

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 11th October, 2016**, at **7.15 p.m.**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Mrs. K. Vallance – Chairman  
 " G. Davidson  
 " A. Harvey  
 " K. Hayes-Heath  
 " Mrs. E. Hutchison  
 " J. Stockwood  
 "

Also in attendance: Councillor R. Bird  
 " A. Shelton  
 " F. Purdue-Horan

**1.00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE:**

There were no Apologies for Absence and Acceptance received.

**2.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

**3.00 MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 16th August, 2016, 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:**

There were no Matters Arising to report.

The Chairman requested permission to move item 6.02 to item 5.00 due to members of the public being present which was agreed by all, and Standing Orders were suspended for this item only to allow members of the public to speak and were then reinstated.

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## 6.00 MATTERS RELATING TO PARKING ISSUES:

### 02 Parking on Residential Street around Carnarvon School

The Chairman welcomed members of the public and invited them to speak in relation to this matter. A spokesperson gave an account of an incident involving a driver which had been referred to the police and was under investigation by them. There was photographic evidence which is in the hands of the police. The incident had come about due to inconsiderate parking at the beginning and end of a school day, and reflects a common problem. There is general traffic chaos on the surrounding streets leading up to the entrance of Carnarvon School and it is felt there is an accident waiting to happen. As well as the police being aware, Neighbourhood Watch is also aware. An action group/committee has been set up by various people in order to try to address the problems, and a grant application submitted to Bingham Town Council to cover set-up costs.

The group thanked the Town Council for its support to date. Various initiatives were being investigated, e.g. shared drive schemes and a school walking train due to the fact that a local bus service was no longer funded. There was a Facebook page dedicated to 'Carnarvon School Traffic Crisis'. The lie of the land meant there was insufficient space and was too small for a turning circle, and the Head Teacher did not support this

Nottinghamshire County Councillor Purdue-Horan expressed his sincere sympathies over the incident but added that the traffic congestion at the beginning and end of a school day was not unique to Carnarvon School with other schools across Nottinghamshire experiencing the same thing. Nottinghamshire County Council Officers had already undertaken some research and offered a meeting to investigate safe solutions to the problem. Other Councillors had also been in conversation with the spokesperson and Head Teacher, and reiterated there was insufficient space for a turning circle. Additional photographs showing inconsiderate parking were presented and suggestions of additional parking restrictions and double yellow lines were made. There was duty of care to safeguard children.

Councillors agreed to support further action to try to address this problem and it was agreed that a letter be sent to the school and Nottinghamshire County Council regarding setting up a meeting to discuss the matter.

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**5.00**     **CLERK'S UPDATES:**

See Attached Appendix 'A'. Noted.

**6.00**     **MATTERS RELATING TO PARKING ISSUES:**

01     Car Park Working Group Meeting – Update on Meeting held on 10th October, 2016.

Refer to notes attached Appendix 'B'.

A Councillor referred to the fact that Rushcliffe Borough Council could not deal with Bingham as an isolated case as it had to consider the whole of the Borough's car parks. The matter will be forwarded to the Growth Board. The Chairman provided photographs of bike stands, and an estimate of £2,000.00, plus installation charges, was quoted. Areas suggested for such bike stands were:-

- Near Costa Coffee
- Market Place, eastern corner, approximately opposite the Manor House.
- Edge of new Methodist Centre (near furniture store)
- Eaton Place wall near Chinese. This was the preferred location.

02     Taken at beginning of meeting.

03     Pedestrian Access via Newgate Street Entrance to Car Park

Councillors expressed their concerns about there being a footpath at the end of the entrance drive to Newgate Street car park which leads towards the doctors' surgery. A photograph was supplied showing the area, and it was agreed to request Rushcliffe Borough Council to paint a pedestrian corridor on the tarmac for the safety of pedestrians.

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**7.00 CYCLE PATHS INTO BINGHAM FROM THE NORTH AND WEST:**

There were discussions following the recent tragic death of a Toothill School pupil whilst cycling on Chapel Lane and another student being knocked off his cycle whilst negotiating roundabouts in the vicinity of Saxondale island. The Chairman to speak to Toothill School regarding the number of pupils cycling to school. A member of the public had requested cycle/pedestrian paths, and the Newton Development Planning Application included a bridge, however, it would appear that the developer is trying to vary the conditions. The Chairman requested County Councillor Purdue-Horan to discuss at Nottinghamshire County Council, including a reduction of the speed limit along Chapel Lane.

