

Minutes of a meeting of the **Town Centre and Events Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2011** in the Town Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr. T. Bloomfield – Vice Chairman  
 Cllr. H. Cadd  
 Cllr. P. Hirons  
 Cllr. D. Isham  
 Cllr. A. Mahi  
 Cllr. L. O'Donoghue  
 Cllr. M. Smith - Town Mayor

In attendance: Mrs A. Simonds Deputy Town Clerk  
 Liz Campbell Committee Clerk

### 306/11 Apologies for Absence

**RESOLVED** to receive apologies from Cllr. Mrs G. Collins, Cllr. Newell, Cllr. Stuchbury and Cllr. Whyte.

### 307/11 Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Bloomfield declared a prejudicial interest in minutes 312/11 and 313/11 as Membership Secretary of the Town Twinning Association, and Cllr. Hirons declared a personal interest as the Town Council's representative on the Town Twinning Association.

### 308/11 Minutes

**RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2011, and ratified at Full Council on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2011.

### 309/11 Action List

Members noted the Action List, and **AGREED** that the action item 72.1.11 be deleted. **ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

### 310/11 Markets

#### 310.1 Street Market

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that there were a few vacancies for stallholders that needed to be filled. It was **AGREED** that the Town Council would advertise widely for stallholders. It was also **AGREED**, following queries from Cllr. Hirons and Cllr. Smith, that the Town Council would check the byelaws covering the market to see whether there was a set time by which stalls need to be packed up, as there had been reports of one stallholder trading after 6pm.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

310.2 The current charity bookings at the market were noted.

### 311/11 Buckingham in Bloom

Cllr. Bloomfield gave an oral report on the recent Buckingham in Bloom competition, which he felt was a success, with members supporting the new system of judging as an effective way of widening the pool of entrants. Members **AGREED** to Cllr. Bloomfield's recommendation, seconded by Cllr. Smith, that preparation for judging the event should start earlier next year.

Cllr Smith also suggested that lists were distributed more widely to councillors next year than they had been this year, and that the judging panel used photographs in order to whittle down the entrants to a manageable shortlist for visiting. Members also **AGREED** to minute the Committee's regret that not all councillors participated in helping with the arrangements for the event. **ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT**

### 312/11 Town Twinning Event and Civic Lunch

Members considered a report from the Events Assistant regarding arrangements for the recent Town Twinning Event and Civic Lunch. Cllr. Smith informed the committee that he had corresponded with the Town Twinning Association about their lack of forward planning, and that they had acknowledged that they would rectify this in future.

*Cllr. Smith took the Chair as Cllr. Bloomfield had declared an interest in this item*

*Cllr O'Donoghue left briefly during the next item.*

### 313/11 2012 Civic Visit proposals

313.1 Councillors considered a proposal from the Twinning Association for a 10 year anniversary Twinning Visit. Cllr. Smith raised concerns regarding the costs of an event for which the Town Council had not precepted. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that the cost of this year's Civic Lunch was £2025.

Cllr. Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr. Cadd, that a recommendation be made to Full Council as follows:

This Committee **RECOMMENDS** to the Full Council that an amount of money be allocated to the budget head 303/4260 in this fiscal year for the 10 year Twinning Anniversary lunch and that the Buckingham Twinning Association should provide matched funding with the Town Council for next year's event, the arrangements for which would become the Twinning Association's responsibility. This was **AGREED** unanimously.

Members also **AGREED** that councillors who wished to attend the lunch should pay for their own meal, and that former Councillor Mrs. Strain-Clarke should be added to the invitation list, as she had been mayor at the time of the inaugural twinning visit.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

#### 313.2 Town Friendship with Neukirchen Vluyn

Councillors considered a proposal from the Twinning Association for a 'Town Friendship' with Neukirchen Vluyn. Cllr. Hirons had visited the town and felt that it had a number of similarities with Buckingham. He also noted that there were already close links between Neukirchen Vluyn and the Royal Latin School, and also the football club. Cllr. Hirons proposed, seconded by Cllr. Isham, the following motion:

"This committee recommends to Full Council that the Town Council embarks on a town friendship with Neukirchen Vluyn."

This was **AGREED** unanimously.

*Cllr. Bloomfield resumed the Chair*

**314/11 Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebration 2012**

Councillors considered a report from the Events Assistant regarding possible Diamond Jubilee Events, and were supportive of a number of possible celebration ideas, including a street party. Cllr. Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue, that Town Council staff, in consultation with the committee chairman, include an amount to cover the cost of these celebrations in next year's budget. This was **AGREED** unanimously.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

**315/11 Pea lights in the Cattle Pens**

Members considered a report from the Green Spaces Manager regarding the re-wiring of the pea lights. Cllr. Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr. Isham, that the committee agrees the quote for the lighting works, but that any scheduled tree works are completed before the installation of the lights. This was **AGREED** unanimously.

**ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT**

**316/11 Remembrance Day Road Closure**

Councillors considered information from Buckinghamshire County Council regarding the cost of a permanent road closure order. Members **AGREED** to include the extra time for the Remembrance Day road closure in its list of road closure orders for next year.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

**317/11 Traders Association**

No minutes received from Traders

**318/11 Music in the Market 2012**

Members considered an email from the Events Assistant regarding the date of next year's Music in the Market event, and **AGREED** to hold next year's event on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June and incorporate it into the Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

**ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT**

**319/11 Forthcoming Events**

**319.1 River Rinse**

The Deputy Clerk informed members that she was still awaiting a response from the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV). Cllr. Smith confirmed that he would be attending the event in his mayoral capacity. Cllr. O'Donoghue asked for information about the event to be circulated to the Youth Centre Management Committee.

**ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT**

**319.2 Local Democracy Week 14<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

Cllr. Bloomfield and Cllr. Hirons agreed to be volunteer councillors for the 'Question Time' panel. The Town Council would also approach Deborah Bottomley at AVDC for assistance.

**ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT**

**319.3 Charter Fair**

The forthcoming meeting between the Town Council and the Nicholls Brothers was noted.

**319.4 Bonfire and fireworks**

Cllr. Mahi updated the committee on progress with this event. He was checking whether extra torches needed to be purchased. The Mayor has agreed to judge the Best Dressed Guy competition.

**ACTION CLLR. MAHI AND EVENTS ASSISTANT**

### 320/11 Event Reviews

#### 320.1 AVDC Olympic event 24<sup>th</sup> July 2011

Councillors commented that the event was well-organised and successful, but that the turnout had been disappointing, possibly because the event had been advertised late.

#### 320.2 Chandos Park fun day 10<sup>th</sup> August 2011

Cllr. Bloomfield asked the committee to minute its thanks to the Events Assistant for her hard work on this event.

Members felt that a higher number of Councillors attending the event would have been beneficial and asked that this be noted for the future.

#### 320.3 Bandjam 29<sup>th</sup> August 2011

Cllr. Stuchbury had sent a message asking the committee to minute thanks to Town Council staff and volunteers at the event. This was **AGREED**.

The Deputy Clerk reported that local pubs and shops had co-operated with the Town Council with regard to cutting back on the sale of drinks in glass bottle and glasses. However, there had been reports of bottles being brought into the hospitality tent, and also of people smoking in the Town Council's gazebo. Cllr. Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue, that a condition of any organisation using the Town Council's gazebo would be that no one could smoke in it. This was **AGREED** unanimously.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

The Deputy Clerk reported that a local business had turned up at the event and told staff that they had been advised by AVDC that they could trade there. The matter had been escalated to officers at AVDC because the Town Council was under the impression that they could not. Cllr. Smith asked to be involved in any discussions about this issue.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

### 321/11 Christmas Lights

The Deputy Town Clerk informed members it had been difficult to gain permissions for brackets to be attached to local shops, often because businesses did not own the buildings from which they traded. Members **AGREED** to roll the project over until next year.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

### 322/11 Christmas Parade

Members noted the minutes of the meeting with Mr & Mrs Heywood regarding the Christmas Parade held on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2011, and raised concerns about the marshalling of the event, the road closure, and restrictions on Addington Road. Members **AGREED** that another meeting was needed before October, and Cllr. Smith asked to attend. Cllr. Isham suggested engaging with the Rotary Club, and Cllr. Smith suggested approaching MK Dons to join the parade.

Members heard that a meeting would be held on 6<sup>th</sup> September with representatives of BCC Highways and Mr. Trevor Cocks of Thames Valley Police regarding the issue of Addington Road.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

### 323/11 Youth Council

Members noted the minutes of the meeting of Buckingham Town Youth Council held on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2011. Cllr. O'Donoghue informed the committee that that the Youth Council was developing well, with more young people and fewer adults attending, and that she was keen to involve the Youth Council in Town Council meetings. Cllr. Hirons stressed the need to provide officer support to the Youth Council.

The Deputy Town Clerk informed Members that a Youth Diversion Meeting had been arranged by AVDC and that Cllr. O'Donoghue, Jordan Mayer, the Youth Council Chairman, and the Events Assistant Amanda Brubaker would be attending.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

**324/11 Buckingham Town Jester**

The Deputy Clerk reported that there had been no response to the Town Council's advert, and associated press coverage, to recruit a new jester. The Events Assistant had approached the Jesters Guild, but their local member could not attend forthcoming events, and has also indicated that he may require payment. Members **AGREED** to review the situation in six months' time, and in the meantime to advertise the vacancy on the Town Council's website.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

**325/11 Correspondence**

Correspondence was noted.

**326/11 Committee Budget**

The committee budget was noted, with members expressing concern that the market income was falling. The Deputy Clerk reported that she hoped advertising the market would help to address this.

Members suggested that sponsorship of a roundabout be looked into as a solution. Proposed by Cllr. Bloomfield, seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue and **AGREED** unanimously.

Members discussed the effectiveness of the Saturday Market Entertainments and asked that a report be included on the next committee agenda for discussion.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

**327/11 Road Closure Signs**

The committee considered the quotations provided for the signs. Cllr. Cadd proposed, seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue, that the contract was awarded to company 1. This was **AGREED**, with 6 votes in favour and 1 against.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

**328/11 News releases**

Members **AGREED** to issue a positive press release focussing on the possibility of extending the Christmas lights provided the relevant permissions are granted.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

**329/11 Chairman's Items**

Cllr. Smith circulated initial proposals for the MK Dons Big Day.

**330/11 Date of the next meeting:**

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2011

Meeting closed at 20.40pm

Signed ..... Date .....  
Chairman