

Minutes of a meeting of Bingham Town Council held in the Council Chamber at The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on Tuesday 12 December 2017 at 7.00pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: R Bird (Chair), S Hull, F Purdue-Horan, S Orr, A Shelton, G Davidson, K Vallance, J Costello, G William, J Costello and J Stockwood.

Officers: S Pyke (Town Clerk), J Riddle (Office Manager).

Also in attendance: 3 Public and Councillor N Clarke

1. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received and accepted from Councillor Best.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Bird – declared a personal interest in any items relating to the Vale First Responders and Bingham Heritage Trails Association.

Councillor Hull – declared a personal interest in the Allotments budget in item 11.

Councillor Costello – declared a pecuniary interest in any items relating to Toot Hill School.

Councillor Williams – declared a personal interest in Bingham Rugby Club, item 13.

3. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A member of Bingham Rugby Club explained to the Council some detail regarding item 13 on the agenda. The issues of the waterlogged ground were also explained and that the Clerk was currently assisting in the investigation into where the issue may be.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED: The minutes of 14 November 2017 were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chair as a true record, subject to the amendments above.

5. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor updated Council that he had undertaken the following:

- BHTA Quiz night
- Bingham Christmas Fair
- BBC Radio and News regarding the closure of Lloyd Bank in Bingham.
- Bingham Masterplan round table meeting
- Data protection course
- Installation of the new Rector

The Mayor also welcomed Councillor Williams and Councillor Jim Costello to their first meeting of the Full Council.

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6. COMMITTEE MINUTES

(a) Planning Committee – 21 November 2017

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

(b) Resources Committee – 28 November 2017

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

7. WORKING GROUPS

The notes from the Events Working Group were accepted.

8. COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

Councillor Davidson read a letter of apology regarding a complaint made by a member of the public.

9. COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

Rushcliffe Borough Councillor Hull reported:

- That she had attended a meeting at the Borough Council regarding the use of single use plastics; this will now be placed on the agenda for the community development group to produce a policy. A ban of chinese lanterns and helium balloons would be welcome and the Borough would like the support of the towns and parishes with this ban.

Rushcliffe Borough Councillor Davidson reported:

- That helium is a rare resource and the use of it should be discouraged. He also updated Council on the Borough's purchase of properties, they had success with previous property acquisitions and it is hoped that these investments would alleviate the pressures on the public in future in years in regard to Council tax.

Rushcliffe Borough Councillor Purdue-Horan reported:

- That he attended a workshop with 4 of the Borough Councillors, the Mayor and various Bingham groups that had been invited along. The workshop was hosted by Urbed, who have been employed by the Borough Council to assist with the Bingham Masterplan. Urbed have been visiting the community since September and attended the Christmas Fair. There would be further consultation in the new year with the community.

County Councillor Clarke reported:

- That the current waste disposal contract with Veolia is out-dated with no capacity to dispose of single use plastics in a more appropriate manner under the current contract. The contract is for 27 years with no review clause. Councillor Clarke will be focussing on getting this contract reviewed. He reminded Council of the Local Improvement Scheme that would be discussed later in the agenda and also updated Council on the separation of the Growth Boards, as a result he will be joining the Radcliffe on Trent Growth Board, while Councillor Purdue-Horan would be a member of the Bingham Growth Board.

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County Councillor Purdue-Horan reported:

- That alongside Councillor Clarke, he would be pushing forward to secure a new recycling location nearer to Bingham.

10. ELECTION

It was noted that the election for 1 Councillor in the West Ward and 1 in the East Ward, would take place on 14th December 2017.

11. BUDGET FOR YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2019

The draft budget was reviewed and no alterations were noted. The Clerk explained that National Employers, the body who negotiate pay on behalf of UK Councils has recently submitted a pay increase offer that will impact the provisional budget. Therefore, the salaries and on-costs element of the budget will need to be reviewed. The budget was therefore referred to the next meeting.

12. BANKING PROVISION

Councillors discussed the proposed closure of Lloyds within the town. With extra houses and businesses planned for the town it was felt it is a short sighted decision. Long queues at the Post Office have been reported and experienced by Councillors and with no disabled access the alternative for many customers was deemed unsuitable.

RESOLVED: to write a letter to Lloyds and the Banking Minister expressing the concerns of the Council regarding the closure for the Bingham residents and the future plans for the town

13. WYNHILL

RESOLVED: to assist the Rugby Club with an architect to bring together the plans for the additional parking, alongside future plans for a potential project to suit the growing needs of the Rugby Club and other site users, including the Scouts.

RESOLVED: to grant permission for an external defibrillator on the site.

14. PLAY PARKS

RESOLVED: that the Bingham Community Parks Project Constitution and Draft Proposal documents be accepted.

15. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL IMPROVEMENT SCHEME GRANT

The grant scheme was noted as well as the closing date of 8 January 2018. As speculative applications would not be considered, it was noted that preparation in advance of next year's scheme would be advisable.

16. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE MINERALS LOCAL PLAN – ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION

It was agreed that individuals should respond with any opinions.

17. CEMETERY

The request to reconsider a burial fee was discussed. A vote was taken and it was

RESOLVED: that the fee charged should stand.

18. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) An email from a resident regarding the recent theft of a bicycle was read to Councillors.
RESOLVED: to invite Inspector Berry to a meeting to discuss recent issues within the town with a few Councillors representing the Council.
Councillor Vallance agreed to attend the next Police Priority Setting meeting for Councillor Bird on 25 January 2018.
- b) Council were informed that due to Natwest placing the Council on an incorrect tariff, a refund of £1,752.40 had been granted to the Council.
- c) A request for an informal meeting with a resident regarding out of hours access to Toot Hill fields had been requested but Council agreed that Councillors should also attend in support of this initiative.
- d) Councillor Vallance updated Council on the request to park the Breast Screening Unit for a period of 6 months in the Newgate Street car park. Other sites have been investigated to avoid the loss of valuable parking spaces within the town. The Health Centre had originally declined to have the unit placed at their parking facility. The Health Centre has been asked to reconsider its original decision.
Standing Orders were suspended at 9.09pm
A member of Butt Field Sports Club offered the use of their site, after discussion, it was agreed by all that the use of the facilities would not be suitable at this location.
Standing Orders were re-instated at 9.12pm

19. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk updated Council on the following:

- The Clerk had attended at the Bingham Masterplan meeting on 13 November 2017.
- The Clerk had also attended to NALC AGM on 15 November 2017.
- Along with the Mayor, the Clerk had completed a Data Protection Training Course in relation to the new regulations coming into force in May 2018.
- That a retirement gathering had been organised for Thursday 21 December 2017 for Mr Roberts, at 12pm. All Councillors were invited to attend.
- An update on the number of applications received and interviews arranged for the posts of Administrative Assistant.
- NJC proposed pay increases were noted and the Clerk will revise the proposed budget.
- New Councillor Training course dates of 22 January 2018, 6pm till 9pm and 22 February 2018, 10am till 1pm were available via Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils. New Councillors or Councillors, who may wish to attend as a refresher, to make their interest known via the Clerk.

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20. 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 Confidential Notes from Council meeting held 14 November 2017

RESOLVED: that the notes be approved.

02 Staffing Matters

RESOLVED: that the Clerk and Chair of Personnel be given delegated authority to offer contracts of employment to the successful candidates for the Administrative Staff vacancies. (This item was discussed and resolved before the commencement of the Confidential Business)

RESOLVED: that statutory sick pay be paid for December and the Clerk to seek further HR advice.

Meeting Closed at: 9:33pm

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CHAIRMAN

Date: