

Minutes of an **Interim Council Meeting** of Buckingham Town Council held at 7.10pm.
following the Public Session, on **Monday 23rd July 2011** in the Council Chamber,
Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

Present: Cllr. T. Bloomfield
Cllr. H. Cadd
Cllr. P. Collins
Cllr. J. Harvey
Cllr. P. Hirons
Cllr. A. Mahi
Cllr. H. Mordue
Cllr. Ms. R. Newell Mayor
Cllr. M. Smith
Cllr. R. Stuchbury
Cllr. M. Try
Cllr. W. Whyte

For the Town Clerk Mrs. K. McElligott

221/12 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Mrs. G. Collins, D. Isham and Mrs. L. O'Donoghue.

222/12 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

223/12 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26th March 2012 ratified at Full Council on 8th May 2012 (**IM/06/11**) were received and accepted. There were no matters arising.

224/12 Recommendation

To agree the following recommendation from the Town Centre & Events Committee
193/12 Traders Association

Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that this Council support the Buckingham Traders Association in its effort to secure two hours free parking in Buckingham.

Cllr. Stuchbury noted that the shops in town reported an increase in customers, and the car park was noticeably fuller, since the machines had been out of order. He referenced the Portas Review which had advocated free parking as a means of keeping market towns viable in straitened times. Cllr. Mordue agreed, pointing out that the original idea had been to regulate parking not raise money; on certain days it had been difficult to find a space, leading to shoppers travelling elsewhere.

Recognising the reasons described in the preceding public session – that one hour free had a considerable effect on the shops on the fringe of the town centre – Members voted unanimously for the Recommendation, no abstentions.

A letter would be sent to AVDC.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

225/12 Swan Pool Parking Order

Cllr. Cadd had checked the history of the Swan Pool and the allocation of parking spaces to the youth centre, school and Queens Hall; AVDC had no jurisdiction over these spaces in the area bounded by the hedge and marker and could not therefore charge for their use.

Members discussed the order, noting that para.3 stated “Issues that compound the parking congestion include double yellow lining on neighbouring streets...” There are no yellow lines on the London Road, Bernardine’s Way or Bourtonville so these would readily fill with parked cars avoiding the charges, leading to difficulties for the school transport. It was also likely that the allocated spaces by the School and Youth Centre would be used by unauthorised drivers, and the School would not be able to enforce correct use – would the Civil Enforcement Officers’ remit include this area? The survey carried out by this Council had showed no lack of spaces even at peak times, and no authority could guarantee enough parking places to satisfy all eventualities. The charges showed no free parking in the evening, which would penalise the staff at the Youth Centre and be detrimental to attempts to let the Centre at other times. Should Pool staff be permitted free parking, it was a benefit in kind and taxable; Members wondered if they had been so advised.

There was no indication of traffic flow management, or allowance for the inevitable on-street parking affecting bus movements or the nearby junctions.

Summing up, the Mayor noted that there was no disagreement around the table, and that the points listed above, with emphasis on the chaos caused by the lack of yellow lines on the roads in the vicinity of the pool, and the cost to the School of enforcing permitted parking in their designated area would form the consultation response.

Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Harvey, called for a recorded vote but this was not needed as the consultation response indicated was agreed unanimously.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

226/12 Community Policing Awards

Members had no suggestions for candidates.

227/12 Chair’s Announcements

The Mayor informed Members that Cllr. Seabrook had resigned. The Town Clerk was initiating the usual procedures for a replacement.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

228/12 Dates of next meetings

Full Council	Monday 13 th August 2012
Interim Council	Monday 10 th September 2012

Meeting closed at 7.35 pm

Signed **Date**