

# Bakewell Annual Town Meeting

The Annual Town Meeting held  
at 7.00pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016  
in the Court Room, Town Hall, Bakewell

## Minutes

- 1/16 **Present**  
Colin Bateman, Cllr Steve Edwards, Tony Evans, Cllr Helen Froggatt, Pat Lunn, Cllr Vivienne Parnham, Cllr John Riley, Ros Stokes, Cllr Bill Storey, CCllr Judith Twigg, Leonard Twigg, Ian Wildgoose, Cllr Hilary Young  
Town Clerk
- 2/16 **Appointment of Clerk to the Meeting**  
**Resolved:** To appoint the Town Clerk as Clerk to the meeting.
- 3/16 **Welcome by Mayor of Bakewell**  
Cllr Helen Froggatt welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 4/16 **Apologies**  
John Boyle, George Challenger, Edwina Edwards, Jim Harrison, Cllr Alyson Hill, Sue Marriott, Cllr Paul Morgans, Cllr Philippa Tilbrook, Mark Twelves, Jonathan Wicksteed
- 5/16 **To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015**  
**Resolved:** To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 21st April 2015 as a correct record.
- 6/16 **To receive Mayors Report**  
The Mayor gave a report on activities undertaken by the Town Council during the last year (copied at Annex A to this minute).  
**Resolved: That the Mayors Report be received**
- 7/16 **To receive report on members attendance at meetings 2015/16**  
Leonard Twigg congratulated members on their "brilliant attendance record" and asked that it be minuted.  
**Resolved:** That the report be received.
- 8/16 **The Bakewell Flood Warden Scheme – a progress report**  
Cllr Steve Edwards gave a report on the Bakewell Flood Warden Scheme including the delivery of 200 Personal Flood Plan packs to properties in flood prone areas and the production of a flood hazards map. The scheme currently has 3 Flood Wardens and it is hoped to expand this to as many as 6.  
**Resolved:** That the report be received.

- 9/16 **Neighbourhood Plan – a progress report**  
Pat Lunn gave a report on the Neighbourhood Plan (copied at Annex A to this minute).  
**Resolved:** That the report be received.
- 10/16 **Bakewell Town and Community Trust update**  
Pat Lunn gave a report on the work of the Bakewell Town and Community Trust (copied at Annex A to this minute).  
**Resolved:** That the update be received.
- 11/16 **To consider any other matter that may be brought forward by Council or Local Government Electors**  
Ros Stokes expressed disappointment at the “low turnout” and asked what publicity work had been undertaken.

The Clerk replied that the meeting had been advertised in accordance with the legislation governing the meeting (LGA1972 Sch 12, para 15(2)) and publicised in the same manner as previous Town Meetings i.e. through town centre posters and email to known interested parties.

CCllr Judith Twigg suggested that publicity through a newsletter delivered to all households would improve the turnout.

Pat Lunn thanked the Town Council for all that it does for the town.

The meeting closed at 7.58pm

## Annex A to minute 6/16

### Mayors Report 2016

I would like to begin by thanking the Council for its support over the last 12 months. It is hard to believe we are almost at the end of the first year of the new Council.

Our new Councillors, Cllr Steve Edwards, Cllr Vivienne Parnham, and Cllr Bill Storey have settled in and it is gratifying to report that they have all undertaken the Councillor Induction training organised by the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils.

I would also like to thank our County Councillor and my fellow District Councillors and Peak Park members for their often unseen work on behalf of Bakewell.

The work of the Town Council continues to be wide and varied. Council meets on the first and third Mondays of the month and is supported by its Committees and Working Parties. The Town Council continues to hold a leadership role in the Bakewell Partnership.

In 2015-16 we commented on over 70 planning applications, ranging in scale from a small garden shed to the major proposals for Riverside Business Park. We have followed up a number of outstanding enforcement issues with Peak Park.

The Town Council has attended:

- Parish and Town Council Liaison meetings
- Peak Park Parishes Day
- Area Community Forums
- Derbyshire Dales Local Area Committee
- And the DALC Clerk and Councillor Seminar

In 2015-16 we subscribed to the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils, Peak Park Parishes Forum and the Society of Local Council Clerks.

We have retained the precept unchanged at £105,000 for 2016-17. Our accounts are currently at audit and a full report will be available shortly. Please contact the Town Clerk if you require a copy.

In September the Tour of Britain came through Bakewell and with funding from the District Council we were able to arrange for bunting to go up and to provide flags for school children to wave.

Also in September, a dinner and photographic exhibition was held to mark the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Town Hall. This was a joint venture with the Bakewell Town and Community Trust. Here's to the next 125 years!

We continue to provide hanging baskets and Christmas Trees to businesses in the town centre. Summer 2015 saw 76 subsidised hanging baskets brighten the town.

At Christmas we sold 116 trees. We worked with the District council to improve the lighting of the public Christmas Tree in Bath Gardens by replacing the existing sets with coloured LEDs. Though this was much more complicated than anyone imagined the effort was proved worthwhile when the lights were switched on.

In 2015 we signed up to a Flood Warden scheme. This is something Cllr Steve Edwards will be speaking in more detail about later in the meeting.

The Town Council was successful in its bid for a defibrillator through the British Heart Foundation; this was installed in February on the outside of the Granby Road toilet block and is available to all.

We have a number of on-going projects including work to improve the Castle Hill site, and provide interpretation of it for visitors.

In 2015-16 we gave Grant assistance totalling £5,367 to:

- L'Eroica vintage cycle race
- Bakewell Youth Theatre
- Bakewell C of E Infant School
- Carnival Committee
- Bakewell Historical Society
- Day of Dance

In addition we provide support to Bakewell Town and Community Trust.

