

**MINUTES OF THE BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
25TH APRIL 2005 AT BUCKINGHAM COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 7 PM**

<u>PRESENT</u>	Councillor	H Cadd P Collins Mrs P Desorgher D Isham H Mordue Ms R Newell Mrs C Strain-Clark P Strain-Clark R Stuchbury (Mayor)
	Town Clerk	Ms P J Heath
	Guests	Mr B Rees (Operations Manager, Bucks Mental Health Trust) Ms A Bussey (Director of Nursing) Mr J Bercow (resident)
	Public	9 members

2573 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs J Barnett, Mrs P Stevens, Mrs H Saul, and H Lewis.

2574 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest on items on the agenda

*Proposed by Cllr Stuchbury seconded by Cllr Mordue and **AGREED** to move item no. 10 to be heard next.*

*Proposed by Cllr Stuchbury seconded by Cllr Mordue and **AGREED** to suspend Standing Orders to enable the guests of the Town Council to address the meeting*

2575 PRESENTATION MR REES, OPERATIONS MANAGER, BUCKS MENTAL HEALTH TRUST RE THE FUTURE OF EMBLETON WARD

The Mayor thanked Mr Rees for agreeing to attend the Town Council meeting and informing the Members first hand of the consultation and future plans for the Embleton Day Unit (EDU). The Mayor explained that Mr J Bercow had been involved with the consultation from an early stage following concerns expressed by users of the unit, and therefore had asked to attend the Council meeting.

Mr Rees explained that as part of the reorganisation and reassessment of the Health Service as a whole the future of EDU was being discussed. The use had not increased over the last few years, and of the 3 days it is open, it is mainly underused. A sub-group made up of users, the Trust and relevant service providers have been meeting regularly to look at what needs to be provided for, where the provision should be made and by whom. Also whether the service brief could be widened to include other aspects of the Mental Health Service. He denied that the Trust was trying to close the unit by deliberately reassigning users to other units thereby creating an under use situation.

Ms Bussey stated that as part of normal NHS care all users were regularly reassessed to ensure they receive the best care for their condition, and that the Trust was keen to ensure that facilities matched requirements. Both stated that no decision had been made on the future of the EDU and that there would be no premature closure; the sub groups are due to report in June 2005.

Members expressed concern that the EDU and its facilities did not appear in any of the Mental Health Trust web sites either in its own right or as a satellite ward of the John Hampden Unit. In response to a question, Mr Rees said that referrals came from those within the Health Service and not from carers or relatives of the patient looking for suitable facilities. In respect of information being available to those within the medical profession in the area, Mr Rees understood all relevant surgeries, including those in Winslow have full details and that referrals have come from doctors at Winslow. Mr Rees also agreed that the communication with users, their carers and members of the public outside the Health Service has been poor and undertook to improve this immediately.

Mr J Bercow thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing him to attend. Several constituents expressing concern at the apparent running down and possible closure of the EDU had approached him. Much of the concern had been because of a perceived lack of information for users and carers and it was sad that this was still a problem and called upon the Mental Health Trust to immediately make good their previous undertaking to improve all aspects of their communications. Mr Bercow and the Mayor both commented on a letter received from a carer, circulated with the agenda, who is extremely worried about the level of care her husband would receive following the reassessment of the work and role of the EDU.

At a suggestion of both the Mayor and Mr Bercow, Mr Rees agreed to attend the Town Council meeting in June to report on the findings of the report and to keep the Town Council informed of all aspects of the future of the Embleton Day Unit.

The Mayor thanked Mr Rees and Ms Bussey for attending and looked forward to seeing them at the next meeting.

*Proposed by Cllr Mordue seconded by Cllr Isham and **AGREED** to reinstate Standing Orders.*

2576 MINUTES OF BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Proposed seconded and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Town Council meeting on 7th March 2005, the Informal meeting on 7th March 2005 and the Interim meeting on 4th April 2005 are a true record and signed by the Chairman.

