



BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

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Town Clerk: Anne L. Wilson BA (Hons) FILCM AIH



Minutes of a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 17th August 2009** in Room MB1 in the Masons Building, University of Buckingham, Hunter Street, Buckingham.

Present: Cllr. H. Cadd - Town Mayor

Cllr. T. Bloomfield
Cllr. P. Collins
Cllr. Mrs P. Desorgher
Cllr. P. Hirons
Cllr. D. Isham
Cllr. R. Lehmann
Cllr. A. Mahi
Cllr. H. Mordue
Cllr. M. Smith
Cllr. R. Stuchbury
Cllr. W. Whyte

In attendance: Anne Wilson Town Clerk

331/09 Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED to receive apologies from Cllr. Ms Newell, Cllr. M. Try and Cllr. Mrs Pauline Stevens

332/09 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED to note that there were no declarations of any personal or prejudicial interest.

333/09 Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 29th June 2009 **BTC/04/09**

Cllr. Whyte asked the Town Clerk why the Terms of Reference under min. **170/09** was not an item on the agenda. The Town Clerk replied that due to a time issue she had not carried out the work yet.

334/09 Extraordinary Council meeting

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on Monday 6th July 2009 **EM/02/09**

Councillor Whyte stated that he was not aware that the Extraordinary meeting was at 6.30 p.m. Several other Members agreed with this. The Town Clerk pointed out that the time was on the agenda circulated to all Members. In future the Town Clerk said would also e mail out the time to all members.

335/09 Interim Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Interim Council meeting held on Monday 27th July 2009 **IM/02/09**

Comments made:

291/09 Members felt that really the toilets were the responsibility of AVDC and although Buckingham Town Council were happy with the current opening and closing times of the toilets the final decision lay with AVDC.

294/09 The Town Clerk confirmed that the letter of response had been sent to Mr Weil.

336/09 Planning Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Planning Committee meetings held on Monday 6th July 2009 **PL/03/09** and Monday 27th July 2009 **PL/04/09**

337/09 Environment and Property Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 13th July 2009. **EP/02/09**

338/09 Events Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Events Committee meeting held on Monday 20th June 2009. **ETC/02/09**

Councillor Stuchbury was concerned about the minute **277.1/09** and the possibility that the resolution sounded negative. Cllr Stuchbury said that he felt that the minutes should read that the Town Council support their efforts and the last few words have the word "Council" removed from it to read "local media".

The proposal read as follows before the amendment: Proposed by Cllr. Hiron, seconded by Cllr. Mahi, and **AGREED to RECOMMEND** to Full Council that Buckingham Town Council supports this initiative and issues a press release in the Local Council media.

339/09 Finance and Administration

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 3rd August 2009. **FAP/02/09**

Cllr. Lehmann expressed concern about the Chairman's Committee that he felt was never formally structured and should be disbanded.

340/09 Council and Committee Meeting Conduct

Councillor Isham expressed disappointment at the conduct of the Town Councillors and pointed out that Buckingham was the second largest town in the vale and a Quality Council. He felt that over the years that the meetings had been more constructive and the Town Council needed to go back to that formula. The agendas were longer now and there were more agenda items for discussion but Councillors were making protracted speeches rather than concentrating on the item in hand. He would like to see Standing Orders adhered to more stringently.

Cllr. Isham continued by expressing concern about the amount of time the co-opted member and guest were allowed to talk at the last Town Centre and Events meeting. He felt that the non-members said more than the Councillors. Cllr. Stuchbury stated that he would, in future, be structuring the agenda differently to overcome this issue and said he took their responsibility for the issues at the last meeting of his Committee.

Cllr. Mordue and Cllr. Lehmann said that it was up to the Chairman to chair the meeting within Standing Orders and to ensure that any meeting is structured. Cllr. Cadd part of the problem was Councillors butted in across the table when other Councillors were speaking even though there are accepted rules of debate.

341/09 Recommendation from the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 27th July 2009

Members noted the proposal and the recommendation below:

Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that this Council expresses disappointment that the Mayor and other District Councillors, despite their supportive comments to the Town Council respecting the LDF, nevertheless voted against the proposal to incorporate the same proposals during a debate at AVDC on 25th February 2009; given the importance of the omissions in the LDF to the people of Buckingham, this Council invites the said Councillors to provide their reasons for opposing the AVDC motion.

Unanimously **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk would write to all the District Councillors representing Buckingham asking for their comments as this would give each of them an equal opportunity to respond.

342/09 Visual Environment of the Town's Bypass

Councillor Lehmann had asked that the following motion be placed on the agenda of the Town Council Meeting. "This Council believes it is important to protect the visual environment of the Town's Bypass. It requests that the relevant authorities: Bucks County Council and Aylesbury Vale District take immediate action to secure the removal of the proliferation of unauthorised signage on the bypass"

RESOLVED that this item be forwarded to the Planning Committee for a full discussion because members did not feel that this fell within the Full Council remit. However it was agreed that this fell into the remit of AVDC and not the Town Council.

343/09 Buckingham and River Ouzel Internal Drainage Board

RESOLVED that members noted the response from the Drainage Board with regard to Town Council representative and that if Cllr. Mrs Stevens would need to be replaced by a substitute the this needed considering.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk would speak with Cllr. Mrs Stevens thanking her for her attendance in the past and agreeing with her the way forward. This decision did not need to be made until a later date as the next meeting of the Board was not until February 2010.

344/09 Buckingham Hospital

Members considered the letter with regard to the future of the Buckingham Hospital and agreed that there was great concern about the radical changes proposed for the hospital.

