

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**, at **7.15 p.m.**

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Eagles - Chairman
 " A. Ashmore
 " G. Davidson
 " T. Fox
 " Mrs. M. Stockwood

Also in attendance: Councillor M. Barham
 " A. Harvey
 " F. Purdue-Horan
 " J. Stockwood
 County Councillor M. Suthers
 1 Press
 3 Members of the Public

1.00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE:

Apologies for Absence and Acceptance were received and accepted from Councillor Mrs. T. Kerry.

2.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

3.00 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 7th October, 2014, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4.00 MATTERS ARISING (FOR INFORMATION ONLY), INCLUDING ACTION POINTS (APPENDIX 'A'):

01 Traffic Regulation Orders - Update

Additional yellow lines are to be painted in the vicinity of Foster's Lane/Long Acre.

02 Trees/Shrubbery Running Along Bottom of Meadowsweet Hill/Nottingham Road (East and West Sides of Junction) - Update

This work has now been completed on both sides.

02 Bus Stops Along Meadowsweet Hill/Tythby Road Loop – Update

On-going.

Continued...../

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**, at 7.15 p.m. continued.....

4.00 MATTERS ARISING (FOR INFORMATION ONLY), INCLUDING ACTION POINTS continued.....

03 The Banks - Parking

A response from Nottinghamshire County Council states that formal parking restrictions can only be progressed where there is a history of accidents or severe obstructions on main routes. The Town Council could apply for an H-bar at the Cemetery entrance but it is not legally enforceable.

5.00 PARKING STRATEGY WORKING GROUP MEETINGS ON 19TH AND 26TH NOVEMBER, 2014, AND TO FORMULATE A RECOMMENDATION - UPDATE:

Refer to attached Appendicés 'B' to 'D'. Eight recommendations to be put to Policy & Resources Committee as per attached Appendix 'E'.

6.00 RECOMMENDATION IN PRINCIPLE RE. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY RE. GRASS-CUTTING IN AND AROUND BINGHAM IN LINE WITH RECOMMENDATION FROM PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING:

No further update has been received in relation to the request for a quotation from Streetwise. It was, therefore, agreed that the Clerk obtains further quotations for the cutting of both sports grounds.

7.00 TESCO SITE AND NETWORK RAIL'S APPLICATION TO UPGRADE THE BRIDGE OVER RAILWAY LINE - UPDATE:

Tesco had confirmed their intentions to go ahead with the Bingham store. Network Rail's representatives are to attend the Policy & Resources Committee meeting on the 9th December, 2014, to discuss revised proposals for the upgrade on the bridge over the railway line. Copies of the recent photograph and detailed plan were available, and the matter would be discussed further at the Policy & Resources Committee meeting.

8.00 AMENDED PLANS FOR UP-GRADING MARKET SQUARE BY RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL AND E-MAIL FROM RESIDENT REQUESTING FOR A PRESERVATION ORDER ON TREES:

Noted, plus response from Rushcliffe Borough Council Officer to a resident's request for a Tree Preservation Order on the current trees.

Continued...../

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**, at **7.15 p.m.** continued.....

9.00 **MEETING WITH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER IN RELATION TO DIVERSION OF TOOT HLL SCHOOL FOOTPATH - UPDATE:**

The Clerk confirmed that the Recreational & Cemetery Committee had agreed to uphold the objections which had previously been submitted by the Town Council and to support public access to the area as currently exists. The Environment Committee supported this.

10.00 **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE BUDGETS 2015/2016:**

See attached Appendix 'F'.

11.00 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Referral from Community Committee –Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan – Additional Consultation on Sand and Gravel Provision – Shelford West

The Committee objected to this application due to the amount of traffic which will be generated on to the A6097 just before Gunthorpe Bridge.

02 Access to the Chesterfield from Long Acre and Its Use as a Thoroughfare:

Due to the fact that this is private land, the owners would have to address this matter.

03 Kirkhill Level Crossing

Noted that the level crossing is to be closed from 22.00 hours on 5th December to 06.00 hours on the 8th December, 2014.

01 Letter from Bingham Labour Party, Along With a Response from Paddy Tipping re. Bingham Police Station Site

It was agreed that the Clerk arranges a meeting with the Police Estates Department.

Continued...../

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**, at **7.15 p.m.** continued.....

11.00 **CORRESPONDENCE** continued.....

02 Resident

Following a suggestion from a resident about a Parking Disc Scheme, the Chairman presented an example of a parking disc which was used in some areas to regulate traffic. The disc would be set for the relevant time period in a prescribed area and any violation of the parking time indicated would result in a fine being issued.

As there was no further business to transact, the meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN.

Date:-

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**, at **7.15 p.m.** continued.....

