

Minutes of a meeting of the Community, Recreation and Amenities Committee of Bingham Town Council held in the Council Chamber at The Old Court House, Church Street, Bingham on 16 September 2025 at 7.00pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: G Williams, I Shouler, P Walters, N Jejna, M Baulcombe, W Stapleton and A Shelton.

Officers: J Riddle (Clerk)

Public: 2 Including Councillors D Sleigh and F Purdue-Horan

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All committee members were present.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declaration of interests were received.

3. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting of the Community and Environment Committee held 29 July 2025, Folios 10325 to 10327, were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4. UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING DECISIONS

The committee noted the updated actions and the removal of the Town Map project led by Rushcliffe Borough Council due to changes in funding allocations.

5. BUDGET TO ACTUALS REPORT TO 31 AUGUST 2025

The committee reviewed and noted the budget to actuals.

6. COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME

The committee noted the scheme and confirmed that no available locations had currently been identified for tree planting.

7. ANNUAL TREE WORKS

RESOLVED: to accept the quotation from Arbex for £6600 plus vat to complete the tree works identified in the annual survey.

8. ALLOTMENT ANNUAL RENT REVIEW FOR 01 JANUARY 2027

The committee considered the costs incurred for water to August 2025 and the predicted costs to year end. It was agreed that an increase was required and to confirm the amount of increase, staffing time and water charges were required.

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RESOLVED: that tenants receive confirmation of a rent increase in December 2025, with confirmation of the increase to be issued by September 2026.

9. MATTERS RELATING TO BUTT FIELD

a) Rabbit Control

The committee confirmed that no evidence of burrows on the old allotment site could be confirmed, and other neighbouring land could also be the location of burrows. The committee reconfirmed that no shooting would be permitted on the land, and the club should continue to investigate alternative options.

b) New storage building project update

The committee were updated that the concrete base in place did not meet with the requirements of building control and the club were investigating options for alteration, replacement or repairs to the existing structure. Any changes required that affected planning or additional information for the lease licence, would be reported to committee for further consideration.

10. SEASONAL DECORATIONS

It was agreed that with the failure of the small trees, the stress testing and potential repairs to privately owned building, the small trees would not be installed. As the lighting contract would be renewed for 2026, alternative ideas for the lighting scheme would be investigated.

RESOLVED: to accept costs of £1994.91 plus vat from Via EM for the installation of a feeder pillar to supply electric to the co-op corner tree.

11. BINGHAM CEMETERY

a) Memorial testing

It was agreed that memorial testing should progress in October/November 2025. Notices would be displayed in the Churchyard and Cemetery, Buttercross and on the website so that residents were aware and had information regarding the process. The committee noted that the approved memorial testing budget in the three year reserves plan would be accessed for all costs relating to memorial testing. The committee would be updated on the number of failed memorials and options after completion of the testing.

RESOLVED: to accept the quotation from D & M Memorials of £1500 plus vat to complete memorial testing in Bingham Cemetery.

RESOLVED: to accept the quotation from Polygraphics of £741 plus vat for warning stickers.

RESOLVED: to grant delegated authority to the Clerk to accept costs within the reserves budget for memorial testing to lay flat any dangerous memorials at the costs detailed in the quote.

b) Draft Cemetery Rules and Regulations

The committee considered the rules and regulations drafted by the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management.

RECOMMEND: approval of the draft Cemetery rules and regulations.

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c) Unauthorised memorabilia

The committee reviewed the extent of unauthorised memorabilia in Bingham Cemetery. It was noted that maintenance of the cemetery was being affected by loose stones, and glass and metal memorial items being left on site. It was agreed that maintenance of the cemetery remained a council priority alongside maintaining a respectful and safe environment for all visitors to the site. It was also agreed that to ensure fairness and consistency, the regulations of the cemetery should be adhered to. The Committee understood the sensitivity surrounding the resting place of a loved one and agreed that memorial testing should take priority for the safety of all visitors attending site. It was also noted that there were options available to families with grave spaces to apply for an edged bed and the Council would work with families to support them with all options available. Notices would be placed in the Buttercross and boards to advise families after completion of memorial testing.

RECOMMEND: that notices be issued early in 2026 to request that families remove unauthorised memorabilia with a period of 6 months to allow families time to remove items and to consider options for their grave or garden of rest space.

12. ST MARYS CHURCH WALL

The committee noted the repairs were to be carried out on 22, 23 and 24 September.

RESOLVED: to purchase any coping stones required from the Cemetery budget.

13. CORRESPONDENCE AND AGREED RESPONSE

a) Graffiti on the Linear Walk

The committee noted that the graffiti was not offensive and agreed to take no action.

b) TRO Consultation – Abbey Road area

The committee raised no concerns regarding the plans.

c) TRO Consultation – Long Acre and The Paddocks

RESOLVED: to request that double yellow lines be extended to the south side of the boxed area to the entrance of the bowling club to aid access for the fire service and safe crossing from Jebbs Lane.

d) Residents request for Newgate Street Car Park Planting

It was agreed that the Chair would liaise with officers at the Borough Council to consider options in his role as Borough Councillor.

14. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

- Community Oscar Nominations

RESOLVED: to grant three community Oscars.

- Allotments Tenancy Termination

RESOLVED: to refuse the termination appeal.

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- Linear Park Boundary
The committee noted the update.

The meeting closed at 9.46pm.

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CHAIR

Date:
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RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Approval of the draft Cemetery rules and regulations.
- That notices be issued early in 2026 to request that families remove unauthorised memorabilia with a period of 6 months to allow families time to remove items and to consider options for their grave or garden of rest space.

RESOLUTIONS:

- To accept the quotation from Arbex for £6600 plus vat to complete the tree works identified in the annual survey.
- Allotment tenants receive confirmation of a rent increase in December 2025, with confirmation of the increase to be issued by September 2026.
- To accept costs of £1994.91 plus vat from Via EM for the installation of a feeder pillar to supply electric to the co-op corner tree.
- To accept the quotation from D & M Memorials of £1500 plus vat to complete memorial testing in Bingham Cemetery.
- To accept the quotation from Polygraphics of £741 plus vat for warning stickers.
- To grant delegated authority to the Clerk to accept costs within the reserves budget for memorial testing to lay flat any dangerous memorials at the costs detailed in the quote.
- To purchase any coping stones required for the St Marys Wall repairs from the Cemetery budget.
- To respond to the TRO for Long Acre to request that double yellow lines be extended to the south side of the boxed area to the entrance of the bowling club to aid access for the fire service and safe crossing from Jebbs Lane.
- To grant three community Oscars
- To refuse the allotment termination appeal.