

**PRESENT:**

Councillor A R Harvey, Mayor (Chair)  
" R Bird  
" J Costello  
" K Hayes-Heath  
" S Hull  
" E Hutchison  
" A Langford  
" F Purdue-Horan  
" S Orr  
" A Shelton  
" J Stockwood

Officers: S Pyke – Town Clerk  
P Sadler – Administrative Assistant

Also in attendance: 6 Members of the public

The Chairman sought the Council's approval to change the running order of the agenda & to introduce a new agenda item. This was agreed by Council. For the purposes of writing up the minutes the agenda order has been maintained with the new agenda item inserted accordingly.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND ACCEPTANCE**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors G Davidson, T Kerry and K Vallance.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Hutchison – declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 12 relating to Butt Field Grounds Maintenance

Councillor Orr – declared a pecuniary interest in item 17 relating to the Linear Walk

Councillor Bird – declared a personal interest in item 16 relating to Wynhill

**3. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor updated Councillors of a future meeting arranged with D2NS to discuss the A52, which he felt needed to be put back on the agenda in recognition of the increasing importance of the A52 as a major artery between Bingham and Nottingham/Grantham.

Since the last Full Council Committee meeting, The Mayor updated Council that he had undertaken the following:

- Gave a presentation at Bingham Business Club
- Met with Leader and Chief Executive of Rushcliffe
- Met with RCAN to update on NDP issues (see Council agenda item 9a)

Minutes of a meeting of Bingham Town Council held in the Council Chamber at The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on Tuesday 8 August at 7.00pm

- Met with Chair of Resources and Town Clerk on contract issues
- Attended Growth Board (see Council agenda item 9b)
- Attended Council's Open Mic Night
- Held 2 Mayors Surgeries

The Mayor had also attended the following meetings:

- Full Council
- BTC – Planning Committee
- BTC - Resources Committee
- BTC – Communications Working Group
- BTC – Events Working Group

The Mayor flagged the impending changes to the Data Protection Act which will come into effect in May 2018. He suggested the Resources Committee include this on the agenda for their next meeting.

#### **4. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Peter Allen gave an overview of Warners Paddock's history. A geo-physical survey has been carried out on the site and the results indicate that an excavation on the site, subject to obtaining the necessary approvals, would be beneficial. A provision start date of end of July 2018 has been identified, taking no longer than 4 weeks.

This item will be discussed later under Private & Confidential agenda item.

#### **5. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Full Council Committee meeting held on the 11 July 2017 Folios 8681/8686 having been circulated prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** The minutes were taken as read, approved and signed by the Mayor as a true record.

#### **6. COMMITTEE MINUTES**

- (a) Planning Committee – 25 July 2017, Folios 8687 – 8689

Councillor Hayes-Heath read through the minutes and on item 17/01619/FUL 15-17 Derry Lane, Councillor Hayes-Heath updated Council on an issue relating to a letter he had drafted and subsequently delivered to Rushcliffe Borough Council.

Councillor Hayes-Heath felt strongly that he should be able to reinforce his opinion to Rushcliffe Borough Council as the planning application was of high interest and he drafted a letter to Rushcliffe Borough Council, which he handed into the office to be typed on Bingham Town Council headed paper.

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Councillor Harvey stated that any letters sent on Bingham Town Council letterhead should represent the views of the Council.

The Town Clerk said the reason why the letter had not been not sent was that it had not been agreed to by Council, there were factual errors, the letter didn't make a deal of sense and showed bias by copying in a neighbour who objected to the application.

Councillor Hull confirmed the Town Clerk had contacted her and voiced her concerns over the content of the letter. Councillor Hull has been on the Rushcliffe Planning Committee and has over 20 years' Council experience. Councillor Hull stated she was only trying to protect Councillor Hayes-Heath and was trying to help him reach his objectives and apologised for any hurt caused.

The Minutes, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read and approved.

**RESOLVED:** The Minutes of the meeting of this Committee be accepted.

(b) Resources Committee – 25 July 2017, Folios 8690 – 8695

The accounts for payments in schedules A (£4085.32) and B (£57,265.55) were approved for payment, with £25,000 ring-fenced for the playparks budget.

Councillor Hutchison stated as Vice-Chair of Resources she was disappointed to find out about a meeting between the FA and the Mayor and Councillors Hull and Kerry which had recently taken place. The Mayor stated Councillor Kerry had arranged the meeting and as she was not at tonight's meeting, no further organisational details were available.

Councillor Hull stated that the meeting was to exchange background information and share a copy of the business report. Councillor Hull suggested that should a future meeting take place then it would include representatives from Butt Field.

The Mayor stated that the Town Council must fully understand its responsibilities to Butt Field.

Councillor Hutchison stated the business report was written to obtaining funding only.

