

**MINUTES OF THE BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
BUCKINGHAM COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 20th AUGUST 2007 AT 7 PM.**

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. P. Stevens.

2977 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

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

2978 THE MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED**: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd July 2007, and the Interim meeting held 30th July 2007 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2965 – The Town Clerk was asked to chase a response from the Secretary of State and the Health Authority bodies.

2985 – Cllr. Isham confirmed he had taken over from Cllr. Weidmann as the Town Council's representative on the Flood Alleviation Working Group.

2979 TOWN CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members were informed of the following items:

2979.1 NEWSLETTERS/BROCHURES

THE FOLLOWING BROCHURES AND NEWSLETTERS ARE IN THE OFFICE

BUCKS PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION - THE PLAYING FIELD - SUMMER 2007

OPTIONS - JULY 2007/AUGUST 2007

CLERKS AND COUNCILS DIRECT - JULY 2007

THE CLERK - JULY 2007

2979.2 DIS ISSUES NUMBER 661, 662, 663.

2979.3 DIARY DATES – DETAILS ALREADY CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS

25TH SEPTEMBER 2007 - BALC TRAINING DAY - GREEN PARK - REMINDER

Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Cadd, and **RESOLVED** that the Council will pay for the one day Training Course run by BALC for new Councillors' training with travel expenditure for any new Member wishing to attend.

17TH OCTOBER 2007 – YOUTH CENTRE AGM

It was confirmed that the AGM was open to any Member to attend and join the Committee.

25TH OCTOBER 2007 – BUCKS COUNTY COUNCILLOR CLUSTER MEETING

A copy of the last cluster meeting minutes had been circulated to all Members. The notification was to allow Members to put the date in the diary as the agenda would not be issued until a week before.

2980 RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

2980.1 PLANNING – 09.07.07 & 30.07.07

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

2980.2 ENVIRONMENT & PROPERTY 16.07.07

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

*(430 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Desorgher and **RECOMMENDED** that the Council adopt the enforcement policy as circulated.)*

AGREED

*(436.1 Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Collins, and **RECOMMENDED** by 11 votes to 2 that this Council informs the Chandos Park Bowls Club that the license due to end on the 30th September will not be renewed in 2008, and that the agreed lease is to be signed by 31st August 2007.)*

AGREED

It was noted by Members that as this had been a recommendation no correspondence had been sent to the Bowls Club. The Chairman of Environment & Property explained that he had been communicating with the Club and they were aware of the Committee's recommendation.

2980.3 FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION 23.07.07

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

*(312 Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **RECOMMENDED** by 8 votes to 0 that this Council provides for each Councillor to claim an allowance of £480 to cover their expenses as a Councillor over and above any claim for travel allowance.)*

Members discussed this recommendation at length, looking at the reasoning behind the allowance and whether it should be paid pro rata for the year or if it should be deferred till next financial year.

The recommendation was **AGREED** by 11 votes 2.

*(318 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Newell, and **RECOMMENDED** by 5 votes to 3 that standing order 1d be changed to "All Council and Committee meetings are to finish at 10 pm,*

unless a Member is unhappy to continue than a vote is taken prior to the 10 pm deadline, if a quorate majority agree to carry on they do so until the decision is further challenged".)

Following a lengthy discussion on the wording of the recommendation it was proposed by Cllr. Cadd, seconded by Cllr. Loftus, and **AGREED** to refer this matter back to the Committee.

2980.4 EVENTS 06.08.07

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

Cllr. Newell as vice chairman of the Events Committee made the following point with reference to the minutes for Members' information.

Minute no. 423.6 - The Sandpit nature reserve will be open over the bank holiday weekend; volunteers would be required to assist.

Minute no. 431 – The River Rinse will be on 16th September between 10.30 am and 12.30.pm; volunteers to assist in the clearing of the banks were required.

434 – Buckingham has been awarded Fair-Trade Town Status; a presentation would be made on 15th September and all Members were asked to attend.

425.3 – Cllr. Cadd said he would be updating the Committee on the Coach parking at Stratford Fields.

2981 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.

2981.1 TV Police Crime Details (confidential)

The Town Clerk explained what the crime figures were, their history and why they are classed as confidential.

2981.2 AVDC Licensing Policy Statement Consultation

Members **AGREED** that the Town Council representatives on the Licensing Forum should provide a recommended response on the new Licensing Policy statement for the Interim Council meeting on 17th September.

ACTION CLLR. ISHAM/CLLR. STEVENS/CLLR. SMITH as reserve

2981.3 BCC Transport Matters Events and comments

It was noted that correspondence appears on the list for Members' information, copies of which had been circulated at the time of receipt which may be up to 7 weeks previous; where possible the Clerk will put an agenda number on the correspondence distributed.

2982 REPORTS FROM BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

2982.1 Buckingham Community Plan Steering Group – Cllr. P. Collins

The Circular Walk official opening will be on 22nd September. There will be funds over once the project has been completed which can be used for future maintenance and possibly some form of commemorative art work. In response to a question it was confirmed that the Town Council does not get copies of the Community Plan minutes.

2982.2 Buckingham Partnership minutes – Cllr. Stuchbury

The Coach park had been discussed at the meeting and pressure put on AVDC to open negotiations with the Athletic Football Club. The Buckingham Forum, the

annual public meeting of the Partnership will not be held this year; subject to agreement of the Town Council the Forum meeting will be amalgamated with the Annual Town Meeting.

