

Minutes of a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014** 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. P. Hirons  
Cllr. D. Isham  
Cllr. R. Lehmann  
Cllr. A. Mahi  
Cllr. H. Mordue  
Cllr. Ms. R. Newell  
Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Donoghue Town Mayor  
Cllr. M. Smith  
Cllr. Mrs. C. Strain-Clark  
Cllr. R. Stuchbury  
Cllr. M. Try  
Cllr. W. Whyte

**In attendance:** Mr. C. P. Wayman Town Clerk  
Mrs. C. Bolton Committee Clerk  
Miss. E. Medland Administrative Assistant  
Mr G. McGough McGough Planning Consultants Ltd

**380/14 Apologies for Absence**

**RESOLVED** to note that there were apologies from Cllr Harvey, and Cllr Stuchbury for late arrival.

**381/14 Declarations of Interest**

Cllrs Try, Bloomfield, Isham and Mahi declared a prejudicial interest in item 15 – Community Centre Lease.

**382/14 Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2014 (**BTC/05/14**).

*Clerks note – spelling errors corrected in minute 270.*

**Agreed**

**383/14 Interim Minutes**

**RESOLVED** to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Interim Council meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014 (**IM/02/14**).

**Agreed**

**384/14 Planning Committee**

**RESOLVED** to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Planning Committee meetings held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2014 (**PL/05/14**) and Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014 (**PL/06/14**).

**285/14** Proposed by Cllr Hirons, seconded by Cllr Harvey, and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that interaction is promoted between Buckingham Town Council and

developers with proposals at an early opportunity so that the town's interests and concerns are represented at a stage when they could be modified without excessive expense or effort on the part of the developer, enabling compliance with the terms of the BNDP and response to local aspirations. Adequate time must be allowed for discussion at the meeting, possibly calling a special meeting for complex proposals, and some indication of the developer's ideas must be supplied one week in advance to be appended to the meeting agenda. This would reduce the number of amended plans and variations to conditions to be considered to the advantage of both Councils and the developers. Invitations would continue to be issued 'without prejudice' to the eventual response to any formal application made.

**Agreed**

**385/14 Environment Committee**

**RESOLVED** to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2014 (**E/03/14**).

**Agreed**

**386/14 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 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014 (**TCE/03/14**).

**Agreed**

**387/14 Resources Committee**

**RESOLVED** to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Resources Committee meeting held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014 (**R/03/14**)

376/14 Proposed by Cllr Hirons, seconded by Cllr Harvey and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that the Town Clerk organises a workshop for Councillors to consider how they can even better work with the Town Council and staff to drive forward strategic plans.

**Agreed**

*Cllr P Collins left the Chamber during the following item*

**388/14 (349/14) To receive a presentation from Mr C McGough of McGough Planning Consultants Ltd, On Tingewick Rd West Industrial site on behalf of Ashtenne Industrial Fund**

Mr McGough spoke to Members on the pre- submission application for Tingewick Rd West. Mr McGough explained that the application had been raised and withdrawn previously, but that the timing was becoming critical; the two units currently occupied would be handed back in February 2015. The owners were keen to develop a good quality, sustainable development; accounting for the complexity of the site and the addition of a new access road, one tenant would remain in the industrial area. Ashtenne were keen to encourage the involvement of the Town Council and public in the earliest planning stages.

Members informed Mr McGough that despite the Environment Agency's comments the river floods every year and any development near the river was a risk.

Members felt that Mr McGough's comments for early involvement reflected the recommendation to Full Council from the Planning Committee meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> August (285/14) and encouraged Mr McGough to set up design workshops, inviting the public to provide as much involvement and comment as possible, prior to the

main submission. Members also commented that it would be encouraging to see a design with a spread of housing types and individuality.

Members felt that a successful development would hinge on the sympathetic extension of Railway Walk and consideration of the river.

Mr McGough was thanked for his presentation and left the Chamber.

