

**MINUTES OF THE BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
BUCKINGHAM COUNCIL CHAMBER ON MONDAY 2nd JULY 2007 AT 7 PM.**

PRESENT Councillors H. Cadd
Mrs. G. Collins
P. Collins
Mrs. P. Desorgher
P. Hirons
D. Isham
A. Mahi
H. Mordue (Mayor)
Ms. R. Newell
M. Smith
Mrs. P. Stevens
R. Stuchbury
M. Try
W. Whyte
Town Clerk Ms. P. J. Heath

2954 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Bloomfield and Cllr. Loftus.

2955 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

2956 THE MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED**: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2007, the Annual Statutory Meeting held on 14th May 2007 and the Interim meeting held 11th June 2007 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2957 TOWN CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members were informed of the following items

NEWSLETTERS/BROCHURES

THE FOLLOWING BROCHURES AND NEWSLETTERS ARE IN THE OFFICE
BUCKS. PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION – THE PLAYING FIELD – SPRING 2007
BUCKS. COMMUNITY ACTION – IN FOCUS – JUNE 2007
OPTIONS – JUNE 2007
BALC – MATTERS ARISING SUMMER 2007
LCR ISSUE JULY 2007
AV SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2007

DIS

ISSUES NUMBER 656, 657, 658, 659

DIARY DATES – DETAILS ALREADY CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS

3RD JULY 2007 CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU – AGM –WELL STREET CENTRE
6 & 7TH JULY 2007 WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN CONSULTATION – BEALES HOTEL

8TH JULY 2007 AV CHAIRMAN'S CIVIC SERVICE – AYLESBURY
10TH JULY 2007 TRANSPORT AREA ACTION PLANS
25TH SEPTEMBER 2007 – BALC TRAINING DAY – GREEN PARK
5TH JULY AV LOCAL COMMITTEE – WINSLOW
12TH JULY AV NORTH SPORTS COUNCIL MEETING

2958 RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

2958.1 PLANNING – 21.05.07 & 11.06.07

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** - that the above minutes, and any recommendation contained within, be confirmed.

*(5058 - Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Smith, and **RECOMMENDED** that a response should be expected within 14 days from the date of a letter or email being sent; if the reply is an acknowledgement of receipt only, some indication of when the full response is to be expected should be included or sought and this should be received within 21 days of the original date of enquiry; reminders would be sent daily thereafter; and if the second reminder was ignored, then the next should be addressed to the manager or department head of the original addressee.)*

AGREED

2958.2 ENVIRONMENT & PROPERTY 29.05.07

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** - that the above minutes, and any recommendation contained within, be confirmed.

415.7 The Chairman confirmed that the maintenance of the green would form part of the larger discussion on the pavilion and bowls club.

416 The Clerk confirmed that notification of the grant had just been received.

414.1 The Clerk confirmed that the snagging list had not been given to the office.

2958.3 FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION 04.06.07

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** - that the above minutes, and any recommendation contained within, be confirmed.

*(292 Following a discussion it was agreed by 8 votes to 0 with 1 abstention, Cllr. Cadd, that the following wording be **RECOMMENDED** for a new standing order no 16 (subsequent standing orders be renumbered accordingly)*

16 PARTICIPATION AFTER DECLARATION OF PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

Where you have a prejudicial interest in any business of your authority, you may attend a meeting but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the business, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise. However, you must immediately leave the room once you have finished or when the meeting decides that you have finished (if that is earlier). You cannot remain in the public gallery to observe the vote on the matter.)

AGREED

*(293 Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Bloomfield, and **RECOMMENDED** that the Town Clerk with the assistance of the Mayoress mount the Chain on a suitable collar, colour and material left to their discretion, up to a budget amount of £150 from 4112/201.)*

AGREED

*(294 The following adjustments are **RECOMMENDED** by 9 votes to 0*

*11.1 b (ii) should be amended to £2500 to co respond with the figures quoted in 11.1.b (i).
A new 11.1 b (iii) and (iv) should be created*

(iii) For expenditures of £100 to £500 the Clerk with the Mayor and relevant Chairman or Vice Chairman shall seek best value price.

(iv) For expenditures of £100 or less in value the Clerk shall have discretionary powers to seek the best price. The Clerk shall have no more than 10 discretionary purchases within any 7 week meeting cycle.)

AGREED

2958.4 EVENTS 18.06.07

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** - that the above minutes, and any recommendation contained within, be confirmed.

(417 Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Cadd, and **RECOMMENDED** that the Finance and Administration Committee purchases new Town flags.)

AGREED

(418 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Smith, and **RECOMMENDED** that a second caretaker be employed (ref. Environment & Property Min. 422/2007) who should possess a licence suitable for use of the quad bike and be willing to undertake the training if necessary.)