We continue to urge Derbyshire County Council against using tarmac infill for paving repairs in order to retain a high quality streetscape. Following discussions between the Town Council and the County Council I'm pleased to report that an area of Bridge Street is to be repaved and to receive bollards to protect it in early summer.

My report on the year would not be complete without mentioning the Neighbourhood Plan. This has made good progress in the last year, and is something Pat Lunn will tell you much more about shortly. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the project so far for all their work and commitment.

**Annex A to minute 9/16**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN  
REPORT TO TOWN MEETING APRIL 2016**

In my report last year I outlined the legal status of a Neighbourhood Plan and its provision for the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of everyone in the community. It is focussed on land use and development, including buildings, and deals with planning issues which affect the town. In a nutshell it provides a clear community-led vision for the area and translates that vision into specific objectives which are expressed as planning policies validated with evidence including the result of community engagement.

Leading up to a public consultation event held last November each of the Topic Groups recognised a number of issues on which they sought agreement or otherwise.

The Economy Group had undertaken a survey of businesses within the Central Shopping Area and followed this up with engaging Experian to undertake a comparative study of 5 towns of similar size and economic activity.

The Housing Group were looking at possible sites for affordable housing and were in contact with the Housing Enabler at DDDC and have since sought advice from PDNPA regarding suitability of those sites.

Education, Sports, Leisure, and Art Group has been provided with forecast pupil numbers for the next 15 years by DCC and has a list of leisure facilities available in the town.

The Transport and Communications Group have recognised range of issues from traffic circulation, parking, public transport and rationalisation of road signs to accessibility and safety issues with regard to pedestrians, wheelchairs, mobility scooters, and cyclists.

The Environment Group are concerned to protect open spaces from future development and safeguard archaeological and historic sites. They are also keen to de-clutter the street scene.

The return of questionnaires in respect of both surveys mentioned was good, over 40% and the public consultation (held on 2 separate days and times) was attended by nearly 200 people.

The Topic Groups, prior to the full Working Group meeting in May, have been asked to assess if sufficient consultation has been undertaken with the general public, stakeholders and other working groups, and as a result are they able to draw conclusions on the questions posed or are further steps required. They have also been asked to identify wherever possible evidence to support policy issues is available in published documents, in order to cross reference to, for example, the PDNPA Management Plan as we move into the next stage in the Neighbourhood Plan process which is the formulation of the Draft Plan and Policies.

All groups are in the process of recognising which issues raised are relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan process and which are matters which the Partnership through the Town Council can take forward with the relevant providing authority for attention.

It is worth mentioning here that the PDNPA commissioned late last year the Hearn Report on Employment Land and Retail Review. The draft of which was made available to the Group who were also invited to attend its presentation at Aldern House. This document provides a further opportunity to review conclusions on issues raised within our own deliberations.

Engaging with the community and encouraging their involvement continues to be a major challenge. Press releases, the use of modern media, talks to local groups and personal contacts have been used. For the November consultation events a leaflet drop was undertaken to all properties in Bakewell. A further challenge is the amount of time taken to undertake the work required. By encouraging the participation of new volunteers to spread the workload as the plan develops, and by holding short, focussed meetings it is hoped to avoid the pitfall of 'commitment fatigue'.

The community benefit from developing a Neighbourhood Plan has yet to be fully realised. A greater awareness of the planning process is beginning to be seen and this is particularly noticeable in those who are new to or unfamiliar with this type of work. Useful networking opportunities have been established between public and private sectors which it is hoped will lead to a greater understanding of the respective roles. We have been supported by Rural Action Derbyshire and in particular by PDNPA who have freely given advice and material assistance. In March a Roadshow on Neighbourhood Plans promoted by DCLG was held at the ABC, one of 10 to be held nationally. You could say this was quite a coup, coming as it did out of the blue. The Bakewell Neighbourhood Plan was chosen to be one of two case studies (the other being Bradwell already completed and adopted) illustrating the process within a National Park Authority and will be used to promote this initiative. The event was well attended by representatives of parish councils and others including someone from DCLG in London and a planning inspector.

Finally, as Chair and taking a neutral position, I would like to record my appreciation of the commitment given by the co-ordinators and members of the topic groups as we move steadily forward. With a fair wind, it is hoped to complete the project within the next year.

P. E. Lunn

**BAKEWELL TOWN & COMMUNITY TRUST**

**REPORT TO ANNUAL TOWN MEETING APRIL 2016**

The Trust has continued to improve facilities within the building and the planned programme will continue as and when funding is available.

The last year has seen a number of developments not least driving forward initiatives to ensure the Town's greatest asset as a major focal point for community activities.

We are very active with promoting the use of the Assembly Room which now regularly hosts musical and drama events in addition to providing excellent facilities for conferences and private functions. Proof of this is the increasing occupancy rate.

The Court Room whilst continuing to provide facilities for a range of user groups hosts an exhibition of works by local artists.

Our newest venture, piloted over the last 3 months, is to establish a Film Friday Club. Support has grown and we are now planning to hold this twice a month.

In addition to our usual adverts we have successfully developed a new website and mailing system to keep everyone informed of events.

All this could not have happened without a tremendous amount of effort and commitment both from staff and a band of volunteers.

We have a good management team consisting of two part time staff i.e. Helen Swift, Centre Manager, and Teddi Coulson, Finance officer, plus a great deal of voluntary time by Peter Barlow, business development, and our chairman Jonathan Wicksteed.

We have developed a group of 16 volunteers to help us with the greatly increased activity.

We continue to support the community and an example is the recent concert for The Helen's Trust for which the Assembly Room was given to them completely free of charges.

Finally, may I express our gratitude to the Town Council for their continued financial support which is very much appreciated.

JW