

**MINUTES OF THE EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 18TH
DECEMBER 2007 AT 8.10pm following the Planning Committee meeting**

PRESENT Councillor T. Bloomfield
Mrs. P. Desorgher
P. Hirons
A. Mahi
H. Mordue (Mayor)
R. Newell
Mrs. P. Stevens
R. Stuchbury (Chairman)

Clerk to the meeting Miss L. Fahey, Deputy Town Clerk
In Attendance Mrs. K. McElligott

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors H. Cadd, D. Isham and M. Smith.

488/2007 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

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

489/2007 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Members accepted the minutes of the last meeting held on 12th November 2007, which were ratified at the Council meeting held on 26th November 2007. There were no matters arising not dealt with below.

490/2007 ACTION REPORTS AND UPDATES

490.1 (444.4) Holocaust Memorial Day

Cllr. Newell reported the official date for Holocaust Memorial Day is 27th January. However, Milton Keynes hold their Memorial Day on the fourth Thursday of January, and next year it is being held on Thursday 24th January 2008. Cllr Newell will be attending the service at Christ the Cornerstone Church, Central Milton Keynes. Woburn Sands and the Well at Willen also hold a memorial service.

Cllr. Newell felt that it was too short notice for Buckingham Town Council to hold a memorial service in 2008. It was suggested the senior schools be contacted and pupils asked to write their thoughts on the Holocaust as it is on their curriculum. The Committee agreed that Cllr. Newell should represent the Town Council at the Milton Keynes event.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

490.2 (459) Plastic Bag Free Town

Cllr. Newell would meet with Mr. Foster to discuss how the Traders' Association could help. It was suggested that a small daytime event at a weekend could be held

to publicise the idea. It was **AGREED** that the Buckingham Town Council carrier bags be offered to the Market Traders free of charge as a goodwill gesture. The Committee were informed that the Country Market was looking into using corn starch bags.

It was agreed that Cllr. Newell put together the proposals.

ACTION CLLR. NEWELL

490.3 (470.3) Environmental Events

Cllr. Newell reported that Susan Le, the new BTCV Officer, is holding a training course (free to Buckingham residents) for Otter spotting at Tingewick Mill on Saturday 23rd February 2008. Also, on the 28th December 2007 there is a free Festive Health Walk along Railway Walk from 12pm – 2pm. Miss Le would attend an E&P meeting in the New Year and is keen to promote BTCV services. She will be in post until 2009, but since the previous BTCV Officer was on sick leave for some time, a compensating extension is hoped for. It was felt that the Committee should have a copy of all contact details before Miss Le's contract ends.

The Chairman requested, and the Committee agreed that a letter of thanks to be sent to Miss Le, welcoming her and that the committee is looking forward to working with her in 2008/9.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

490.4 (480) River rinse

Following BTCV's recommendation, the Committee agreed to hold two separate river rinses, one rinse to be held in September 2008 and the second in October 2008, dates to be confirmed. A suggested date for October was Sunday 12th. Stowe Sub-aqua would be contacted for availability.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

490.5 (470.1) Pancake Race

An acknowledgement letter had been received from the PR department at the Buckingham University, but nothing further as yet.

490.6 (470.4) Civic Twining Event Lunch – Sunday 6th April 2008

The Chairman, Cllr. Smith and Cllr. Newell had chosen to use First Choice Caterers for the function, as their menu was more suitable, within budget, and they had been used for the last Civic Lunch successfully. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to First Choice to hold the date. The three Councillors would liaise in the New Year over details.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

490.7 (470.5) Display Board

Cllr. Stevens relayed a message from Mr Foster, indicating "this was in hand".

ACTION MR. FOSTER

490.8 (470.6) Art Show

AVDC have agreed to the use of the Cattle Pens for the show at no cost, and have sent a sample licence. The Chairman requested a lunchtime meeting in the New Year with Mr Foster in the Chamber.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

490.9 (470.7) Water Bowser

The bowser reported at the last meeting was not suitable as it lacked a pump. The revised specification was circulated with the Agenda and the Committee were informed that the old bowser had now been collected by Plantscape as discussed. Proposed by Cllr. Bloomfield, seconded by Cllr. Stevens, and **AGREED** to look into buying a new bowser after for the winter planters invoice has been paid.

490.10 (471.2) Response from Cabinet Member

No reply had been received. The Chairman requested that a letter to be sent to the Cabinet Member to enquire if the letter had been received.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

490.11 (477.1) Youth Council

Cllr. Mordue reported he had attended a meeting at the Royal Latin School as the Council were interested in knowing what the young people of Buckingham want. The Chairman suggested and it was agreed that a list of 2008 events would be sent to the Royal Latin School and The Buckingham School for discussion.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

491/2007 (469) 2007 CHRISTMAS PARADE

491.1 Review 2007 Christmas Parade

The Chairman informed the Committee that 4 cars had been towed away at Western Avenue; the formal parking restrictions had not been fully enforced in this area as was usual. The Chairman would be discussing this with the Organisers. The Committee agreed to write to the 4 vehicle owners explaining that the matter was being investigated, and also a letter to Thames Valley Police. A copy would be sent to Chairman of F&A, Vice Chairman of Events and the Mayor.

