



Minutes of the Full Town Council on 24th July 2023 at 7pm

Present: Cllrs Gill Dixon, Gill Jennison, Paul Sharkey, Joe Ashton, Ann Foster, Bill Wyatt-Millington, John Turner, Joe Kean, Dave Reed,

FC2324/38 Chair's Opening Remarks

- A welcome was extended to attending members of the public, with three items of note: A reminder of the social gathering for BTC all councillors and staff at Bracken Hall Countryside Centre on 27th July.
- The Chair and Clerk had visited the Environmental Warden who continues to improve.
- The Chair has had a recent conversation with Jenny Clough (daughter of Ian Clough) who is fully aware of recent developments and the forthcoming demolition of the Ian Clough Hall. She would be pleased to support an event for the re-opening of the new Library in due course.

FC2324/39 Approve Reasons for Absence

Cllr Town and Cllr Knowles absences approved.

FC2324/40 Disclosures of Interest

None

FC2324/41 Minutes of previous meeting

Resolved: The minutes of the Additional Full Council meeting on 26th June 2023 were approved.

FC2324/42 Clerk's Report

None

FC2324/43 Public participation

Cllr Pollard (Ward Councillor) gave various updates:

- Baildon Mills. An enforcement case had been opened by Bradford Council.
- Bradford Council have made good the area of subsidence and the Baildon In Bloom planter near the stocks was being repaired. Planter need the Potted Meat Stick confirmed as Bradford Council's responsibility.
- Reservoir – nothing to report

Cllr Coates described a local business survey the Ward Councillors were about to implement to gather views from traders. Cllr Jennison (Chair of BTC Economy Committee) should be a contact for this.

FC2324/44 Important Information from Councillors and Staff

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Cllr Ashton welcomed the new real time bus display and the bus information point for hearing impaired people in Baildon on Towngate, which were the result of lobbying work undertaken by FOBS.

However, in less positive news, he informed Council that there were reduced bus services to Bradford in the evening. Cllr Ashton proposed a 'Baildon Bus Forum' to lobby for better bus services. Cllr Jennison supportive and especially viz getting to Capital of Culture events in the evening by bus. Cllr Dixon agreed that the reduction in bus services was very disappointing and advised Council that the bus working group (reporting to Economy Committee) was to be relaunched in the autumn with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority So the two things need to be integrated.

FC2324/45 Walkers are Welcome 10th Anniversary Festival from Saturday August 26th

Bob Davidson from Walkers are Welcome outlined the very exciting and comprehensive programme of 23 events and 17 walks advertised for August – September. Walks were being combined with artists and creatives. A grant had been obtained from Arts and Culture Bradford and publicity was key to making this a very successful programme. Jan Pollard congratulated Walkers are Welcome for their programme. It was pointed out that the Bracken Hall Countryside Centre (BHCC) toilets and the Northgate public toilets would both be an advantage for participants in the walks. Cllr Dixon was officially opening the Festival at a cake cutting on Saturday 26th august at 9.30 at Wesley;s – all welcome. A theatre performance will take place at BHCC on Saturday September 2nd.

All councillors were asked to promote this event through their many community networks and of course through BTC newsletter and website.

FC2324/46 Jenny Lane Play Area Refurbishment and Presentation

Cllr Sharkey gave an outline summary of the Jenny Lane Play Area proposals as they had developed since 2019. There had been issues with land ownership and the designation of the land for housing in the Bradford Local Plan. The issues were now resolved and in addition, . Jenny Lane had been designated as an Asset of Community Value.

Parents in Baildon frequently made representation about the state of the play area. Bradford Council had put the play area into Phase 3 of a Council-wide Play Strategy/refurbishment investment programme. Earlier this year there had been emails about public consultation but not much actual consultation appears to have taken place

George Corbett from Bradford Council apologised for the delays to this project. Phase 3 had not started and needed ratification at Bradford Council's Executive Board meeting on 5th September. It would then need approval by Project Appraisal Group (PAG). George could not confirm the spend budget until Executive Board had met. An initial consultation had happened with Sandal Primary School and the results had informed early designs. Cllr Dixon asked to see that and George undertook to forward those results to the Council. No youth group had let got involved. There was a proposal to involve Men's Shed. Cllrs offered any contacts to George to progress consultations.

George described the design process including improving facilities for toddlers and early years. They would also see if any equipment could be retained eg. swings and the rocket. A big restriction was the boundary of the lease. Cllrs made the following suggestions:

- The roundabout must be replaced.
- The rocket could be refurbished and retained.
- The site needed draining as it was boggy.

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- An additional pedestrian gate could be explored from the car park (George agreed BTC could explore this with the landowner)
- There could be a 'youth shelter' such as the one at Cliffe Avenue which had been a great success, however this would depend on finance (est £12- 15k) being available)
- Could the boundary be changed? George confirmed that BTC could enter into discussions with the landowner if it wished on this point.

