about this had been communicated to any elected representatives at County, Borough or Town Council level, and, as a Borough Councillor, Councillor Purdue-Horan was seeking a meeting with all parties concerned. The Committee was appalled at this turn of events and deplored the lack of communication, particularly as LiftCo, as recently as yesterday, was under the impression that the Bingham Health Centre project was proceeding as planned.

The Committee expressed its appreciation to Community Concern for their efforts in obtaining the information from the P.C.T. and supported a meeting of relevant Councillors and parties to establish exactly what was going on.

04      Police Local Area Group Meeting

Councillor Purdue-Horan submitted a report on this meeting held on the 27th March, 2008.

The Committee agreed to support a survey to seek the views of residents to assist in matching the community's priorities with police activity. An item would be placed in the next Bingham Town News and survey forms made available to be collected and returned by residents via the Town Council office.

05      Best Kept Village Competition 2008

The Committee agreed to enter the competition and expressed its gratitude to the hard work of the Town Council staff and Streetwise during the run-up to last year's judging.

As there was no further business to transact, the meeting closed at 9.17 p.m.

CHAIRMAN.