



Bracknell Town Council

Full Council / AGM Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Date	Tuesday, May 14, 2024
Time	19:00 - 22:00
Location	Great Hollands Pavilion
Present	Cllrs; Paul Bidwell, Ellen MacHale, Kathryn Neil, Naheed Ejaz, Anna Keen, , Mary Temperton, Elizabeth Baker, Iskandar Jefferies, Roy Bailey, Cath Thompson, Jenny Penfold, Guy Gillbe, Gerry Webb, Kathleen Nugent, Simon Carter, Kwabena Adu-Quaye, Graham firth, Janet Cochrane, Caroline Egglestone, Megan Wright, Jodie Watts.
Apologies	Cllrs: Cherise Welch, Helen Purnell, Jeffrey Gillbe, Ryan Frost, Donna Sidebotham, Imara Wright, Lucy Young.
In attendance	20+ members of public
Officers	Jackie Burgess – Town Clerk

Minutes

FC26/24 APPOINTMENT OF TOWN MAYOR 2024-2025

The Town Mayor for 2023/24 Councillor Simon Carter requested nominations for the appointment of the Town Mayor 2024/25. It was proposed by Cllr Graham Firth that Councillor Elizabeth Mary Baker be appointed as Bracknell Town Council Mayor for the 2024/25 year. This was seconded by Cllr Caroline Egglestone. The vote was unanimous, and Councillor Elizabeth Mary Baker was elected to be Town Mayor for the year 2024/25.

Councillor Baker read the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and signed the document in front of the Council and the Town Clerk, Councillor Baker then accepted the Chain of Office.

The newly elected Mayor then thanked the outgoing Mayor Councillor Simon Carter for his excellent service over the last year. Councillor Carter accepted the Past Mayors badge.

FC27/24 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR 2024-2025

Councillor Baker requested nominations for the post of Deputy Town Mayor. It was proposed by Cllr Graham Firth that Councillor Ellen MacHale be appointed as Bracknell Deputy Town Council Mayor for the 2024/25 year. This was seconded by Cllr Naheed Ejaz. The vote was unanimous, and Councillor Ellen MacHale was elected to be Deputy Town Mayor for the year 2024/25.

FC28/24 ATTENDANCE To receive apologies from Councillors unable to attend the meeting. The Town Clerk listed the seven Councillors who had given apologies. NOTED

FC29/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest

FC30/24 COMMITTEE, WORKING GROUP AND OUTSIDE BODY APPOINTMENTS

It was proposed by Councillor Baker to move the nominations for the Committee, Working Groups and outside Body Appointments on bloc as per the agenda, this was seconded by Councillor Firth and APPROVED unanimously

COMMITTEES***Strategy and Finance Committee***

Members	Substitutes
Cllr Guy Gillbe	<i>Cllr Donna Sidebotham</i>
Cllr Anna Keen	<i>Cllr Cherise Welch</i>
Cllr Megan Wright	<i>Cllr Paul Bidwell</i>
Cllr Kathryn Neil	<i>Cllr Kandy Jefferies</i>
Cllr Graham Firth	<i>Cllr Jodie Watts</i>
Cllr Roy Bailey	<i>Cllr Imara Wright</i>
Cllr Kwabena Adutwum-Quaye	

Environmental Services Committee

Members	Substitutes
Cllr Lucy Young	<i>Cllr Donna Sidebotham</i>
Cllr Kathleen Nugent	<i>Cllr Helen Purnell</i>
Cllr Caroline Egglestone	<i>Cllr Naheed Ejaz</i>
Cllr Jeffrey Gillbe	<i>Cllr Jenny Penfold</i>
Cllr Mary Temperton	<i>Cllr Graham Firth</i>
Cllr Imara Wright	
Cllr Simon Carter	
Cllr Gerry Webb	
Cllr Ryan Frost	
Cllr Janet Cochrane	
Cllr Jodie Watts	
Cllr Ellen Mac Hale	

Staffing Committee

Members	Substitutes
Cllr Anna Keen	<i>Cllr Donna Sidebotham</i>
Cllr Cath Thompson	<i>Cllr Guy Gillbe</i>
Cllr Simon Carter	<i>Cllr Helen Purnell</i>
Cllr Roy Bailey	<i>Cllr Janet Cochrane</i>
Cllr Elizabeth Mary Baker	<i>Cllr Ellen Mac Hale</i>
Cllr Mary Temperton	<i>Cllr Jenny Penfold</i>

