

**MINUTES OF THE BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
BUCKINGHAM COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 8th October 2007 AT 7 PM.**

<u>PRESENT</u> Councillors	T. Bloomfield H. Cadd Mrs. G. Collins P. Collins Mrs. P. Desorgher P. Hirons D. Isham H. Lewis A. Mahi H. Mordue (Mayor) Ms. R. Newell M. Smith R. Stuchbury M. Try W. Whyte
Town Clerk In attendance	Ms. P. J. Heath Cllr. D Polhill – BCC PCSO Steve Staley Mrs J Mordue – Chairman of Buckingham Twinning Association

The Mayor welcomed PCSO. Staley who had joined the police officers based at Buckingham and Mrs Mordue, Chairman of the Twinning Association.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs. P. Stevens and G. Loftus

3003 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

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

3004 THE MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED**: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 20th August 2007, and the Interim meeting held 17th September 2007 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2980.3 In response to a query concerning the budget allocated for the Councillors' Allowance it was proposed by Cllr. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Lewis, and **RESOLVED** by 10 votes to 3 that the Buckingham Town Councillors' Allowance would be paid from Contingencies account 4500/132.

*Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Bloomfield, and **AGREED** to move agenda item no 17, "Presentation by Chairman of Buckingham Twinning Association", to be heard next.*

*Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury seconded by Cllr. Bloomfield and **AGREED** to suspend Standing Orders to allow Mrs. Mordue to address the Council.*

3005 TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM BUCKINGHAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION – CHAIRMAN OF THE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Mrs. Mordue thanked the Council for allowing her to make the presentation and described the history of the Twinning Association, and how it operated. The Council were informed about the past achievements and future intentions of the Twinning Association including the biennial visit from Mouvaux in April 2008. Members were invited to join the Twinning Association. The Visit would be over the weekend of 3rd to 6th April with the Town Council organising a Civic Lunch on the 6th; this would be co-ordinated by the Events Committee. Mrs. Mordue and the Twinning Association were thanked for all their hard work on behalf of the Town.

*Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **AGREED** to reinstate Standing Orders.*

3006 TOWN CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members were informed of the following items

3006.1 NEWSLETTERS/BROCHURES

THE FOLLOWING BROCHURES AND NEWSLETTERS WERE IN THE OFFICE

OPTIONS – SEPTEMBER 2007/ OCTOBER 2007

GC2C NEWSLETTER- COPY ATTACHED

SLCC – THE CLERK SEPTEMBER 2007

CLERK AND COUNCILS DIRECT – SEPTEMBER 2007

NALC – LOCAL COUNCIL REVIEW SEPTEMBER 2007

BCA – IN FOCUS SEPTEMBER 2007

3006.2 DIS ISSUES NUMBER 664,665,666,667

3006.3 DIARY DATES – DETAILS ALREADY CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS

17TH OCTOBER 2007 – YOUTH CENTRE AGM - REMINDER

25TH OCTOBER 2007 – BUCKS COUNTY COUNCILLOR CLUSTER MEETING – REMINDER

11TH OCTOBER 2007 – BCC RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT CONSULTATION EVENT

7TH NOVEMBER 2007 – AYLESBURY VALE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS AGM

3007 RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

3007.1 PLANNING – 28.08.07 & 17.09.07

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

5087 – The Vice Chairman confirmed that there had been several meetings with AVDC Planning Department and it was hoped that there would be an improvement in communications.

3007.2 ENVIRONMENT & PROPERTY 03.09.07

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

455.1 In response to a query the Chairman of the Environment and Property Committee informed Members that a letter had been received from the Bowls Club on 10th September 2007. He asked Members to delay any discussion until the Committee Meeting; this was agreed, with a request that the letter be circulated to all Members prior to that meeting.

ACTION THE TOWN CLERK

In response to a comment re the Budget for the Environment and Property Committee the 3 designated Councillors would arrange a meeting on Wednesday.

458 Town Audit – Cllr. Newell asked to be included in the list.

468 Open Spaces - Cllr. Newell asked to be included in the working group.

3007.3 FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION.10.09.07

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

*(331/2007. Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Hiron and **RECOMMENDED** that the wording for 1d should read "All Council and Committee meetings shall not exceed three hours in duration unless a majority of those present and sufficient to retain a quorum, plus the Clerk unless a Member agrees to take notes, agree to continue transacting business; to be reviewed hourly thereafter. The meeting will then stand adjourned to the first convenient meeting date agreed at the meeting".)*

AGREED by 8 votes to 6

3007.4 EVENTS.24.09.07

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

*(448.2 Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Stevens, and **RECOMMENDED** that a collection be made for the Mayor's Charities at the Christmas Lights switch –on.)*

AGREED by 9 votes to 0

Members were reminded that the official opening of the Charter Fair was at 1pm on Saturday 13th October.

3008 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.

AVDC News for the Parishes 16.08.07 I

It was **AGREED** to discuss the setting up of a funding policy and strategy

ACTION FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Bourton Meadow School – Foundation Status 20.09.07 I

Cllr. Stuchbury declared a personal interest as the father of a pupil. It was **AGREED** to respond to the letter from Bourton Meadow School pointing out that Mrs. Race had been invited to make a presentation to the Town Council but had not responded.

3009 REPORTS FROM BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

3009.1 Buckingham Community Plan Steering Group – Cllr. P. Collins

The Circular Walk official opening was held on 22nd September and was very successful. Most of the project has been completed, it is anticipated that there will be sufficient funds to be transferred for the future maintenance of the street furniture installed by the project.