Following a detailed discussion the recommendation was **AGREED** by 13 votes to 0; this would become the responsibility of the Finance and Administration Committee.

406.4 The Chairman asked for a Council decision on the options proposed for the signage in view of additional information concerning permissions from land owners; the Council agreed that Option 1 on the circulated map, at Jardine, was the preferred option.

419 Cllr. Try declared a personal interest as the minutes were being discussed

2959 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.

AVDC News for the Parishes
TV Police Crime Details (confidential)
Hartridge Footpath A421 Radclive Road

Following a discussion it was **AGREED** to pass this to the Planning Committee and to seek the views of Gawcott and Lenborough Parish Council.

BCC Request for pedestrian Improvements
BCC 40mph Speed order for C3 Gawcott Road
AVDC Conservation Area Management Plan
BCC Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs

The Clerk informed Members that the consultation document had been received; it was **AGREED** to pass this to the Planning Committee to formulate a response.

BCC Verney Close/Market
PP involvement in health looking for volunteers

2960 REPORTS FROM BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

2960.1 Buckingham Community Plan Steering Group – Cllr. P. Collins

The Community Plan's last AGM was held in June 2007, 39 residents attended.

The Community Plan had achieved a lot in its 5 years of life culminating in the Circular Walk project which should be completed by September. It was **AGREED** to write a letter to the Chairman thanking the group and the Project Manager for their contribution and hard work.

*Proposed by Cllr. Cadd, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **AGREED** to suspend standing orders to allow Cllr. D. Polhill to speak as County Councillor for Buckingham North.*

Cllr. Polhill reported that he had passed on a copy of the Community Plan leaflet to the Chairman of the County Council with reference to the comments made about the transport issues; the Chairman would respond.

*Proposed by Cllr. Cadd, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **AGREED** to re-instate standing orders.*

2960.2 Buckingham Partnership minutes 22.03.07 – Cllr. Stuchbury

Minutes of the last Partnership meeting had been circulated to the Members. It was noted that AVDC are working with local landowners to clean up the river; the Coach Park was being discussed with the Athletic Football Club and the Landlord – AVDC - as this was the only identified suitable location; and the mink monitoring project was being led by the Town Council.

2960.3 Buckingham Twinning Association minutes 06.06.07 - Cllr Mordue

The next event will be the Boules competition in the Old Cattle Market area with the help of AVDC. It is anticipated that the next visit to Buckingham will be in the spring of 2008 from a Thursday to Sunday, the Events Committee will co ordinate the Civic Event.

2960.4 Buckingham Licensing Forum minutes 25.05.07 – Cllr. Stevens/Isham

The notes from the meeting held on 25th May 2007 had been circulated to Members. It was noted that the BP garage was working with the Police to eliminate some of the recent problems.

A question was raised as to the enforcement of the alcohol-free area by-law in Chandos Park; it was explained that the wording of the by-law and the signs in the park “it is an offence to drink in this area if told to cease by a Police or designated officer” does not stop people from drinking responsibly. It is for the police to enforce the by-law; this had been done by the PCSO although comment was made that without the relevant signage it was difficult for the police to enforce.

2960.5 Thames Valley Police Stakeholder Forum Notes 08.06.07 – Cllr. Smith

Members accepted the copy of the notes that had been circulated with the agenda.

2960.6 Neighbourhood Action Group notes 20.06.07 – Cllr. Smith

Members accepted the notes which had been circulated with the agenda.

2960.7 BCWP Steering Group Meeting minutes 27.11.?07 – Cllr. Newell

Members received the minutes which had been circulated with the agenda; Cllr Newell explained the problems that had arisen with the long term illness of the wildlife project manager.

2960.8 Buckingham & Gawcott Charitable Trust – Cllr. Mordue

Cllr. Stuchbury reported on the meeting of the trust. It was noted that although the minutes once ratified were in the public domain they were not easily accessible. It was agreed to request that the minutes are circulated under agenda item 7 ‘reports from representatives on outside bodies’.

2961 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the invoices per attached list be approved.

2962 ACCOUNTS FOR RETROSPECTIVE PAYMENT

Proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** that the list of retrospective payments per attached list be approved

The style of the reports was questioned and it was agreed to include an item on the Finance and Administration Committee meeting.

2963 RECEIVE INFORMATION ON THE A422 CAMERAS – COPY ATTACHED

A copy of the letter from the company responsible for the cameras had been circulated with the agenda. Members expressed concern at the siting of the cameras and the image it gave to visitors to the Town. It was noted that there was no identification or contact detail on the cameras and although permission had been given by the County Council neither the Town Council nor the Highways-on-Call team had been notified. Members felt that the cameras could be better sited nearer to the company's headquarters. They also asked that reassurance is sought that the cameras will be removed and all vehicle data held destroyed.

