

BTC/06/19

Minutes of a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 27th January 2020** in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham at 7:00pm.

Present:

Cllr. M. Cole	Mayor
Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins	Deputy Mayor
Cllr. P. Collins	
Cllr. J. Harvey	(until minute 718/19)
Cllr. P. Hirons	
Cllr. A. Mahi	
Cllr. H. Mordue	(from minute 711/19)
Cllr. Ms. R. Newell	
Cllr. A. Ralph	
Cllr. M. Smith	
Cllr. Mrs. C. Strain-Clark	
Cllr. R. Stuchbury	
Cllr. M. Try	

In attendance: Mr. P. Hodson	Town Clerk
Mrs. N. Stockill	Committee Clerk
Cllr. T. Mills	District Councillor
Cllr. C. Clare	County Councillor
Cllr. W Whyte	County Councillor and District Councillor
Ms. D. Ratunabuabua	Practice Manager, Swan Practice
Dr. G. Gavriel	General Practitioner, Swan Practice

A minute's silence was held in respect of Holocaust Memorial Day. This year is particularly significant as it marks 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and Belsen.

PUBLIC SESSION

Cllr. T. Mills asked the office to consider sending earlier notification of any Buckingham Town Council civic functions.

701/19 Apologies for Absence

Members received and accepted apologies from Cllr Mordue for lateness and from Cllrs. O'Donoghue, Bloomfield and Gateley. Members received apologies from Mr. D. Leveson of Buckinghamshire Healthcare Trust regarding plans for the Swan Practice (agenda item 6).

702/19 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

*Members **AGREED** to take agenda item 9 (Representatives from Swan Practice) next for the benefit of Ms. D. Ratunabuabua and Dr. G. Gavriel.*

703/19 Presentation from representative of The Swan Practice

Ms. Ratunabuabua spoke to Members on the development plans for Swan Practice, outlining the following key points:

- The Practice serve 30,000 patients from Buckingham and the surrounding villages. The services are delivered from four sites across the area, which were surgeries in their own rights prior to mergers in 2014 and 2016.
- The surgeries have outgrown their current premises and struggle with the number of available consulting rooms, car parking and office space. Development plans hope to address these issues and are in line with the strategic thinking of the NHS's Five Year Forward View.
- The Business Case for developing integrated care pathways (within a new Medical Centre) is currently under review at Board level. The financial agreement for long term rent with the CCG had not as yet been agreed and building will not start at Lace Hill until this is done.
- The Practice wants to be able to provide far more services that link in with primary care. This could include hospital consultants working here as opposed to the hospital. The Practice is working with the Estates Department at Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and are close to approval of eight renal dialysis beds for the Lace Hill Medical Centre. This is an initiative which will provide care for patients closer to home as opposed to having to travel to Oxford.
- There are plans to provide a satellite consultation facility within the town centre. There is an agreement via the One Public Estate Partnership to work with Bucks County Council on their plans for the Verney Close Area, and the library building of The Centre. This work is all linked and The Swan are working with BCC on this developing idea. Initial plans are for satellite surgeries to house GPs and nurses and then for services to be tailored dependant on patient needs.

Cllr. Stuchbury asked if there were plans to close the surgery in Steeple Claydon. Dr. Gavriel said the Practice would need to move the majority of services into the new facility to work more efficiently and make the best use of the space and that it is hoped to keep Steeple Claydon open as usual. Any suggestions that the Steeple Claydon surgery is due for closure are simply rumours. Dr. Gavriel confirmed that disposing of the Practice's premises did not form part of the Business Case. Dr. Gavriel added that until a financial agreement had been reached there was little point hosting a public meeting on the future of healthcare provision in Buckingham.

Ms. Ratunabuabua and Dr. Gavriel assured Members that the Practice regularly consults with their Patient Participation Group on plans for the Medical Centre and agreed that, once available, they would forward Members written confirmation of the principles underpinning the Medical Centre's Design.

ACTION MS. RATUNABUABUA AND DR. GAVRIEL

Dr. Gavriel agreed to investigate Cllr. Strain-Clark's suggestion of lowering the call bell at Verney Close surgery's reception desk.

ACTION DR GAVRIEL

Cllr. G. Collins asked when the Medical Centre would be built. Dr. Gavriel explained the build time was 18 months to 2 years but this was all dependent on approval of the financial agreement. Cllr. G. Collins asked for interim measures to improve patients' ability to access pre-bookable and on the day appointments. Ms. Ratunabuabua said the Practice had a strong ratio of GPs too and the Practice continued to score high on patient satisfaction surveys. Dr. Gavriel added that daily over 100 patients access on the day appointments and anyone that needs to be seen will be seen by an appropriate healthcare professional.

