

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 7th October, 2014, at 7.15 p.m.**

PRESENT:

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

Also in attendance: 1 Press
 2 Members of the Public

1.00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE:

Apologies for Absence and Acceptance were received and accepted from County Councillor M. Suthers.

2.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

3.00 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 12th August, 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:

01 Eaton Place Bin

The Chairman reported on an e-mail from Streetwise, confirming that a new bin would be installed at Eaton Place to replace the old one.

5.00 MATTERS RELATING TO HIGHWAYS:

01 Traffic Regulation Orders – Update

No progress to report. It was agreed to follow this up.

02 Meeting Request re. A52/Tythby Road Junction - Update

It was reported that the Highways Agency cannot offer any additional information. Therefore, a meeting will not be held at this stage.

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Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 7th October, 2014, at 7.15 p.m.** continued.....

5.00 **MATTERS RELATING TO HIGHWAYS** continued.....

03 Trees/Shrubbery Running Along Bottom of Meadowsweet Hill/Nottingham Road - Update

Instructions have been issued by David Wilson for maintenance work to be carried out.

6.00 **PARKING STRATEGY WORKING GROUP (P.S.W.G.) - UPDATE:**

Councillor Fox reported on the fourth meeting of the P.S.W.G. held on the 10th September, 2014, attended by a representative from the Crown Estate (refer Appendices A, B and C attached).

01 Development North of Railway

- The Crown Estate expects to appoint a developer by 2015.
- The first properties may be built in 2016/17.
- 1.2 hectares of leisure land have been identified outside the Development Plan Area.
- Land for forty station car-parking spaces lies outside Development Plan boundary.
- P.S.W.G. will be reporting back to Crown Estate on progress.

02 N.C.C. Parking Survey

(a) Bus-Users' Survey

There was no evidence that a large number of people are using the centre of Bingham to 'park & ride' into Nottingham.

(b) Parking Analysis – Centre of Bingham

Results showed that:-

- Two thousand vehicles were parked in the centre of Bingham between 09.00 and 19.00 hours on both days of the survey.
- Ten per cent (i.e. two hundred vehicles) were parked for more than five hours.

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Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 7th October, 2014, at 7.15 p.m.** continued.....

6.00 PARKING STRATEGY WORKING GROUP P.S.W.G.) - UPDATE
continued.....

(a) Parking Analysis – Centre of Bingham

- Two thirds of the one hundred and fifty available spaces were occupied by vehicles parked for over five hours.

The survey provided important information for the P.S.W.G. who would be preparing a follow-on survey to establish a pattern of parking habits. It was intended to distribute the second survey to Bingham businesses/traders and establish if any spare spaces existed.

Although it was adequate for the working group to acquire information to progress its remit, it was agreed that the draft survey would be circulated to all Councillors for review before it was printed and distributed,

It was important that Councillors were kept up-to-date with actions and recommendations from working group meetings.

It was agreed that the final Nottinghamshire County Council Parking Survey should be circulated to all Councillors.

7.00 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S RESPONSE IN
RELATION TO GRASS-CUTTING IN AND AROUND BINGHAM,
ALONG WITH QUOTATIONS OBTAINED:

The Town Council is concerned by the variable standards and frequency of grass-cutting in the town which is currently carried out by four separate agencies.

A cost/time analysis was carried out on Nottinghamshire County Council areas and sports grounds with the aim of consolidating all the areas under the responsibility of the Town Council in order to improve the overall standard.

The additional time required to enlarge the grass-cutting areas and increase frequency equates to the time currently spent cutting one of the sports grounds per annum.

Quotations for cutting the sports grounds were received, which amounted to approximately £4,468.00 for one sports ground per year.

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Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 7th October, 2014**, at **7.15 p.m.** continued.....

