



BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, CORNWALLS MEADOW,
BUCKINGHAM. MK18 1RP

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Town Clerk: Mr. C. P. Wayman

Tuesday, 28 March 2017

Councillor,

You are summoned to a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of Buckingham Town Council will be held on **Monday 3rd April 2017** at 7pm in the Town Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham.


Mr. C. P. Wayman
Town Clerk

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

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Members are asked to receive and accept apologies from members.

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. **Minutes**

To receive the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 13th February 2017 and approved at Full Council on the 13th March 2017.

Copy previously circulated

4. **Action Report**

To receive the report and note the updated information.

Appendix A

5. **Budgets**

To receive the latest figures

Appendix B

6. **Buckingham Dementia Action Alliance**

To receive a presentation from Eileen Winston, Steering Group Chairman of Buckingham Dementia Action Alliance on National and Local Dementia Action Alliances, and specifically the local work towards creating a Buckingham Dementia Friendly Community

Appendix C

7. **Buckingham War Memorial**

To receive and note an application to add Buckingham War Memorial to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural Interest

Appendix D

8. **Football Pitch Hire Rates**

To receive a written update from the Deputy Town Clerk

E/74/16

Buckingham



LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY GOLD

Twinned with Mouvaux, France



Members are reminded to declare any prejudicial interest as soon as it becomes apparent

9. **Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre Management Plan**
To receive the LHSCC Management Plan from the Deputy Town Clerk **E/75/16**
10. **Lace Hill Event**
Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Mahi and **RECOMMENDED** to Environment Committee to review and discuss the recommendation from report TCE/72/16. **TCE/72/16**
11. **Dog Signage for Bourton Park and Lace Hill Sports Pitches**
To receive and agree a report regarding signage required at Bourton Park and Lace Hill Community centre. **E/76/16**
12. **Football Pitch topdressing**
To receive and agree a report from the Greenspaces Manager **E/77/16**
13. **Section 106**
To discuss and propose the allocation of Section 106 funding
14. **Access Awareness**
14.1 Disabled Go's survey of properties in Buckingham **Appendix E**
15. **BCWP**
Minutes from 13th February 2017 **Appendix F**
16. **Town Action Commission**
To receive a written report from the Town Action Commission **Appendix G**
17. **News Releases**
18. **Chair's Announcements**
19. **Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 30th May 2017.

To:

Cllr. Ms. J Bates
Cllr. T. Bloomfield
Cllr. P. Collins
Cllr. Mrs. M. Gateley
Cllr. J. Harvey
Cllr. P. Hirons
Cllr. D. Isham – Vice Chair
Cllr. A. Mahi - Mayor

Cllr. Ms. R. Newell – Chair
Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Donoghue
Cllr. M. Smith
Cllr. Mrs. C. Strain-Clark
Cllr. R. Stuchbury

Minute No	Action Required	Action Taken	Result	Social Value	Officer Effort	Urgency	Total
215/11, 334/11 & 709/14 86.2/16	Discussion Paper – Renewable Energy	Report regarding fuel poverty – Solar panels for Community centre. Issue with testing of roof to be resolved	Oh hold until transfer complete	2	3	2	7
741/11	Chandos Park lime trees	GSM to produce report regarding planting a replacement row of trees as one of the lime trees had to be removed	Writing Park Management plan	1	2	2	5
481/12 & 498.3	BMX Track	Look into possibilities for new BMX track and if it could be included in the Neighbourhood plan	Under S106 for Moreton Road	4	1	3	8
878/13, 598/12, 199/14; 830/14	Bourton Ponds Project	Public being consulted as to opinion of proposed plans, funding being sought.	On Hold				
90/15 521/16	Entrance signs for Bourton Park	get prices for entrance signage to areas of Bourton park and information boards GSM to install new interpretation boards	In Process of specifying	2	2	3	7
92/15: 904/15;640/16	Sports Pitch Provision	pursue the area at Verney Park 'triangle' and that funding be sought for the surveys required.	S106 agreed	4	1	2	7
513/16	Bourton Park Tree Works	GSM to survey trees in Bourton Park	Ongoing	2	1	3	6
546/16	Sport in Buckingham	TC to advertise on social media for local club/groups	Sport completed and on website				
255/15 & 91/16	Green Flag Status	Areas to be addressed where the criteria is not currently met, put in an application for Bourton Park.	Working on Park Management Plans	3	1	3	7
839/14, 257/15 90/16	Table Tennis Table Bourton Park	Pricing being sought Option C agreed 31/5/16	To be installed in April	2	3	3	8

