

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 12th August, 2014**, at 7.15 p.m.

PRESENT:

Councillor J. Eagles - Chairman
 " G. Davidson
 " T. Fox
 " Mrs. T. Kerry
 " Mrs. M. Stockwood
 Also in attendance: Councillor F. Purdue-Horan
 " A. Harvey
 1 Public
 1 Press

1.00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE:

Apologies for Absence and Acceptance were received and accepted from Councillor A. Ashmore.

2.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

There were no Declarations of Interest received.

3.00 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 10th June, 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:

There were no Matters Arising for information to report.

5.00 MATTERS RELATING TO HIGHWAYS:

- 01 Town Centre Improvements and Updates in Relation to Traffic Regulation Orders and Response to Current Consultations, including Recent Complaints about Traffic Problems on Cherry Street

The Chairman reported on recent traffic congestion on Cherry Street and requested the Clerk to chase whether any further consultation with residents had been undertaken. (Originally double yellow lines were included all along the east side in the previous scheme. However, following objections from neighbours that this was not necessary, it was withdrawn with a view to a further consultation). The Chairman also felt that there was no need to extend double yellow lines on Rutland Road.

Continued...../

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

02 Proposed Changes re. A52/Tythby Road Junction and Statistics Provided on Accidents between 2008 and 2012

Accident statistics from 2008 to 2012 had been provided, along with proposals for signage and new surfacing at the junction. The proposals are:-

- Shiny-side up signs placed around the junction in November when motorcycle collisions are most prevalent.
- Remove 'Road Narrows Ahead' warning signs.
- Remove 'Side Road Ahead' warning signs and replace with new yellow-backed warning signs and associated distance warning plates.
- In the central reserve, new red coloured surfacing, 'Keep Clear' road marking and 'Give Way' markings.
- On both Tythby Road approach arms, install new red-coloured surfacing and 'Give Way' markings, and lane destination arrows.

There were no plans to reduce the speed limit at this time as there was insufficient justification to do so and was not supported by the police.

Councillors still felt the speed limit should be reduced. The Clerk to request further details of the scheme and invite the Officer to meet with Councillors.

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

It would appear that this shrubbery falls within David Wilson-owned land; therefore, the developers have been requested to trim it back, together with a request to Nottinghamshire County Council to follow it through as well.

Continued.....

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6.00 PARKING STRATEGY WORKING GROUP - UPDATE:

Councillor Fox updated members on the progress to date and also that the next meeting is to be held on the 10th September, 2014. (Refer to previous Minutes for notes on progress). Councillor Fox confirmed that the County Council would not support a Park & Ride to Nottingham from Bingham due to land availability. Also, whilst members supported two hour parking in general, it was recognised that it was problematical to implement due to having to provide parking for workers from out of the area.

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

Refer to reports attached, Appendix 'B'. The Clerk confirmed analysis up to the 30th June, 2014, of ground staff timesheets showed approximately £1,070.00 had been allocated to cutting County Council verges, with six cuts being completed. It was agreed that Clerk obtains quotations for cutting of the sports grounds.

8.00 MATTERS RELATING TO BUS SERVICES, INCLUDING:

Changes to local bus services took place from the start of August , 2014. These reflect a reduction in the County budget for supporting bus services. Nottinghamshire County Council has, together with Trent Barton and Marshalls, done their best to maintain services to all local villages.

01 Rushcliffe Greens

The Rushcliffe Lines and the Xprss services have joined together under the banner of "The Rushcliffe Greens". Routes and times for the Express remain as before but the new service now includes a loop round many villages, as well as Mallow Way in Bingham

02 Cancellation of 55, 56 ad 56A

A consequence of this is the withdrawal of these services, previously operated by Sharpes (double decker).

03 Addition of Infrequent Lowdham to Bottesford Service

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, Marshalls operate twice between Lowdham and Orston via Bingham (including Abbey Road), providing a missing market day link.

Continued...../

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8.00 MATTERS RELATING TO BUS SERVICES continued.....

04 Comments from Residents

Comments have been received from the public concerning over-crowded buses, buses too small or too large on certain runs, i.e. wrong size bus being allocated, confused signage on monitor screens at Broadmarsh Bus Station, confusion over the name "Greens" as all the buses are green. The comments have been referred to the relevant Authority.

9.00 FLOWER BASKETS - FEEDBACK:

Positive feedback had been received and the Clerk confirmed that additional feed is added to the baskets during August.

10.00 RUSHCLIFFE BOROUGH COUNCIL'S PROPOSED PLANS FOR THE MARKET PLACE IMPROVEMENTS:

Members supported the upgrade in principal. However, they would like to see the tree nearest to the Co-op saved and, if needs be, replaced at a later date. A suggestion was made that if the ground around the particular tree in question required attention, then perhaps it could be built up to form a planter or such like. The Clerk to liaise with Rushcliffe Borough Council.

11.00 MATTERS RELATING TO EATON PLACE, INCLUDING:

01 Disabled Toilet

The disabled toilet can now be accessed with a R.A.D.A.R. key which is available via Shopmobility or the internet.

