



**Bradford on Avon
Town Council**



**LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY GOLD**

Minutes of the Bradford on Avon Town Council

Town Development Committee

Held at St. Margaret's Hall, Bradford on Avon on
23rd November 2021 at 7.00pm

Present:

Cllr J Vittles (Chairman)
Cllr K Bessant (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr S Gibson
Cllr S McNeill-Ritchie
Cllr A Potter
Cllr K Vigar
Sandra Bartlett – Town Clerk
Chris Hogg- Green Spaces Officer
Apologies: Cllr D Garwood, Cllr A Kay and Cllr T Trimble

Members of the Public: Vivienne Kynaston, Elizabeth Swale on behalf of Julie Rooth, Sandra and John Box, Joyce Shaw, Beryl Turner, Alan Roland-Price, Couple from Midland Close and Adrian Bligh.

22.Declarations of interest - none

23.Minutes

It was proposed by Cllr Vigar seconded by Cllr Gibson and with all in favour it was **RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the last meeting held on the 21st September 2021 be accepted as a true record.

24.Matters arising – none

25.Declarations of interest - none

26.Chairman's Report

Chairman reported that he had attended along with Cllr Garwood further Christmas lights meetings in readiness for the switch on the 26th November. He welcomed everyone to come along to the evening and he hoped there was a good crowd of people attending. He thanked GWR for sponsoring the Christmas tree at the Railway Station and to Val Baker for her work on securing this. Also, thanks to the Lions Club, the Preservation Trust and Daykin Estate Agents for their support this year.

Chairman reported on the Community Asset Transfer and said that he expects some movement from Wiltshire Council in the New Year.

27. Delegated decisions

Delegated planning recommendations from 6th and 20th October and 3rd November 2021 noted.

28. Poulton Park

The results of the public consultation on the 10th and 11th September 2021 were explained by Chris Hogg and noted. 168 visitors on the Friday and 270 on the Saturday. 64 paper responses and 94 online responses. 158 responses in total. He said the questions asked of people on how they use the site were mainly for walking, dog walking, playing, nature and wildlife spotting, running, exercise and children's play area, meeting friends or family, cycling, blackberry picking, skating and kite flying, socialising, chatting, meditating, relaxing and chilling. 86 people wanted a skatepark, 60 improved play equipment, 41 tree planting, 28 nature biodiversity preservation or enhancement., 20 adult gym, 19 more events, 17 café, 15 improved paths, 13 improved changing rooms, 12 toilets, 8 table tennis and 2 junior football posts. These results will be posted separately on the Town Council website. A lot of people said that the area was quite dilapidated and lots of rubbish and dog mess. Cllr Gibson advised that these results can help shape how we improve Poulton Park when it comes into town council ownership. It also endorsed the positioning of the skateboard park and improve footpaths and connectivity around the town. Chairman said it was a well-used and valued space. Beryl Turner asked how much it will cost and who is going to pay for it. Cllr Gibson said we have permitted development to replace the existing with a design. Cllr Gibson said that Cllr Bessant and other volunteers have done a lot of fundraising and the Town Council have submitted an application for lottery funding. Cllr Gibson said we will deliver on a skateboard park we can afford from the funds raised. Joyce Shaw said that bins are always overflowing on bank holidays. Chairman said that our Town Wardens were aware of this. Alan Roland Price asked what measures do you intend to take to make sure the new skateboard park is not vandalised and maintenance is not expensive. Cllr Bessant said the original metal skateboard park had fallen into disrepair very quickly, it will be a concrete skatepark which won't degrade in the same way and skateboarders will police it themselves, as they see it something to value, an inclusive area and hopefully not an area for anti-social behaviour and embedded in the local community. She said our young people are very much involved and consulted on the design.

