



Baildon Library
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Notes of Love our Loos meeting on 26th January at 1pm

Present: Cllr Gill Dixon (Chair), John and Pam Crabtree, David Robertshaw, John Marshall, Bob Davidson, Cllr Gill Jennison, Cllr Sue Hewitson, Chris Flecknoe, Cllr Val Townend, John Anderson

Apologies: Beryl Doyle, Mark Scrimshaw

1. **Welcome and introductions.** This is the first meeting for some time due to COVID – thanks to all for coming.

2. Proposed work to Disabled toilet including power assisted door.

Gill gave background to this issue, and Sue updated on the approved grant application and work underway to release the funds. The news was welcomed.

John asked if the tap for Baildon in Bloom would remain? Yes it is anticipated so. John mentioned that the water pressure from the tap was very poor so this made it difficult for Baildon in Bloom to use Action – Sue to see if this can be remedied when the work is done

3. Maintenance and operational issues

Gill gave background on the prior regime.

a. **Cleaning** Post Covid cleaning has increased to daily, still done by same company although previous cleaner has left. Some commented that the standards have slipped and questioned if we are getting value for money – various issues mentioned

Action: Gill to request cleaner meets with John and Pam to point out the issues

Discussion followed about whether a daily clean was needed, and when contract was next reviewed. Agreed to leave as is but review again at next meeting

Thanks to Beryl for continuing to provide air fresheners

b. **Opening hours and arrangements:** Since COVID, hours have been reduced by the clerk to 10.30 to 4.30. After other arrangements broke down, BTC now pays cleaner to open and shut daily. Bob and Chris from Walkers are welcome requested earlier opening as this was too late to be helpful for walkers – one of main user groups ACTION : Gill to request a return to 9.30am opening

Gill recapped on isolated problems during last year with antisocial behaviour. All supported proposal to close toilets on 31st October Halloween as a preventative measure – maybe also mischief night. Action : Gill

Contract : Gill to clarify next contract review date and try to ensure discussion first.



A general discussion took place re CCTV. It was confirmed that BTC is undertaking a review of how well it works in Baildon. Val offered to find out about the mobile CCTV units provided by Bradford Council. Maybe the outside of the loos could be considered for coverage in the future. Action – Gill to raise at Community committee.

c. **Maintenance issues** – Gill reported from cleaner that there was water ingress after heavy rain on back outside wall of ladies cubicle – Action – Gill to ask Mark to check

Holes left unfilled from previous wall mounted fixtures unsightly – need filling

d. **Utilities** - Gill J fed into group from recent budget report to Economy committee

Concern expressed at rising costs, also some surprise given shorter hours, some closures and probably less usage during COVID. After discussion, agreed ACTION that GD would seek copies of all bills and provide to JA who will review and check source of price increases. Also request Mark checked meter readings periodically and reconcile with bills.

4. External work and garden/planting

John M updated on work undertaken by Baildon in Bloom – in particular, planting loads of bulbs, clearing of left hand bed (facing) and more winter planting, tub moved to reduce damage, general tidying. Many thanks to John for his work.

John and Pam were sincerely thanked for all their efforts with weeding, clearing and overall care and attention.

Bob was thanked for his role in keeping the hedge trimmed and tidy.

All agreed that the loos are a much needed facility and one to be proud of. Gill commented that the support and dedication of the group had made a huge difference over the years and continued to do so.

5. Fundraising and donations

Gill confirmed that the costs, and hence the budget, had increased significantly as a result of all the changes above – from 8k per year previously to 14k per year now.

Gill described the QR code donation system operating at Gargrave – hopefully we can introduce, and new deputy clerk may perhaps pursue. It was suggested that we might benefit from being a named charity at the CO-OP but no one volunteered to progress this just now.

Chris (and others) agreed that there was a great level of support for the loos, and groups would be willing to make donations. However it might be more attractive as a "Project" – ie a general refurb after work done, a mural in the disabled loo etc . To be progressed at next meeting

6 Date of next meeting

**Wednesday 24th August – meet at loos at 1pm for site visit!
Followed by meeting at venue tbc.**