02 Painting of Street-Lighting Columns

Nottinghamshire County Council has confirmed that it will investigate the possibility of painting the street-lighting columns in Eaton Place as it falls within a conservation area. The Clerk to chase to investigate which Authority is responsible for painting of seats and litter bins.

12.00 DIVERSION OF TOOTHILL SCHOOL FOOTPATH:

The Chairman reported on Nottinghamshire County Council's response to comments raised by the Recreational & Cemetery Committee. It was agreed to invite the Officer to the next relevant Committee meeting and also include a separate leaflet about the footpath proposals in the Town News.

Continued...../

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13.00 **NETWORK RAIL'S PROPOSED BRIDGE UPGRADE - UPDATE:**

The Clerk confirmed that the sale was progressing and there had been an exchange of legal correspondence. Unfortunately, there appeared to be a slight anomaly on the boundary line which was being investigated further.

14.00 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

01 Mill Hill Road

A resident had raised concern over speeding on Mill Hill Road. Clerk to refer to Nottinghamshire County Council.

02 Nottingham Road Street Lighting Columns

A letter had been received from a resident with a request for ornate street-lighting columns along Nottingham Road. Clerk to refer to Nottinghamshire County Council.

03 Signal Box Sign

An enquiry had been received from Network Rail regarding the secure displaying of the Bingham signal box sign. The Clerk had confirmed that this would be displayed in a secure place.

04 Various Issues

A letter had been received via a Councillor from a resident about various access issues in and around Bingham. Whilst the contents of the letter were noted, certain matters were already being investigated by other Authorities:-

- The issue in relation to the approach to the Health Centre was being considered by that centre.
- Network Rail, nationally, is looking towards closing railway crossings, and the Moor Lane crossing would be closed once the ramped bridge was in place. The other crossings would also be closed at some time in the future
- Eaton Place is managed by a managing agent and has recently been repainted.

Continued...../

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14.00 **CORRESPONDENCE** continued.....

05 Abbey Road

An e-mail had been received from a resident regarding concern about parking on Abbey Road. The police had been informed. However, the vehicle concerned fell within the permitted criteria for parking on a residential street. The Clerk to refer to Rushcliffe Borough Council's Parking Enforcement Section.

06 Cleaning Cycle

Streetwise had confirmed its cleaning cycle. The mechanical sweeping specification, as set out by Rushcliffe Borough Council, is that estate roads are swept twice per annum and minor roads four times per annum.

07 Temporary Road Restriction

Notification had been received of a temporary road restriction on Tythby Road, between the junction with the A52 Bypass and Bingham Road, from 00.01 hours on the 12th September, 2014, to 23.59 hours on the 5th October, 2014.

As there was no further business to transact, the meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN.

Date:-

Appendix 'A'

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of the Bingham Town Council held in **The Old Court House**, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday, 12th August, 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.	N.C.C. figures received and quotations from contractors obtained.
F7068/7.03	R.B.C./Responsible Authorities - Eaton Place and Flowerbeds	Jet-washing by R.B.C. contractors is still now completed.

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Report to the Environment Committee

To consider Nottinghamshire County Council's response in relation to grass-cutting in and around Bingham along with quotes obtained.

1 Purpose of Report

To update Councillors on information obtained to date in relation to consideration of BTC taking on maintenance of NCC grassed areas.

2 Background

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

NCC were requested to provide a map of all their grassed areas due to the fact that BTC were already cutting certain ones under an agreement.

3 Information provided by NCC

Refer to attached which shows areas identified by NCC along with areas BTC already cut also identified. **NCC would pay BTC £2,798.20.**

4 Quotes obtained to undertake the work

Quotes were obtained on a like for like basis i.e. 5 cuts per year

FIRM	QUOTE £	COMMENTS
Firm 1	5596.40	27982 m2 @ 20p (equates to 4p per sq.mtr.)
Firm 2	3990.00	Based on £798 per cut x 5 Willing to undertake more than 5 up to 9 at above rate but no less than 5. (equates to approx.. 2.8p per sq, mtr)
BTC hrly rate	£10	10,000 additional sq. mtrs. Includes oncost Costs to be confirmed

Lynn Holland
Town Clerk

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Report to the Environment Committee

CONSIDERATIONS WHEN CONSIDERING TAKING ON NCC GRASSED AREAS

- Up to end June 107 hrs. spent on NCC areas @ £10 per hr = £1070 apprx.
- Apprx. 5 cuts undertaken already; probably room for another 2 before grass stops growing.
- Groundstaff commitments also include Cemetery & funerals take priority. If a burial takes up more of Groundstaff time than if ashes interred.
- From end May watering of flower baskets at least once per week peaking at twice in hot weather. This takes at least half a day as it takes more than an hour to fill water bowser.
- BTC could not take on additional grass cutting without play areas/cemetery/sports ground suffering.
- Suggest following if BTC wished to take on NCC grass cutting:
 - Agree that BTC would fund additional costs as NCC only pay 2p per sq. mtr. & accept for a trial period of 2 yrs. (covers 2 diff. seasonal cycles)
 - outsource cutting of Sports Grounds (as previously when vacancy)
 - BTC groundstaff cut all NCC areas.