29. Culver Close and Victory Field

The results of the public consultation held in St. Margaret's Hall on the 11th September were explained and noted. Chris Hogg said that 200 visitors came to the consultation. We received 57 paper responses, 70 online response and 127 responses in total. He explained there was a plan of possible positioning of a pavilion 52% in favour of area 'v', which was adjacent to the tennis courts. He said there was variety of things for families to do on the site. Sports Groups use the existing site. Any new build pavilion should be environmentally sound with suitable facilities. These results will be posted on the Town Council website. Cllr Gibson said that the Town Council has engaged an architectural firm on our behalf and designed the consultation for all the various groups to use and they will be looking at the feedback. She said the next stage is when the design is further on more consultation to be done and funding raising through Sport England and England Cricket Board. Alan Roland Price asked what was the process involved in choosing the three sites for the new pavilion and why was the existing site not appropriate. Cllr Gibson said for cricketers there only certain places it can go, the green cannot be in front of the pavilion, as it is dangerous. She said it was a bit squashed in at the moment. The upper floor could also be used for viewing play at Victory Field, with 'v' location, which we cannot do now. Cllr Gibson said location 'v' is an easy site to integrate into the landscape and pedestrian access improved. Cllr Gibson said that hardcore on existing site will be removed and returned to green space. Alan Roland-Price asked if the footpath would be moving and Cllr Gibson advised no. Cllr Gibson said there is a pale purple line on the plan which is a metre wide Wessex Water pipe and we need to take that into consideration too. Alan Roland-Price asked if any large trees would be removed and Cllr Gibson advised no only one small tree. Resident of Midland Close asked what would happen to the extra traffic required for this facility. Cllr Gibson advised that this is intended to be a car free development and there will be no further car parking on the site but less when it is finished but there is a large car park on the other side of the railway line at the station car park and abled bodied sports people should be able to walk to the site once they have dropped off their kit. Member of the public thought extra signage was needed advising what is allowed on the site. John Box suggested restricted parking in Pound Lane would help, as cars park there for days on end. Sandra Box said that all these green areas should be dog free. Cllr Bessant said that signage on green spaces was planned but waiting on the asset transfer which is imminent. Beryl Turner asked about the cricket nets, where are they going. Cllr Gibson advised that this was a Cricket Club application not a town council initiative. Cllr Gibson said next to the tennis courts. Beryl Turner wanted benches in the town for older people. Chairman advised it would be an area for all ages. Cllr Vigar

said that benches are needed for some people to take a rest on whilst out walking. Chris said he puts in a lot of memorial benches for local residents. Sandra Box asked about cyclists riding at breakneck speeds, which is dangerous for pedestrians. Chairman thanked Chris Hogg for all his help with producing the consultation boards and helping with the consultation days and the results reports.

30. One Public Estate

Cllr Gibson explained that One Public Estate was about the buildings around Station car park and Wiltshire Council had funding for a feasibility study to revamp this area. Cllr Gibson said that this was an initiative that Cllr McNeill-Ritchie had started. Cllr Gibson said the car park needed to be included in this and she hoped to know some more information before the end of the month from Wiltshire Council.

Cllr Gibson said that a Cabinet paper was expected in the New Year on Community Asset Transfer and she expected to get the assets by Easter 2022.

Joyce Shaw said that there is a lot of wasted space around the area by the river.

Alan Roland Price said some students showed the results of their work on this area in St. Margaret's Hall some years ago. Cllr Gibson explained that they were her students studying for their master's degree and that Cllr McNeill-Ritchie had assisted her in writing the brief for it. Alan Roland Price asked if Wiltshire Council Officers had seen their work and Cllr Gibson advised yes they had.

31. War memorial

The report from Cllr McNeill-Ritchie on the war memorial was discussed. It was noted that next year will be the centenary of the unveiling of the War Memorial. Initial estimates for the cost of the repair work are between £8,000 and £10,000 and the War Memorials Trust maybe willing to support the repair and conservation work. At the same time, a new plinth will be made for the Canadian war memorial. After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr McNeill-Ritchie seconded by Cllr Bessant and with all in favour it was **RESOLVED**: to progress these two projects with a grant application to War Memorials Trust and start fund raising through the Town Council website with a £1000 contribution from the Town Council,

32. Old Golf Course Working Group

To note that Cllrs, Bessant, Kay, Potter and Vittles have volunteered to be on the Working Group. Other interested groups to be approached are the Preservation Trust, Climate Friendly and Keep it Green Bradford on Avon. Cllr Potter explained that she did not know the owner's intentions for the site and the problems regarding the toxic waste on the site. No news yet from Michelle Donelan's office on how the toxic waste responsibility will be handled going forward. Cllr Potter asked if Wiltshire Council had got any further with their areas for housing development and that the old golf course site was on the list as one of them. Cllr Gibson advised she did not have any further news on this and that Strategic Planning would need alternatives before February/March 2022 from the Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan Working Group.

33. Date of next meeting

The next meeting has been arranged for 25th January 2022.

The meeting closed at 7.57 pm

Members of the public who spoke at the Town Development Committee meeting on the 23rd November 2021

1. Vivienne Kynaston said that she walks along Bridge Street to gain access to the Old Golf Course site and she hopes it remains as a public open space.
2. Elizabeth Swale said on behalf of Julie Rooth that the old golf course site remains an open space. Elizabeth said that she walked her dog there.
3. Adrian Bligh asked about the process for the Culver Close consultation. He said that one planning application had already been withdrawn, which was not part of the public record and he asked if the next one will be a Full Council decision. Chairman advised him it would be a full council discussion and decision.