

**Mayor's Announcements prior to the commencement of the Meeting of Bingham Town Council held in The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on Tuesday, 6th September, 2016, at 7.00 p.m.**

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

- 1.00 Saturday, 9th June, 2016, opened BFest at Butt Field.
- 2.00 Saturday, 16th June, 2016, attended the Bingham Twinning Association Barbeque event as President of the Association.
- 3.00 Sunday, 31st July, 2016, attended the Rushcliffe Borough Council Civic Service at Bingham Methodist Church.
- 4.00 Sunday, 31st July, 2016, welcomed visitors from Wallenfels to Bingham for a week's stay which included a visit to The Old Court House on Thursday, 4th August, 2016.
- 5.00 Friday, 2nd September, 2016, attended the presentation of the Queen's Award to the Vale First Responders, congratulated them on their achievement and thanked them for all their efforts for the Bingham Community.

Minutes of a meeting of **Bingham Town Council** held in the Council Chamber at The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 6th September, 2016**, at **7.00 p.m.**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor J. Stockwood - Chairman  
 " R. Bird  
 " G. Davidson  
 " J. Ferguson  
 " A. Harvey  
 " Mrs. E. Hutchison  
 " Mrs. T. Kerry  
 " Mrs. A. Langford  
 " Mrs. S. Orr  
 " F. Purdue-Horan  
 " A. Shelton  
 " Mrs. K. Vallance

In attendance: Borough Councillor Mrs. S. Hull  
 Rushcliffe Borough Council Officers - D. Mitchell and S. Robinson  
 Rushcliffe Borough Council Monitoring Officer P. Horsfield  
 3 Members of the public  
 1 Press

Prior to the commencement of the formal meeting, prayers, led by the Reverend Tony Jones, were said.

It was agreed to change order of Agenda item to allow Agenda item 7 to be taken before item 6.

The Mayor also stated that to aid more accurate minute taking the Council will also be recording the meeting.

**1.00 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS. (As per list attached).**

**2.00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE:**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors K. Hayes-Heath and Mrs. C. Williams.

**3.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

Declarations of Interest were received from Councillor Mrs. Langford and Councillor Purdue-Horan re. Folio 8414, Item 8 (b), and 8418, Item 12, Christmas Fair; Councillor Mrs. T. Kerry re. Folio 8386, Item 19.02, Private & Confidential, Copeland Grove; Councillor Harvey re. Folio 8419, Item 12.03, Private & Confidential – Staffing Matters, and Councillor Mrs. Hutchison re. Folio 8416, Item 8.07, B.F.S.C., Grant Debtor's Bill and Folio 8416, Item 8.06, Replacement Equipment for Wallenfels Visitors.

Continued...../

Minutes of a Meeting of **Bingham Town Council** held in The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 6th September, 2016**, at **7.00 p.m.**  
continued.....

#### **4.00 MINUTES:**

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 5th July, 2016, Folios 8344/8350, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Town Mayor as a true record, subject to approving additional grant aid to Butt Field Sports Club of £320.00 to cover the V.A.T. on the media project.

#### **5.00 MATTERS ARISING:**

There were no Matters Arising out of the Minutes held on the 5th July, 2016, for information to report.

#### **6.00 INTRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION FROM PHILLIP HORSFIELD, MONITORING OFFICER, RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL:**

Phillip Horsfield, Rushcliffe Borough Council Monitoring Officer, gave a brief presentation on his role as Monitoring Officer and how the Borough Council would try to assist Town/Parish Councils if requested. Other Rushcliffe Borough Council Officers would also assist, e.g. the Solicitor, Paul Cox, and other management team members. Mr. Horsfield referred to the Code of Conduct which the Town Council had approved and Councillors had signed to confirm they would abide by.