The Minutes, having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read and approved.

**RESOLVED:** The Minutes of the meeting of this Committee be accepted

(c) Events Working Group – 7 August 2017  
(This agenda item was introduced to the agenda by the Mayor).

Councillor Hutchison confirmed that she was voted in as Chair with Councillor Langford voted in as Vice Chair.

Councillor Hutchison updated members on the Open Mic event held on the square which was very well received, with one complaint questioning the lack of advertising. Councillor Hutchison replied the event was very much a “dip toe in the water” event and next year’s will be more widely advertised.

The Christmas lights provision is out of contract. New quotations had been received and the Council reviewed the quotes which were for a period of 1 year or 3 years.

Councillor Purdue-Horan said it was a good time to move suppliers as people’s expectations of Bingham had changed

**RESOLVED:** To proceed with the quotation for £5,716.88 for a 3 year hire option.

## **7. COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP**

The notes of the meeting held on 25 June 2017 were read. Councillor Bird advised that the new website is live and is a work in progress.

The entries for the Bingham Town Guide picture competition are to be voted on this evening and it was agreed a prize for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> be offered to the winning entries of £50, £30, £20. It was agreed that a presentation to the winners would take place at the Council offices.

The Bingham News was not published for 4/5 months last year and no complaints were received. Councillor Bird, therefore, suggested a new format/layout for the October issue and to ask the public whether they liked the changes. The subsequent issue is not due out until January 2018 so there would be enough time to put any changes into place.

A discussion took place on the possibility of having monitor screens with a rolling display to let the public know about Bingham Town Council events, along with the use of social media, and in particular a Town Council Facebook page. Councillor Bird confirmed this will be an agenda item at another meeting.

The Town Clerk confirmed that she will be seeking someone with a social media skill set when she recruits for an administrative position.

## **8. BINGHAM TOWN GUIDE COVER**

Councillor Bird posted all the entries onto the wall and every one in attendance was given a voting slip, which Councillor Bird collected and will advise of the winning entries in due course.

## **9. COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS**

Minutes of a meeting of Bingham Town Council held in the Council Chamber at The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on Tuesday 8 August at 7.00pm

(a) Neighbourhood Development Plan – a request for members to join the Steering Group

The Mayor advised he had one Councillor who had volunteered to join the Group with 5 Councillors generally considered to be the ideal number required. Councillor Bird offered to join. Councillor Harvey asked for other Councillors to give consideration to representing the Council on the Steering Committee.

(b) Growth Board Update

The Mayor announced changes to the format with the most significant change being the splitting in to separate boards of Bingham and Radcliffe. Rushcliffe Borough Council's Master Plan for Bingham is expected to be published shortly.

The Poacher Line franchise information is now with the Department of Transport for consideration.

The Mayor advised the 2 hour parking at Union Street car park will come into effect on Monday 4 September 2017. Councillor Costello has received comments from the public who felt this was too short. The Mayor said the new parking times will be subject to review.

(c) Cycling

Councillor Bird read out a letter he had drafted and the list of intended recipients, asking other members if they knew of any others who would benefit from receiving it. Councillor Purdue-Horan suggested Hugh McClintock, Pedals Association.

(d) Police Liaison

Councillor Bird reported on a meeting attended on 20 July. Anti-social behaviour was discussed as well as a call for the Police to focus on the following priorities:

- Burglaries
- Anti-social behaviour, in particular off road motor bikes.
- Travellers and the importance of securing property and land.

## **10. COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councillor Purdue-Horan has been contacted by the Thera Trust for funding towards projector and camera. £400 was offered on the understanding the equipment be available to other community groups and Bingham Town Council.

The budget for pothole repairs has been increased by £1.27 million.

Councillor Purdue-Horan has been advised he is now the Bingham representative on the Growth Board. Bingham is seen as a central hub for the surrounding villages.

There are no meetings this month at County Hall.

Councillors Hull and Stockwood had no report as there have been no meetings to attend.

## **11. MARKET PLACE**

Councillor Hutchison proposed a Ready, Steady Go class for children to take place on Friday 11 August. As this would be a Town Council event a risk assessment and insurance cover will need to be put in place.

Councillor Bird offered to attend the event in his capacity as a First Responder.

**RESOLVED:** To proceed with the event subject to the necessary health and safety provisions being put in place.

## **12. BUTT FIELD GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

Councillor Hutchison updated Council on the treatments to the pitches so far with further treatments being arranged in August.

**RESOLVED:** To allow the Town Clerk to authorise spending up to the budget limit as per the Council's Financial Regulations

## **13. FORMER ALLOTMENT SITE, BUTT FIELD**

This site has lain dormant due to contamination for a number of years. Given the program to improve parking, it was discussed whether this land could potentially be utilised.