Items not started

ongoing items

completed items

APPENDIX A

261/15 783/16	Access Awareness	Consider suitable sites in Town centre for further benches	2	2	2	7
502/15 771/15	Access Awareness	Step from Church Street to Church is a problem for access to church due to high step Cllr. Strain-Clark to supply photos	3	3	3	9
522/16	Access Awareness	TC to investigate the cost of improving access to the Community Centre entrance. Similar to the recent work undertaken on the door to the Council Chamber	3	4	3	10
630/15	Wild flower planting for bees – Bourton Park	Some small Areas along river bank seeded, plans to be made for 2 small paddocks, cutting regime altered to help wild-flowering plants.	2	3	1	6
520/16	Bus Shelters	GSM to clarify who owns and maintains the shelter at the Bus Station.	1	3	1	5
776/15 86.3/16	Festival of Health MK CCG	Highlight Buckingham's role in the history of the movement of community nursing. Members felt it worth pursuing and celebrating and AGREED that Cllr Harvey should progress the matter.	On TC&E from now on			
905/15 (831/14 & 93/15)	Devolved/Transferable Land & Chris Nicholls Walk	revisit the potential sites and provide further analysis based on cost, liability per year and social value to the town – a potential list of 3-5 sites	3	1	2	6
787/16	Lace Hill Community Centre	Hire rates to be reviewed in 6 month (August 2017) Review of Mind the Gap's agreement to be brought to next Committee	1	4	1	6
84/16	Gemetry Handbook	Updates to handbook and forms to be brought to committee for agreement	AGREE at Feb Committee			
86.4 & 97/16	Dog bins	Investigate costs of single bin	3	3	3	9

Items not started

ongoing items

completed items

APPENDIX A

517/16;642/16		To locate a new dog waste bin in Mary MacManus Drive Investigate the idea of a poster competition Investigate the cost of installing bag dispensers and improved signage across the parks.	On order				
95/16	Parking at church	Discussions re yew hedge; letter to church	Agreed planting to take place in Feb.				
96/16 386/16 783/16	Michaelmas Cottage	write to resident	No response to letter	1	4	1	6
641/16	Scenic Walk	Members AGREED to carry out an investigation into rights of way along the Railway and Scenic walks.		1	3	1	5
789/16	Football Maintenance	Formal budget on LHSCC		2	3	3	8
790/16	Sports Pitch Hire	Town Clerk to seek professional assistance in writing contract. Final contract to come back to Committee for agreement.	Obtained advice				
788/16	Badminton at Lace Hill	Deputy Town Clerk to investigate the standards of Badminton League competition and whether proposed nets are compliant.					
792/16	CCTV	GSM to produce a report on replacement system including effectiveness of current cameras and indicative costs.		2	2	2	6
789/16	Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre Facility	Proposed by Cllr Harvey, seconded by Cllr. Smith and AGREED for a formal budget on the whole LHSCC facility, including staffing costs to be presented at the next Environment Committee. Agenda 3/4/17					

Items not started

ongoing items

completed items

28/03/2017

Buckingham Town Council

11:14 Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 28/03/2017

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Month No : 12

Committee Report

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% of Budget
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ENVIRONMENT**201 ENVIRONMENT**

4068	COMMUNITY SERVICE	0	6,000	6,750	750	750	88.9 %	
4069	GRIT / SALT BINS	0	0	900	900	900	0.0 %	
4101	SEATS AND BINS	0	0	3,000	3,000	3,000	0.0 %	
4112	ENVIRONMENT EQUIPMENT	0	4,564	6,000	1,436	473	963	84.0 %
4113	EDIBLE WOODLAND	0	0	130	130	130	0.0 %	
4118	GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL	0	371	300	-71	-71	123.7 %	
	ENVIRONMENT :- Expenditure	0	10,935	17,080	6,145	473	5,672	66.8 %
	Net Expenditure over Income	0	10,935	17,080	6,145			

