

Minutes of the Annual Statutory Meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council held on **Friday 5th May 2016** in The Large Hall of Buckingham Community Centre, Meadow Walk, Buckingham at 8:00pm.

**Present:**

Cllr. Ms. J. Bates  
 Cllr. T. Bloomfield  
 Cllr. M. Cole  
 Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins  
 Cllr. P. Collins  
 Cllr. Mrs. M. Gateley  
 Cllr. J. Harvey  
 Cllr. D. Isham  
 Cllr. A. Mahi  
 Cllr. H. Mordue  
 Cllr. Ms. R. Newell  
 Cllr. L. O'Donoghue  
 Cllr. M. Smith  
 Cllr. Mrs. C. Strain-Clark  
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury  
 Cllr. M. Try

**In attendance:**

Sir H. Aubrey-Fletcher (Lord Lieutenant Buckinghamshire), Sir Anthony Sheldon (Vice-Chancellor of Buckingham University), Mr. Peter Kara (High Sherriff) together with invited guests.

The Town Crier welcomed dignitaries and invited guests. The Mace Bearer announced The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Town Clerk and Town Councillors.

The Town Mayor opened the meeting and gave the following speech:

*“Lord Lieutenant, Lady Aubrey Fletcher, High Sheriff, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Buckingham, Mayors and Chairmen of neighbouring towns – affectionately known as the ‘chain gang’. County, District and Town Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen, Welcome to Buckingham and our Annual Statutory Meeting and the election of Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor.*

*As my two year tenure as Mayor of Buckingham draws to a close I would like to list some of the highlights.*

*The most important of these, through hard work and long hours by our town Clerk and his team, the Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan is now in place, this is a great achievement as it is vital we have a say on the future development of our town.*

*We had three Councillors join the Council who have contributed enormously to the Council and town.*

*We are now the first in the County, to receive through Local Council Award Scheme ‘Quality Gold Award’ which demonstrates that the Council is at the forefront of best practice and achieves excellence in governance, community leadership and Council development. The Council thanks the Town Clerk and staff in achieving the Gold Award.*

*After much discussion, I’m glad to report that the Scouts have, at last, moved into the Pavilion in Embleton Way, making it their new HQ and now also a community centre.*

*I had the pleasure of meeting the students from our twin town Mouvaux and hope they took pleasant memories of Buckingham and our best wishes when they returned home. The developers at Lace Hill have handed over to the Town Council a new Sports and Community Centre, it has an indoor sport hall, committee room and changing facilities and we also now have two Sports England Standard football pitches. I am glad to report that we now have a new junior football club called FC Buckingham who will be based at Lace Hill.*

*Through the hard work of our Council and staff our events are varied, successful and well attended, and I thank the people of Buckingham for their support.*

*If this is your first visit to Buckingham, please look at the leaflets on the chairs and return for a more leisurely visit to Buckingham.*

*Work has, at long last, started on the new toilets and Shopmobility building in Cornwalls Meadow car park. The work is scheduled to be completed by the summer.*

*I wish to thank my fellow Councillors, BTC office staff and a special thank you to Katherine who has kept me on the straight and narrow during my tenure and I did take her advice and not book a troop of Burlesque dancers last year for my Mayor Making. Thank you to my daughter Leah the Mayoress, for her support. Lastly, thank you to the people of Buckingham for your support and help in making my two year tenure as your Mayor both enjoyable and memorable. It has been an honour and privilege to have been your Mayor. Thank you."*

The Mayor presented cheques from the Mayor's Charity Fund to:

- Buckingham & Winslow Citizen's Advice Bureau
- Buckingham Hospital League of Friends
- Rays of Sunshine

Cllr. Newell proposed Mrs Lesley Try for Friend of Buckingham. Cllr. Newell said that Lesley Try had done so much for Girl Guides in the Town for many years as a Guide Leader, also supported Guides on international trips, and Lesley had also been a District Commissioner for many years. In addition Lesley and the Guides have worked with the Town Council over many years providing barbecues at our firework displays and other events, Cllr. Newell added that Lesley's work had enabled girls in the town and wider community to gain wonderful experiences.