Planning Committee

Members	Substitutes
Cllr Kwabena Adutwum-Quaye	<i>Cllr Donna Sidebotham</i>
Cllr Janet Cochrane	<i>Cllr Ryan Frost</i>
Cllr Lucy Young	<i>Cllr Cath Thompson</i>
Cllr Ellen Mac Hale	<i>Cllr Naheed Ejaz</i>
Cllr Jennifer Penfold	<i>Cllr Graham Firth</i>
	<i>Cllr Cherise Welch</i>

WORKING GROUPS

Carbon Reduction Working Group

Members	Substitutes
Cllr Mary Temperton	<i>Cllr Paul Bidwell</i>
Cllr Guy Gillbe	<i>Cllr Ryan Frost</i>
Cllr Megan Wright	
Cllr Imara Wright	
Cllr Gerry Webb	
Cllr Donna Sidebotham	

Community Events

Members	Substitutes
Cllr Jodie Watts	<i>Cllr Helen Purnell</i>
Cllr Lucy Young	<i>Cllr Ryan Frost</i>
Cllr Cath Thompson	
Cllr Janet Cochrane	
Cllr Mary Temperton	
Cllr Donna Sidebotham	

TV Grants

Members	Substitutes
Cllr Guy Gillbe	
Cllr Mary Temperton	
Cllr Jodie Watts	
Cllr Janet Cochrane	
Cllr Simon Carter	

OUTSIDE BODIES

<i>South Hill Park Trust (Charity number 265656 Company no 1104422) 1 representative and 1 substitute</i>	<i>Member: Cllr Paul Bidwell Substitute: Cllr Jennifer Penfold</i>
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Community Associations	
Birch Hill	Cllr Janet Cochrane
Bullbrook	Cllr Caroline Egglestone
Crown Wood	Cllr Elizabeth Mary Baker
Easthampstead & Wildridings	Cllr Guy Gillbe
Great Hollands	Cllr Lucy Young
Hanworth	Cllr Kathleen Nugent
The Parks	Cllr Kwabena Adutwum-Quaye
New Priestwood	Cllr Ellen Mac Hale
Jennett's Park	Cllr Jeffrey Gillbe

Bracknell Forest Council (BFC)	
Borough/Parish Liaison Committee <i>2 representatives</i>	Cllr Kwabena Adutwum-Quaye Cllr Graham Firth
Lily Hill Park Steering Committee	Cllr Graham Firth
South Hill Park - Management Group <i>2 representatives</i>	Cllr Kathleen Nugent Cllr Jennifer Penfold

Local Organisations	
Age Concern	Cllr Megan Wright
Bracknell Twinning Association <i>Mayor + 2 representatives</i>	Cllr Guy Gillbe Cllr Anna Keen
Bracknell Forest Nature Partnership	Cllr Helen Purnell
Citizens Advice Bureau	Cllr Simon Carter

FC31/24 MINUTES

It was Proposed by Councillor Watts to approve and authorise the Mayor to sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2024, this was seconded by Councillor G Gillbe and APPROVED unanimously. The Mayor will sign the minutes as a true record.

FC32/24 MATTER ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising to discuss

FC33/24 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Baker gave a speech detailing some of the achievements of Bracknell Town Council over the past 12 months. She was delighted to list the achievements of Bracknell Town Council in reducing our carbon footprint and working to reduce the amount of plastic used. As usual the events put on by the Town Council were a credit to our staff. Bracknell Town Council will continue to work to improve its play areas and

install more meadow areas as part of its biodiversity work. I would like to give my thanks to all the Staff at Bracknell Town Council for the work they do. My charity for this year will be Home Start and I look forward to working with them in my Mayoral year.

The Mayor then invited the Leader of the Council Graham Firth to say a few words. Following the local elections of May 2023, we were able to form a new administration and this seems an appropriate point to highlight some of the events of our very effective first twelve months. Our manifesto said we would provide more facilities for older young people and the proposed pump track at Mill Park is a very popular idea and will be a facility for all ages. Following a successful grant application by BTC officers to the Police and Crime Commission funds, Berkshire Youth have been providing activities for our youngsters in our recreation grounds twice a week.

We opened a refurbished play area at Ullswater and have started reviewing the Council's TV licence scheme with a view to making it more effective, another manifesto commitment.

This year we were pleased to celebrate 50 years of Twinning with Leverkusen and we were also able to congratulate our twin town on the achievement of Bayer Leverkusen football club in becoming Bundesliga champions for the first time in their history.