**8.00 REVIEW AGREEMENT WITH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TO UNDERTAKE CUTTING OF N.C.C. GRASS VERGES, NOTING THIS IS SECOND YEAR OF A THREE YEAR PILOT SCHEME: Refer to report Appendix 'C'.**

It was

**RECOMMENDED** to continue with the three year pilot project but monitor quality of the cut.

**9.00 CORRESPONDENCE:**

01 Rushcliffe Borough Council

A copy of a complaint from a resident sent to Rushcliffe Borough Council regarding noise generated in Newgate Street by contractors was noted. The Clerk to request a copy of the Borough Council's response.

02 Nottinghamshire County Council re. Snow Warden

It was agreed that the Bingham Town Council office to be the preferred contact.

**10.00 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS:**

There was no Confidential Business for consideration.

As there was no further business to transact, the meeting closed at 8.43 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN.

Date:- .....

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### CLERK'S UPDATE

<b>DETAILS</b>	<b>ACTION TO BE TAKEN</b>
<b>N.C.C. Grass-cutting</b>	<b>Monitoring.</b>
<b>Restricted parking on Cherry Street/Church Street</b>	<b>Traffic Regulation Orders in progress</b>
<b>Network Rail/East Midlands Trains/Station Issues</b>	<b>Further meeting to be arranged.</b>
<b>Planters for Gateway signs</b>	<b>On-going.</b>

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## **CLERK'S UPDATE**

10<sup>th</sup> October 2016

### **Car Park Working Group Notes**

#### **In Attendance**

Elizabeth Hutchison  
Alan Harvey  
Kath Vallance

#### **1 Apologies.**

Stephanie Orr  
Kevin Hayes Heath  
Rowan Bird  
Alison Langford  
Francis Purdue-Horan

#### **2 Minutes of Last Meeting, Agreed.**

#### **3 Update with partner Agencies.**

It was agreed that Alan would ask the Growth Board about their Car Park Strategy, as this is the reason for the hold up with BTC suggested changes to the short stay changes. (refer to email from Daryll Burch)

Travel Plans are being delivered to Business's and a Workshop is planned for the 20<sup>th</sup> October on the market square with Paul Hillier and Ross Paradise

#### **4 Park on My Drive.**

Information and Literature has been obtained and attached for Councillors to look at. It was decided that this would not work until restrictions are in place.

#### **5 Bike Parking Stations.**

Good idea need to allocate the best positions to obtain insatalation costs. Kath taking photos for discussion at Enviroment Committee.

#### **6 Date of next meeting.**

Paul Hillier will give feed back on the Travel Plans and Workshop. To be confirmed.

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## **Report to the Environment Committee 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

### **To review agreement with NCC to undertake cutting of NCC grass verges.**

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#### **1 Purpose of Report**

To review the agreement with NCC to undertake cutting of NCC grass verges for a trial period of 3years noting this is 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

#### **2 Background**

Back in 2015 Councillors wished to address the problem of grassed areas in and around Bingham being maintained to different standards.

NCC provided a map of all their grassed areas (due to the fact that BTC were already cutting certain ones under an agreement) along with the payment which would be made to BTC. Once the agreement commencement amendments were made by NCC re any anomalies which came to light ie. Aldi store opening & some areas not being included.

Third party quotes were obtained for outsourcing the cutting of the grass verges and also for outsourcing the Sports Grounds.

BTC Groundstaff timesheets were analysed to identify amount of time currently spent on cutting grassed areas which were NCC responsibility, along with time spent on Sports Grounds.

BTC entered into an agreement with NCC to undertake cutting of NCC grass verges for a trial period of 3years noting this is 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

At this time there were 2 full time Groundsmen; however since entering into the agreement following a staff vacancy BTC resolved to outsource more of the work rather that appoint another member of staff.

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## **To review agreement with NCC to undertake cutting of NCC grass verges continued.....**

### **3 Information provided by NCC**

NCC amended figures confirmed the total area would be 29897 sq. mtres. (exact details and locations previously circulated) and would be paid at a rate of 2p per sq. mtr. for 5 cuts per year.  
**NCC would pay BTC £2,989.70.**

### **4 Third Party Quotes obtained to undertake all NCC verges.**

Three quotes were obtained on a like for like basis i.e. 5 cuts per year and Streetwise were appointed.

### **5. Third party quote obtained for cutting of sports grounds**

Three quotes were obtained on a like for like basis and Streetwise were appointed.

### **6. Progress up to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

Whilst last year the grass cutting was managed reasonably successfully this year has been more problematical with a cold start in April/May followed by lots of rain & sunshine which has given an unprecedented rise to substantial growth of grass/shrubbery etc.

BTC Staff resources resulted in 75 hours less being spent on grass cutting due to no overtime during the week being undertaken in the year.

Additional grass verges were outsourced to alleviate a back log when grass cutting season took off and under pressure. These additional grassed verges remained outsourced for rest of season.

### **7. Recommendation for third year of pilot agreement.**

To review the continuation of the pilot agreement.

**Lynn Holland**  
**Town Clerk**