George stated that Phase 3 would start in Autumn 2023 after the investment plans had approval from Bradford Executive Board. There were 99 other play areas in Phase 3. There were ongoing difficulties with procurement of external contractors. Jenny Lane will be a 'partial refurbishment' but expecting all the equipment to be included. BTC felt the delays had been frustrating and could any confirmation of the date be made? George couldn't confirm the scale of the refurbishment and budget could only be confirmed after Executive/PAG. But he could send Phase 2 figures to BTC.

It was asked what would happen after the Executive meeting. George said that consultation before/soon after Bradford's Executive Board meeting was crucial to get designs moving. But BTC would see a clear proposal so we could consider our contribution and possible sponsorship opportunities. George could provide several options and a phased option on design to assist with our sponsorship efforts. The designs were not all about fixed play equipment – it was about access to the landscape etc.

Resolved: Council will await a more detailed proposal before reassessing funds available and asked for as much notice as possible to timetable approval into BTC's meeting cycle. George offered to come back to BTC with proposals as soon as possible after the Executive meeting on 5th Sept.

FC2324/47 To co-opt a new Town Councillor according to BTC's Co-option Policy

Resolved: It was resolved under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 S1(2), that members of the public and the press would be excluded during consideration of business of a confidential nature.

Two candidates for Councillor were interviewed in turn with the same set of pre-set questions.

Councillors then discussed candidates.

The public and candidates were invited back into the meeting so that a vote could be taken in public.

Resolved: Kate Griffin was duly co-opted (7 votes).

The Chair thanked both candidates for their interest and participation. Cllr Griffin signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the Full Council.

FC2324/48 Extension to the meeting

Resolved: to extend the meeting time.

FC2324/49 Consider additional festive lighting for Baildon.

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Cllr Jennison presented a paper on options for lighting the copper beech tree by tree wrap in the Co-Op car park – this had been a very impressive element of the Christmas lights for many years and had been re-wrapped a few years ago (It has to be redone approx. every 4 years) . Last year however many of the lights failed and the display was not effective. Options included do nothing , repair only , replace with new lights as existing, or a new option. Our Christmas Lights provider had offered a new option where the colour of the lights could be changed remotely so making it possible to extend the lighting to other community events eg. Remembrance, St. Patricks Day etc. There was a discussion about the lights providing a good opportunity for sponsorship.

Resolved: to pay for additional lights up to £7,010.40 of which £3,010.40 from Economy Reserve and £4,000 from General Reserve

FC2324/50 Consultation on new council wards and ward boundaries for Bradford.

Cllr Jennison presented a paper which had been prepared by Cllr Knowles. The proposal is to suggest that polling area 22 currently in Shipley Ward but within the Baildon Town Council boundary be moved into Baildon Ward. This would make sense viz community services. Cllr Kean had spoken to some residents who did feel they had a relationship with Shipley Ward. A discussion revolved around community consultation and representing BTC's view. It was pointed out that residents themselves can make a comment to the Bradford Council consultation.

The alteration of the Ward to Baildon from Bingley for Old Springs should be amended 'if practicable'.

Resolved: a) subject to any consultations, the BTC response based on the paper circulated on ward boundaries was delegated to the Clerk.
b) alteration re Old Springs should have 'if practicable'.

FC2324/51 Consultation on Ticket Office Closures

A paper had been prepared by Cllr Knowles and it was unanimously agreed that ticket office closure in Shipley would be disadvantageous to a whole range of travellers in Baildon.

Resolved: the Clerk to submit the comments to the consultation process.

FC2324/52 Baildon Town Council Action Plan

The Chair introduced the Action Plan which represents a clear statement of the council's priority for the year ahead, and indeed into the future, as many projects go into the medium term.

Resolved: The Action Plan recommended at Governance GOV2324/22 was unanimously approved.

FC2324/53 To consider current Planning applications on CBMDC website and to agree comments:

23/01635/OUT Land adjacent to 16 Milner Road Outline planning permission for 1 detached bungalow

Baildon Town Council acknowledges the need to provide sufficient housing but has concerns about the suitability of this plot. Access by road to the property would be challenging and it is difficult to see how a driveway/parking could



be incorporated. The plot is next to ancient woodland and bounded by a footpath so requires input from relevant officers at Bradford Council.

23/02336/HOU 25 Park Mount Ave proposed side extension

Baildon Town council has no objection to this proposal as long as the materials used are sympathetic to the existing style of the house and others in the road.

23/02566/HOU 29 Merlinwood Drive demolish 2 conservatories, replace with a single storey extension

Baildon Town council considers that this rear extension will have no visual impact to the streetscene and has no objection to the proposal.

23/02353/HOU 34 Holden Lane

Baildon town council has no objection to this proposal as long as materials used are sympathetic to the existing style of the house and neighbouring properties.

23/02352/HOU 80 Park Lane

Baildon town council has no objection to this proposal as long as the materials used are sympathetic to the existing style of the house and neighbouring properties,

23/02254/HOU 24 Southdown Road

Baildon town council has no objection as there appears to be sufficient space for the proposal but trusts that the driveway will meet all Highways regs to create a compliant drop-kerb access.

FC2324/54 Promotional Opportunities

None

FC2324/55 To notify the Clerk of any item for future agenda

None

FC2324/56 Next meeting date

The next meeting of Full Council is Monday 9th October 2023

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