

IM/03/21

Minutes of an **Interim Council Meeting of Buckingham Town Council** held at 7pm on Monday 13th September 2021 in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

Present:

Cllr. M. Cole JP
Cllr. M. Gateley
Cllr. J. Harvey
Cllr. S. Hetherington
Cllr. H. Mordue
Cllr. A. Ralph
Cllr. A. Schaefer
Cllr. R. Stuchbury
Cllr. M. Try
Cllr. R. Willet

Also Present:

Mr P. Hodson	Town Clerk
Mrs. N. Stockill	Committee Clerk
Mrs. K. McElligott	Planning Clerk
Mrs C. Cumming	Buckingham Society

Members of the public were in attendance but no-one spoke.

351/21 Apologies for Absence

Members received and accepted apologies from and Town Councillors Ahmed, Davies, Whyte, O'Donoghue and Collins and received apologies from Buckinghamshire Councillor Cornell.

352/21 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

353/21 Motion – Cllr. M. Cole JP

Proposed by Cllr. Cole and seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury that this Council, having been involved in the 2021 consultation about closing Thames Valley Police front desks as a cost-saving exercise, asks how TVP can justify wasting £14.4m of taxpayers' money in pulling out of the Equip IT venture being developed with Surrey and Sussex forces, in which it was the major partner. Prior to the May 2021 elections, TVP was also asking for an increase to its council tax precept to provide more officers. This waste of council taxpayers' money appears to be at odds with that, and we would ask the TV Police Commissioner to justify this profligacy. We would also ask what is the latest situation on counter closures, given that TVP itself noted 51%, a majority, of those taking part in the consultation were opposed to it.

Members voted unanimously in favour of Cllr. Cole's motion and the Town Clerk was tasked with writing to the TV Police Commissioner.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

354/21 Covid Measures During Council Meetings

Members received a verbal report from the Town Clerk on possible measures Council could explore to mitigate the risk of transmission of Covid-19 in Council meetings.

The Town Clerk reminded Members that there is no mandatory requirement to wear face coverings in the Council Chamber and that the Council can ask but cannot compel staff,

IM/03/21

Councillors and the public to wear masks or provide proof of vaccination or COVID negative tests.

Cllr. Mordue suggested suspending the rule for Councillors to stand when speaking at meetings of Full Council. Members were in agreement that this measure could reduce the risk of projecting particles across the Chamber table.

The Town Mayor **AGREED** to suspend the requirement for Councillors to stand when speaking during Full Council and encouraged Members to wear a face mask when moving around the Council Chamber.

Cllr. Harvey requested that Councillors wear masks for the duration of Council meetings.

Members **AGREED** Cllr. Harvey's suggestion that the office add a header to all Council agendas encouraging all attendees to wear masks and take lateral flow tests before a meeting.

ACTION COMMITTEE CLERK

355/21 Chairman's Announcements

There were no announcements.

356/21 Date of next Meetings:

Full Council	Monday 4th October 2021
Interim Council	Monday 1st November 2021

357/21 New Licensing Policy Consultation – Alcohol, Entertainment and Late Night Refreshment

Members discussed the new draft licensing policy which explains Buckinghamshire Council's approach to making decisions about licenses and noted that the closing date of 26th September was not long enough for a thorough consultation.

Members **AGREED** for the Town Clerk to respond on behalf of the Council.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

Meeting closed at 7.30 pm

Signed

Date