

Agenda item 8

For information: Speaking Snippets – talking newspaper project

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Background

The town council is actively working to make the information we produce and publish more accessible.

As far as possible, we're writing town council documents in Plain English. And we're working on changes to our website that will make it easier to use and understand.

This has led us to exploring the idea of a **talking newspaper** for the town council.

The NHS says the purpose of a **talking newspaper** is to bring print to life for blind, visually impaired and print disabled people.

As part of this, the town council's Communications Officer has recorded a test version of one of our recent Snippets emails. This could become a Speaking Snippets (and our version of a regular talking newspaper)

If there's interest in the idea, we could carry on recording talking versions of our BoA Snippets emails. These would be recorded and published every other week.

We could also record a talking version of the town council's quarterly newsletter.

Next steps

The Communications Officer will continue to explore the idea of a talking newspaper for Bradford on Avon.

We will ask – via the physical newsletter – if people know of someone such as a family member, friend or neighbour who might benefit from the service.

This will help us to establish if there is a need.