



Full Council meeting

Minutes

From the meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 5 March 2024

At St. Margaret's Hall, Bradford on Avon

Decision making

The **decisions** made by the council at this meeting are at minutes [56](#), [60](#) & [61](#).

Present

Councillors:

- Emma Franklin
- Sarah Gibson
- Alex Kay
- Jennie Parker
- Alison Potter
- Tim Trimble
- Katie Vigar (Chair)
- Jack Vittles

Town Council Officers:

- Ian Brown - Chief Executive & Town Clerk
- Chris Hogg – Green Spaces Officer

Meeting clerk:

- Chris Stringer – Deputy Town Clerk
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Apologies

From Councillors unable to attend the meeting:

- Dave Garwood
 - Simon McNeil-Ritchie
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55. Declarations of interest

No declarations of interest were made.



56. Minutes from the previous extraordinary council meeting on 29 February

Proposed by Councillor Jack Vittles

Seconded by Councillor Tim Trimble

And with 7 in favour and 1 abstention it was **resolved**: that the minutes of the extraordinary council meeting held on Thursday 29 February 2024 be accepted as a true record of the meeting.

57. Matters arising

None.

58. Agenda item 6 – Chair’s update

Councillor Katie Vigar briefly presented her written update.

Councillor Vigar then read out the latest council statement on Becky Addy Wood.

59. Agenda item 7 – An update on the traffic study written by Atkins

Councillor Tim Trimble explained that there would be 2 public engagement events in St Margaret’s Hall where people could come along to speak to Atkins’ team, ask questions, and complete feedback forms.

Councillor Trimble also confirmed that the feedback forms available at the engagement events will also be available for people to complete online.

Following the engagement events, Councillor Trimble said that a report will be brought to a future council meeting for discussion – potentially the Full Council meeting on 7 May.

At that meeting, councillors will vote on the recommendation(s) contained in that report.

Councillor Kate Bessant said she would have preferred it if Atkins had been able to give a public presentation or a talk about the study. This would have enabled people to hear comments and questions from other people.

Councillor Trimble said that this approach was considered – however the format being used was the recommended one. This is because drop-in sessions enable people to comment and ask questions when they might not feel comfortable or confident doing this in front of others during or after a presentation.

Councillor Alex Kay expressed her concerns about Atkins’ study and about the modelling that Atkins’ team has used for the study.



Councillor Kay also felt that there should have been more opportunity for councillors to discuss and debate the study in council meetings.

Councillors Trimble and Vigar said that councillors would have the opportunity to discuss the study at the upcoming meeting after the engagement sessions – and after the feedback forms have been looked at.

60. Agenda item 8 – The town vision

Councillor Vigar introduced the final draft of the town vision and the aims and objectives supporting the vision.

Proposed by Councillor Emma Franklin

Seconded by Councillor Sarah Gibson

And with all in favour it was **resolved**: to adopt the town vision and the supporting aims and objectives.

61. Agenda item 9 – Working groups for council events

Councillors agreed to be on the working groups for the following events happening in 2024:

- Councillors Jennie Parker and Tim Trimble would be on the working groups for the Duck Race and the Green Man Festival.
- Councillors Alison Potter, Dave Garwood and Katie Vigar would be on the working group for the live music festival.
- Councillors Dave Garwood, Jennie Parker and Sam Blackwell would be on the working group for the fireworks display at Poulton Park.
- Councillors Dave Garwood, Jack Vittles and Jennie Parker would be on the working group for this year's Christmas event.

Councillor Vigar also reminded all the councillors that they are welcome to attend working group meetings as they take place, even if they not part of the working groups.

62. Fairtrade status

Vivian talked about Fairtrade on behalf of Bradford on Avon's Fairtrade group.

It was agreed that Vivian would continue to work with the council's Events team - led by Katie Ponsford - in organising events for Fairtrade Fortnight.

And that a representative of Bradford on Avon's Fairtrade group would provide updates at future council meetings – every 2 months or so.



63. Next meeting

The next Full Council meeting is planned for Tuesday 7 May 2024.

End of the meeting

The meeting finished at 8pm.



Appendix A: Comments and questions from the public

Before starting the meeting, Councillor Vigar explained that the meeting wasn't being streamed to the council's YouTube channel because of staff absences.

She also apologised that an IT issue meant there wouldn't be any meeting information on the screen at the meeting.

Questions from the public

Station car park

There was a question about whether Wiltshire Council are being paid by Network Rail for their use of the station car park.

And that if they are, could some of this money be given to the town's businesses because the reduction in available car parking spaces might have seen a reduction in people coming to the town.

Councillor Gibson said she would ask about this.

Bradford on Avon's Fairtrade status

It was pointed out that Bradford on Avon was the first town in Wiltshire to be awarded Fairtrade status – and that the status is so important not only for the traders involved, but also the town.

Councillors were then asked if they were going to support Fairtrade status again.

Councillor Vigar said this would be discussed later at the meeting.

Tubas visit

The council was thanked for its support during the recent visit.

There was also a question about whether the council could help support a kite flying festival later in the year.