

Minutes of a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 27th February 2012** in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham at 7:00pm.

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. Mrs. L. O'Donoghue
 Cllr. M. Smith Town Mayor
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury
 Cllr. M. Try
 Cllr. W. Whyte

Ms. J. Bates Co-option candidate
 Mr. D. Seabrook Co-option candidate

In attendance: Mr. C. P. Wayman Town Clerk
 Mrs. K. McElligott

778/11 Apologies for Absence

All Members were present. Cllr. Polhill sent apologies, as did Mr. Russell, co-option candidate.

779/11 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury and **AGREED** that Standing Orders be suspended to allow the candidates to address the meeting.

Cllr. Lehmann arrived.

780/11 Co-option of Councillor for Buckingham North

Information supplied by the candidates had been circulated with the agenda. Ms. Bates and Mr. Seabrook each gave a short presentation on their reasons for applying and answered questions from Councillors.

Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Hirons and **AGREED** that Standing Orders be reinstated.

Members voted, and no candidate having achieved the minimum required 9 votes, the applicant having fewest was removed from the list and a new vote taken. The result of this was 8 votes for each; the Mayor's casting vote was for Mr. Seabrook and he was duly declared the new Member for Buckingham North. He took his place at the table.

- 781/11 Minutes**
RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 9th January 2012. (**BTC/10/11**)
- 782/11 Interim Minutes**
RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Interim Council meeting held on Monday 6th February 2012. (**IM/05/11**)
- 783/11 Extraordinary Full Council**
RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Interim Council meeting held on Monday 16th January 2012. (**BTC/11/11**)
- 784/11 Precept**
RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Precept meeting held on Monday 16th January 2012. (**BTC/12/11**)
- 785/11 Informal Meeting**
RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the informal council meeting held on Monday 6th February 2012. (**BTC/13/11**)
- 786/11 Planning Committee**
RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Planning Committee meetings held on Monday 4th January 2012 (**PL/10/11**) and Monday 6th February 2012 (**PL/11/11**).
 PL/11/11, Min. 758: Cllr. Stuchbury referred to an article in the *Advertiser* of 24/2/12 on the decision by English Heritage not to List the hospital. Cllr. Hirons had been quoted, as Vice Chairman of Planning, and Cllr. Stuchbury felt that he should have offered the Council's – not his personal – views. Monies had been voted especially for the preparation of the Listing dossier, which indicated that the Council had thought the matter worth pursuing
 Cllr. Hirons said he had been approached for comment and he had been reported correctly. It had not been put to him as a comment on behalf of the Council.
 Members agreed that an article should be submitted to the paper giving the background to the Listing request.
- 787/11 Town Centre and Events Committee**
RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Town Centre & Events Committee meeting held on Monday 23rd January 2012. (**TCE/06/11**).
- 788/11 Environment and Property Committee**
RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 30th January 2012. (**EP/06/11**).
- 789/11 Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee**
RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 13th February 2012. (**FAP/06/11**)
- 790/11 Personnel Subcommittee**
RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Personnel Subcommittee meeting held on Monday 6th February 2012. (**PERS/02/11**)

791/11 Motion from Cllr. Hirons

That this Council should not let out the Council Chamber to commercial companies where their presence in the Council Chamber may seem to the public in some way as the Council endorsing the products or services being offered.

Cllr. Hirons outlined the reasons for his concern, referring to a booking of the Chamber by Fellows Jewellers on 17th February. Cllr. Mahi seconded the motion.

Mrs. McElligott said that when Councillors had agreed that the Chamber might be let, they had set different hiring rates for Charities and for other types of organisations, but not excluded any particular sort of applicant. This was the second visit by these hirers and they had already asked to come again; they had been notified of the agenda item and were awaiting confirmation of their provisional booking. The Chamber would have otherwise been unused on each occasion. The company was registered and had filed accounts.

Members felt that discussion on the night was inappropriate and that the matter should be referred to the FA&P Committee to discuss. The Town Clerk could draw up a draft lettings policy for the next meeting, to include the minute of the original discussion.

Proposed by Cllr. Harvey, seconded by Cllr. Newell, that the motion be amended to *That this Council should consider not letting out the Council Chamber to commercial companies where their presence in the Council Chamber may seem to the public in some way as the Council endorsing the products or services being offered, and that the Town Clerk should draft a lettings policy for approval.*

A majority having voted for the amendment, the vote was taken on the amended motion and **AGREED**.

The company's provisional booking would be honoured, but further bookings would be subject to the policy when agreed. They would be advised that their flyer needed an amendment to Council Chamber (rather than Council Office).

ACTION TOWN CLERK/CLERK

792/11 Council representative

Cllr. Isham corrected the agenda line: representation at AVALC does not imply that at BALC.

Cllr. Whyte, as the other Town Council representative at AVALC gave a brief description of the quarterly meetings and their increasing importance.

Proposed by Cllr. O'Donoghue, seconded by Cllr. Harvey, and **AGREED** that Cllr. Seabrook become the other BTC representative to AVALC.

793/11 University of Buckingham – application for funding (FAP Min. 771/11 relates)

Cllr. Isham had circulated information on the Community Chest at the meeting.

