

Bracknell Town Council

Full Council Minutes

21st February 2023



Date	21/02/2023
Time	19:30 - 20:30
Location	Council Chamber Brooke House
Present	Cllrs, Gill Birch, Mike Gibson, Sanjeev Prasad, Dai Roberts, Jennie Green, Mary Temperton, Michael Gbadebo, Lizzy Gibson, Anna Kempster, Isabel Mattick, Ash Merry, Chris Turrell, Peter Heydon, Stuart Foston, Diana Henfrey, Guy Gillbe
Apologies	Cllrs: Ian Kirke, Alvin Finch(online), Michael Skinner, Paul Bidwell, Michael Titheridge, Paul Byron, , James Alexander
Town Clerk	Absent Marc Brunel-Walker, Danielle Turner, Kathryn Neil, Thomas Parker Jackie Burgess

MINUTES

FC117/23 - Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest

FC118/23 - Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th October 2022 were proposed by Councillor Turrell and seconded by Councillor Mrs G Birch it was **RESOLVED** that the recommendations contained therein were received and adopted as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor

FC119/23 - Matter Arising from the Minutes

ES1038 Birch Hill Toilets – The refurbishment of the Birch Hill toilets are due to be completed by the end of February 2023. The lease has been signed by the Mayor and Councillor Chris Turrell and will be completed when the inspection of the premises has been completed. An opening event will be held.

FC120/23 - Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor gave an update on the events attended by both the Town Mayor and the Deputy Mayor over the last few months.

The Mayor is delighted to be representing Bracknell Town Council at the following event in Brussels

The Bracknell Forest Society is participating in a three-year research project (2020-2023) to examine the cultural and urban development of Bracknell in the interwar period: 1918-39. OGV (Opladen Geschichtsverein), the History Society in Bracknell's Twin Town of Leverkusen led the application for European Union Erasmus funding for the project in collaboration with Bracknell and Leverkusen's six other twin towns in countries across Europe.

Our part of the project has been to examine the cultural and urban development of Bracknell as a small and growing market town during this period, before the post-war development of the new town.

The primary objective is to produce a multilingual, electronic and innovative film kit for use online by young adults in Bracknell, as well as in the other partner towns. It will also provide a historical record for all who are interested and serve to keep the history of Bracknell alive for the young, and future generations.

FC121/23 - Planning Committee

Councillor Mike Gibson introduced the reports of the meetings listed below. This was seconded by Councillor Dai Roberts. It was **RESOLVED** that the recommendations contained therein were received and adopted.

18th October 2022

8th November 2022

29th November 2022

20th December 2022

31st January 2023

FC122/23 - Environmental Services Committee

Councillor Anna Kempster introduced the report of the meeting listed below. This was seconded by Councillor Lizzy Gibson. It was **RESOLVED** that the recommendations contained therein were received and adopted.

29th November 2022

FC123/23 - Staffing Committee

Councillor Chris Turrell introduced the report of the meeting listed below. This was seconded by Councillor Mrs Isabel Mattick It was **RESOLVED** that the recommendations contained therein were received and adopted.

17th January 2023

FC124/23 - Strategy and Finance Committee

Councillor Chris Turrell introduced the report of the meeting listed below. This was seconded by Councillor Jennie Green. It was **RESOLVED** that the recommendations contained therein were received and adopted.

24th January 2023

FC125/23 - Community Events Working Group

The Chairman of the Community Events Working Group proposed the following plan for Events in 2023. This was seconded by Councillor Chris Turrell and APPROVED by the Council

- Coronation of King Charles 6th May 2023 -

Grants 13 wards limit up to £200 per application. Apply by 17th March decision made by working Group 20th March.

Large Cedar Tree to be planted

Wildflower Seeds to be given out to schools by the Town Mayor.

- AGM Great Hollands Pavilion Tuesday 16th May
- Spring Event - Not this year due to Thames Water Works and elections
- Fun Fairs 26th May to 4th June and 21st July to 30th July
- Teddy Bears Picnic 21st June Jocks Lane Recreation Ground
- Summer of Fun 2nd & 30th August 2023
- Diwali 23rd October 2023
- Remembrance Parade 12th November 2023

FC126/23 - Budget 2023/24

The Budget for 2023/24 was put to the Council by the Town Clerk which included consolidation of the Ear Marked Reserves..

