



“The Buckingham Vision & Design Statement will reach its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2021 and in recognition of this I am proposing the following:

- That Buckingham Town Council, in conjunction with the Buckingham Society, reviews the V&D Statement in line with current planning guidance as part of the preparation of the revised Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan.
- That Buckingham Town Council seeks confirmation of the Buckinghamshire Council’s intent to adopt the Buckingham V&D Statement as a Design Guide, replacing the current AVDC SPG.
- That Buckingham Town Council, in conjunction with the Buckingham Society and other interested parties, hold a celebration event marking 20 years of the Buckingham Design Guide. “

Cllr. Stuchbury advocated the principles of the Buckingham Vision and Design Statement and highlighted some its successes, such as the housing development on Whitehead Way. Cllr. Stuchbury said it was important to respect the history of the document and those involved in its creation. Cllr. Strain-Clark seconded the motion. Cllr. Smith asked for clarity on the ‘celebration event’. Cllr. Stuchbury said the event planning would be a legacy for the new Town Council to arrange. A vote was taken and the results were unanimously in favour of Cllr. Stuchbury’s motion.

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

#### **476/19 Motion - Cllr. Cole (Recommendation from Planning Committee 7/10/19 Min 399/19)**

Cllr. Cole proposed the following motion: “The AVDC Chairman’s comments to the recent Local Area Forum that they were still having problems with Planning, mainly due to staff and a heavy backlog, and her admission that their Planning Department is not performing well, should be of great concern to us, as well as to all councils in the Vale of Aylesbury.

It is the democratic duty of LPAs to deal with planning applications in a fair and timely manner, and AVDC cannot abdicate this responsibility in the run-up to Unitary.

I accordingly propose that this Council asks Cllr Angela Macpherson for an assurance that she will make improvements to AVDC Planning’s performance a priority.”

Cllr. Smith seconded the motion.

The Town Clerk reported that the developers of the council’s new cemetery were still waiting on an outstanding report from AVDC’s Planning Department to finalise the planning permission and it was not clear as to why its taking so long. Members **AGREED** for the issue to be highlighted in the Town Clerk’s letter to Cllr. Macpherson.

Cllr. Stuchbury said that Cllr. Macpherson had inherited problems with the Planning Department and staff retention from the previous Leader of AVDC and Councillors should express an understanding of her situation.

Cllr. Cole said the motion was not written as a personal criticism of Cllr. Macpherson but on the ongoing management of the District Council’s Planning Department. Cllr Mordue said the number of non-determined applications were small in respect of the total number of planning applications considered by AVDC.

A vote was taken and Members voted unanimously in favour of Cllr. Cole’s motion.

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

#### **477/19 Twinning Association**

Members received and noted correspondence between The Town Mayor and Neukirchen-Vluyn’s Twinning Association. Cllr. Mordue said the formal twinning process does not cost a lot of money to the town and was managed within its small budget.

Cllr. Harvey said that when BCC replace the 'Welcome to Buckingham' sign it should include reference to both Mouvaux and Neukirchen-Vluyn.

Cllr. Stuchbury spoke in favour of including Cllr. Strain-Clark in the formal twinning process in recognition of her involvement in the initial Twinning with Mouvaux.

**478/19 Chairman's Announcements**

Councillor and Staff Christmas Lunch and quiz – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
Bonfire and fireworks starts at 6pm on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2019.

**479/19 Date of next Meetings:**

Full Council	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> November 2019
Interim Council	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2019

Meeting closed at 19.28

**Signed** ..... **Date** .....