7.00 **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S REPOSE IN RELATION TO GRASS-CUTTING IN AND AROUND BINGHAM, ALONG WITH QUOTATIONS OBTAINED continued.....**

It was

RECOMMENDED that Bingham Town Council takes on all of Nottinghamshire County Council's grass verges and receives £2,798.20 (noting that the Town Council already receives approximately £1,250.00, i.e. only an additional £1,548.20 being received), it will be necessary to outsource one of the sports grounds. As a guide quote = £4,468.75, less £1,548.20 (additional income received from Nottinghamshire County Council) = shortfall of £2,920.55.

It was also

RECOMMENDED that the agreement runs for a trial period of three years in order to assess consistency of costs to Bingham Town Council and income from Nottinghamshire County Council, and to monitor grass-growing conditions.

8.00 **MATTERS RELATING TO BUS SERVICES:**

01 **Identification of Bus Services**

The Chairman reported on the introduction of new identification letters on bus destination signs. They are:-

- X – Nottingham – Bingham Xpress
- B – Nottingham – West Bridgford – Radcliffe – Wychwood Road – Bingham [and then on to Aslockton, Orston and Elton
- C – Nottingham – West Bridgford – Saxondale – Cropwells – Granby – Bingham.
- E – Nottingham – West Bridgford – East Bridgford – Newton – Bingham.
- R – Nottingham – West Bridgford – Radcliffe

02 **New Bus Stops Along Meadowsweet Hill/Tythby Road Loop**

The new stops are reported as being at Medway Drive, Swale Grove, Tythby Road/Langar Road junction and top of Meadowsweet Hill. The Committee accepted and supported these suggestions.

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Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 7th October, 2014**, at 7.15 p.m. continued.....

9.00 **LOCATIONS OF FLOWER TOWERS AND BASKETS:**

A suggestion had been made to locate ten flower towers in the cemetery. It was agreed that this could be deferred for consideration after 2015.

Discussion took place regarding the advantages of consolidating displays for impact rather than scattering them over a wide area. It was felt to be important to maintain displays on the four main approaches to the town. A bright colour scheme was preferred for next year.

10.00 PARKING ON THE BANKS:

Several points were raised during discussion:-

- To look into the feasibility of a survey on the practicability of parking restrictions.
- Creating parking restrictions at either side of the cemetery entrance to enable access/egress by funeral vehicles.
- Toot Hill School had contributed to the problem through building works and sixth-form parking.

It was agreed to write to Nottinghamshire County Council Highways, requesting they look at a means of alleviating congestion.

It was also agreed to write to the school to open discussion regarding the problem.

11.00 MEETING WITH N.C.C'S RIGHTS OF WAY OFFICER RE. TOOT HILL FOOTPATH DIVERSION - UPDATE:

It was agreed to meet at Toot Hill on Monday, 20th October, 2014, at 11.00 a.m. with the Councillors A. Ashmore, G. Davidson, J. Eagles, T. Fox and Mrs. M. Stockwood invited to attend.

12.00 FUTURE BUDGET PROVISION:

The need to discuss future budget provision at the next meeting was noted.

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Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 7th October, 2014**, at **7.15 p.m.** continued.....

13.00 CORRESPONDENCE:

01 Nottinghamshire County Council

Notice had been received of the temporary closure of Chapel Lane/Kirkhill from 09.00 to 18.00 hours on the 12th October, 2014.
Noted.