### **389/14 20mph Speed limits**

To receive a written report from the Administration Assistant

Miss Medland circulated 2 maps of Western Avenue, used as an example of the introduction of a 20mph zone; one showing a 20mph limit throughout, one showing a zone only. Zoning would require traffic calming such as road humps, speed tables, repeater signs and narrowing; a limit would require signs only.

Members discussed the report and commented that some of the statistics referred in part to larger cities rather than market towns like Buckingham. Members requested further information on areas close to the towns' schools such as Chandos Rd, and further evidence collection before pursuing the idea. Members thanked Miss Medland for a well written report.

**ACTION: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

### **390/14 Action List**

To receive the list and discuss any items

Dispensation – Cllr Isham reported he would fill in a new form.

Cllr Hirons asked for an update on the Toilets. The Town Clerk reported that the planning application had been submitted; though AVDC had asked for re-scaled drawings. There was a possible issue with a proposed construction on a nearby site, District Councillors would be meeting on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October to discuss, and further progress would be reported.

The Mayor reported that Army Cadet Corporal Alice Shute had been appointed as the Mayor's cadet.

### **391/14 Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan**

To receive a verbal update from the Town Clerk

The Town Clerk reported the re-drawn plan had been submitted, public consultation would close on 7<sup>th</sup> November.

*Cllr P Collins returned during the following item*

### **392/14 Mayor's Reception**

To discuss the date and organisation

Members discussed the historic reasons for two proposed dates for the Mayor's reception. The issue in 2015 related to it being an election year, a new Mayor (if elected) would have only two weeks from the election date on 11<sup>th</sup> May to organise the reception on 29<sup>th</sup> May. Members **AGREED** that for 2015 only, the office would organise the invitations, food and beverages. May 29<sup>th</sup> was **AGREED** as the Mayor's Reception date.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

*Cllr Bloomfield, Isham and Try left during the following item*

*Cllr Stuchbury arrived during the following item*

### **393/14 Community Centre Lease**

To agree the under lease and deed of surrender

The Town Clerk informed Members that BALC's advice on the code of conduct was if a Councillor had 'deep pecuniary interest' in an item, they should leave whilst it

was discussed. If a Member with pecuniary interest remained and took part in the discussion a complaint could be made to the Monitoring Office recording an illegal vote.

Cllr P Collins stated he would stay for the discussion.

Cllr Mrs G Collins disputed the advice saying that she had been given conflicting advice by BALC.

The Town Clerk advised Members of the two spelling error on the lease and confirmed that the lease was a 99 year lease with a commencement date of 1/1/1984.

Cllr Mordue commented that the Community Centre Management Committee should pay the bill for the rework of the new under lease and deed of surrender. Cllr G Collins confirmed that would happen.

Cllr Whyte expressed concern that there would be no incentive for the Management Committee to trade profitably and re-invest in capital projects for the benefit of maintenance of the building. Members discussed that the requirement for 50% funding of any capital projects by the Management Committee was not included in the lease and should addressed separately.

Proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Lehmann and AGREED that the lease and deed of surrender be signed and that a formal funding agreement for capital projects be drawn up separately.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

For 11

Against 0

Abstentions 2

**394/14 Review of Polling Districts and Polling Stations**

To receive a letter from AVDC, and respond if necessary  
Noted.

**395/14 NALC Briefing**

To receive a legal briefing and agree to amend Standing Orders  
Agreed. Members requested Standing Orders be re-circulated.

**ACTION: COMMITTEE CLERK**

**396/14 Rural Open Sure Signal**

To receive a letter from John Bercow and discuss the attached information  
Members considered that most areas of the town were covered by 3G, but that there were black spots in areas such as Fishers Field and the University. Members **AGREED** that the Buckingham University should be asked to give feedback on their coverage; the Town Clerk will progress and look into other companies provisions.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**397/14 Comment from Communications Strategy Group Committee**

To receive and discuss a request  
Members commented that in general the newsletter was an excellent publication, but the Committee group should ensure attention to the colour, graphics and layout to appeal to all areas of the community.  
Cllr Whyte noted that the Highways on call number was incorrect.