ACTION THE TOWN CLERK

2964 RECEIVE THE COSTS FOR THE CUTTERNE ELM, AND DECIDE IF THE COUNCIL WISHES TO PROCEED WITH PARTNERSHIP FUNDING AS PER THE LETTER.

The history behind the replacement Elm was explained for the benefit of the new Councillors. Following a discussion it was **AGREED** that this be passed to Environment and Property for discussion.

2965 DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF HEALTH PROVISION IN BUCKINGHAM FOLLOWING THE CLOSURE OF EMBLETON DAY WARD AT BUCKINGHAM HOSPITAL AND DISCUSS THE NON RESPONSE FROM THE PCT, MENTAL HEALTH TRUST AND THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH.

It was explained to the new Councillors the work done previously by the Council to bring pressure on various departments in the Health Service to keep and improve the service in the north of the County. The Mayor reported on a visit made to the hospital and his meeting with the administrator. It was felt by members that the main organisations/groups who operate in the north of the county – the PCT which commissions services and provides the infrastructure for those services to operate; the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Mental Health Service use the space provided in Buckingham Hospital to run the Embleton Day Unit via the John Hampden Unit in Aylesbury; the GPs and Consultants who use Buckingham Hospital to provide clinic services - should be specifically targeted to discuss the enhancement of the hospital to ensure its future in health provision. Members

appreciated that the hospital will change with the new proposals by the PCT and central government but wish the future viability of the hospital to be promoted. It was **AGREED** to write and request again that both the PCT and the Mental Health Trust attend a future meeting with the Council to discuss the hospital and the enhancement of its role within the Health Service provision. The Mayor will be doing a report to the Newspaper on his visit to the Hospital and will include details of the Town Council's request.

Members were informed that the Ambulance station at Deanshanger is due to close in the future; a new station will be established at Milton Keynes. Members felt that a presence from the Ambulance Service stationed in the Town was important and it was **AGREED** to write to the County Council and the Ambulance Trust expressing the Council's concern at the increased response time if there is no unit based in or around the town.

2966 RECEIVE, DISCUSS AND RESPOND TO THE PROPOSAL FROM BUCKINGHAM COMMUNITY PLAN ECONOMICS GROUP "BUSINESS INTERESTS SUPPORTING BUCKINGHAM".

Members discussed the paper which had been circulated with the agenda; they were informed that the group were not looking for financial support, only a working relationship with the Council. It was **AGREED** to appoint 2 representatives to the Economics Group who will liaise and report back to the Council as a standing item under agenda point 7 "Representatives on outside bodies"; the representatives will be Cllr. Cadd and Cllr. Isham.

2967 RECEIVE, IF REQUIRED, COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

*Proposed by Cllr. Cadd, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **AGREED** to suspend standing orders to allow Cllr. D. Polhill to speak as County Councillor for Buckingham North.*

Cllr. Polhill reported that the joint cluster meeting for himself and Cllr. Cadd had suggested that the NAGS meetings should be held alongside the cluster meetings and GC2C (Getting Closer to Communities). He gave a short history on the work he had undertaken with the NAGS team..

*Proposed by Cllr. Cadd, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **AGREED** to re-instate standing orders.*

In response to a question the two Town Councillors who also are District and County Councillors explained that they had been allocated roles in the District and would report when relevant to the Town Council under this agenda item.

In response to a question it was explained that the name of an estate used by the developer may not be the final name, therefore Buckingham Park in Aylesbury may not be called that once the street naming and numbering has been agreed.

2968 TOWN MAYOR'S ITEMS

2968.1 Litter in Car Park

Cllr. Cadd raised the issue of early morning litter in Cornwall's Meadow Car Park. He asked if additional bins could be placed in the area and if there was a way to educate the youngsters. The Car Park is owned by Aylesbury Vale District Council and cleaned daily by their contractors.

2968.2 Social Events

Members were reminded that the social event was booked for the 31st August; could those who have not already done so please let the Clerk know if they are attending.

On 2nd September there will be a music evening at Radclive Manor.

On 10th November there will be a Rock and Soul evening at S^t Peter & S^t Paul's Church.

2968.3 Bourton Meadow School – Foundation Status

Bourton Meadow school would like to make a presentation to the Council on their requirements for foundation status; Members agreed.

The following item was heard under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960 which excludes members of the Public due to the confidential and financial nature of the business to be discussed.

2969 MINUTES OF BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 14.05.07 & 11.06.07

2970 RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

2970.1 FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION 04.06.07

2971 DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Meeting closed at 9.17 pm

CHAIRMAN..... DATE.....