Dr. Gavriel said the Town Council were welcome to communicate the surgery's plans with the wider public.

Cllr. Ralph asked the visitors to consider interim satellite branches to support developing housing estates, such as St Rumbold's, Tingewick Road. Ms. Ratanabuabua said this was not a feasible option for the Swan Practice as rotating services across the existing four sites was already an administrative challenge.

*Members **AGREED** to suspend Standing orders to allow Cllr. T. Mills to speak*

Cllr. Mills suggested a volunteer transport scheme and was informed there was already a successful scheme running in Buckingham.

Standing orders were reinstated.

Members thanked Dr. Gavriel and Ms. Ratanabuabua for attending Full Council and asked to be kept updated with any significant movement with the Practice's plans.

Dr. Gavriel and Ms. Ratanabuabua left the chamber at 19.35.

704/19 Minutes

Members received the minutes of the Full Council Meetings held on:

Monday 18th November 2019 – (509/19) Members **AGREED** to update the recommendation to reflect minute 450/19 from Environment Committee on the 21st October 2019 and reissue as draft for ratification at Full Council on the 16th March 2020.
ACTION COMMITTEE CLERK

Monday 13th January 2020 (Precept) – Due to an administrative error Members had only received an electronic copy of the Precept minutes. Members **AGREED** to reissue the minutes to be received and agreed at Full Council on the 16th March 2020.

ACTION COMMITTEE CLERK

Cllr Mills left the chamber at this point in the agenda.

705/19 Interim Minutes

Members received and **AGREED** the minutes of the Interim Council meeting held on Monday 16th December 2019.

706/19 Planning Committee

Members received and noted the draft minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on Monday 25th November 2019 and Monday 16th December 2019.

707/19 Town Centre and Events Committee

Members received and noted the draft minutes of the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting held on Monday 2nd December 2019.

(593/19) Cllr. Stuchbury said the minute did not accurately reflect his comments and would propose an amendment at the next meeting of TC&E Committee on the 10th February 2020.

708/19 Environment Committee

Members received and noted the draft minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 9th December 2019.

709/19 Resources Committee

Members received the minutes and confirmed the recommendations therein of the Resources Committee meeting held on Monday 6th January 2020:

Members received a report from the Town Clerk and **AGREED** the draft Terms of Reference, Complaints Policy/Process, Freedom of Information Appeals Process and creation of an Appeals Committee (min 658/19)

Members received, reviewed and **AGREED** the Council's Financial Management and Risk Assessment (min 664/19)

710/19 To receive and question reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr. Clare provided Members with the following updates:

Tingewick road – Transport for Bucks have completed a safety audit which will hopefully result in a priority left hand lane.

Transport for Bucks will reassess the priority gritting routes to consider the Tingewick Road.

The A421 to A413 roundabout is listed for a rebuild under the capital works project.

Cllr. Whyte provided Members with the following updates:

Road markings in the town centre are to be repainted this week – subject to favourable weather conditions.

BCC have installed a number of cycle racks within the town centre.

Cllr. Whyte reported on significant road repairs scheduled for the road linking Foscott Reservoir, Foscott hamlet and Maids Moreton.

Cllr. Stuchbury provided Members with the following updates:

Cllr. Stuchbury reported on his attendance at Overview Scrutiny Committee for the Shadow Executive and AVE's working relationship with the new Authority.

Cllr. Stuchbury was liaising with the St Rumbold's developers to limit the number of flags placed on the Tingewick Road.

Cllr. Mordue entered the chamber at this point in the agenda

Cllr. Mordue provided Members with the following updates:

Planning – AVDC have introduced a Task Group to examine the performance of the Planning Department. Senior Planners are being resourced from neighbouring authorities but they do not have knowledge of local issues.

711/19 Action List

Members received the Action List and **AGREED** to reschedule the Full Council photograph from the 13th February 2020. **ACTION COMMITTEE CLERK**

712/19 Application 19/01476/APP – ADDITIONAL DOCUMENT

Members received a report from the Planning Clerk. Proposed by Cllr. Harvey, seconded by Cllr. Hirons and unanimously **AGREED** the report recommendation.

713/19 Motion – Cllr. M. Cole, Town Mayor

"That this Council investigates the provision of robes for all councillors to wear on civic or other public occasions, following the lead of Aylesbury Town Council. This would give councillors a more public presence, and enrich the status of Buckingham as an historic market town with royal charters."

Cllr. Cole spoke to the above motion and it was seconded by Cllr. Mahi.

Cllr. Hirons spoke against the motion as he did not feel there were a sufficient number of annual events to justify the cost of new gowns. Cllr. Strain-Clark suggested the idea of ceremonial sashes to identify and distinguish Town Councillors.