**ACTION: COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY GROUP**

### **398/14      Flags**

To receive, discuss and agree a written report from the Events Co-ordinator

Proposed by Cllr Newell, seconded by Cllr Smith and **AGREED** that the Events Co-ordinator proceed with the Recommendation for quotation 3.

**ACTION: EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR**

### **399/14      Meeting Calendar 2015**

To receive the dates for information, as agreed at Resources Committee.

Noted.

### **400/14      Correspondence**

400.1(140/14) To note a response from Bucks County Council ref the 60/X60 bus changes

Members were disappointed to receive the response; noting the service changes were regrettable. Members felt there would be a negative knock on economic effect to the town. The Town Clerk would write a letter in response.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

400.2 To receive the Buckinghamshire Playing Fields Association Annual Report 2013/14 – available from the office on request.

Noted.

### **401/14      To receive reports from District and County Councillors**

Cllr Stuchbury reported that the District Council were looking at funding; specifically New Homes Bonus and that due to forthcoming budget changes there was no guarantee on funding remaining the same.

Cllr Stuchbury also advised Members that he and Cllr Isham were due to attend a meeting at District on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October regarding the proposed toilets in Buckingham.

Finally Cllr Stuchbury reported that Bucks County Council were working on an action plan following the systemic problems found by Ofsted in Children's Services in their recent report. A report would shortly be going to Cabinet.

Cllr Whyte reported an invitation to visit the new refurbished Wells St Centre, siting it as an excellent resource for Buckingham, an open day would be announced shortly.

£106 funds of up to £100,000 had been announced for library improvements, to be spent over the next 12 months.

On transport, Transport for Buckingham were undergoing re-organisation under Cabinet Member Ruth Vigor-Hedderly, focussing on the contract/contractor relationship and local working; Cllr Whyte commented that this was working well locally with operatives, getting to know their own areas well, rather than travelling further afield.

A public transport report was looking into new ways of working with the inter-rural community; Cllr Whyte commented that there had not been much feedback from the Buckingham area on the need for a community bus service.

Repairs - The overflowing drain at the top of West St would shortly be resolved; resurfacing works were due to commence up to School lane during November.

The Local Area Forum had met and agreed a parking review for spring 2015.

An intergenerational school project had been announced with funding of £10,000 for each of the secondary schools to encourage volunteering with all parts of the community.

**402/14 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Members are asked to note the reports listed below:

Twinning Minutes – meeting 2nd July 2014 and 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Cllr Newell requested a letter of thanks to the Twinning Committee for the recent visit, specifically to Stephanie Scrase and Jane Mordue.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

Destination Buckingham Group Minutes – meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014

Noted.

**403/14 Mayoral & Deputy Mayoral Engagements**

Members noted the Functions the Mayor has attended:

Date	Time	Event
06/09/2014	12:30 - 17:00	Buckingham University's Africa v China Day
09/09/2014	16:30 - 17:30	Meeting with Emma Howard & Amanda re Local Democracy Day event @ Buckingham School
12/09/2014	17:15 - 21:30	High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire, drinks at his home in Chesham
13/09/2014	11:30 - 14:30	Opened St. Peter & Paul's Church fete
14/09/2014	11:30 - 13:30	Attended first River Rinse (although I couldn't help)
26/9/14	7:20 - 28/9/14 21:30	Civic visit to Mouvaux, France

Functions the Deputy Mayor has attended:

24th August opened & closed Bandjam.

1st Sept Chaired the Extraordinary meeting of the Full Council

**404/14 News Releases**

None

**405/14 Chair's Announcements**

The Mayor reminded Members of the Charter Fair opening at 1pm on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October.

Cllr Strain-Clark requested attendance for the Access Awareness event on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October, meeting at 9.30 at the Chamber.

**406/14 Dates of next meetings**

Interim Council – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014

Full Council – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Meeting closed at: 9.15pm

Signed ..... Date .....

Town Mayor