



Annual Town Meeting

Annual Town Council Report for 07 May 2019

Summary for the civic year ending 07 May 2019 and financial year ending 31 March 2019

The headline for the past year is that the Council appeared to stabilise after the turmoil of the previous year; with the Conservatives maintaining control of the Council. All 14 Councillors who started the new civic year continued to serve Bingham to the end of the natural 4 year term of Council.

During this time, the existing Council and Committee format expanded to include an additional sub-committee for car-parking, reporting into the Policy and Resources Committee and the development of a Neighbourhood Plan got underway, reporting into Community and Environment.

All of the above changes took place whilst the work of Council continued:

- 49 Council, Committee and sub-committee meetings took place
- The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are members of every Committee and sub-committee
- 82 planning applications were considered
- 5 grant awards were made to local community groups
- 2 donations were made to organisations that have Bingham links
- 5 community and civic events were held
- Worked in partnership with the British Legion, Bingham Heritage Trails Association, Barratt Homes and Rushcliffe Borough Council in naming Phase I of the new Chapel Lane development in commemoration of Bingham's WWI fallen
- Worked in partnership with the British Legion to mark the centenary commemorations of WWI around Remembrance Sunday
- 7 Freedom of Information requests answered
- A Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee has been constituted which is a community endeavour which will help shape the future of Bingham

In terms of projects delivered and progressed:

- The refurbishment to Carnarvon Playing Fields play area (to be known in the future as Orchard Park) is on-going
- A new Wallenfels twinning sign at the start of the Linear Park
- Clearance of the former allotment and skate park in anticipation of a long term car park
- Architect's plans are being drawn up to replace the Pavilion at Wynhill
- Wychwood Road land ownership transfer is underway
- Funding applications submitted in support of the refurbishment of the play parks at Wychwood Road and Cogley Lane

A number of Councillors have decided to step down at the end of the current term of Council:

- The Mayor, Jane Costello
- George Davidson
- Sue Hull
- Kath Vallance
- Stef Orr
- Jim Costello

Thank-you to those Councillors for representing their community, giving their time, sage advice and experience for free, especially George Davidson after 43 continuous years and Sue Hull for 22 years over two time periods.

No election was called in the west ward, as there were only 6 candidates for 7 seats, therefore, the following candidates were elected unopposed:

- Jane Best
- Paul Moskwa
- Francis Purdue-Horan
- John Stockwood
- Tony Wallace
- Gareth Williams

The remaining seat will be available via the Council's co-option process. This will be advertised after the new term of Council has met at the Annual Town Council meeting on Tuesday 14 May 2019.

An election was called in the east ward, with 8 candidates standing for 7 seats. The following candidates were elected following the poll on Thursday 02 May 2019:

- Rowan Bird
- Vivienne Leach
- John Lewis
- Monica Monni
- Andrew Shelton
- Wayne Stapleton
- Maureen Stockwood

The Council is supported by:

- 2 part-time administrative staff
- 1 part-time Deputy Clerk and 1 part-time Clerk
- In the office the longest serving member of staff has been with the Council 3.5 years
- 2 full time grounds men
- 1 part-time cleaner

A member of the administrative staff left the Town Council last year which was a setback to bringing the Council's duties, responsibilities, processes and procedures up to standard. The office staff has had to continue to split its focus between internal facing commitments, working to modernise the Council whilst also delivering projects to enhance Bingham.

The new term of Council will consider the recent staff review conducted by the Town Council's HR Consultants. It is hoped that the changes implemented will assist the Council in realising a number of its longstanding ambitions in terms of making Bingham a better place to live, work and do business.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2019

INCOME		BUDGET	ACTUAL
£40,749.67		£ 299,780.00	£ 382,436.73
		Payments minus Recs	£ 341,687.06
		Precept	£ 268,280.00
		Overspend	£ 73,407.06
Creditors	£ 90,188.74		
Debtors	£ 2,200.00		
Payments In Advance	£ 110.00		
	Reserves at 31 March 2019		
	Community	£ 2,820.00	
	Environment & CCTV	£ 3,000.00	
	Recreation	£ 41,193.30	
	Depot	£ 25,246.00	
	Old Court House	£ 6,265.00	
	Risk Management	£ 17,915.00	
	Land & Property Development	£ 143,519.00	
	Recreation Equipment	£ 5,000.00	
	Linear Park	£ 3,000.00	
	General Reserve	£ 102,920.80	
	Reserve Totals	£ 350,879.10	
	General Reserve Ringfenced		
	Playparks	£ 16,915.00	
	Former Allotments Site	£ 22,040.00	
	Neighbourhood Dev Plan	£ 3,750.00	
	General Reserve minus Ringfenced	£ 60,215.80	