Introducing the budget for 2023/24 for Bracknell Town Council, the leader of the council, Councillor Chris Turrell, said:

"Bracknell Town Council precept increase held to 3% through careful budgeting. This year, more than ever, it is important that our budget is sound and that our finances are managed responsibly, and that is what this budget achieves. "We benefit from having negotiated energy costs fixed until next year, and from our well-established policy of putting away funds year by year, clearly earmarking them for known high-cost items - such as AstroTurf pitches - and elections.

"This budget allows us to continue our important rolling programme of maintenance and improvement of our sports pitches, parks and play areas. "We will continue to give grants to local organisations, and to maintain our financial support for South Hill Park. "Separately, we are offering a small grants scheme to help residents celebrate the King's coronation, a first-in-a-lifetime event for nearly all of us. "Good budgeting has enabled us to cope with the local government pay increase. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff for their hard work in another busy year.

"At a time of 10.1% inflation, the increase in our fees and charges is held to 5% or less, and that of our precept at Band D to 3%, giving a figure of £97.35, or just under £1.95 per week."

The budget for 2023/24 with a precept increase of 3%, consolidation of Ear marked reserves and a 5% increase on recreational facilities charges for the next two years was proposed by Councillor Chris Turrell and seconded by Councillor Jennie Green. The above was unanimously APPROVED by Bracknell Town Council.

FC127/23 - Code of Conduct, Civility and Respect Pledge and Member Officer Protocol.

The updated Code of Conduct, Member Officer Protocol and to sign up to the Civility and Respect Pledge was proposed by Councillor Turrell and seconded by Councillor Mary Temperton. The above was unanimously APPROVED by Bracknell Town Council.

FC128/23 - CIL Report

The CIL report was NOTED

FC129/23 - Investment Fund

Following a discussion it was proposed by Councillor Chris Turrell to move funds to CCLA investment fund to secure better interest rates on the Town Councils investments. CCLA is well respected with in the industry. Councillor Gill Birch seconded the proposed and it was unanimously APPROVED by Full Council and the Town Clerk was instructed to move the agreed funds to the CCLA investment fund..

FC130/23 - Bracknell Town Council Risk Register

The Risk Register was reviewed. Approval of the document was recommended by Councillor Chris Turrell and seconded by Councillor Anna Kempster. APPROVED unanimously

FC131/23 - Queen Elizabeth II Street naming

It was proposed by Councillor Chris Turrell and seconded by Councillor Ash Merry that Bracknell Town Council put forward a proposal for the following names to be added to the bank of names. Queen Elizabeth Avenue, Queen Elizabeth II, this was unanimously APPROVED and the Town Clerk requested to get official approval.

FC132/23 - Meeting Schedule 2023/2024

The meeting schedule for 2023/24 was proposed by Councillor Turrell and seconded by Councillor Gill Birch. This was unanimously APPROVED.

Confidential Items

To move that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted that pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960-as applied by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972 Members of the Press and Public e excluded from the meeting.

FC133/23 - Jealotts Hill Community Landshare

Following a discussion it was proposed by Councillor Chris Turrell and seconded by Councillor Lizzy Gibson that Bracknell Town Council stand down form being a partner of the Jealotts Hill Community Landshare. Bracknell Town Council will continue to support JHCL and look forward to working with them in the future. The proposal was unanimously APPROVED.

FC134/23 - Braybrooke Hut

Following a discussion it was proposed by Councillor Turrell and seconded by Councillor Dai Roberts that the Town Clerk accept the offer from BFC to take over ownership of the hut in Braybrooke. The proposal was unanimously approved

FC135/23 - Date of next meeting

The next meeting is the Annual Meeting of the Town Council and will be held at Great Hollands Pavilion on 16th May 2023 starting at 7.30pm

Councillor Turrell thanked all the Councillors who are not standing in the Election on 4th May 2023 for all their hard work over the last 4 years.

Councillor Mary Temperton reminded Councillors that the Bracknell Twinning Association is holding its annual Quiz on Friday 24th February at Braybrooke to help raise funds for the 50th Anniversary celebrations that will be held the weekend of 14th to 19th September 2023.

Signed

Dated 16.05.2023