Cllr. Newell proposed an Award for Excellence in Sport and the Arts to the Royal Latin School for the following reasons:

- The U18 Rugby Team got to the final of the NatWest Vase held at Twickenham
- The first XI Football team got to the final of the U18 the County Cup competition, for the second year running, and won it last year.
- Lauren Kay in Year 13 is a GB rower representing the Country in the European championship last summer in the fours and eights and gained gold, silver and bronze medals.
- Johnnie Torjussen has won the U19 English Junior National Badminton Championships (his 5th consecutive title). He also won his second doubles national title.
- U15 Girls Rugby Team had won the Sibford Sevens Competition
- U16 and U13 Netball teams won their respective District Leagues

*Cllr. Mahi explained that the meeting would move into the formal part of the agenda.*

## **1/17 Election of the Town Mayor for 2017-2018: Cllr. Jon Harvey**

Proposed by Cllr. R. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. M. Smith

Cllr. Stuchbury gave a short speech:

*“Anyone that has given public service within their community will know it is a hard role and this is Jon’s chance to add his story to Buckingham’s rich history. We, at Buckingham Town Council, always support and work with the Mayor and also the individual. Jon will bring his personality and passion to the role and is already organising the Festival of Health which is a celebration of the years of community nursing in Bucks. This shows he has the drive and will to organise such community events. Anytime I have asked anything from Jon he has always delivered and that is an important quality you need as Mayor. People will challenge and it is important to do the right thing for the right reasons and not worry what the crowd says. I am personally looking forward to the year ahead with Jon as Mayor; our community will be richer for him being in the role and it will be a different and more interesting year with Jon as our Mayor.”*

Cllr. Smith gave a short speech:

*“Jon is a man of integrity and vision but he comes with a health warning! He is as very good at getting people doing things...so watch out! I have no hesitation in seconding Jon Harvey as Mayor for the coming year.”*

There being no further nominations, it was **RESOLVED** unanimously – that Cllr. Harvey be elected Town Mayor of Buckingham, to hold office until the next Annual Statutory Meeting of the Council.

*Cllr. Harvey took the Chair.*

## **2/17 Apologies**

Apologies were received and noted from Town Cllr. Paul Hirons, Youth Cllr. Joe Reilly, Cllr. Martin Tett, Leader of the Cabinet, BCC, Mrs Rachel Shimmin, Chief Officer, Buckinghamshire County Council, Cllr. Jenny Bloom, Chair AVDC, who is represented by Deputy Chair, Cllr. Sue Renshell, Mr. Andrew Grant, Chief Executive, Aylesbury Vale District Council, Cllr. Neil Blake, Leader of the Cabinet AVDC, The Mayor of Aylesbury, The Mayor of Banbury, The Mayor of Brackley, Cllr. Fiona Baker, The Mayor of Leighton Linlode, Cllr. Steve Cotter, The Mayor of Milton Keynes Deputy, who is represented by Cllr. David Hopkins, The Mayor of Olney, The Mayor of Towcester, The Mayor of Winslow, Cllr. Gordon Wiseman, who is represented by Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Llew Monger, The Chair of Maids Moreton Parish Council, Cllr. Bonnie Ford, The Chair of Gawcott-with-Lenborough Parish Council, Cllr. Alan White, Mr. Peter Bartlett, President Rotary. Mr. David Hudson, Head Teacher, Royal Latin School, who is represented by Mr Ian Gould, Head of Sport, Miss Angela Wells, Head Teachers, The Buckingham School, who is represented by Ms Rachel Hunt and Miss Hannah Rogers. Dr Richard Harrington, President of The League of Friends of Buckingham Hospital, who is represented by Mr Stephen Long. Friends of Buckingham: Monsieur Bertrand Russell, Mr. Simon Wilkinson and Mr. Ed Grimsdale.

## **3/17 Vote of thanks to the outgoing Town Mayor and presentation of badge and salver.**

Proposed by Cllr. L. O’Donoghue, seconded by Cllr. R. Newell

Cllr. O’Donoghue gave a short speech:

*“On behalf of the Town Council I would like to thank Cllr. Mahi for being an outstanding leader and look forward to him continuing to be an outstanding Town Councillor.”*

Cllr. Newell gave a short speech:

*"It gives me great pleasure to second Andy. He is true Gentleman and conducts himself with kindness, dignity and respect. This award is well deserved and I know he'll continue to serve Buckingham in an able manner.*

The Mayor presented a commemorative past Mayoral badge and salver to Cllr. Mahi and photographs were taken.