Cllr. Stuchbury expressed concern about the discussions going on outside the town and not with those who understood the need for hospital services locally. He stated that there was already a stance towards treating people at home who should be treated in hospital and he felt that this was probably so the PCT could say that the hospital was being underused. He felt this undermined the heavy connection between the local GP's and the residents.

Members did not agree that it was the responsibility of the Town Council to arrange a public meeting. Cllr. Smith said that it was something that could be discussed at the Buckingham LAF and the PCT could address many people at the same time. Cllr. Mordue felt that the Town Council represents the rate payers of Buckingham. The PCT do not have to listen to the ratepayers of Buckingham but only have due regard to them. Cllr. Mrs Desorgher expressed concern that the meeting about the future of the hospital appeared to be in High Wycombe on the 25th September and stated how difficult it was to get there.

Cllr. Stuchbury stated that the Town Council should be on board before the predictions are made as to the future of the hospital. There needed to be a structured and positive debate with the Town Council representing local peoples' views.

As a matter of urgency it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk invites Richard Mills from the PCT to address Members at the first available opportunity. It was also agreed that perhaps Richard Mills may like to attend the LAF as it is a public meeting of sorts and also would address more people.

Updates could be obtained on the Bucks Link website.

345/09 Pizza 2 U – Decision Notice

Members noted the decision notice for Pizza 2 U, 25 Hillcrest Way, Buckingham. Cllr. Hirons explained the difficulties of making the voice of a Town Council heard on such matters.

346/09 Waste Incineration Plant at Calvert Green

Members considered the report with regard to the Incineration Plant and noted that the decision had not yet been made on the suitability of the site. General discussion took place about the plant, the environmental issues and the detrimental effect or otherwise of the proposals. Members spoke about the local meetings that had been held and questions that should be asked.

347/09 Buckinghamshire Waste Management Facility

RESOLVED that Members noted the briefing note from the Waste Recycling Group on the Buckinghamshire Waste Management Facility.

348/09 Aylesbury Vale Transport Users Group

Councillor Whyte felt that this item should be on the Planning Committee meeting agenda and not Full Council. He also suggested that the disbanding of the group should be an item on the LAF meeting agenda as it affected the surrounding area as well as Buckingham and was our way to meet face to face with transport providers to talk about issues or problems with their services as well as lobby for increases and improvements in service.

349/09 Aylesbury Vale Sport, Recreation and Cultural Facilities Assessment

RESOLVED that this item be deferred for consideration by the Planning Committee.

350/09 National Association of Local Councils (NALC)

RESOLVED that Buckingham Town Council felt that the NALC Leadership Academy was too expensive for members and that the Town Clerk bring back the budgetary figures for the Conferences budget to the next meeting of the Finance and Administration meeting for consideration. A decision would be made by the Council whether to send a representative to the Larger Local Councils' Conference and Exhibition on December 2nd.

351/09 Functions attended by the Town Mayor and Deputy Town Mayor

RESOLVED that Members noted the report on the functions attended by the Town Mayor and the Deputy Town Mayor since the last meeting of Full Council.

352/09 Report from Conferences

RESOLVED that Members noted the reports from the Town Clerk on the Society of Local Council Clerks Regional Conference and the University of Gloucester Summer School/SLCC Summer Seminar.

Cllr. Whyte thanked the Town Clerk for her reports and asked that she considered the information given by the speaker on “how to get the maximum from the assets that your council owns or manages” for a future meeting.

353/09 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

RESOLVED that Members noted the reports listed below from representatives on outside bodies:

- Buckingham Community Centre – Management Committee minutes of the 28th May and Buildings Sub-Committee minutes and the Management Committee minutes of the 25th June 2009
- Aylesbury Vale Association of Local Councils Meeting - 14th July
- Buckingham Partnership Meeting – 19th May 2009
- Buckingham Centre for the Arts – 13th July 2009
- Buckingham and Maids Moreton Neighbourhood Action Group – 29th July

Concern was expressed about one of the procurement for services practices used at the Community Centre but the Chairman, Cllr. Mrs Desorgher in her role as Chairman of the Community Association, explained how items were tendered when necessary. Cllr. Whyte said he had no desire to micro-manage the Community Centre but there was a need to understand and underwrite capital expenditure. Cllr. Collins, who is Treasurer of the Community Association was satisfied with the accounting practices adopted by the association.

354/09 Buckingham Centre for the Arts

RESOLVED that members noted that arising from the minutes of the Buckingham Centre for the Arts above Councillor Whyte had asked that the following proposal from their minutes is discussed: “Discuss the need for a co-ordinated What’s On publication to help promote a variety of town events to a wider audience and how the Town Council could assist”

RESOLVED that the proposal for a “What’s on in Buckingham Guide?” be deferred to the Town Centre and Events Committee to consider. Cllr. Whyte would give the Deputy Town Clerk an outline of the thoughts about such a guide.

355/09 Chairman’s Announcements

356/09 Date of the next meeting: Interim Council - Monday 14th September 2009
Full Council - Monday 5th October 2009

357/09 COMMITTEE IN PRIVATE SESSION**Exclusion of Public and Press**

RESOLVED In terms of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters and it is, therefore, **RESOLVED** that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded.

Signed(Town Mayor) Date

COMMITTEE IN PRIVATE SESSION

Monday 17th August 2009

Full Council Meeting

358/09 Confidential Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Monday 29th June 2009.

RESOLVED to receive the confidential minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 29th June 2009 **BTC/04/09**

359/09 Confidential Minutes of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 13th May 2009

RESOLVED to receive the confidential minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 13th July 2009 **EP/02/09**

360/09 Confidential Minutes of the Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee held on Monday 3rd August 2009.

RESOLVED to receive the confidential minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 3rd August 2009 **FAP/02/09**

Signed Date

Town Mayor