ACTION POINTS

AGENDA ITEM	DETAILS	ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY
F6523 14 th June, 2011.	N.C.C. Grass-cutting	Lengthsman Scheme Pilot – continue monitoring. N.C.C has provided figures for cutting its areas. Clerk has also obtained quotes from contractors.
F6523 14 th June, 2011.	Bus parking and driving (outside town centre).	N.C.C. - On-going
F6575 August, 2011.	Request for 20 m.p.h. restriction on Newgate Street.	N.C.C on-going. Agreed to follow up after Health Centre plans addressed. Suggest speed check undertaken.
F6611 18 th Oct 11	Carnarvon Primary School	If adequate funding, consideration will be given to additional set of zig-zag lines.
	Restricted parking on Cherry Street/ Church Street.	On-going subject to consultation process.
F7066/6.01	One-way street on Market Street	Completed March 2014. Amended T.R.O's and alterations on-going.
F7066/5.01	Network Rail - Bridge	Planning application received and B.T.C. approved sale of land required for bridge July 2014. Awaiting R.B.C. decision on planning application.
F7067/7.01	Overgrown grassed areas in Bingham.	To make a recommendation

Continued.....

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**, at **7.15 p.m.** continued.....

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING:	19th Nov. 2014 2.00pm
NATURE OF MEETING:	Parking Strategy Working Group
IN ATTENDANCE:	BTC Councillors T.Fox, J.Eagles, S.Hull & J. Stockwood, CTY. CLLR. M.Suthers, NCC Officer P.Hillier & L.Holland
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:	None

	CHAired BY CLLR. T.FOX	TO BE ACTIONED BY
1.	Apologies – Cllr. G. Davidson, T.Kerry	
2.	TF began the meeting by welcoming the attendees and presented the notes on the previous meeting held 10 th September 2014 which were accepted as a true record.	
3.	Matters arising – Cllr. Fox confirmed the “Workers’ Questionnaire” had been sent out, returned and analyzed. NCC Survey results had been copied to members of the working group. Cllr. Fox thanked PH for his involvement with this.	
4.	Parking Surveys – Following feedback from both surveys the group agreed there was a need for more parking spaces in Bingham. Cllr. Fox had analyzed the BTC Workers Questionnaires and shared his findings (see 7/11/2014 e-mail for full details). Some headlines are:- 349 returns received which represented 50% of those issued, of these 57% of folk came from outside Bingham, 280 (80%) drive in, of these 125 (45%) use private parking, 81 (29%) use the car parks and 74 (26%) park on the road. Some degree of uplift has to be added to statistically adjust for non returns. However the NCC & BTC surveys support the conclusion that more car parking is urgently required.	
5.1	Parking capacity & options for providing extra capacity (as per attached)	
5.2	Parking regulations around market square (in bays) – Noted that RBC were undertaking a survey of Market Square Bays and also Station Street/Church Street. Suggested that the Market Square Bays be marked out with spaces in a manner complimentary to a Conservation Area . It was agreed that following the success of the 2 hour limits in the centre affecting some 28 spaces it would be sensible to incorporate the bays to generate another 18 spaces for short term free parking. This would further help to increase ‘churn’ in the centre and is subject to RBC support. Car space markings in a manor complementary to the conservation area was considered desirable.	

Continued...../

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**, at **7.15 p.m.** continued.....

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING:	19th Nov. 2014 2.00pm
NATURE OF MEETING:	Parking Strategy Working Group continued.....

5.3	Parking Regulations in car parks – After much discussion it was agreed that the principle of time limited car park management in the 3 central car parks is a desirable objective but only if & when sufficient extra capacity for long stayers such as Town workers can be provided. Any such move requires support from RBC as part of a long term solution.	
6	The meeting closed at 3.55pm to resume Wednesday 26th November 2014	

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5. Parking capacity & options for providing extra capacity

Proposal	Positives	Negatives	Overall conclusion
1. Multi-storey car park on Newgate Street site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very close to town centre • Does not require additional land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extremely expensive • Would cause severe parking difficulties during construction • Would not create many additional spaces due to loss of spaces to accommodate access ramps • Could become site for anti-social behaviour • Would significantly adversely affect nearby residents, whose properties and view would be blighted by high building • Would increase congestion on Newgate Lane 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not a viable option
2. Convert Market Place to a car park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within town centre • Does not require additional land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would not be considered an appropriate development within a conservation area, spoiling the shopping environment • Would be very expensive due to the need to use high quality materials in a conservation area • Could not be used during market days or other events when additional parking is most required • Would not create many additional spaces once access requirements are taken into account • Would significantly increase traffic flows in the town centre, adding to congestion, worsening air quality and reducing safety, especially for school children • Would deprive the Town of a 'heritage' site and eliminate options for further use of the market Square. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not a viable option