**4/16 Vote of thanks to the outgoing Deputy Town Mayor**

*Proposed by Cllr. C. Strain-Clark*

Cllr. Strain-Clark gave a short speech:

*"Cllr. Hirons has given his apologies for tonight's Ceremony as he has taken his classic car to a rally in Paris. For the past two years Paul has been a valuable support to the Mayor, he has chaired meetings, attended many events and enjoyed representing Buckingham at many nearby town events. His only regret is that some serious health issues have prevented him from being more active."*

**5/16 The Robing of the Mayor and history of the Regalia:**

Cllr. Harvey was invested with the Chain of Office by the Town Clerk.

**6/16 Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Mayoral address**

Cllr. Harvey made the statutory declaration of office and explained he would give his Mayoral address under 'Town Mayor's Announcements'.

**7/16 Election of the Deputy Mayor for 2017-2018: Cllr. Mark Cole JP**

Proposed by Cllr. D. Isham, seconded by Cllr. M. Gateley

Cllr. Isham gave a short speech:

*"Distinguished Guests, Fellow Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen. When this Council began its new four year term two years ago a new member joined us having formerly lived in Thornborough and served on its Parish Council. All I can say is Thornborough's loss is our gain. It gives me great pleasure to propose the Cllr. Mark Cole JP be elected Deputy Mayor for the ensuing year."*

Cllr. Gately gave a short speech:

*"I am happy to second Cllr. Mark Cole JP as Deputy Mayor for the forthcoming year. Mark is hard working and prepares fully for each committee meeting, he will be an asset to the town."*

There being no further nominations, it was **RESOLVED** unanimously – that Cllr. Cole be elected Deputy Town Mayor of Buckingham, to hold office until the next Annual Statutory Meeting of the Council.

**8/16 Appointment of the Mayoress, Ms. Julie Uglow, by the Town Mayor and presentation of the Mayoress's Chain.**

Ms. Uglow was presented with the Chains of Office by the Mayor, Cllr. Harvey.

**9/16 Town Mayor's Announcements**

Cllr. Harvey gave the following speech as his Mayoral address:

*"Esteemed guests, great and wonderful people of Buckingham, my treasured family, our miraculous Town Clerk and his glorious team, and my glittering fellow Town Councillors: welcome one and all. Thank you so much for making the time to be here this evening.*

*I am humbled by your presence and deeply honoured to have been elected Town Mayor for the forthcoming year by my councillor colleagues. Thank you for trusting me with this responsibility.*

*I promise to be the best Mayor that I can be. I will faithfully and diligently serve the Town Council and the people of our fair parish to the best of my abilities. I will be relentless in searching for all ways to help Buckingham become an even better place in which to live, work, study, visit and play.*

*I am not a little daunted by the year ahead and what it will bring. But I know that my Councillor colleagues, the Town Clerk and his Team, the Deputy Mayor to be, Cllr Mark Cole, and my family (especially my inspirational wife and Mayoress to be), will be backing me all the way. You all help in giving me the confidence and ambition to succeed. Thank you.*

*Ambition is a very important word to me. When I review all of what I have sought to do in my life: professionally, personally and politically, I have arrived at the conclusion that ambition lies at the heart of it all. I have always aimed to do all that I can to help create a world in which everyone has dreams and ambitions, and the wherewithal to achieve these.*

*Ambition is a precious thing and I think we need more of it in our world. Ambition, hope and dreams are good for our health and well being, and they good for our society too as they drive our economy and improvements in community spirit.*

*And so as Mayor, I will be carrying on with my focus on ambition. Ambition will be a key theme of my Mayoralty. I will be looking for all ways in which I can support, nurture, recognise and rejoice in the ambition present in all those whom I will meet.*

*Tonight I am initiating the 'Buckingham Ambition Project'. I don't yet know what precise form the BAP will take but I know that something magical will emerge over time.*

*And I hope that everyone here will consider how they might take part: how will each of you continue to support ambition in Buckingham - what more could you do? I can also announce now that there will be a charitable fundraising dance in March next year, to be called the BAP Bop! Watch this space*

*And whilst ambition is something for all ages of course, I have chosen three charities that support children and young people to lead ambitious and fulfilling lives. I hope you will feel able to make a generous donation this evening to launch this year's Mayor's Charities Collection: for our local Buckingham Youth Club, the NSPCC and UNICEF. Children and young people here in Buckingham, nationally and around the world will benefit from your generosity.*

*And finally, I want to pay tribute to all the past Mayors who are here this evening including naturally Andy who is just stepping down. Thank you for your support and guidance. I have some very hard acts to follow!*

*Thank you again to all of you for being here this evening."*

Meeting closed at: 20.40pm

Signed ..... Date .....

Town Mayor