

Minutes of an **Interim Council Meeting** of Buckingham Town Council held at 7.05pm., following the Public Session, on **Monday 6th February 2012** in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

Present:

- Cllr. T. Bloomfield
- Cllr. H. Cadd
- Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins
- Cllr. P. Collins
- Cllr. J. Harvey
- Cllr. P. Hirons
- Cllr. D. Isham
- Cllr. R. Lehmann
- Cllr. A. Mahi
- Cllr. H. Mordue
- Cllr. Ms. R. Newell
- Cllr. L. O'Donoghue
- Cllr. M. Smith (Mayor)
- Cllr. R. Stuchbury
- Cllr. M. Try
- Cllr. W. Whyte

For the Town Clerk: Mrs. K. McElligott

734/11 Apologies

There were no apologies; all Members attended.

735/11 Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Lehmann declared a prejudicial interest in agenda item 4.

736/11 Motion from Cllr Hirons:

I would like to propose that we write to the relevant department(s) of BCC, or Transport for Buckinghamshire, to protest at the locking of Well Street School & ask for parking to be allowed there. Furthermore if some action (e.g. insurance) is needed to enable this to happen we investigate the possibility of the monies being found from BTC funds.

Cllr. Lehmann raised a point of order: this matter had been discussed at the 3rd October 2011 Full Council and could not therefore be reintroduced within 6 months without the support of six Councillors (Standing Order 11.2). This was agreed and the meeting moved to the next item.

736.1 (405.2/11) Well Street Centre – parking

A response to the letter sent after the 3/10/11 Full Council meeting had been received and circulated with the agenda; this gave reasons why the Well Street car park could not be made available for public use.

Members pointed out that the gate had been open for many years without any damage being caused to the premises, which did not have a resident caretaker. They felt that residents using the parking spaces would provide security for the site, and parking space was badly needed in the Well Street area. It was further suggested that after the site had been redeveloped residents might be permitted to park there overnight as this would not clash with daytime use. A small fee could be charged. A response to this effect would be sent.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

737/11 Planning Application 11/02724/APP Land North of Park Manor Farm, Moreton Road.

Members discussed the application and referred to the AVDLP Policy BU1 and the Design Brief for Moreton Road, which were still valid. The latter clearly states (p16, para 6.1) that this part of the site “will be reserved as an area of formal open space” with pitches, changing room, car park and play area. *[Clerk’s note: this was not transferred to the s106, which only lists the playground area in the corner of the field].* The amount of public feeling against the proposal was noted.

Concerns voiced by Members were:

- the proximity of the rugby pitches and club house to the housing with related noise, floodlighting, evening events and nuisance from stray kicks
- the Phase 1 playground as a source of noise nuisance an antisocial behaviour; the play ground is only 20m from adjacent houses; other houses are very close to the small play areas and the play space at the nursery school at Park Manor
- claims in the Design and Access Statement for local amenities are inaccurate , and distances taken as the crow flies instead of via actual travel routes
- no account taken of the distance to schools and other amenities, or the steep hill between the site and the town centre
- expectations of mode transfer are optimistic, with no bus service in peak hours, and no indication of the improvements listed in the Phase 1 s106 being implemented
- other Phase 1 s106 requirements have not yet been implemented, such as the traffic study on Addington Road and the access path to the playground (which is included in this application)
- (para.9, p21) there is no evidence that this parking strategy would produce the effect described
- development of this site is contrary to the District’s ‘coalescence of settlements’ policy in the Rural Areas Local Plan
- the open space is important, and there is an acknowledged sports provision deficit in the town
- there is already a noticeable increase in traffic on the Moreton Road
- a proper ecological survey should be carried out, given the proposed removal of hedgerow, trees and the ditch (which will have to be filled in or piped to facilitate the proposed footway)
- the tree subcommittee should be approached for their views on whether any of the trees should be protected.

Members also were of the view that no new developments should be supported without an undertaking that the town’s infrastructure deficit would be addressed with New Homes Bonus funding.

Members **OPPOSED** the application unanimously, except for Cllr. Lehmann who abstained having declared an interest.

738/11 Buckingham General Charities

Cllr. Isham had resigned as a Trustee due to pressure of other engagements.

Proposed by Cllr. Hiron, seconded by Cllr. O’Donoghue, and **AGREED** that Cllr. Bloomfield be the replacement Town Council representative, to serve the balance of the term (to 31st December 2012).

739/11 Chairman's Announcements

There were no announcements.

740/11 Dates of next meetings

Full Council	Monday 27 th February 2012
Interim Council	Monday 26 th March 2012

Meeting closed at 7.28 pm.

Signed **Date**