

Minutes of the **Bingham Annual Town Meeting** held in
The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham, on **Tuesday 31st May 7.00 p.m.**

PRESENT:

The Mayor – Councillor G Williams
Public: 11 including Cllrs T Wallace, J Lewis, Purdue-Horan,
N Clarke, N Mees, R Bird, W Stapleton & A Shelton

Locum Clerk – Sharon Ellis

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Mayor, Cllr Williams welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MINUTES:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 1st June 2021 were proposed, seconded and approved. These were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

TOWN MAYOR'S SUMMARY OF THE PAST YEAR

Council returned to face to face meetings in May 2021 and as restrictions have ended, there has been a return to normality for Council meetings. Over the last Civic Year the Council's work has included:

- 43 Council, Committee, and Sub-Committee meetings taking place
- 4 community grant awards were made to local community groups
- Free Room rental was granted to Bingham Food Warriors who have opened their doors in the Old Court House
- Provided financial support to Bingham Community Events for August 2021 Events
- 10 Civic Awards were given to members of the community
- An Improvement Board was agreed to identify areas to move the Council's work forward
- Two newly elected Councillors joined in March 2022
- The 2021 Christmas Fair was able to take place with the lifting of restrictions

The Town Council also continue to work in partnership with the Friends of Bingham Linear Park to support the Biodiversity Management Plan. A grant of £45,000 towards maintenance costs for 30 yrs. has been granted to ensure the work of the group is supported.

Bingham Town Council has recently facilitated a community consultation with Barratt David Wilson Homes on their plans for Parsons Hill, an event which was well attended.

In terms of projects delivered and progressed:

- Work has continued to establish plans for a long stay car parking provision at the former allotment site, including many preliminary surveys and this remains a key priority for the Town Council.
- Plans for the re-development of the Wynhill site to provide enhanced community facilities continued but with changes to access to grant facilities the project has not progressed at the expected pace. The Council have put a new committee in place to work with Bingham Rugby Club to continue to progress the increased sports and community facilities at the site

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- Joint working continued with Bingham Community Events who provided a programme of successful events in 2021 including the Classic Car Show and Beer Festival.
- A new Town Map and Town Centre Map was created for the 2022/2023 Town Guide and all Bingham residents received their copy in May 2022
- New lighting was added to Eaton Place with the help of the Welcome Back Funding

The Council is supported by:

- 1 Full Time Clerk
- 2 Part Time administrative staff
- 1 Full Time administrative staff member
- In the office the longest serving member of staff has been with the Council nearly 7 years
- 2 full time grounds men
- 1 part-time cleaner

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

- An email was received from a member of public, regarding the conditions of the road Long Acre East. It was advised that this particular area is on the waiting list, and would be checked, to find out an approximate date. Once the information has been received the Mayor will contact the resident to advice.
It was also advised that the Highways are moving away from continuously patching parts of the road and instead concentrating on whole areas. This will in the long run be more cost-effective.
- A Councillor commented our how good the yarn bombing was looking around the Bingham Town Centre, and appealed for the return of the missing crown
- A member of public asked that regarding the Community use of land on Chapel Lane, would all community groups be contacted.

Mayor responded that a full consultation would take place for all interested parties

- A Councillor asked that regarding all the flooding that happens down by Western Avenue, is the ditch still being cleared of all rubbish on a regular basis, particularly during periods of heavy rainfall?.

Mayor responded that this is done at least once a week and also the hedgerow is maintained to prevent further problems.

It was advised to check with the Town Clerk for an update on this item.

TOWN MAYOR'S OUTLINE OF PLANS FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR AND BEYOND

Plans for the Civic Year 2022-2023 and beyond

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The Council will be joined by two new staff members in June 2022 to assist the Council and current staff in helping progress projects for the community. They will be key to support the Clerk with the running of the Council and to help maintain its assets and deliver its responsibilities.

- **LONG STAY CAR PARK PROJECT ON THE FORMER ALLOTMENTS SITE**

Preliminary reports have now been received so plans for a long stay car park, next to the Butt Field Sports Ground, with step-free access to Bingham Station's north side platform are being prepared. Public consultation on design, funding, planning approval and construction will be a key focus during this year.

- **RUGBY CLUB SPORTS AND COMMUNITY USE FACILITIES PROJECT AT WYNHILL**

An opportunity to improve the sports and community use facilities in the Bingham Town Council owned Town Pavilion, leased to Bingham Rugby Club is being progressed. With altered funding circumstances, the Wynhill Redevelopment Committee will be looking at funding options to progress the project that now has planning approval and a request had been made by the Rugby Club to give early consideration to additional parking spaces whilst plans are developed.

- **COMMUNITY EVENTS IN THE TOWN CENTRE**

The Queens Platinum Jubilee events will kick start the summer events, with the lighting of the Beacon, Flypast and Picnic on the Square, all surrounded by the red, white and blue planting.

The Town Council will continue their successful partnership working with Bingham Community Events, to provide a series of events on the Market Place during 2022, and this will include the popular Beer Festival and Classic Car Show that featured in 2021. The Summer Fair will also make a return in 2022 with entertainment and stalls for all the family.

- **COMMUNITY PLAY AREAS REFURBISHMENT PROJECT**

Bingham Town Council has now completed two of our 3 Play Areas Refurbishment Project at Orchard Park and the Wychwood Road Play Area. We will continue to work with the Community Play Parks Group and focus on refurbishing the Cogley Lane Play Area.

- **CHAPEL LANE COMMUNITY LAND**

The Council will be consulting with the public and community groups to identify opportunities for Community use of land on Chapel Lane. The Council will be considering quotes for the consultation during June 2022.

There are also many ongoing projects that the Council wish to progress that are detailed in the Council's three year reserves plan, these include:

- Upgrading the CCTV provision in the town centre.

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- Improving maintenance of the Linear Park and open spaces including inspection of key structures along the Linear Park
- Branding launch for Bingham
- Security improvements of the Towns open spaces
- Progress the Local Council's Award Scheme
- Building survey of the Old Court House and maintenance schedule

These are just some examples of the work and key priority community projects Councillors will be progressing over the next Civic Year, before the four-year term of office comes to an end.

In addition to the document circulated the Mayor would like to add the following item;

- The Town Council will be looking to implement an Improvement Board Action Plan

Meeting closed at 7.20pm

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CHAIRMAN

Date.....