#### **7.00 PRESENTATION BY COUNCILLOR S. ROBINSON AND R.B.C. OFFICER, D. MITCHELL, FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF BINGHAM RETAIL REVIEW SUPPORTED BY BINGHAM & RADCLIFFE GROWTH BOARD:**

Councillor Robinson opened the presentation on "Growth in Rushcliffe – Retail Review" and then handed over to Dave Mitchell who is the Lead Officer for Bingham. Councillor Robinson gave a strategic overview of the following:-

- Key objectives of the Study
- Who Kerching Retail is
- How the Study was conducted
- How the information is being fed back

Mr. Mitchell provided an overview of the findings specific to Bingham.

Following the presentation Mr. Mitchell confirmed he would provide a copy of the presentation by Colin Burchell.

Continued...../

Minutes of a meeting of **Bingham Town Council** held in The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 6th September, 2016**, at **7.00 p.m.**  
continued.....

**7.00 PRESENTATION BY COUNCILLOR S. ROBINSON AND R.B.C. OFFICER, D. MITCHELL, FOLLOWING PUBLICATION OF BINGHAM RETAIL REVIEW SUPPORTED BY BINGHAM & RADCLIFFE GROWTH BOARD**  
**continued.....**

Councillor Purdue-Horan suggested there was a need for outdoor areas specifically for visitors to relax and have refreshments, i.e. outdoor seating around and on the Market Place.

Councillor Mrs. Hutchison said more events should be held on the Market Place and also support from the Borough Council when the Town Council requested changes.

Councillor Harvey had attended the retail workshop which he felt was worthwhile, and forthcoming ones were:-

- Radcliffe-on-Trent – 15th September, 2016.
- West Bridgford – 29th September, 2016.

**8.00 COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

All Committee reports were presented and it was

**RESOLVED** to approve the following recommendations:-

(a) Planning Committee – 12th July, 2016, Folio 8351

In the absence of Councillor Hayes-Heath and Councillor Shelton, Councillor Stockwood presented this report and it was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee be accepted.

Continued...../

Minutes of a meeting of **Bingham Town Council** held in The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 6th September, 2016**, at **7.00 p.m.** continued.....

**8.00 COMMITTEE REPORTS continued.....**

(b) Community Committee – 12th July, 2016, Folio 8356

Councillor Mrs. A. Langford presented her report and it was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee be accepted, subject to the following:-

Councillor Purdue-Horan expressed concerns regarding all the changes in relation to the Christmas Fair and **PROPOSED** that public consultation be undertaken with a view to the changes taking place from 2017 not 2016.

Councillor Stockwood **SECONDED**. A recorded vote was taken as follows:-

**FOR** - Councillors A. Shelton, F. Purdue-Horan and J. Stockwood

**AGAINST** - Councillors, R. Bird, G. Davidson, J. Ferguson, A. Harvey, Mrs. E. Hutchison, Mrs. T. Kerry, Mrs. A. Langford, Mrs. S. Orr and Mrs. K. Vallance.

It was

**RESOLVED** to implement the changes in December, 2016, in line with the original recommendation from the Community Committee.

(c) Recreational & Cemetery Committee, 2nd August, 2016, Folio 8365

Councillor Mrs. T. Kerry presented her report and it was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee be accepted, subject to noting that the Leisure Strategy Working Group was not actually presented at the meeting of the Recreational & Cemetery Committee.

(d) Planning Committee, 16th August, 2016, Folio 8372

Councillor Shelton presented his report and it was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee be accepted.

Continued...../

Minutes of a meeting of **Bingham Town Council** held in The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 6th September, 2016**, at **7.00 p.m.** continued.....

## 8.00 **COMMITTEE REPORTS** continued.....

### (e) Environment Committee, 16th August, 2016, Folio 8377

Councillor Mrs. K. Vallance presented her report and it was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee be accepted noting that the Car Park Working Group notes be added to the end of the Minutes and that in F8378, Item 7.02, Linear Park, Councillor Shelton as well as Councillor Bird be included in plans to improve the area.

