

Minutes of a meeting of the **Resources Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 7th January 2019** in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham at 7pm.

Present:

Cllr Bloomfield	
Cllr. P. Collins	
Cllr. J. Harvey	Town Mayor
Cllr. P. Hirons	
Cllr. D. Isham	
Cllr. A. Mahi	
Cllr. Ms. Newell	
Cllr. Mrs. O'Donoghue	
Cllr. Mrs. Strain-Clark	
Cllr. M. Smith	Chair
Cllr. R. Stuchbury	

Also present: Mr. P. Hodson Town Clerk
Mrs. N. Stockill Committee Clerk

A minute's silence was held in respect for Mr. Theodore Connor, Friend of Buckingham, who had died the previous week.

607/18 Apologies for Absence

Members received and accepted apologies from Cllrs. Mrs. G. Collins and Try.

608/18 Declarations of Interest

The following Town Councillors declared interest in agenda item 8.1 (community grants) as follows:

- Cllrs. Smith and Bloomfield as Trustees of Buckingham Old Gaol
- Cllr. O'Donoghue as an employee of Buckingham Youth Club
- Cllrs. Hirons and Newell as members of St Peter & St Pauls Church

609/18 Minutes of last meeting

Members ratified the minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on Monday 5th November 2018, as presented at the Full Council meeting held on the 19th November 2018.

610/18 Minutes of CSG Committee

Members received and noted the draft minutes of the CSG Committee meeting held on 29th November 2018.

611/18 Bridges at Bourton Park

The Town Clerk explained to Members that the Bourton Road footbridge into Bourton Park had been vandalised in July and 5 sections of the uprights were kicked out. They were temporarily made safe and covered over. Prices were then obtained to carry out the repairs and a claim put in to our insurers. When getting prices it was clear the whole side of the bridge needed replacing; the quote for all repair work was £18,650. The claim was approved on the 5th October (minus the excess of £100).

The repair work started 22nd October. Once work started the old timber was removed and the contractor discovered that the main upright posts were rotten at the base which all needed removing and repairing to continue with the repair work. An additional price of £3,700 was provided. The insurance company was approached with this additional cost but said this was not covered by the insurance stating: 'The insurance policy covers you for one off-incidents such as vandalism, theft, storm damage etc. It excludes maintenance issues and specifically rot or gradually operating causes.'

This additional work had to be carried out so the repair work could continue. Fortunately there were sufficient funds remaining in the Bourton Park Horticultural budget. So while the Council has incurred a cost to make the bridge safe, this has been significantly cheaper than it would have been if we had had to arrange to make the necessary repairs to the upright posts without other work being carried out.

612/18 Action Report

(366/18) Town Action Commission – concerning the Parent/Child parking in Cornwalls Meadow, Cllr. Stuchbury briefed Members on recent discussions with the Cabinet Member who was unaware of any formal agreement to implement 6 designated bays towards the rear of the car park, as agreed during installation of the new toilets etc. After discussion, Members **AGREED** that the Town Clerk investigate whether any written confirmation existed and feedback to the Environment Committee. The item could then be removed from the Action Report. **ACTION TOWN CLERK**

(336/18) Staffing Costs – it was noted that this had been dealt with and could now be removed from the Action Report. **ACTION – COMMITTEE CLERK**

613/18 Accounts and Budgets

613.1/18 Members received and considered income and expenditure reports. The Town Clerk **AGREED** to investigate reasons for ongoing rental of Grenville garages, which Members thought had been discontinued when the unit on the Business Park had been obtained; and report back to Resources Committee. **ACTION TOWN CLERK**

614/18 Precept 2019/20

614.1/18 Grant applications 2019

Members received and considered officer recommendations to the Precept meeting on community grants for 2019/20. The Town Clerk reported that eighteen requests for financial assistance had been received by Buckingham Town Council for grants for the 2019/2020 year and these had been assessed based on the Town Council's criteria for grant giving. The Town Council's Grants Policy has the following criteria:

1. Grants will only be considered for projects and activities beneficial to the people of Buckingham.
2. Grant recipients must be based in Buckingham or provide evidence of the percentage of the work that is conducted in or on behalf of Buckingham residents.
3. No commercial organisation will be considered for a grant.

Cllr. Strain-Clark welcomed the new format for community grant recommendations.

Proposed by Cllr. Strain-Clark and seconded by Cllr. Newell that £500 be awarded to Project Street Life. A vote was taken and the results were:

In favour: 9

Abstentions: 2

Motion carried

Members **AGREED** to consider the three year grants applications first. Cllr. Harvey proposed increasing Buckingham Youth Club's award by the equivalent percentage to 2019/20's precept; resulting in an increased award of £200 (per annum) or £5,200 per annum for the next three years. Members **AGREED** unanimously to recommend.

Proposed by Cllr. Harvey and seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue to increase The Citizen's Advice award from £5,000 to £5,176 in reflection of £1 per household (tax base) within Buckingham. In subsequent years the Citizen's Advice award would be increased by the current tax base. Members unanimously **AGREED** to recommend the amended award as it represented Buckingham's need for Citizen's Advice and encouraged neighbouring parishes to follow suit.