Councillor Hutchison commented that whilst Bingham did need more parking it also required other community amenities.

### **RESOLVED:**

- a. That subject to the outcome below, the Council formally agrees to the determination of the site for long-term parking.
- b. That the Town Clerk be requested to take such steps as necessary to ensure that the appropriate examinations take place to ensure the site is appropriate to use for long-term parking purposes.
- c. That to allow appropriate investigations to take place, the Council authorise expenditure from the General Reserve of up to £25,000

## **14. INSURANCE**

The Town Clerk advised that the insurance provision is due for renewal with options provided for a 1 or 3 year term. Alternate quotations have not been sought because the

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Council has active insurance claims with their current provider and the number of companies offering insurance provision to Councils is reducing.

An optional level of cover for key personnel was deferred to the Personnel Committee.

**RESOLVED:** To renew the Council's insurance provision with the current supplier for a 3 year term.

## **15. GRANT AID**

An application from the Cricket Club was considered.

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed to make a donation of £500 toward the cost of new vandal proof cricket covers.

Councillor Hutchison abstained from the vote.

## **16. WYNHILL**

- (a) Alzheimer's fund raising event on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2017 – bouncy castle and car-parking extension

**RESOLVED:** To grant permission

- (b) Fair from 24 September to 30 September 2017

**RESOLVED:** To grant permission

- (c) Party on the Pitch update – Bingham Children's Centre has provided copies of their public liability insurance, risk assessment & posters providing details of car parking provision which satisfies the requirements the Council placed.

## **17. LINEAR WALK**

Councillor Orr having earlier declared a pecuniary interest; left the Council Chamber

- (a) To agree the costs for the repair to the River Smite bridge - an estimate of £2,250 had been provided by a structural engineering company. The bridge is jointly owned by Bingham Town Council and the land owner on the other side of the bridge. The Town Clerk will contact Land Registry to obtain other joint owner's details.

**RESOLVED:** To proceed with the work with a 10% tolerance delegated to the Town Clerk.

- (b) To provide an update on the inspection and maintenance regime – the Town Clerk will contact Nottingham County Council to liaise with an officer to discuss their protocols.

Councillor Orr returned to the Council Chamber

## **18. TREE WORK**

A Bingham resident whose property backs onto the Linear Park is seeking permission to pay for a tree to be pollarded by the Council's designated arboriculturist. The tree can be pollarded in such a way that it will not be to the detriment of the Linear Park.

**RESOLVED:** To allow the work to proceed.

## **19. CHRISTMAS MARKET**

The contractor who has previously supplied the stage equipment has submitted a quote of £2,340.83

**RESOLVED:** To proceed with this quotation

## **20. EAST MIDLANDS RAIL FRANCHISE PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

The Mayor had attended meetings in relation to the re-franchising of the Poacher Lane. Therefore, it was suggested that the Mayor was the most appropriate person to review on behalf of the Council.

**RESOLVED:** That the Mayor complete the consultation on behalf of the Council.

## **21. NEWARK & SHERWOOD ATTENDED CORE STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PLAN REPRESENTATION PERIOD**

**RESOLVED:** No response was required from Council but should Councillors wish they could submit any comments as individuals.

## **22. CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) Bingham Travel Plan Work – Councillor Purdue-Horan advised of a delay from the work carried out last October. Councillor Harvey is concerned that a delay may result in the loss of budget.
- (b) Cemetery – The Town Clerk read out a letter received complimenting the grass cutting at the Cemetery.
- (c) Parking – The Town Clerk forwarded a response from Councillors Hull & Vallance in response to a resident's email concerning the new 2 hour parking in relation to blue badge holders.

## **23. CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk's report provided a verbal update on:

- Damage to the Old Court House caused by damp - a dehumidifier has been hired to dry out the wall. Quotes are being obtained for repointing and guttering work. Contact will be made to Rushcliffe Borough Council to establish if the building is listed.



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- Cemetery Break In - a small pane of glass on the lodge was broken and there was an attempt to break into the shed. Nothing was stolen. Police have been notified and repairs are being carried out.
- Informal Meeting with the Rugby Club – this was a positive introductory meeting with a number of requests made that will be brought before Council in due course for consideration.
- Period for the Exercise of Public Rights of the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2017 – concluded Tuesday 08 August 2017.

## **24. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE NEXT BUSINESS, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS PROPOSED, SECONDED AND CARRIED:

“That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw”

The following matters were discussed:-

- |    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 01 | HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES        |
| 02 | STAFF MATTERS                 |
| 03 | RUSHCLIFFE MONITORING OFFICER |
| 04 | WARNERS PADDOCK               |

Meeting Closed at: 10:17pm

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CHAIRMAN

Date: .....