The recommendation referred to Policy & Resources Committee in F8378, Car Park Working Group, Item 6.01, that the Town Council increases the reserve for car parking was also noted.

It was also

**RESOLVED** that:-

- (i) the Clerk obtains ideas and quotations in relation to installing flower tubs at entrances into Bingham and also approaches the County Council regarding issues of permission, etc.
- (ii) to support the Great British Spring Clean being held from the 3rd to the 5th March, 2017.

### (f) Policy & Resources Committee, 23rd August, 2016, Folio 8382

Councillor A. Harvey presented his report and it was

**RESOLVED**

#### 01 Folio 8382 - Budget Report 'A'

To approve Budget Report up to 30th June, 2016.

#### 02 No Bankline payments were presented.

Continued...../

Minutes of a meeting of **Bingham Town Council** held in The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 6th September, 2016**, at **7.00 p.m.**  
continued.....

**8.00 COMMITTEE REPORTS continued.....**

(f) Policy & Resources Committee, 23rd August, 2016, Folio 8382 continued....

03 Folio 8383/8.01 – Priority-Setting Group

As per recommendation at 01 that items highlighted within the priority listing be formally established as the Council's key priorities in terms of resources, and 02 that cycle paths have been added to the priority list and referred for discussion to Car Park Working Group meeting.

04 Folio 8385/14.00 – Insurance Renewals

As per recommendation to opt for the one year policy with the Town Council's existing insurers.

Councillor Hutchison abstained from items relating to Butt Field.

05 Folio 8385/15.00 - Wallenfels - Purchase of Replacement Items for Visitors

As per recommendation, noting that there is still an outstanding invoice from a security firm.

06 Folio 8385/16.00 – B.F.S.C. – Debtor's Bill

It was agreed that the Town Council does not recharge Butt Field Sports Club for costs incurred with the recent eviction of travellers.

Note that Agenda Item 18, Referral from Community Committee, was an Agenda item at Full Council.

It was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of this Committee be accepted.

It was

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that the Reports and Recommendations of all the Committees and Working Groups referred to, including Private & Confidential matters, be approved.

Continued...../

Minutes of a meeting of **Bingham Town Council** held in The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 6th September, 2016**, at **7.00 p.m.**  
continued.....

#### **9.00 REPORTS FROM BOROUGH COUNCILLORS:**

##### 01 Borough Councillors G. Davidson and Mrs. S. Hull

Councillor Mrs. S. Hull had nothing to report.

##### 02 Borough Councillor G. Davidson

Councillor Davidson, as Rushcliffe Borough Council Mayor, confirmed he had not attended meetings. However, it had been a pleasure for him to attend a presentation of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services to the Vale First Responders on the 2nd September, 2016. He fully supported the Award and congratulated the Organisation on receiving it.

#### **10.00. OTHER REPORTS:**

##### 01 Councillor R. Bird

Councillor Bird said that the Priority-Setting Meeting priorities were summer crimes, road safety and two-way communications.

##### Councillor F. Purdue-Horan

Councillor Purdue-Horan, in his capacity as a Nottinghamshire County Councillor, confirmed it was a privilege for him to represent Bingham at County Hall. He had been appointed on to the Police & Crime Commissioner's Panel and also the Adult Social Care Committee. Councillor Purdue-Horan said he would be raising the unacceptable closure of Langar tip at the meeting to be held on the 15th September, 2016.

#### **11.00 CONSTITUTION WORKING GROUP:**

Refer to report from Councillor Harvey attached Appendix 'A'

It was

**RESOLVED** that the Independent member be Councillor Bird, the Conservative member Councillor Shelton, with all other membership being as previously agreed.

Continued...../



Minutes of a meeting of **Bingham Town Council** held in The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 6th September, 2016**, at **7.00 p.m.** continued.....