2577 TOWN CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS PER ATTACHED LIST

NEWSLETTERS/BROCHURES – members were informed that the following Newsletters and Brochures were available in the office

CLERKS AND COUNCILLORS DIRECT – ISSUE NO 38

CPRE – HOUSES AND GARDENS 2005

CPRE – COUNTRYSIDE VOICE ISSUE SPRING 2005

AVDC – THE VIBE ISSUE NO 4
BUCKS COMMUNITY ACTION – IN FOCUS ISSUE NO 28
AVDC – NEWS FOR THE PARISHES 2/2005
BCC – GETTING CLOSER TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES
BALC – MATTERS ARISING ISSUE NO 12
BCC – AV AREA NEWSLETTER TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

INVITATIONS AND NOTICES OF DIARY DATES

CPRE – AGM 22ND APRIL 2005
AV LOCAL COMMITTEES – MEETING 14TH APRIL 2005
BUCKINGHAM PARTNERSHIP – ADVANCE WARNING ANNUAL FORUM MEETING 12TH OCTOBER 2005

DIS

ISSUES NO – 601,602,603
MEMO RE 602/2 COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES
603/11 PAPER ENTERS DISCUSSION ON FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

ROAD CLOSURES

21ST MAY 2005 BUCKINGHAM CHURCH FETE – CHURCH HILL

NEW LICENCES/TRANSFER OF LICENCES

TESCO EXPRESS – TO MARK BEDWELL AND REBECCA O’CONNELL FROM REBECCA O’CONNELL

LCAS – Annual Health and Safety seminar
It was agreed that the Town Clerk could attend.

**2578 MINUTES/NOTES AND ADOPT ANY RECOMMENDATION
CONTAINED THEREIN**

2578.1 Planning Committee dated 14/3/05 & 4/4/05

It was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED** that the above minutes, and any recommendations contained within, be confirmed.

2578.2 Finance & Administration Committee dated 29/3/05

It was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED** that the above minutes, and any recommendations contained within, be confirmed.

*(79/2005 Proposed by Cllr. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that the Council allocates a further £256 to Buckingham Heritage Trust from the Grant Reserve Budget 4070.)*

Cllr D Isham and Cllr Newell declared a personal interest as members of the Friends of the Old Gaol.

Members discussed the recommendation in detail, expressing concern that the grant procedure should not be undermined. It was **AGREED** by 4 votes to 3

2578.3 Environment & Property Committee dated 21/3/05

It was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED** that the above minutes, and any recommendations contained within, be confirmed.

*(103.2/2005 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Mordue, and **RECOMMENDED** that the Committee allocates a budget of £2000 from the burials income for the purchase of the software package designed by RBS (the same company that produces the accounts package) and a stand alone computer capable of holding the memory intensive package, and pictures of memorials.)*

AGREED

*(109/2005 It was proposed by Cllr. Stevens, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that the Council should purchase/lease a specific mower for the green that would be used by the Bowls Club using the unpaid back rent to fund the purchase.)*

An amendment was proposed by Cllr Cadd seconded by Cllr Lehmann that the Bowls Club should be asked to regularly service the equipment, a copy of the service sheet to be sent to the Town Council; this was **AGREED**

*(111/2005 Proposed by Cllr. Mordue, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that the Council should enter into a 12 year rolling agreement with Bourton Road Allotment Association as per the document attached.)*

Cllr Mordue explained the reason behind the 12-year time span. **AGREED**

*(114/2005 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **RECOMMENDED** that the Council pays for the installation of the Rotary Club's Centenary seat in Verney Close from the 2004/2005 Seats and Bins budget.)*

AGREED

2578.4 Events Committee dated 11/4/05

It was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED** that the above minutes, and any recommendations contained within, be confirmed.

*(99/2005 Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that this Council underwrite any additional costs should skip hire and other expenses exceed the budget in 4115/301 of £150)*

AGREED

*(100/2005 Proposed by Cllr. Cadd, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that this Council allocate £500 to a fund to help traders install Christmas lights in the streets around the town centre, unspent monies to be carried forward from year to year.)*

AGREED

Cllr Isham stated that according to the company's representative the Council owned the lights although that was not the Town Clerks understanding of the situation from previous conversations.

2579 CORRESPONDENCE

BERNWOOD FOREST PROJECT – JIGSAW PROJECT

Proposed seconded and **AGREED** that Cllr Newell should act as the Town Council's representative.

BUCKINGHAM W I – REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO FLY THEIR FLAG

Members **AGREED** the WI could fly their flag on 21st May 2005 from the Council's flagpole

TV POLICE – CONFIDENTIAL CRIME LISTING FOR MARCH

TV POLICE – CONFIDENTIAL CRIME LISTING FOR APRIL

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2580 TOWN COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES - OUTSIDE BODIES

2580.1 Buckingham Twinning Association minutes 6th April 2005

Members noted the minutes of the Buckingham Twinning Association for 6th April 2005, which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

2580.2 Buckingham Community Plan Steering Group

Cllr Newell informed the Members that the next Steering Group meeting would be on 27th April. There would be a public meeting on the 29th June to update the Community on the work so far and a newsletter advertising this would be sent out at the beginning of June. The Mayor asked to be invited to the public meeting to assist with any questions that are better directed at the Town Council than the Community Plan Group.