3009.2 Buckingham Partnership minutes – Cllr. Stuchbury

The Coach Park had been discussed at the meeting and there had been a meeting with the principle parties looking at the possibility of coaches parking at the Athletic Football Club; the meeting had been positive. Future discussions would be held once the planning application by the football club has been resolved.

There had been a presentation on the future of Maids Moreton Hall and site once the current residents move out.

It had been agreed that the Forum Meeting would now be amalgamated with the Annual Town Meeting.

It was **AGREED** that Bucks County Council be asked to a meeting to discuss the future use of the Maids Moreton Hall site and the future of its residents.

ACTION CLLR. MORDUE & THE TOWN CLERK

3009.3 Buckingham Economic Group – Cllr. Cadd/Isham

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

3009.4 Buckingham Twinning Association minutes 04.07.07 - Cllr. Mordue

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

3009.5 Buckingham & Gawcott Charitable Trust – Cllr. Mordue

Members were given a potted history of the Trust and its foundations, plus an update on its current financial position. Members discussed the information available to groups and organisations on the trust and its grant funding basis; it was felt the Trust should create a higher profile to encourage more groups to apply for funding.

3009.6 Buckingham Town Neighbourhood Action Group – Cllr. Smith/Stevens

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

The AGM would be held on 31st October at 7.30 in the Community Centre.

3010 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

3011 ACCOUNTS FOR RETROSPECTIVE PAYMENT

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

3012 RECEIVE AND DISCUSS THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FROM THE CIRCULAR WALK GROUP

Members discussed the letter circulated with the agenda from the Circular Walk Group re the allocation of funds.

Proposed by Cllr. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Lewis, and **RESOLVED** that the additional funds should be ring-fenced for play areas and play equipment.

3013 RECEIVE AND DISCUSS LETTER FROM BUCKS. COUNTY COUNCIL RE WAITING RESTRICTIONS.

Members discussed the letter and maps received from Bucks County Council, and circulated with the agenda, on the new waiting restrictions at Chandos Road, Verney Close and Addington Road/Mary McManus Drive. Members agreed all the new waiting and parking restrictions.

3014 RECEIVE REPORT ON THE VISION 2031 PARTNERSHIPS AND TO DISCUSS THE MOTIONS INCLUDED AND MAKE DECISION

Members received and noted the report by Cllr. Whyte on the 2031 Partnership.

Motion 1 – This Council believes that there must be both Parish and Town representation and not be limited to just one BALC representative for the whole district.

Motion 2 – this Council will propose a representative to be considered for Membership of the LSP.

Both motions were passed unanimously.

Proposed by Cllr. Hirons, seconded by Cllr. Smith, and **AGREED** that Buckingham Town Council should put forward Cllr. W. Whyte as the Town Council's representative.

3015 RECEIVE AND DISCUSS BUCKS. COUNTY COUNCIL LETTER RE THE SWITCHING OFF OF STREET LIGHTS

Members discussed at great length the letter from Bucks. County Council, which had been circulated with the agenda, concerning the proposed switching off of street lights in 2 areas within the Parish of Buckingham.

Buckingham Road, Gawcott – the northern section of this road falls within the parish. Concern was expressed for the safety of pedestrians on this section particularly as it is the route used by large lorries and is subject to ongoing complaints from residents re the speed limit. Members agreed to oppose this switch off on safety grounds by 2 votes to 10.

A421 from Page Hill roundabout to the Tesco roundabout - concern was expressed that the infrastructure proposed by the County Council to alleviate the safety problems with the switch off was inadequate and would not be installed prior to the switch off. Members agreed to support the switch off subject to the above comments by 8 votes to 6.

3016 RECEIVE A VERBAL REPORT ON THE VISIT TO TOWCESTER TO SEE THE FLOOD GATES.

The Councillors who attended the meeting with the Environment Agency explained how the Towcester scheme worked and the cost of the scheme. Following a discussion it was felt that the gates would not work to alleviate the problem, as although it would prevent serious flooding in Well Street the Chandos Road side of Ford Street would still be vulnerable even with the gates plus it could exacerbate the situation downstream. Members agreed to push for the upstream storage scheme as the only viable option to reduce flooding.

3017 RECEIVE DISCUS AND AGREE THE PLANS FOR THE TOWN COUNCIL EXTENSION; TO RECEIVE VERBAL REPORT ON THE APPOINTMENT OF ENGINEERS AND CONSULTANTS

The Members received and discussed the drawings of the proposed extension which included the public toilets facing onto the car park.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Collins, and RESOLVED by 13 votes to 0 with 1 abstention that the Council accepts the drawings and proceeds to the next stage as agreed under "Council Chamber Extension Project Review 3: Proposed Project Stages" document.

3018 RECEIVE NOTIFICATION OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND POLLING STATION REVIEW

Members noted the notification of the polling district and station changes, none of which affected Buckingham.

3019 RECEIVE, IF REQUIRED, COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Isham as a District Councillor informed Members of the details of the new Strategic Development Control Committee at AVDC.

3020 TOWN MAYOR'S ITEMS

3020.1 Mayor's Events

Members were informed that the Mayor would be holding a Rock and Soul evening at S^t. Peter & S^t. Paul's Church on 10th November 2007.

3020.2 Citizen of the Year

Members were informed that the Mayor would be awarding a "Citizen of the Year" at the Annual Town Meeting in March 2008 and asked for nominations.

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.

3021 MINUTES OF BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

3022 RECEIVE REPORT ON CARETAKING STAFF AND GIVE DESIGNATED AUTHORITY TO THE CHAIRMAN'S STRATEGY GROUP TO RESOLVE THE ISSUES AND DECIDE ON THE FUTURE EMPLOYMENT TERMS FOR CARETAKING STAFF.

Meeting closed at 9.55 pm

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