Councillor Martin Suthers

Paul Hillier

Peter Mathieson

NCC

NCC

Apologies: Councillor George Davidson

Councillor John Eagles

Mayor

		Action
1.	Minutes of the meeting 13 May 2014. The minutes were accepted as a true record of the business that took place.	
2.	Matters arising. George committed to talk to the Borough about their lack of a parking policy and to provide more clarification. George has yet to report back on this action point. Also on the subject of speaking to the Crown estates regarding a contribution to the funding of a new car park. All other action points have been completed. A letter from Peter Steed at RBC has been received. RBC do not feel it appropriate for an officer to be present at these meetings but would like to be appraised of any results and proposals. Cabinet member Cllr Fearon has been appraised of the working group but has not been in touch.	GD
3.	Survey. Paul Hillier reported on the survey that was recently carried out by NCC. The previous survey taken in 2009 showed there was no evidence of drivers leaving their cars all day in Bingham to catch the bus into Nottingham. The results of this survey will be available in a few weeks time when Paul will forward the date to the committee.	
4.	New Car Park. The Chairman updated attendees on the aims and conclusions of the previous meeting. There was nothing further to report.	
5.	Finance. £600,000 is the estimated cost of converting the contaminated land to a car park. The Crown Estates are committing £240,000 to an improved station car park.	
6.	Implications to existing car parks. Paul Hillier suggested he could come up with a package illustrating the measures required to offset parking on side streets and needing to issue resident parking only zones. The business community need to be involved in any decision to charge for all day parking in Bingham. There are variable messages signs currently used in West Bridgford which may be appropriate for Bingham.	PH

7.	Park & Ride. Peter suggested that there is no land available to site a Park & Ride into Nottingham. The pocket P & R at Cotgrave is off a major highway and therefore the Council could not support another one in Bingham which would be off a major highway. The cost of a P & R is £40,000 to £50,000. It must have a frequent bus service. Peter felt that the VOSA site would not be appropriate as the buses would not be able to access the site. At the moment a P & R for Bingham is not worth pursuing.	
8.	AOB. The Chairman believes that the idea of a Community Minibus service driven by volunteers be revisited as a way of aiding transportation in, around and to and from the Town. This item to be included on the next agenda.	
9.	Date of next meeting. Sue to raise a Doodle poll for the whole of September.	SH

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Cllr A Fox

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Date

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Appendix 'B'

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 7th October, 2014**, at 7.15 p.m. continued.....

**PRE MEETING PARKING STRATEGY GROUP
BINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES
WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2014**

Present: Councillor Tony Fox Chair
 Councillor George Davidson Mayor
 Councillor Tracey Kerry Deputy Mayor
 Councillor John Stockwood
 Councillor Sue Hull

Apologies: Councillor John Eagles

The Mayor reported his efforts to enter into a discussion with the Crown Estates (CE) on the progress of the development north of the railway line. He is concerned that Bingham Town Council (BTC) will not have any input into the plans for the development.

It was agreed that although the CE have indicated a parking for 40 spaces on the outline plans, BTC need to provide a long term parking solution for the town.

Access to the proposed contaminated land area is currently very difficult, but Tesco have an obligation to create a tarmaced road to the Butt Field entrance via their goods vehicle access road. In the short term this was felt to be a viable access solution.

North of the contaminated land there is a 1.2ha area leading up to the 'hammer head' which is designated on the plans for Leisure & Wellbeing. This land will be given to the Borough Council (RBC) for either of 2 uses:- a) sell the land for employment use and use that money to provide a Leisure facility elsewhere in the Borough or b) Build a Leisure facility on that land.

What we need is a commitment from CE that if we proceed with building a long stay car park on the contaminated land, they will give BTC the £240,000 to help pay for it. It is proposed that a Public Works Loan for £700,000 over 25 years would be needed. It was agreed that as RBC are responsible for parking in Bingham, they should bear the cost of some of the work.

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Cllr A Fox

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Date

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Appendix 'C'

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 7th October, 2014**, at **7.15 p.m.** continued.....