Three Year Grants (first year)

Organisation	Proposed	Recommended
Bucks Youth Clubs Ltd	£5,000	£5,200 PA for 3 years
Buckingham Old Gaol	£3,000	£3,000 PA for 3 years
Citizens Advice Aylesbury Vale	£5,000	£5,176 PA for 3 years
TOTAL	£13,000	£13,376 pa

Category A: The following applications fit all three of these criteria:

Organisation	Requested	Proposed	Description	Reason where a reduced amount is recommended	Recommended
Buckingham Canal Society	£1,564	£1,150	Interpretation board for the canal.	Large amount requested	£1,150
Buckingham Churches Children's Holiday Club	£750	£750	Running costs of free holiday childcare		£750
Buckingham Literary Festival	£800	£400	Bringing performers to the library and schools	The Festival made a surplus of £3K in 2018; recommend a reduced grant	£400
Buckingham Summer Festival	£1,500	£750	Musician fee for evening events	The Festival made a surplus of £3K in 2018; recommend a reduced grant	£750

Organisation	Requested	Proposed	Description	Reason where a reduced amount is recommended	Recommended
Buckingham Tennis Club	£1,000	£1,000	Defibrillator in Chandos Park		£1,000
Members discussed and AGREED to the 2019/20 donation, noting the success of previous fundraising efforts for the AED project. Members agreed in principle to recommend the grant application and asked the Town Clerk to investigate the AED project's desire to devolve all of the town's AED units to the Town Council and future on costs. ACTION TOWN CLERK					
Buckingham Town Cricket Club	£1,000	£1,000	Electricity to storage facility and outdoor cricket nets		£1,000
Buckingham United Football Club	£950	£950	40ft Shipping Container for storage		£950
Members AGREED for an agreed location of the shipping container to be a condition of the grant award. ACTION TOWN CLERK					
Friends of the Old Gaol	£1,000	£1,000	New shelving and redecoration of the shop		£1,000
Summer Festival Supporters	£250	£250	Bench outside Radcliffe Centre		£250
Buckingham West End Bowls Club	£1,000	£750	Purchase of scarifier attachment for lawnmower.	Current reserves slightly exceed one year's running costs; reduced amount recommended	£750
Chandos Park Bowls Club	£500	£500	Green maintenance		£500
Slade Recreation Club	£2,500	£1,000	Refurbishment of kitchen units and appliances (total £5K)	Large amount requested; the remainder could be funded from club reserves	£1,000
Swan Community Hub	£1,000	£1,000	Enable them to offer Universal		£1,000

Organisation	Requested	Proposed	Description	Reason where a reduced amount is recommended	Recommended
			Credit support		
TOTAL	£13,814	£10,100.00			£10,500

Category B: The following applications may not be sufficiently local, or benefit local residents explicitly enough to qualify:

Organisation	Requested	Proposed	Reason	Recommended
Gawcott Cricket Club	£150	£0	The application is not from a Buckingham-based organisation, and the funds spent would be for equipment outside the boundary of the town.	£135; Members discussed and AGREED for the Town Clerk to value the percentage of the club's membership that are Buckingham residents and award proportionately ACTION TOWN CLERK
Project Street Life	£1,000	£0	The grant would only benefit 8 young people and so would not represent value for money.	£500
St James and St John PTA (Akeley)	£1,000	£0	The application is not from a Buckingham-based organisation, and does not say how Buckingham residents would benefit.	£0
UK Astronomy (Milton Keynes based)	£1,000	£0	The application is not from a Buckingham-based organisation.	£0
TOTAL	£3,250	£0		£635

Category C: The following application fits the criteria but could entirely fund the project themselves and still have enough residual funding remaining to continuing run for at least another year from their general reserves:

Organisation	Requested	Proposed	Reason	Recommended
North Bucks Carers (adult)	£1,000	£0	Project could be funded from	£1,000

			general reserves and leave over a year's running costs.	
TOTAL	£1,000	£0		£1,000

Members **AGREED** to recommend to Full Council (Precept) a total community grant award of £25,511.

614.2/18 Recommended Precept

To discussed Committee recommendations for the forthcoming Precept budget, including staffing costs.

Proposed by Cllr. Harvey, seconded by Cllr. Smith and unanimously **AGREED** that, subject to amendments in community grants, the report recommendations are recommended to Full Council.

[For the benefit of the minutes the report recommendations are: That the Council adopts the budgets attached and increases the precept by 12p per week on a band D property. The new cost per band D property would be £165.64 and would be a yearly increase of £6.15 or 3.85%. To roll over any budgets on major items such as the new cemetery if these monies have not cleared before the year end.

That the total funding requirement for 2019/20 to be levied on the Aylesbury Vale District Council be set at £857,353.]

615/18 Invoices passed for payment, and income received

The report was not discussed.

616/18 Internal Audit report 2018/19

Members received and noted the Town Councils' Internal Audit report 2018/19.

617/18 Chairman's Announcements

There were no Chairman's announcements.

618/18 Date of next meeting: Monday 11th March 2019

Meeting closed at: 7.58pm

Signed.....

Date.....