

Minutes of a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 10th March 2014** in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham at 7:00pm.

Present: Cllr. T. Bloomfield
Cllr. H. Cadd
Cllr. P. Collins
Cllr. J. Harvey
Cllr. P. Hirons
Cllr. D. Isham
Cllr. A. Mahi
Cllr. H. Mordue
Cllr. Mrs. R. Newell Town Mayor
Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Donoghue
Cllr. M. Smith
Cllr. R. Stuchbury
Cllr. M. Try
Cllr. W. Whyte

In attendance: Mr. C. P. Wayman Town Clerk
Mrs C. Bolton Committee Clerk

Sections of the meeting were filmed by representatives from Buckingham University Press.

Prior to the start of the meeting the Mayor invited Members to stay after the meeting to celebrate Cllr Isham's 70th birthday.

803/13 Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED to note that there were apologies from Cllr Strain-Clark and Cllr Mrs G Collins.

804/13 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hirons expressed a personal interest in item 13, Automated External Defibrillator Project.

Cllr Stuchbury expressed a personal interest in item 9, Local Government Boundary Commission.

Cllr Mordue expressed a personal interest in item 9 above, and a prejudicial interest in item 10, S106 agreements.

805/13 Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 20th January 2014 (**BTC/09/13**).

AGREED

806/13 Planning Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Planning Committee meetings held on:

- Monday 27th January 2014 (**PL/11/13**)

716.3 (616) Members had asked for the 'wish list' to be brought to the meeting.

The latest available formed part of a report to EP&H in 2012 which was attached.

Members held a discussion over the wish list and other items that could be included such as cultural items and philanthropic groups. Members also felt it would be useful to formulate a list that could encompass a wide spectrum of funds that may be available from various organisations.

Cllr Whyte reported that s106 funding was high on the agenda at the County Council and an officer was currently reviewing the agreements for the Buckingham Area; progress would be reported soon.

Proposed by Cllr. Hirons, seconded by Cllr. Harvey, and **RECOMMENDED** that this Council draws up a 'Wish List' of projects in consultation with other agencies such as arts and youth organisations, banded by estimated costs, so that whenever funding becomes available from whatever source a suitable project can be proposed. The List would be updated regularly and funded projects monitored for progress.

AGREED

724.2 Following on from Min. 542.3, and the attached email: to discuss a modification of the decision taken on 18th March 2013 (Min. 818/12) that all responses except 'No objections' would be confirmed as 'Member attending to speak' even if the option was not in fact taken up.

The Planning Clerk advised Members that when amended plans are received on a previously discussed application where the Town Council had recorded a comment of either Support or Oppose there was no allowance in the AVDC Planning system to revise the response to 'no objection' which would negate the need for attendance by a Town Councillor.

Proposed by Cllr Strain-Clark, seconded by Cllr Smith, and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that the decision taken on 18th March 2013 (Min 818/12) that all responses except 'No objections' would be confirmed as 'Member attending to speak' even if the option was not in fact taken up be rescinded, and the decision on attendance at the DCC meeting be taken on an application by application basis.

An amendment proposed by Cllr Isham, seconded by Cllr Hirons and **AGREED** that Strategic Development Control Committee should also be included.

Members briefly discussed the requirement for comments on applications to be valid planning reasons when opposing. Cllr Hirons commented that specific planning rules may not always apply, for example where there may be a detrimental effect to a street scene or over development of a site; these were objective reasons which required more flexibility and thought than directly quoting exact planning law.

Members **AGREED** the recommendation.

- Monday 17th February 2014 (PL/12/13)

AGREED

807/13 Environment and Property Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 10th February 2014 (EPH/06/13).

AGREED

808/13 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 3rd February 2014 (TCE/06/13).

AGREED

809/13 Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee

809.1 **RESOLVED** to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 24th February 2014 (**FAP/06/13**)

809.2 **RESOLVED** to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 6th January 2014 (**FAP/05/13**)

AGREED

810/13 Extraordinary Committee Meeting

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 10th February 2014.

AGREED

811/13 Local Government Boundary Commission

To receive and discuss the draft recommendation report

The Town Clerk explained the relevant proposals to Members; that of moving Fishers Field from Buckingham South to North wards, and the area around Highlands Crescent into Luffield Abbey. In addition proposals to increase the number of Councillors from 17 to 18 – 1 elected Member for Fishers Field, 1 for Highlands Crescent, and 8 for each Buckingham North and South.

Members were opposed to the draft recommendations for the following reasons –

1. Members did not want to see the boundary of the town infringed by removing an area integral of the town into another ward entirely.
2. The proposals appeared to support the County boundaries.
3. Members considered that the proposed changes did not take into account the current and planned growth in both the North and South wards. Should the draft recommendations be approved, a further re-work of wards would be required in 2019.

Members **AGREED** that the Town Clerk respond with the above comments.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

812/13 S106 Agreements – Sainsbury's Application (13/01465/AOP)

Members are referred to Minute 611.1 Planning Committee meeting held 16/12/13; Councillors discussed further representation for S106 discussions.