**PARKING STRATEGY GROUP
BINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES
WEDNESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2014**

Present:	Councillor Tony Fox	Chair
	Councillor George Davidson	Mayor
	Councillor Tracey Kerry	Deputy Mayor
	Councillor John Stockwood	
	Councillor Sue Hull	
	Councillor Martin Suthers	
	Paul Hillier	NCC

Apologies:

Councillor John Eagles

		Action
1.	Minutes of the meeting 16 June 2014. The minutes were accepted as a true record of the business that took place.	
2.	Matters arising. George committed to talk to the Borough about their lack of a parking policy and to provide more clarification.	GD
3.	<p>Crown Estates Development. Neil explained that in the last few months a lot of technical work has been done which is needed for the foundations and utilities on the site. The CE prefer to do this work themselves rather than include it in the developers tender. The reason they have not been in touch with BTC is that currently there is nothing new to report as nothing has changed.</p> <p>They have already received expressions of interest from several developers, but could not say at the moment who the preferred partner is and whether it will be one or more than one. Apparently the CE plans have been well received. They hope to have discussions with the proposed developers at the end of this year with a preferred developer being chosen later in 2015.</p> <p>The 1.2 hectares of identified 'Leisure and Wellbeing' land due north of our contaminated land is not part of the development. This land will be given to the Borough Council (RBC) for either of 2 uses:- a) to sell the land for employment use and use that money to provide a Leisure facility elsewhere (in the Borough or Town?) or b) build a Leisure facility on that land. If a Leisure Centre is built on the land it would have to have a specified number of parking spaces which could potentially be made available for long stay use. Also there could be an access road to that land which would also give us the access that we need for a car park on the contaminated land should this be confirmed as a requirement.</p> <p>The cost of the station parking as identified on the outline plans was purely for the CE to identify it as a possible need and place a value to it. Again this element is not part of the development. The location of that 40 spaces parking was never intended to be final. It was included only for the purposes of the outline plans.</p> <p>The committee asked Neil for an assurance that should we go ahead with building a car park on the contaminated land, the CE would give the £240,000 to BTC to offset some of the cost. Neil was unable to give that assurance as if in the unlikely event that the development did not progress, the funding would not be available. The viability of the development will be triggered when the first engineering works are carried out. The first unit is expected to be 2016-2017. The clock starts ticking after the first dwelling is built.</p>	

	<p>The suggestion was made that if everything gets the go-ahead, there is no reason why we cannot ask the engineering company who are already on the site to make our access road for us and even quote for building the car park.</p> <p>The committee asked Neil to take our message back to the CE that we would like to have an input with the developer. Neil would be writing a report on the meeting.</p> <p>Paul will forward a copy of the parking survey to Neil which will highlight the urgent need for action by BTC on the issues of long stay parking in Bingham.</p>	PH
4.	<p>Parking Survey Paul presented the survey that had previously been circulated. He confirmed that 2/3rds of the 158 cars in all the parking areas were there all day. This evidence reinforced the need for long stay parking for workers.</p> <p>There was an anomaly in the figures which he couldn't explain.</p> <p>Interestingly there was little difference in the figures for a non-market and a market day. Historically there has always been more cars with less spaces on a market day.</p> <p>Paul's conclusion was that we as a Town Council push for what in the case of parking regulations but we need to be aware of the consequences i.e. no change pleases everyone.</p> <p>The cost of residents parking is £25 per car per year. There are more petitions from residents wanting the restrictions lifted than there are those wanting to implement the scheme. Paul will forward a list of the possible options for on street parking restrictions.</p>	PH
5.	<p>Workers Survey Tony will send round the questionnaire that he has created for sending out to the businesses in Bingham.</p>	AF
6.	<p>Final Proposal Tony summed up the meeting stating that we should meet in November in preparation to make a proposal to the Council to adopt a policy on parking. Tony felt that the remit of this working party was to investigate the issues and make recommendations to the full Council as to what the policy should be. The meeting considered we would be in a position to decide this at the next meeting. The working party would then no longer be required to meet this remit.</p>	
7.	<p>AOB. The Chairman believes that the idea of a Community Minibus service driven by volunteers should be revisited as a way of aiding transportation in, around and to and from the Town. This item to be included on the next agenda.</p>	
8.	<p>Date of next meeting. Sue to raise a Doodle poll for the whole of November.</p>	SH

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Cllr A Fox

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Date