<p>3. Extend the existing bays around the Market Place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within town centre • Does not require additional land • Relatively cheap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Might not be considered an appropriate development within a conservation area • Could not be used during market days or other events when additional parking is most required. • Would reduce the available space for stalls reducing the attractiveness of the market and other events • Would not create many additional spaces • Would increase traffic flows in the town centre, adding to congestion, worsening air quality and reducing safety, especially for school children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viable but not considered an appropriate option
<p>4. Construct new car park on Warner's Paddock</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to town centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would destroy historic and rare town centre open space • Would remove the option to use the space in future as a public open space for leisure/recreation • Site access would be difficult to achieve • Likely to increase traffic flow on The Banks • Significant public objection to previous development proposals • Land ownership issues? and potential cost implications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Might be viable but not considered an appropriate option
<p>5. Purchase former police station on Grantham Road</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasonable sized site • Site served off main road • Could operate as both a central car park & a P&R 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further away from town centre • Cost of purchase on open market might be prohibitively high • Cost of property demolition will be high 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viable but might be prohibitively expensive

<p>6. Utilise Robert Miles School site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within town centre • Very cheap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would significantly increase traffic flows in the town centre, particularly at the entrance to the school, which would severely impact on child safety, would add to congestion and worsen air quality • Would potentially create child protection issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viable but not considered an appropriate option
<p>7. Create new car parks at the east and/or west ends of the town and provide Park and Ride bus service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could create large additional parking capacity • Would reduce traffic flows in the town centre, reducing congestion, improving air quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Furthest away from town centre, therefore least likely to be used • Would require extensive parking controls across the town (on-street and off-street) to force visitors to use the facility • Would require dedicated frequent bus service which would require significant revenue funding or charge for use • Security issues for vehicles left during the day • Potential site for anti-social behaviour at night • Land availability issues and significant cost implications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not a viable option
<p>8. New car park on former allotment north of railway line</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land is owned by Town Council • Close to town centre • Would reduce traffic flows in the town centre, reducing congestion, improving air quality • Prospects for co-ordinating with Crown Estate development programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pedestrian links to the town centre are poor and potential users may be put off because of this • High cost of de-contaminating land • No current access to the site from the north • Requires town centre-wide parking management strategy in order to become viable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viable but might be prohibitively expensive

<p>9. Create large number of small-scale parking areas across the town</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would reduce traffic flows in the town centre, reducing congestion, improving air quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not likely to be practical because visitors are unlikely to want to search around several different locations hunting a space • Would remove numerous green spaces, creating a much less pleasant overall townscape 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viable but not considered an appropriate option
<p>10. Do nothing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No implementation cost • No impact on greenfield sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will harm economic viability of town centre in both the short- and long term • Will not future-proof town centre against future competition • Parking and congestion problems will worsen as town is enlarged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viable but not considered an appropriate option

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**, at **7.15 p.m.** continued.....

DATE AND TIME OF MEETING:	26th Nov. 2014 2.00pm
NATURE OF MEETING:	Parking Strategy Working Group
IN ATTENDANCE:	BTC Councillors T.Fox, J.Eagles, S.Hull & J. Stockwood, CTY. CLLR. M.Suthers, NCC Officer P.Hillier & L.Holland
DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:	None

	CHAired BY CLLR. T.FOX	TO BE ACTIONED BY
1.	Apologies – Cllr. G. Davidson, T.Kerry	
2.	TF began the meeting by welcoming the attendees to this reconvened meeting (due to business 19 th November 2014 over running) and presented the notes on the previous meeting held 19 th November 2014 which were accepted as a true record.	
3.	TF referred to the notes which had been sent out with Environment Cttee. agenda (refer to TF report attached) and slight alterations to the wording were made to the agreed section of this report along the following lines: 1.1 Insert "Following recent surveys" at beginning and delete words in brackets. 1.2 Agreed. 1.3 Delete wording after bays ie delete from brackets onwards. 1.4 Delete both sets of words within brackets.	
4.	Following on from further discussions the following amendments were agreed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To insert a further point as point 1.2: "That two sites are further considered as potential car parking sites, these being the only ones that are potentially viable." (ie. making 5 points at this stage). • To add following following points: 1.6 In the short term to consider maximising regulated on street parking with a view to it being more effective. 1.7 To encourage Town Centre Businesses & Organisations to consider Travel Plans as a way of cutting down on staff vehicles in the Town Centre ie. car sharing, home working etc. 1.8 To investigate issues raised by the Community Survey - Community mini-bus scheme, increased cycle facilities and lower speed limits in Town Centre. 	

