

Minutes of a Meeting of Bingham Town Council
held on Tuesday 16 January 2024 at 7.00pm
in the Council Chamber at the Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham

PRESENT:

Councillors: R Bird, G Williams, N Jejna, F Purdue-Horan, T Wallace, V Leach, N Mees, M Stockwood, A Shelton, E Georgiou, M Baulcombe, S Perkins, P Walters and W Stapleton

Officer/s: J Riddle (Clerk) and C Beecroft (Deputy Clerk)

Public: 6 (Including County Cllr N Clarke)

1. APOLOGIES

All Councillors were present.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3. PUBLIC SESSION

A resident attended the meeting to raise the flooding issues recently experienced on Charnwood Grove from the water on Nottingham Road. A further query was raised by a resident about the responsibility for the trees in the same area as the flooding.

County Councillor N Clarke updated the Council and public on the work to identify the owners of sections that required clearance and he confirmed that Nottinghamshire County Council had agreed to take on these works to get the areas cleared. A trash screen to assist with blockages was also to be installed and the appropriate land owners would be made aware of their responsibilities for keeping the ditches cleared and areas tidied.

4. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor confirmed that he had attended:

Town and Parish Forum in November
Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday Events
Bingham Christmas Market and Light Switch On
Safer Streets 5 CCTV System Meeting in December
Car Parking Strategy Group Meeting in January

The Mayor also wished to apologise for not calling out comments that were made in a previous meeting against another Councillor and that further comments of that nature would be stopped.

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5. MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 07 November 2023 (Folios 10117 to 10120), having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read, approved and were signed by the Mayor as an accurate record.

6. COMMITTEE MINUTES

(a) Car Park Committee, 14 November 2023

RESOLVED: that the committee recommendations be approved.

(b) Community, Recreation & Amenities, 21 November 2023

RESOLVED: that the committee recommendations be approved.

(c) HR Committee, 28 November 2023

RESOLVED: that the committee recommendations be approved.

(d) Finance, Policy & Resources Committee, 12 December 2023

RESOLVED: that the committee recommendations be approved.

(e) Planning Committee, 21 November 2023

The decisions of the meeting were noted.

(f) Planning Committee, 12 December 2023

The decisions of the meeting were noted.

(g) Planning Committee, 09 January 2024

The decisions of the meeting were noted.

7. WYNHILL PLAYING FIELDS

RESOLVED: to support the removal of the vegetation/trees, noting their poor condition, to allow re-instatement of a 2nd pitch and the planting of two trees on the site.

8. BUDGET

A budget of £403,529 for the year ending 31 March 2025 was proposed and a recorded vote was requested.

FOR: Councillor's R Bird, G Williams, N Jejna, F Purdue-Horan, T Wallace, V Leach, N Mees, M Stockwood, A Shelton, E Georgiou, M Baulcombe, S Perkins, P Walters and W Stapleton

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AGAINST AND ABSTAIN: 0

RESOLVED: that a budget of £403,529 was set for the year ending 31 March 2025.

9. PRECEPT

- (a) **RESOLVED**: that the precept requirement for the year ending 31 March 2025 be set at £403,529, resulting in a Band D increase of 5.00%.
- (b) **RESOLVED**: that the Town Clerk sign the precept demand.

10. THREE YEAR RESERVES PLAN

The three year reserves plan was noted and an updated plan would be prepared at year end to include 2026/2027.

11. INVOICES

RESOLVED: to make payment of £10,674 inc vat to Gala Lights for the 2023 Christmas Lighting contract.

12. COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Bird confirmed that a meeting of the Police Priority Setting Group would be held on 18 January 2024 at the Old Court House.

Councillor Mees updated that he would be attending a meeting of the NALC Executive Committee where discussion on the draft constitution would take place.

Councillor Stockwood spoke about the work of the Rural Market Towns Group and the 37% difference in funding for Rural areas vs Urban areas. She encouraged Councillors to read the bulletins shared to see how underfunded Rural areas currently are.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

It was noted that many Councillors had received the same request for the signing of documentation and the Clerk confirmed that advice would be sought and shared with Councillors.

Growth Board – completion of the review of the Growth Boards was noted and a query was raised about County Council membership.

14. 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:

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“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”

- Confidential notes, Full Council meeting held on 07 November 2023

The notes were accepted as an accurate record.

- Confidential notes, HR Committee meeting on 28 November 2023

The recommendation of the committee has been accepted as part of the budget setting process.

- Staff Matters

RESOLVED: that delegated authority be granted to the Clerk to work in conjunction with three to four Councillors (Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chair of HR and Vice Chair of HR) if there was insufficient time to call a HR meeting regarding the staffing matter.

The Meeting closed at 8.20pm.

.....CHAIRMAN

Date.....