Many of us came new to our roles as Town Councillors last year but we all enjoy being part of this very successful Council. We all thank the staff for their commitment and dedication in helping make Bracknell such a good place to live. We particularly thank Paul Jacobs for his 50 years of service with the Council and wish him a very long and happy retirement and we congratulate him on being awarded the Silver Award for long standing service to the Community at the Pride of Bracknell awards.

Finally, we are pleased to continue our support for South Hill Park, also a manifesto commitment, and we welcome the revival of the Jealott's Hill Community Landshare project.

FC34/24 PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Chairperson of the Planning Committee proposed the minutes of the following 4 committee meetings, and these were seconded by Councillor MacHale and APPROVED unanimously by the Council.

- 27th February 2024
- 19th March 2024
- 9th April 2024
- 30th April 2024

FC35/24 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Vice Chairperson of the Environmental Services Committee proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd April 2024, these were seconded by Councillor M Temperton and APPROVED unanimously by the Council.

Councillor Nugent expressed her thanks to the Grounds team, their dedication and commitment to standards in our parks is outstanding.

- 23rd April 2024

FC36/24 STRATEGY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The chairperson of the Strategy and Finance Committee proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 7th May 2024, these were seconded by Councillor Keen and APPROVED unanimously by Council.

Councillor G Gillbe thanked all the members who have been involved over the last year. Officers are still investigating the Website upgrade and working hard on compiling the information to apply for a Quality Award with LCAS. Storyy will be offered a five-year lease at Birch hill, Biodiversity audits have been ordered on 4 Town Council sites which will help the Town Councils commitment to biodiversity. Bracknell Town Council's finances are in a strong position, and we have just approved £150 thousand to support the installation of a multi-wheel use pump track at Mill Park. 30th April 2024 - Postponed

- 7th May 2024

FC37/24 STAFFING COMMITTEE

The Chairperson of the Staffing committee proposed the minutes of the meeting held on 16th April 2024 and these were seconded by Councillor Adu-Quaye and APPROVED unanimously by Council.

Councillor Keen reported that the Committee is very proud of the staff, a bench marking process was completed which also showed good retention and training of staff.

- 16th April 2024

FC38/24 GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

Council NOTED that the General Power of Competence was adopted at the AGM on the 16th of May 2023 and stands until the AGM in 2027. Bracknell Town Council still meets the criteria below.

The General Power of Competence (GPC) was introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and took effect in February 2012. In simple terms, it gives councils the power to do anything an individual can do provided it is not prohibited by other legislation. It applies to all principal councils (district, county and unitary councils etc.). It also applies to eligible parish and town councils. It replaces the wellbeing powers in England that were provided under the Local Government Act 2000.

To confirm that Bracknell Town Council meets the criteria for General Power of Competence:

- The Council had 28 members elected at the 2023 election with 28 seats still maintained the Council exceeds the required criteria of 19 elected members for 2024/25.

- The Town Clerk is CiLCA Qualified

FC39/24 MEETING AND EVENTS SCHEDULE

- The Meeting Schedule for 2024/25 was NOTED
- The Events schedule was NOTED

FC40/24 CIL REPORT

The CIL report was Proposed by Councillor Temperton and seconded by Councillor Jefferies and APPROVED unanimously by Council.

FC41/24 RECEIVED INCOME TRANSACTIONS Council NOTED the received income transactions for the period 1st January 2024 - 31st March 2024 inclusive (available for inspection via the Town Clerk)

FC42/24 PAID EXPENDITURE TRANSACTIONS

Councillor G Firth proposed the Paid expenditure for the period 1st January 2024 - 31st March 2024 inclusive for the Mayor to sign this was seconded by Cououncillor Bidwell. Council APPROVED unanimously.

FC43/24 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Full Council meeting is being held on Tuesday 25th June 2024 at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber at Brooke House NOTED

Next the Chairman of the standing committees were elected.

The Town Mayor then invited each of the recipients of the annual grant to give a report on their activities and how the grant would be used:

ABC to Read	Autism Berkshire	Bracknell Forest natural History Society
Create Hope	Citizens Advice Bureau	Bracknell & District Parkinsons
Home Start	First Days Children’s Charity	Diu Vanza Darji Samaj UK
Keep Mobile	Jealotts Hill Landshare	Stepping Stones Recovery
The Look-in Café	St Paul’s Contact Centre	Wokingham Job Support Centre
Youthline	South Hill Park Arts Trust	

Sign:

Date: