

Bakewell Annual Town Meeting

The Annual Town Meeting held remotely
at 7.00pm on Monday 26th April 2021

Minutes

- 1/21 Present**
Cllr John Boyle, Cllr Steve Edwards, Cllr Adele Eyre, Cllr Alyson Hill, Cllr Paul Miller, Cllr Bill Storey, Cllr Hilary Young CCllr Judith Twigg, DCllr Mark Wakeman, Pat Lunn
- 2/21 Appointment of Clerk to the Meeting**
In the absence of Mayor Paul Morgans, Deputy Mayor Cllr Hilary Young chaired.
Resolved: To appoint the Town Clerk as Clerk to the meeting.
- 3/21 Welcome by Mayor of Bakewell**
Cllr Hilary Young welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 4/21 Apologies**
Apologies had been received from Cllr Paul Morgans, Cllr John Riley and DCllr Alasdair Sutton
- 5/21 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 10th April 2019**
No meeting was held in 2020 due to Covid restrictions.
Resolved: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 10th April 2019 as a correct record.
- 6/21 To receive Mayors Report**
Cllr Hilary Young 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.
- 7/21 To receive report on members attendance at meetings 2020-2021**
A report on attendance was given (copied at Annex A to this minute).
Resolved: That the Attendance Report be received.
- 8/21 Bakewell Neighbourhood Plan; a progress report**
Pat Lunn gave the following report:

Following the Annual Town Meeting in 2019 the additional assessments undertaken by the PDNPA, namely a Sustainability Appraisal and Habitat Regulations Assessment were completed.

The Planning Authority then proceeded with their own consultation under Regulation 15. This was completed over an extended period and the submission version, dated January 2020 relating to the period 2020-2035, was then moved to the next stage that of being examined by an Independent Planning Inspector.

The Working Group members (each of whom took a lead role for one of the sections of the Neighbourhood Plan) met with officers of the PDNPA and agreed on the appointment of an examiner from the short list provided. In view of Covid restrictions no public examination was undertaken.

The inspector's recommendation (received in March 2021) was that the plan should proceed to a Referendum based on the Bakewell Neighbourhood Area, that is defined as the Civil Parish of Bakewell, approved by the PDNPA in November 2013. However there are a number of matters contained in his report which require clarification. These have been taken up by PDNPA and we await a response.

It is worth noting that it has taken some 7 years since inception and involved and number of people within the community. The Working Group had hoped that we would have been able to proceed to a Referendum to be held in conjunction with local elections. However that is not to be.

In concluding my report I must mention the sterling work and commitment of the Working Group members and in particular that of George Challenger who sadly passed away recently.

9/21 The Bakewell Flood Warden Scheme; an update

Cllr Steve Edwards reported that the Bakewell Flood Watch continues to be active and has responded to requests from the Environment Agency (EA) to give reports on local conditions when Flood Alerts and Flood Warnings have been issued. This is in addition to routine monitoring by Flood Wardens of the River Wye and reporting obstacles and defects.

A well-established Community Flood Watch plan was activated and is currently being reviewed and updated again as it is a living document. Additional information will be included detailing two previously unknown risk areas that caused localised flooding around the time of Storm Christoph in January 2021.

A meeting took place with the EA to review River Wye defences and options including, potentially, the creation of a wetland area to help river levels and flow in heavy rainfall.

A multi-agency and local residents consultation took place after Storm Christoph to evaluate what had happened and risk in the future.

Annual Training took place, provided by the EA, this was attended by the Flood Wardens. In addition, further training was offered to other groups who wished to set up or change a Flood Watch scheme throughout the East Midlands. Examples were provided to this training as best practice from the Bakewell scheme.

Two other local councils have also been given a presentation by our Flood Wardens on factors to consider when setting up a new Flood Watch scheme.

- 10/21 Bakewell and District Branch of the Royal British Legion; an update**
Cllr Bill Storey gave a report on the work of the Bakewell and District Branch of the Royal British Legion.

The Bakewell and District Branch of the Royal British Legion has continued to mark significant dates and events throughout lockdown but in a much reduced way. Covid restrictions have limited what we could do and how many could attend. We marked the passing of Captain Sir Tom Moore and His Royal Highness The Prince Philip by having the union flag at half-mast at Town Hall, Bath Gardens and the Memorial Garden and short ceremonies on their funeral days.

Remembrance Day will always be our most important event and changes to insurance requirements last year put this in danger of being too expensive to continue with. Regulations mean that we were unable to arrange road closures that were needed. So we approached the Town Council and agreed to take the Royal British Legion Planning Group under their wing and so can now operate on behalf of the town to organise future Remembrance Day events, so Remembrance in Bakewell is safe at the moment.

We plan to hold the Annual Remembrance Concert on the evening on the evening of Saturday 13th November at the Town Hall. There are early plans for an event in the Recreation Ground in September but it is too early to give any details as yet.

The veterans Breakfast Club meets on the first Saturday of each month from 9am at The Wheatsheaf in Bakewell. All are welcome, and the Club is always looking for new members.

The Poppy Appeal 2020, despite restrictions, has totalled a little over £23,000 and the Poppy Shop in Granby Arcade has now reopened.

- 11/21 Bakewell Town and Community Trust; an update**
Pat Lunn gave a report, copied at Annex A to this minute.
Resolved: That the report be received

- 12/21 To consider any other matter that may be brought forward by Council or Local Government Electors**
No matters were raised.

The meeting closed at 7.23pm

Mayor's Report 2020-21

It is customary for the Mayor to start this report by thanking the councillors who represent us so helpfully on the District and County councils. This year those thanks have a special message to Councillor Judith Twigg who has worked so hard for Bakewell over so many years. We wish her the very best for her retirement

I also thank fellow Town Council members for all their work over the last 12 months as we have come to terms with the rapid changes necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Cllr Philippa Tilbrook stood down; I would like to thank her for her contributions in 10 years as a Town Councillor. Cllr Adele Eyre was co-opted to the Town Council in September – welcome, Adele.

The Town Council met 16 times during 2020-21 with all meetings being held remotely. Members of the public have been welcome to join these meetings and make representations in Public Speaking. We have found 'Zoom' meetings to be helpful in the ease with which we have been able to invite officers from the District and County to take part and answer questions from members. It is disappointing that the Government has not made provision for such meetings to continue.

We have commented on a total of 63 planning applications. Major applications have included the proposed Health Hub/Ambulance Station at Newholme and work to the Rutland Hotel. An application that attracted significant public interest was one submitted by DDDC for a Café in The Recreation Ground. 28 members of the public attended the remote meeting and were able to put questions and comments to senior officers of the District Council. The application was subsequently withdrawn.

Despite the difficulties posed by the pandemic a great deal has been achieved over the last year with projects including:

- A survey and subsequent management of our extensive woodlands which are so important to the setting of the town
- Repairs and renewals of the walls at Parsonage Field, along with plans for a community planting of young trees in September 2021
- Bids for funding for a major project to reinstate the riverbank at Scot's Garden and downstream of Bakewell Bridge (a joint project with DDDC and Haddon Estate)
- The repainting of our street furniture and benches
- The establishment of a Town Council Facebook page

In addition to our project work, we have raised concerns or made representations on a wide range of issues including:

- Proposals for streetscene interventions to improve social distancing
- Supporting a ban on the use of disposable barbeques
- The control of banners on street railings and informal advertising
- Representations to County Highways regarding speeding on Baslow Road
- Travellers encamped on the showground
- Attempts to deter the feeding of birds at Riverside

- The ever sore point of Love locks on Weir Bridge

We have provided responses to consultations and surveys on:

- Locations of DDDC litter bins
- Verges for biodiversity planting
- Reform of the Planning System
- Electoral boundaries
- DDDC's Statement of Community Involvement
- PDNPA's Residential Annexes Supplementary Planning Document
- DCC's lifting of restrictive covenant at Haig House and replacement of covenant on the Memorial Garden
- PDNPA "Listening to Young People in the National Park"

The Town Council has participated (remotely) in Peak Park Parishes Day, DDDC "Closer Working with Town and Parish Councils" meetings and briefing sessions for Chairs and Clerks organised by the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

Our website, the "public face" of the Town Council for many, continues to provide access to a great deal of information. Page views over the last twelve months have exceeded 85,500.

We continued to offer Christmas trees to traders in the town and provided the public Christmas tree at Bath Gardens.

With so much of life "on hold" grant applications have been few. We have, however supported the work of Bakewell in Bloom with funding of £650 and look forward to their efforts to brighten the town this summer.

We continue to support the Fairtrade Campaign and are working to renew Bakewell's Fairtrade Town status in the coming months.