**11.00 CONSTITUTION WORKING GROUP REPORT continued.....**

It was

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to approve recommendations contained in the report.

**12.00 STAGE HIRE FOR CHRISTMAS FAIR:**

It was

**RESOLVED** to approve an additional budget of up to £3,000.00 to cover the cost of a stage for the Christmas Fair. Councillors Mrs. Langford, Stockwood and the Clerk to progress. The Clerk confirmed that other expenditure would also be incurred in relation to road closures, etc.

**13.00 CORRESPONDENCE:**

01 N.A.L.C.

Notice received of the Annual General Meeting to be held on the 16th November, 2016.

**14.00 OBSERVATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:**

01 A resident queried when the lease for Warner's Paddock would be signed. Councillor Harvey replied and confirmed this would be signed in the near future.

Continued...../

Minutes of a meeting of **Bingham Town Council** held in The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 6th September, 2016**, at **7.00 p.m.** continued.....

**12.00 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

**PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE NEXT BUSINESS, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS PROPOSED, SECONDED AND CARRIED** continued.....

The following matters were discussed:-

- 01 POLICE STATION SITE**
- 02 WARNER'S PADDOCK**
- 03 STAFFING MATTERS**
- 04 PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS NOTES 97 AND 98**

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.45 p.m.

.....  
CHAIRMAN.

Date: .....

## **REPORT TO COUNCIL 6 SEPTEMBER 2016 BINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL CONSTITUTION**

Having worked within the current Constitution for just over a year, many members, particularly more recent colleagues, now feel that the current Constitution needs revising, in particular the Committee Structure which has been operating for a number of years.

Whilst seemingly traditional in nature, the current committee system does seem to have some negative aspects, including:

- Aiding prevarication of issues
- Failing to enable direct decision making
- Stifling full council debate of strategic issues
- A concentration on minor operational issues
- Lacking focus and strategic direction
- Playing on a false impression of importance
- Meeting in an inconsistent manner over the year
- Failing to invigorate public interest or debate
- Serving a very limited process

In order to address these issues it is suggested that the Constitution Working Party meet over the course of the next cycle to consider any changes necessary to move the Councils systems forward with a view to being able to recommend revisions at the next Council meeting in November. The current make-up of the Constitution Working Group is the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Committee Chairs with one Independent and one Conservative Member (to be appointed).

Areas to examine could include:

- ✓ A flatter structure based on regular (monthly) Council (decision making) meetings
- ✓ A more strategically focussed agenda
- ✓ Advisory committees for Resources and Planning
- ✓ An improved level of communication within our processes
- ✓ A greater recognition of working groups for key strategic areas reporting directly to regular council meetings
- ✓ Regular opportunities for reporting on operational matters by the Town Clerk
- ✓ More regular question / answer sessions for members of the public
- ✓ Opportunities for additional meetings if required
- ✓ Having lead members for key strategic areas with written reports and recommendations direct to Council and to help spread the workload
- ✓ Refocusing the culture of meetings that the Council requires
- ✓ Examining meetings layout
- ✓ Increased use of modern technology in presentation methods

Continued...../

**BINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL CONSTITUTION continued.....**

There are also existing areas which lack clarity and some other areas that could benefit from review that could be examined alongside the above considerations.

As with any changes of this nature, it will need to be accepted that that changes will need to be measured, reviewed and amended over a period to ensure that the Constitution remains an effective tool in the Town Councils armoury.

**RECOMMENDED – It is recommended that:**

- 1. The Town Mayor call a meeting of the Constitution Working Group to consider outline proposals for amendments to the Constitution, such meeting to be held within 14 days of the date of this Council meeting;**
- 2. One Independent member and one Conservative member be appointed to the Working Group in line with the decision of the AGM; and**
- 3. In line with current policy, all member be invited to attend, contribute and observe the meetings of the Working Group.**

**Alan R Harvey**  
**Deputy Mayor and Chair of Policy and Resources Committee**