

Minutes of an **Extraordinary Meeting** of **Bingham Town Council** held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 15th January, 2008**, at **7.00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Councillor F. Purdue-Horan – Town Mayor in the Chair

- " P. D. Abbey
- " Mrs. A. Bryan
- " G. Davidson
- " J. Eagles
- " Mrs. S. J. Hull
- " F. E. Kerry
- " C. A. Lancaster
- " Mrs. J. M. Marshall
- " A Shelton
- " J. A. Stockwood
- " Mrs. M. Stockwood

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Four members of the public.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Since the last meeting, the Town Mayor announced that he had attended:-

- 1.00** Friday, 16th December, 2007, Bingham Penguins Swimming Club's Annual Awards Ceremony.
- 2.00** Saturday, 17th December, 2007, Bingham & District Choral Society's concert.

The Mayor also reported that his chain of office was currently away for updating and cleaning.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors R. Barnett and A. J. Hall.

1.00 BUDGET/PRECEPT, 2008/09:

Following initial consideration of the revenue budget at the last meeting of Council, members gave consideration as to whether certain outstanding capital items should be included within the precept.

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1.00 BUDGET/PRECEPT, 2008/09 continued....

Council determined that the additional items would be dealt with as follows:-

- (a) Vehicle for groundstaff – to be met from reserves
- (b) Preparations of allotment land (should leasing from Crown Estate proceed) – to be met from Community Chest
- (c) Works to Rugby Club Pavilion (if found to be necessary and the liability of the Town Council) – to be met from reserves.

In considering this item, members noted the need for a planned capital programme for future years.

It was **Moved** by Councillor Mrs. M. Stockwood, and **Seconded** by Councillor G. Davidson, that the precept be set at £178,960.00. It was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.**

2.00 PLANNING APPLICATION 07/70/OUT - RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT LAND SOUTH-EAST OF TYTHBY ROAD:

The above planning application had been deferred at the meeting of the Planning Committee on the 8th January, 2008, to allow more time for members to consider the application information and allow a wider arena for debate.

Following due consideration, it was **Moved** by Councillor G. Davidson, and **Seconded** by Councillor J. Eagles, that the Town Council **Objects** to the application on the grounds that:-

1. The proposal would have a major adverse impact on local facilities, and would lead to an unacceptable increase in dwellings without any improvements to the infrastructure of Bingham as a whole.
2. The proposal would lead to an increase in traffic hazards.
3. Inadequate public open space is provided within the proposal.
4. The proposal would lead to a further overload of Bingham facilities.
5. The proposal would generate an additional 135 cars entering/leaving the site on to Tythby Road, many at peak times.
6. The proposal ignores the various pedestrian issues along Tythby Road.
7. Noise-attenuation measures are unsatisfactory.
8. Bingham Town Council has not been consulted on access on to Linear Park, and, therefore, the proposals to include such access may be compromised.

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3.00 CAR-PARKING IN BINGHAM:

The Chairman of the Environment Committee reported that at its meeting on the 8th January, 2008, it had given consideration to the key principles in relation to car-parking provision that could be formally adopted by the Town Council to clarify its position. The document would also be used at Rushcliffe Borough Council's Car-Parking Working Group considerations when the Council, and other bodies, are given the opportunity to present their views:-

It was **Moved** by Councillor J. Eagles, and **Seconded** by Councillor G. Davidson, that the following be considered as the Town Council's current key principles in relation to car parking in Bingham:-

The Town Council supports and recognises the need for:-

- ? Fair and equitable parking enforcement for both off-road parking and the car parks.
- ? Low-level charging for short-term stay parking.
- ? Provision for long-stay parking by permits, or part of car park designated. (Only possible additional site near to the town centre would seem to be on land once occupied by allotments over the railway. Could also be good area for Park & Ride by rail from existing station, but obvious problems).
- ? Rationalising parking around the Market Place within any short-stay parking scheme. At present, where parking is permitted, it is available for twenty-four hour parking. New traffic regulations required. (N.B. Bingham Town Council is totally opposed to any proposal to allow car-parking ON the Market Place).
- ? Dedicated long-stay parking for the disabled within the town centre, both in car parks and Market Place.
- ? Dropped kerbs need protection if they are to be of use.

The Town Council also considers that:-

- ? As many residents of outlying villages travel to Bingham, both to shop or park, and then catch buses to Bingham:-
 - ✍ Better Park & Ride facilities needed. (N.B. N.C.C. Transport Plan proposes rail-based Park & Ride at Saxondale. Also, East Midlands Trains proposes increased services to Bingham from December, 2008).
 - ✍ Better local bus services (both within and to and from Bingham) needed. Local feeder minibus services)

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continued.....

3.00 CAR-PARKING IN BINGHAM continued.....

- ? The N.C.C. pocket Park & Ride proposals may not be entirely relevant to solving parking issues in Bingham unless local in-town bus services are increased. Two possible sites – Moot Inn and Town Pavilion.

The Town Council has concerns that:-

- ? Any parking charge will put increased pressure on parking in town centre residential areas; some streets do not have off-road residential parking provision. Long Acre and Fairfield Street may need new parking restrictions to keep traffic flowing. Both carry a large number of illegal H.G.V's. (over 7.5 tonnes but not making local deliveries, or under 15' 3").
- ? The Town Council and the local business community should be consulted as to what length of time is determined as suitable for short-stay parking.
- ? There should be sufficient long-stay provision to meet local business needs (i.e. those who work in town).
- ? The local business community has not been directly contacted.
- ? The Town Council has not received the latest information from car park surveys. The Town Council's comments could, perhaps, have been better informed if we had these facts to hand and been able to share in developments of the proposals.

Communication Issues:-

- ? The Town Council considers that the democratically elected Town Council and the local business community should, in the first instance, have been able to work in open partnership with Rushcliffe Borough Council, and is disappointed that this has not been so.
- ? The Town Council will publish the key principles above in order that local residents and businesses are clear as to the Town Council's approach to parking.

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CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS:

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

“That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.”

The following items were discussed:

1.00 CONTAMINATION SURVEY

The Town Clerk reported that the final survey report had been received. It was **Proposed** by Councillor F Kerry, and **Seconded** by Councillor F. Purdue-Horan, that the report be noted and that the matter be further discussed at the Recreational & Cemetery Committee. It was

UNANIMOUSLY AGREED

2.00 TOWN CLERK'S CONTRACT

The Town Council received the Minutes of the Appointments Working Group held on the 20th December, 2007, and it was **Proposed** by Councillor G. Davidson, and **Seconded** by Councillor F Purdue-Horan, that the recommendations therein be approved and actioned. It was

UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

As there was no further business to be transacted, the meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

CHAIRMAN