After such an intensely difficult twelve months I sincerely hope that the coming year will see a more recognisable way of life return, one which will allow us to again enjoy the activities and events that make life worth living and which help the Bakewell community prosper.

Annex A to minute 7/21

Bakewell Town Council Attendance Chart 2020-2021

Meeting Date	18th May 2020	1st June 2020	10th June 2020	15th June 2020	6th July 2020	3rd August 2020	27th August 2020	7th September 2020	7th September 2020	9th September 2020	5th October 2020	2nd November 2020	7th December 2020	4th January 2021	1st February 2021	25th February 2021	1st March 2021	29th March 2021	13th April 2021
Number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Type of Meeting	O	O	SC	O	O	O	O	E	O	SC	O	O	O	O	O	E	O	O	SC
Note	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM	REM
Clr John Boyle	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Clr Steve Edwards	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Clr Adele Eyre									Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Clr Alyson Hill	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Clr Paul Miller	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Clr Paul Morgans	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Clr John Riley	A	A		A	Y	A	A	A	A		A	A	A	Y	A	A	A	A	
Clr Bill Storey	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Clr Philippa Tilbrook	A	A		R															
Clr Hilary Young	Y	Y		A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Type of meeting key

AN; Annual Meeting of the Town Council
 CX; Meeting Cancelled (e.g. insufficient business or inclement weather)
 EX; Extraordinary Meeting
 O; Ordinary Meeting
 SC; Staff Committee

Notes

Absence from an Extraordinary meeting may be due to an interest in the main business item(s)
 Attendance records are an extract of the minutes
 REM; Meeting held remotely

Attendance key

A; Absent (apologies received)
 C; Ceased to be a member
 D; Disqualified
 [Greyed] [Greyed] Not a member of Committee indicated or meeting cancelled
 L; Leave of absence (approved by Council)
 R; Resigned
 X; Absent (no apologies received)
 Y; Present (for some or all of the meeting)
 Z: Absent on Council Business

REPORT FROM BAKEWELL TOWN & COMMUNITY TRUST – APRIL 2021

The Trust is charged with taking forward the management and maintenance of the Town Hall as a public asset through a charitable organisation. It is registered as a charitable company and also registered with the Land Registry as the Lessee Owner with a 40 year lease granted in 2009.

The Main Objectives for 2020 were:

- To retain and improve revenue streams required to support the Trust and the Town Hall Project.
- To continue to explore potential sources of capital funding to enable further modernisation of the Town Hall.
- To continue research to recognise new users from both the Community and Businesses within Bakewell and the surrounding area to justify such investments.
- To keep under review the business plan.
- To undertake further consultations on proposals for the Town Hall refurbishment including a major upgrade of the heating and electricity systems.
- To upgrade computer facilities and marketing tools.
- To promote membership of the trust within the community.

In planning our activities we keep in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustees meetings ensuring that a large proportion of use is by community groups.

The membership of the Charity is open to all individuals irrespective of race, gender or any other personal circumstances. Volunteers to assist with activities are welcome.

Activities and Achievements:

The year started on a very optimistic note with a good level of bookings and a programme of events from comedy nights, classical concerts to streaming National Theatre Live, in many cases tickets sold out.

The imposition of Government measures to combat the pandemic resulted in total lockdown with bookings cancelled or postponed. Staff were put on much reduced hours with new ways of working introduced. Following a complete overhaul of IT facilities both our Centre Manager and our accountant have been working remotely with only the occasional necessary visit to the office. Government financial support has been secured without which the Trust could have been in a difficult financial position.

A first priority is to ensure that the building meets statutory requirements. All necessary health and safety measures as required have been put in place and we have our own QR Code for monitoring purposes. We are therefore in a position to

open facilities to our regular users in accordance with the phased easing of restrictions. Forward bookings are already coming in for the second half of the year.

The final consultants' report on the upgrading of heating and electrical services was received shortly before lockdown measures were put in place. As a result this was put on hold. Further advice is currently being sought and financial support investigated.

In addition to membership fees, the Trust is most appreciative of the continued financial support it has received from Bakewell Town Council, and during the year from Derbyshire County Council Members Fund, the Derbyshire Foundation and private donations.

The Trust is cautiously optimistic in re-building both our user base and a programme of events as the lockdown measures are eased in the months ahead.

P. E. Lunn, Director & Company Secretary