A vote was taken and the results were:

In favour 2

Against: 10

Abstentions: 1

Motion fell

Cllrs. Clare and Whyte left the chamber

714/19 Staff Handbook Annual Review (min 503/19 refers)

Members received and **AGREED** the updated Staff Handbook.

715/19 New Councillor Drop-in Session (9th March 2020)

The Town Clerk reminded Members of the Council's suggestion to support any prospective Town Councillors by arranging an informal drop in session – prior to the election in May. Arrangements were in place for the office to host a drop-in session at Buckingham Library on 9th March 2020 at 7pm. Members were in agreement that the drop in session would offer people the opportunity to find out more about what is involved in the role of Town Councillors.

Cllr Stuchbury requested that no photographs to be taken at the drop in session.

715/19 Unitary Update

715.1/19 Unitary Workshop

Members received a written report from the Town Clerk.

An amendment to the report recommendations was proposed by Cllr. P. Collins and seconded by Cllr. Try to remove items 1.1 (b) *The Council Requests to explore planning powers being considered in the future* and 3.3 (d) *Request to explore planning powers being considered in the future*.

A vote was taken and the results were:

In favour: 2

Against: 9

Abstentions: 2

Motion fell.

Proposed by Cllr. Harvey and seconded by Cllr. Newell to accept the following report recommendations:

- a) The Council requests that Buckingham's charters be returned to the Town Council
- b) The Council requests that explore planning powers being considered in the future

A vote was taken and the results were:

In favour: 9

Against: 1

Abstentions: 3

Motion carried

ACTION TOWN CLERK

716/19 Devolved Services

Members received a verbal update from the Town Clerk that he had expressed an interest in any future funding from the County Council / Unitary Council for additional devolved services in the future.

717/19 Council Representatives on outside bodies

The Town Clerk updated Members that he has requested the new Shadow Authority provide representation at future meetings of the Pontio and the Economic Development Working Groups.

718/19 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Members noted the following minutes:

718.1/19 Aylesbury Vale Transport User Group (AVTUG) 10th September and 10th December 2019

718.2/19 AccessforAll 11th November 2018

718.3/19 Buckingham and Gawcott Charitable Trust 25th January 2020

Cllr. Stuchbury report that the Buckingham and Gawcott Charitable Trust had issued a grant to Buckingham Primary School for the refurbishment of the school library.

Cllr. Harvey left the chamber at this point in the agenda.

719/19 Mayoral Engagements

Members received a list of events attended by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Functions the Mayor has attended:

Nov 21 Tesco Big Food Collection, Buckingham
Nov 22 Funeral of Mrs Sue Calder, Crown Hill
Nov 22 Royal Latin School Gala Dinner, Williams F1, Wantage
Nov 23 Wellness Fair, Buckingham Community Centre
Nov 28 Buckingham & Gawcott Charitable Trust, Council Chamber
Nov 30 Buckingham Christmas Lights Switch-On
Dec 01 Winter Fair, Lace Hill Community Centre
Dec 03 AVDC Chairman's Charity Luncheon, Hartwell House
Dec 06 Bucks Young Carers (YC2) Christmas Party
Dec 07 Bourton Meadow School Christmas Fair
Dec 09 Environment Committee (ex-officio)
Dec 11 Buckingham School OAP Christmas Luncheon
Dec 14 Buckingham Christmas Parade
Dec 14 Buckingham Community Fair, Community Centre
Dec 15 Vice Chancellor's Reception, University of Buckingham
Dec 17 Pontio Group, University of Buckingham
Jan 06 Resources Committee (ex-officio)
Jan 09 Unitary Pilot Meeting, Council Chamber
Jan 09 BNDP Presentation, Gawcott Parish Council, Gawcott
Jan 14 RAF Croughton Open Day
Jan 22 Cllr Derrick Isham Funeral, Buckingham Parish Church

Functions the Deputy Mayor has attended:

Dec 14 Buckingham Christmas Parade

720/19 Chair's Announcements

Cllr. Cole reminded Members of the following:

Councillors to consider nominations for any Town Council award to be considered at the Informal meeting on Monday 24th February 2020.

Due to building works in the Council Chamber, from the 17th February 2020 all Buckingham Town Council meetings will be held in the Small Committee room of Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre, until further notice.

721/19 Date of the next meetings:

Interim Council – Monday 24th February 2020

Informal Meeting – Monday 24th February 2020

Full Council - Monday 16th March 2020

Annual Town Meeting – Wednesday 18th March 2020

Meeting closed at: 21.10

Signed Date
Town Mayor