2982.3 Buckingham Economic Group – Cllrs. Cadd/Isham

Copies of the minutes had been circulated to members who noted their contents

2982.4 Buckingham Twinning Association minutes 04.07.07 – Cllr. Mordue

Copies of the minutes had been circulated to members who noted their contents

2982.5 Buckingham & Gawcott Charitable Trust – Cllr. Mordue

Cllr. Isham informed Members that he was now a director of the Development Board and a cheque signatory.

2892.6 Buckingham Town Neighbourhood Action Group – Cllrs. Smith/Stevens

Copies of the minutes had been circulated to members who noted their contents.

2983 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

2984 ACCOUNTS FOR RETROSPECTIVE PAYMENT

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

In response to a question it was **AGREED** to request the Town Council representatives on the Community Centre Management Committee to report on the activities of the Centre and its use of the Council cash flow underwriting at the next full Council meeting

ACTION CLLR. P. COLLINS/CLLR. DESORGHER/CLLR. MORDUE

2985 RECEIVE, IF REQUIRED, COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Isham as the District Councillor for Buckingham North informed Members that the Exchange Street office was shutting and staff were being moved to Gatehouse Road Office.

2986 AGREE AND CONFIRM PAYMENT FOR THE TOWN CLERK'S ATTENDANCE AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOCIETY OF LOCAL COUNCIL CLERKS.

It was **AGREED** that the Town Clerk would attend the Annual Conference of the Society of Local Council Clerks with Accommodation and Travel being met by the Council.

2987 RECEIVE AND MAKE A DECISION ON MOTION A FROM CLLR. STUCHBURY & CLLR. MAHI

“That Buckingham Town Council seek from Bucks. County Council the right to have speed interactive warning signs, at Western Avenue, Badgers Way, Linden Village and Bath Lane. So that funding from any means to bring this about can be undertaken.”

Members discussed at length the wording of the motion and whether it should include the names of roads. The funding was discussed with possible s106 money from Mount Pleasant and Moreton Road.

An amended motion was **RESOLVED** by 14 votes to 0

“That Buckingham Town Council seek from Bucks. County Council the right to have speed interactive warning signs. So that funding from any lawful means to bring this about can be investigated.”

2988 RECEIVE AND MAKE A DECISION ON MOTION B FROM CLLR. STUCHBURY

“That Buckingham Town Council start to talk to AVDC about year 5 of the free parking in the Town Buckingham so Council can look its long term costs”

Following a discussion an amended Motion was **RESOLVED** by 14 votes to 0

“That Buckingham Town Council start to talk to AVDC about continuing of the free parking in the Town Buckingham so Council can look its long term costs.”

2989 RECEIVE AND MAKE A DECISION ON MOTION C FROM CLLR. STUCHBURY

“That Buckingham Town Council take a look at the lease with AVDC on Buckingham Athletic Ground and then take up talks on adoption when facts are known.”

Members discussed the Motion and the intended long term action in respect of the adoption of Stratford Fields and other areas in Buckingham. It was noted that the Lease was between AVDC and Buckingham Athletic Football Club and permission of those parties would need to be obtained before any investigation of the lease could take place.

An amended motion was **RESOLVED** by 14 votes to 0

“That Buckingham Town Council take a look at the lease with AVDC on Buckingham Athletic Ground and then take up talks on possible adoption when facts are known.”

2990 RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATION FROM TOWN COUNCIL PREMISES COMMITTEE

*(Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that Buckingham Town Council gives delegated authority for the Town Council Premises Committee to commit budget 4025/407, up to £20,000, for professional and legal fees relating to the extension of the Town Council offices for stages B1 to C2 as laid down in the document “Council Chamber Extension Project Review 3: Proposed Project Stages)”*

AGREED by 14 votes to 0

2991 RECEIVE AND DISCUSS THE “JOINT COUNTY AND DISTRICT AGREEMENT: A NEW DEAL FOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE” AS CIRCULATED, AND AGREE A RESPONSE.

Members discussed the document which had been circulated with the agenda. It was noted that there were several major items missing from the consultation lists of both Bucks. County Council and AVDC. Many of the items missing from AVDC list appear on the other District Council lists. A response based on the omissions would be sent to Members for approval before the consultation deadline.

2992 RECEIVE AND DISCUSS BCC “BUCKINGHAMSHIRE RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN CONSULTATION” AND AGREE HOW THE COUNCIL WISHED TO MAKE A RESPONSE.

Members agreed that the Environment and Property Committee would respond to this consultation on behalf of the Council; the paperwork was given to the Chairman to read.

ACTION E & P COMMITTEE

2993 RECEIVE AND RATIFY RESPONSE TO AV LDF DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Members received and **RATIFIED** the response to the AV Local Development Framework as circulated with the agenda.

2994 RECEIVE A FOLLOW UP REPORT ON FLOODING IN BUCKINGHAM JULY 20TH – 22ND 2007.

Members received and accepted the report circulated prior to the meeting. In response to a question it was explained that some of the information was confidential to other organisations and could not be released to the public without their agreement.

Proposed by Cllr. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **AGREED** that the Town Clerk would release the report to the press and display it on the notice board as amended after agreement from the other organisations.

Proposed by Cllr. Mordue, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **AGREED** that Buckingham Town Council should organise a public meeting as per the report, inviting the downstream parishes to send representatives.

2995 TOWN MAYOR'S ITEMS

2995.1 Social Visit

Members were reminded that the Council's Social visit had been organised on 31st August 2007; the coach would leave Cornwall's Meadow Car Park at 5.45pm returning at approximately 10pm. Members were reminded of the cost and asked to pay direct to the company on the night.

The following items were 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:

2996 MINUTES OF BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

2997 RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

2997.1 ENVIRONMENT & PROPERTY 16.07.07.

Meeting closed at 9.34 pm

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