To receive a written report from the Deputy Town Clerk; to discuss and agree initiatives to improve the Town Centre.

The Town Clerk reported that he had recently approached a representative of GKA (the consultants representing Sainsbury's) with a proposal of initiatives to take forward for s106 discussions with AVDC. The agent was in agreement to receive a list of proposed initiatives from the Town Council.

Members discussed the proposed projects within the report and agreed the following initiatives should be put forward –

1. On street parking changes and improvements
2. Public toilets
3. Bicycle and Motorcycle facilities
4. Urban design improvement of Cornwalls Meadows street area
5. Art/Civic Centre
6. X5 better arrangements for access – change designation to waiting areas
7. 2 tier parking arrangements
8. Town centre – seating, bins, accessibility, signage

9. Project to ensure the public can safely access the town centre from the out of town parking facilities in Stratford Fields and Western Avenue – crossings.

10. Main bus shelter improvement

Councillors did discuss the car parking arrangements in Cornwalls Meadow at length, but agreed that as the car park was AVDC controlled, it was for AVDC to negotiate free parking rates if applicable.

Members were very concerned that if local Councillors were not consulted then officers at AVDC would decide what was best for Buckingham, and not the elected Members. No Buckingham Town Councillors had been asked to meet with or discuss the S106 proposals relating to the Sainsbury's application with AVDC officers.

The Town Clerk would formulate a response to GKA **ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

813/13 Local Sustainable Transport Fund Bid 2015-6

To receive an invitation for input from County and agree a response.

Members **AGREED** a letter of support for the capital funding bid for a cycle route along the A413. **ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

814/13 Fairtrade Logo

To agree the Fairtrade town logo to the foot of the Town Council headed notepaper.

AGREED

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

815/13 Automated External Defibrillator Project

To receive an information sheet and discuss a request to site an AED at the Town Council Chamber.

Members discussed the proposal, different types of defibrillators, how the machine would be accessed and maintained.

Proposed by Cllr Whyte, seconded by Cllr Isham and **AGREED** to support the project in principle, and provide funding for the running of the AED.

For 11, Against 0, Abstentions 4.

Members **AGREED** to refer the item to Town Centre and Events Committee to further progress. **ACTION: TC&E AGENDA MARCH**

816/13 Friends of Buckingham

To receive any nominations, for formal consideration at next Full Council Meeting 6th May 2014.

The Mayor reminded Members to put forward nominations at Full Council on 6th May. **ACTION: ALL COUNCILLORS**

817/13 Correspondence

None.

818/13 Reports from District & County Members

Cllr Stuchbury (reporting as a County Councillor) informed Members a report on assisting low income families with punitive tax code issues would be going forward to Bucks County Council Cabinet Committee shortly. Cllr Stuchbury was also in discussions with County Members over the withdrawal of customer services function in Buckingham.

Cllr Stuchbury (reporting as a District Councillor) said the issue of personal representation at the Development Control Committee meetings had been

discussed at Cabinet; it had been agreed, despite amendments that parishes would continue to be expected to make representation in person.

The Town Clerk commented that District staff at Buckingham reception had been told the services would cease from the end of May 2014.

Cllr Whyte reported that the road repair schedule announced for 2014/15 included works to the A413, High St into West St and the Bourton Road area. Additional repairs were expected to footways and footpaths.

Following the Environment, Transport and Locality Services Select Committee's report to Cabinet in January a number of major changes to Transport for Buckingham were already underway.

The Select Committee would next look into public transport both in urban centres and rural areas, reviewing community transport schemes initially in Princes Risborough and Winslow.

Cllr Mordue reported that the Swan Pool would be undergoing a large change to the front of the building; a 2 storey high climbing wall was to be built, the gym and studios would also be increased.

Cllr Mordue also reported that a new crematorium would be built near Aylesbury, following a public consultation period.

819/13 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Members noted the reports.

Thornborough Parish Council Update on Community Woodland	
Buckingham Twinning Association Minutes	4/12/2013
Buckingham & Maids Moreton NAG Minutes	22/01/2014
Buckingham & Winslow Access for All Minutes	17/02/2014

820/13 News Releases

None

821/13 Mayoral & Deputy Mayoral Engagements

Members noted the information

822/13 Chair's Announcements

The Mayor recorded thanks to all Councillors and staff for their help with the arrangements of the Valentine's ball; donations were still coming in but it was expected to clear £1700 for the Mayor's charities.

The Mayor also reminded Members of a cookery demonstration at the Church by Claire Clarke MBE on 1st April.

823/13 Dates of next meetings

Annual Town Meeting – Wednesday 26th March – Community Centre 7.30pm

Interim Council – Monday 7th April 2014

Annual Statutory Meeting – Tuesday 6th May

Full Council – Tuesday 6th May

Meeting closed at: 9.10pm

Signed Date

Town Mayor