



BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

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Wednesday, 07 July 2021

Councillors

You are summoned to an Extraordinary meeting of the **Town Centre & Events Working Group** of Buckingham Town Council will be held on Monday 12th July 2021 following a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council at Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre, Buckingham MK18 7RP

Mr. P. Hodson
Town Clerk

Please note that the meeting will be preceded by a Public Session in accordance with Standing Order 3.f, which will last for a maximum of 15 minutes.

Residents are very welcome to ask questions or speak to Councillors about any matter relevant to the meeting at the start of the meeting in the usual way. Please email committeeclerk@buckingham-tc.gov.uk or call 01280 816426 for the password to take part. **Due to Covid restrictions limited places are available in the hall for members of the public, so do let us know in advance if you wish to attend.**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

Members are asked to receive apologies from Councillors.

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of any personal or prejudicial interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 Sections 26-34 & Schedule 4.

3. Street Market

To decided whether to host a Street Market on the 16th and 23rd October 2021

TCE/30/21

4. Date of the next meeting: Monday 6th September 2021

To:

Cllr. R. Ahmed
Cllr. F. Davies
Cllr. Mrs. M Gateley (Town Mayor)
Cllr. A. Mahi Vice Chair

Cllr. L. O'Donoghue
Cllr. R. Stuchbury Chair
Cllr. R. Willett



Twinned with Mouvaux, France;

Neukirchen-Vluyn, Germany



Members are reminded when making decisions that the Public Sector Equality Duty 2010 requires Members to have due regard to the need to: Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act, advance equality of opportunity between people who share a characteristic and those who don't, and to foster good relations between people who share a characteristic and those who don't.

All Committee documents can be found on the Buckingham Town Council's website. Alternatively, the Clerk send you a copy of any minutes, reports or other information. To do this, send a request using the contact details set out above.

BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN CENTRE & EVENTS WORKING GROUP
MONDAY 12th July 2020

Contact Officer: Deputy Town Clerk

Markets during the Charter Fair

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1. It is recommended that the small street market that takes place outside the Chamber on Charter Fair days is ended.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. When the Charter Fair visits the Town it uses the space where the markets take place. It is the convention that a small number of stall holders are invited to stand in the area between Waitrose and the Chamber. There does not appear to have ever been a risk assessment conducted on this convention.
- 2.2. The traders are not charged for this although the Market Manager works that day and takes responsibility for it. Therefore, it runs at a loss for the Council.
- 2.3. The area is very small so only 5-6 paired down stalls can fit in. At the moment the Street Market is full so less than half of the regular attendees would be able to stand. This is likely to cause resentment from those who are not asked.
- 2.4. The Charter Fair did not take place last year so the Markets operated as normal.
- 2.5. The year before last there were a number of issues and a complaint which was debated across social media. The problems are caused by the area being extremely busy with shoppers and Charter Fair attendees and there not being enough space for the stalls and their support vehicles.
- 2.6. In order to safely load and unload the stalls and produce the traders need to use the closest parking spaces. These spaces are all disabled bays and are in constant use when the Charter Fair is on. This creates an unmanageable conflict between the two user groups with the disabled bay users quite reasonably feeling aggrieved at the lorries using their spaces. This informal arrangement can not continue as the lorries should not be there and a clear danger has been identified which the Council has a duty

to manage. The only solution would be to apply to have five or six disabled spaces suspended.

- 2.7. Applying to have the spaces suspended will incur an admin fee of around £100. The suspension will be advertised in advance and is likely to be extremely badly received across social media. It will also deprive vulnerable residents of a safe place to park to attend the Charter Fair.
- 2.8. Other options have been considered but it would not be safe or realistic for traders to carry all of their equipment and produce across the car park to the lorry parking on the other side. There also isn't enough room there for the lorries to open their doors and access their loading equipment there. There isn't enough space in the Town Centre for the market to relocate and no appetite from the Traders to be located outside of the Town Centre where there is not enough foot flow to be worth their while. Also any relocation will require additional staffing, insurance and planning which there is not the capacity for, over what is already an extremely busy weekend.
- 2.9. By making a decision well in advance the Council can give the Traders and shoppers plenty of advance notice so they can make alternative arrangements for those two days.
- 2.10. The Charter Fairs are really exciting events for the Town and part of our history. It would be a real shame if the positive feeling they generate was overshadowed by anger and resentment at the loss of a significant amount of disabled parking during two of the busiest car parking days of the year.