2581 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the invoices per attached list be paid.

2582 RETROSPECTIVE APPROVAL ACCOUNTS PAID

Proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** to agree accounts already paid per attached list.

2583 REPORT ON THE SPEED REVIEW AREA 12 HELD ON 01/04/05

The Chairman reported on the meeting held on the 1st April in Winslow on the speed review for area 12. Comments made by the County Council at the meeting appeared to indicate that some of the criteria used in judging suitable speeds for an area may have changed; the clerk had written to ask for clarification and the response will be circulated to all Members

2584 INSTALLATION OF THE “FREE” TICKET MACHINES IN THE CORNWALL’S MEADOW CAR PARK

Members expressed their dissatisfaction that there had been no warning of the installation of the ticket machines in Cornwall’s Meadow Car Park resulting in the office having to spend a considerable amount of time explaining the new system. Members felt the District Council should have issued a press statement. Parking Services had informed the Clerk that they would be repainting the bays in the near future.

2585 COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY COUNCILLORS ON THE STATE OF MORETON ROAD TOILETS

Members commented that the complaints concerning the Moreton Road toilet smell are increasing; there is a strong concern that the cleaning schedule of the District Council is not sufficient for the use. As the new toilets are in a sealed unit, and the District Council had the drains checked prior to the installation, then the smell can only emulate from unclean units. The toilets are supposed to be on a time lock and only open between 6 am and 11 pm, but it’s unclear if the time locks are working, as the toilets have appeared to be open outside these times.

Proposed by Cllr Cadd, seconded by Cllr C Strain-Clark and **AGREED** that the Council should request details and cost of the current cleaning contract from AVDC.

2586 REQUEST FROM COMMUNITY PLAN STEERING GROUP FOR ELECTRONIC NOTICEBOARD

Members noted the comments made by Mr Gadd in the public session concerning the use and the location of the notice board. In response to a question, the Town Clerk explained that the Town Council was the fund holder for the Community Plan with designated responsibility for the finance and any purchase would be made from the Town Council funds allocated to the project.

Cllr Mordue explained that an item on the E & P Agenda would look at the replacement of the bay window, which is rotting in places. The Members discussed other locations for the notice board. Members **AGREED** to look at transferring it to the "One Stop Shop" in the Old Magistrates Court when appropriate.

Proposed by Cllr Lehmann seconded by Cllr Isham, that the Council should support the purchase of the notice board and appropriate computer hard and software but ask that the Steering Group look for another location to the Council's bay window.

An amendment was proposed by Cllr R Newell seconded by Cllr C Strain-Clarke that the Council should support the purchase of the notice board plus the appropriate computer hard and software, the screen to be placed in the Council Chamber.

The Amendment won by 6 votes to 4 and 7 votes to 2 as the substantive motion.

2587 COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Cadd informed the Members that the County Council would be looking at speed restrictions for the next 12 to 24 months.

2588 MAYOR'S ITEMS FOR INFORMATION.

2588.1 THANK YOU

The Mayor took the opportunity at this, his last Full Council meeting as Chairman, to thank all the Members and Staff for their support and assistance over the last two years.

The following item will be heard under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960 which excludes members of the Public due to the confidential and financial nature of the business to be discussed

2589 MINUTES OF BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

Proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the confidential minutes of the Town Council meeting on 7th March 2005, are a true record and signed by the Chairman.

2590 TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES/NOTES AND ADOPT ANY RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED THEREIN

2590.1 Finance & Administration Committee dated 29/3/05

It was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED** that the above confidential minutes, and any recommendations contained within, be confirmed.

88/2005 Town Clerks Response

Cllr Lehmann stated the Clerk had not put the record straight and had been too concerned with the 10 weeks it had taken following his original comments for the right of response.

2590.2 Environment & Property Committee dated 21/3/05

It was proposed, seconded, and **RESOLVED** that the above confidential minutes, and any recommendations contained within, be confirmed.

CHAIRMAN.....DATE