There was no reference to match-funding in the document. Cllr. Mordue confirmed that this was so in the Grant Criteria; grants of various amounts were awarded and the projects had to be of demonstrable benefit to the community.

Members agreed that the source of the match-funding request should be sought, and the correspondence circulated to all 4 District Members. The Community Chest should also be asked if requests for match-funding were now common practice, and reminded of our own grants procedure and the size of sum available.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

794/11 NHS Consultation – Better Healthcare in Buckinghamshire

Cllr. Stuchbury reported on the related Public Meeting he had attended in the Community Centre. There had been a reluctance to answer questions, particularly

on the subject of transport, and the whole bias had been South/Central with the North largely ignored. Milton Keynes Hospital was recommended as an alternative, though MK was not in Bucks, which could prove problematical for commissioning services. MK was to be run from Northants, equally unlikely to consider the needs of North Bucks. If the meeting had been better advertised, more people would have attended – the hall had been half-full.

Members discussed the consultation:

There was no clear indication on delivery of treatment in the home; no mention of a monitoring body or other accountable entity; no inspiration, direction or evidence of regard to previous complaints and comments made; no costings and little information to judge between the seven options considered, of which only one is supported; no sign of more use of Buckingham hospital to bridge the transport deficit - concentrating specialities in Centres of Excellence must be co-ordinated with adequate transport planning. Concentrating all the medical beds at Stoke Mandeville was not feasible, there was inadequate accommodation.

It was felt that this was the wrong time to be changing, before the Government's bill became law. It should be put on ice until the future structure of the Health Service is known.

Members agreed

1. A meeting should be set up with NHS representatives to discuss these points with Councillors.
2. The local GPs would be contacted for their views.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

795/11 Flood Protection Meeting

To receive and discuss Charles Butters' notes of the meeting held on January 25th 2012.

It had been pointed out all buildings in a floodable area needed to know to install their flood boards etc. for full protection, and this meant that new occupiers, particularly tenants, must be kept informed. A trial run was suggested.

Members asked whether the question of insurance had been included; mention only had been made. The next meeting was at Well Street on Wednesday 29th February; the Town Clerk would be attending.

A new flood map had been received – the Town Clerk would circulate it and any inaccuracies should be notified.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

796/11 Awards

796.1 To discuss and agree whether any 'Friends of Buckingham' awards should be made this year.

796.2 To discuss and agree whether any residents should be made Honorary Freemen this year.

No suggestions were made.

797/11 Regalia

797.1 To receive a report on the renovation of the Mayor's jabot, and discuss and agree a budget figure for the work, and

797.2 To discuss and agree the replacement of the Town Crier's hat.

Members agreed the recommendations, setting an upper limit of £200 for the jabot before referral back to Council was required. Costs to come from Contingencies.

ACTION Mrs. MCELLIGOTT

798/11 s106: Refurbishment of All-weather Pitch

It was pointed out that s106 monies were supposed to pay for extended facilities linked to an increase in population; there was no indication of more facilities being provided, just repairs to existing. On the other hand, the repairs were necessary, as parts were very worn.

The pitch was under-used, being set aside by BCC for school use during the day, and often empty. It was also a facility for the whole area, not just Buckingham, and if s106 money was to be used for its maintenance it should be drawn from the surrounding parishes as well as Buckingham.

The response sent should reflect the intended use of s106 money to provide additional facilities and suggest the repairs be done from capital funds.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

799/11 Moreton Road Toilets – opening times

PSL had asked that the toilets be open later as the Citadel's facilities were inadequate for the numbers of young people attending.

Members agreed that the toilets could be opened to 9.15pm on a six-month trial. The Salvation Army would be advised of the grant procedure should they wish to apply for funding to upgrade their facilities.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

800/11 Correspondence

Members noted the following correspondence

800.1 Electoral Review: Final Recommendations

800.2 New Homes Bonus: to receive a report from Cllr. Monger on the AVDC Cabinet Meeting held on 17th January 2012

800.3 HS2: letter from Cllr. Tett

801/11 To receive reports from District and County Councillors

Cllrs. Cadd and Isham had nothing to report.

Cllr. Mordue noted that Localism implied that officers would have to give good reasons why any action could not be carried out, instead of the current opposite situation.

From 2013 parts of healthcare delivery would be delegated to Local Authorities.

Cllr. Stuchbury reported that AVDC had agreed a 0% budget increase.

There had been nothing in the capital programme for the north of the Vale, so he had not voted for it.

Cllr. Monger (Winslow) had proposed that private matters should be moved into the public domain after 6 months, and this may be carried.

He appealed to Buckingham North Members to forward their quarterly Enforcement reports to the office, as he did for Buckingham South, for information.

802/11 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

802.1 Buckingham Twinning Association Minutes 1st February 2012
Noted.

803/11 Mayoral Engagements

Members noted the information published in the agenda.

804/11 Chairman's Announcements

The Mayor reminded Members about the dinner organised by Cllr. Isham on Friday 3rd March.

805/11 Dates of next meetings

Interim Council – Monday 26th March 2012
(Annual Town Meeting - Wednesday 28th March 2012)
Annual Statutory Meeting – Tuesday 8th May 2012
Full Council – Tuesday 8th May 2012

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed Date

Town Mayor