ACTION CLLR STEVENS AND DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Cllr. Mordue left the meeting.

491.2 Debrief Meeting

The Chairman requested a debrief meeting to be held in the New Year with Mr. & Mrs. Heywood and the Police. A date will be arranged and circulated to Councillors; it was felt at least two members of the Events Committee should attend.

It was also reported to the Committee that the wrong prizes had been given out by Mrs. Heywood, and the walkers affected were disappointed. It was suggested and agreed that the Mayor receive a duplicate prize list, and that the awarded prizes be given out before the parade procession so the crowd could see the winners as they went by.

492/2007 (471) VIRING of £750

The committee unanimously **AGREED** that the amount of £750 be vired from 4232 to 4206 for the Summer Festival Fortnight.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

493/2007 (474) REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE DEBRIEF

The notes of the meeting had been circulated with the Agenda. A copy of the meeting notes would be sent to Reverend K. Ashby and Mr C. Armstrong of the Royal British Legion.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

494/2007 (475) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND CAROLS

494.1 Christmas lights switch-on

The Chairman summarised a report from the Town Clerk to the Committee regarding the problems the Contractor had experienced this year. Members said the Old Gaol lights and the pea lights in the trees looked lovely, but the swags were

disappointing. Members mentioned that the display of lights in Castle Street and the section between the Red Cross shop and Almarie's in Cornwall Place were pretty. A Member said that the Christmas lights in Aylesbury looked fabulous and why Buckingham did not seem to get its fair share of the District budget? It was discussed and agreed that a letter would be sent to AVDC asking for clarification.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

494.2 Future contract for Christmas Lights

The Committee agreed to negotiate a 3 year contract. It was also agreed that in the second year we should negotiate for year 4. Councillor Hiron requested to be involved in drawing up the contract and the Committee agreed.

Members expressed concern at the attitude of some members of public to Councillors and staff and asked that the F&A Committee look at creating a policy in respect of responding to aggressive and rude members of the public.

ACTION FINANCE & ADMIN / CLLR. HIRONS

495/2007 REVIEW COMMUNITY FAIR

The Chairman expressed his thanks to Councillor Bloomfield for all his hard work. Councillor Bloomfield requested two volunteers for next year's event to man the back and front door from 9.15am until the stall holders had finished coming in and out from the car park. Cllr. Bloomfield also thanked Mrs K. McElligott for all her help with the administration.

496/2007 (484) RESPONSIBLE COUNCILLORS/SHADOW FOR 2008 EVENTS

It was agreed that all Councillors would email the Deputy Town Clerk with their preferences. *[A reference list is attached as an appendix.]*

ACTION ALL COUNCILLORS / DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

497/2007 (485) MARKETS

Cllr. Stevens reported as follows:

497.1 Street Market

Nothing to report

497.2 Flea Market

Nothing to report

497.3 Farmers Market

Nothing to report

497.4 Continental Market

A report from the Town Clerk was circulated at the meeting on the problems encountered with the November 24th market.

An English Food Festival has been confirmed for the May 2008 Music in the Market.

A Polish Market is being investigated for BandJam in August 2008.

Brunomart have confirmed for November 2008 Christmas Lights switch-on.

497.5 Invitation to Miss Mahi

The Committee agreed that a letter would be sent to invite Councillor Mahi's daughter to an Events meeting to discuss the promotion of Council events and markets.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

497.6 To agree a representative for Economic Group

The Committee agreed that since Councillor Smith was already a member of this group, he would be the Committee's representative.

498/2007 REPORT ON MEETING WITH THAMES VALLEY POLICE

Councillor Stevens informed the Committee that the meeting will be held on 21st January 2008 at 10.30am in the Chamber.

499/2007 DISCUSS WORKING WITH PLANNING COMMITTEE ON THE LAUNCH OF THE BUCKINGHAM PLAN

499.1

The Chairman would liaise with Councillor Whyte over dates and details. Some entertainment would be organised.

499.2 Purchase of a portable shelter

It was discussed and **AGREED** that the Committee would purchase a portable shelter to be used for this and other Council and Charity events from the £250 left in 4232 (Barriers).

ACTION THE CHAIRMAN

500/2007 DISCUSS MEETING WITH BUCKINGHAM ACOUSTICS

The committee agreed to invite Buckingham Acoustics to a meeting after the budget was agreed at Precept.

501/2007 TO REVIEW BUDGET POSITION

The Chairman raised the issue of funding for the Buckingham Dojo and the Church Holiday Club, both of which were of benefit to the young people of the Town. He reminded Members that the Youth Budget had been moved into the remit of the Events Committee.

[Members are referred to F&A minutes for 17th December 2007]

Proposed by Cllr. Hirons, seconded by Cllr. Bloomfield and **RECOMMENDED** that £1000 be paid to the Dojo from 4094 (Youth Budget)

Proposed by Cllr. Hirons, seconded by Cllr. Bloomfield and **RECOMMENDED** that £250 be paid to the Holiday club from 4094 (Youth Budget)

502/2007 PRESS RELEASES

There were no press releases.

503/2007 CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

There were no Chairman's items.

Meeting closed at 10pm.

CHAIRMAN DATE