5	Chairman thanked people for attending and added this was the final meeting of the group confirming that the above would form basis of Environment Committee recommendations.	
6	The meeting closed at 3.55pm	

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**, at 7.15 p.m. continued.....

BTC Environment Meeting 2nd December 2014 - Parking Strategy Working Group update

At the working Group meeting on 19th November 2014 the following was tentatively agreed. However the meeting was not completed and will be resumed on 26th November 2014.

- **Agreed so far.**

- 1.1 More parking capacity needed to cater specifically for long term parking (supported by the Community, NCC & BTC surveys carried out over the last 12 months).
- 1.2 Timed parking regulations should be introduced in the 3 central car parks but only if & when appropriate long term parking is available.
- 1.3 Extension of 2 hour parking around the Market square to include the bays (increasing such capacity from 30 to 47 spaces (this potentially becomes 59 if the Co-op site is included) to increase 'churn'.
- 1.4 The principle that free parking should continue to be available in the Town Centre (for periods to be determined) to stimulate trade and aid visits to services (like the Gedling model).

2. To be agreed.

2.1 Discuss the best option(s) for extra parking capacity (from list of 9 options - see minutes of 19th November 2014 working group meeting).

- a) Contaminated land site north of Railway line - 480m to market square via the station bridge or
 - 240m to market square via Moor Lane crossing.
- b) Police station site - 680m to market square via Fosters Lane.

2.2 To consider 'on road' parking regulation review/extensions/changes. Some options to be discussed:-

- a. Adopting the parking management proposal tabled to the group (query viability due to likely residents attitude) - street list potential runs to around 250 potential spaces within area bounded by The Banks (to the south), Fosters Lane (to the east), Railway line (to the north) & Fairfield Street (to the west).
- b. Part adoption of a) i.e seek to develop a version which creates some formal 'on road' short stay parking to aid town centre 'churn' - 2 hour parking on Long Acre has been specifically tabled.
- c. Introduce increased selective parking restrictions on the most affected streets. Note this would reduce parking availability for workers & visitors and likely push street parking further out.
- d. Take cautious approach and merely highlight the need for NCC to keep options for review of possible changes to 'on street' parking regulations in mind.

2.3 What reference, if any do we want to make to a suggestion that a Town wide Travel Plan is created in conjunction with local businesses?

3. Summary

Environment Committee to make a recommendation based on the above information taking into account what emerges from the Working Group meeting on 26th November.

AJF 24th November 2014

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**, at **7.15 p.m.** continued.....

PARKING STRATEGY WORKING GROUP

PROPOSED ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO P & R

Over the past few months the group has deliberated over a parking strategy for Bingham. These discussions have looked at all aspects of the parking problems in the Town and have been informed by Community, NCC & BTC surveys. An overriding conclusion is that there is insufficient parking capacity and that no series of other measures outside the creation of more parking spaces will entirely solve the problem.

The following recommendations represent the outcome of these deliberations:-

1. More parking capacity needed to cater specifically for long term parking.
2. That two sites are further considered as potential car parking sites, these being the only ones that are potentially viable.
3. Timed parking regulations should be introduced in the 3 central car parks but only if & when appropriate long term parking is available.
4. Extension of 2 hour parking around the Market square to include the bays .
5. The principle that free parking should continue to be available in the Town Centre to stimulate trade and aid visits to services.
6. In the short term to consider reviewing regulated on street parking with a view to it being more effective.
7. To encourage Town Centre Businesses & Organisations to consider Travel Plans as a way of cutting down on staff vehicles in the Town Centre ie. car sharing, home working etc.
8. To investigate issues raised by the Community Survey - Community mini-bus scheme, increased cycle facilities and lower speed limits in the Town Centre.

The group is conscious that the Town Council has very limited authority to introduce changes to either 'off street' or 'on street' parking arrangements and that it has to seek the cooperation of RBC & NCC to effect change. The hope though is that if the above evidence based measures are approved the Council will be in a stronger position to lobby for its strategic objectives.

BTC Parking Working Group
28th November 2014

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 2nd December, 2014**, at 7.15 p.m. continued.....

2015/2016 ENVIRONMENT BUDGETS AGREED 2ND DEC. 2014

Environment

	Budget	Actual	Estimated	Budget
	2014/2015	@	31-Mar-15	2015/2016
		30-Sep-14		
<u>Expenditure</u>				
General Maintenance	640	2	50	640
Beautiful Bingham	5500	3,795	4300	5500
Litter/Dog Bins (Env & Rec)	450	0	450	450
Transfer to Environment Reserve	500	0	500	500
	7090	3,798	5300	7090