202 ROUNDABOUTS

4108	ROUNDABOUT	0	1,217	1,622	405	406	0	100.0 %
	ROUNDABOUTS :- Expenditure	0	1,217	1,622	405	406	0	100.0 %
1051	ROUNDABOUT NO 1 OPEN	0	2,024	2,054	-30			98.5 %
1052	ROUNDABOUT NO 2 ELLA	0	1,079	1,564	-485			69.0 %
1053	ROUNDABOUT NO 3	0	1,771	1,798	-27			98.5 %
1054	ROUNDABOUT NO 4 R & B	0	2,258	2,235	23			101.0 %
1056	ROUNDABOUT NO 6 EUROLANE	0	2,417	2,453	-36			98.5 %
1057	ROUNDABOUT NO 7 RING ROAD	0	1,232	1,251	-19			98.5 %
	ROUNDABOUTS :- Income	0	10,781	11,355	-574			94.9 %
	Net Expenditure over Income	0	-9,565	-9,733	-168			

203 MAINTENANCE

4063	VEHICLE HIRE AND RUNNING	230	5,482	6,000	518	518	91.4 %	
4082	ALLOTMENTS	0	1,500	1,500	0	0	100.0 %	
4102	DOG BINS	0	0	4,320	4,320	4,320	0.0 %	
	MAINTENANCE :- Expenditure	230	6,982	11,820	4,838	0	4,838	59.1 %
	Net Expenditure over Income	230	6,982	11,820	4,838			

204 DEVOLVED SERVICES EXPENSES

4124	DEVOLVED SERVICES	0	17,814	24,102	6,288	2,112	4,176	82.7 %
	DEVOLVED SERVICES EXPENSES :- Expenditure	0	17,814	24,102	6,288	2,112	4,176	82.7 %
1017	DEVOLVED SERVICES INCOME	0	20,353	27,992	-7,639			72.7 %
	DEVOLVED SERVICES EXPENSES :- Income	0	20,353	27,992	-7,639			72.7 %
	Net Expenditure over Income	0	-2,539	-3,890	-1,351			

Month No : 12

Committee Report

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% of Budget
248	DEPOT							
4013	EQUIPMENT PURCHASE	0	2,263	4,740	2,477		2,477	47.7 %
4055	ALARM	0	1,420	370	-1,050		-1,050	383.8 %
4225	RATES	0	4,398	4,500	102		102	97.7 %
4601	REPAIRS& MAINTENANCE FUND	0	6,203	6,740	537		537	92.0 %
4602	ELECTRICITY	329	1,072	2,500	1,428		1,428	42.9 %
4603	WATER	0	0	1,500	1,500		1,500	0.0 %
	DEPOT :- Expenditure	329	15,357	20,350	4,993	0	4,993	75.5 %
	Net Expenditure over Income	329	15,357	20,350	4,993			
249	PUBLIC TOILETS							
4074	TOILET CAPITAL	0	75,407	0	-75,407	150,815	-226,222	0.0 %
4225	RATES	0	0	8,000	8,000		8,000	0.0 %
4602	ELECTRICITY	-335	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0 %
4603	WATER	0	0	2,500	2,500		2,500	0.0 %
4612	CONTRACTOR CHARGE	0	0	15,000	15,000		15,000	0.0 %
4709	MAINTENANCE	0	159	1,000	841		841	15.9 %
	PUBLIC TOILETS :- Expenditure	-335	75,566	27,500	-48,066	150,815	-198,881	823.2 %
1078	NEW HOMES BONUS	0	75,407	0	75,407			0.0 %
	PUBLIC TOILETS :- Income	0	75,407	0	75,407			
	Net Expenditure over Income	-335	159	27,500	27,341			
250	LACE HILL							
4050	LACE HILL PLAYING FIELDS	0	7,038	7,500	462		462	93.8 %
4158	LACE HILL GAS	0	5,752	2,500	-3,252		-3,252	230.1 %
4159	LACE HILL ELECTRICITY	0	3,267	2,500	-767		-767	130.7 %
4160	LACE HILL WATER	0	0	2,500	2,500		2,500	0.0 %
4161	LACE HILL REPAIRS & MAINT	0	6,009	5,000	-1,009		-1,009	120.2 %
4162	LACE HILL CONTRACTOR	520	6,544	20,000	13,456	1,371	12,085	39.6 %
4163	LACE HILL ALARM	0	175	500	325		325	35.0 %
4164	LACE HILL EQUIPMENT	0	15,491	11,250	-4,241		-4,241	137.7 %
4225	RATES	0	9,692	8,000	-1,692		-1,692	121.1 %
	LACE HILL :- Expenditure	520	53,968	59,750	5,782	1,371	4,411	92.6 %
1026	LACE HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE	2,175	30,522	14,000	16,522			218.0 %
	LACE HILL :- Income	2,175	30,522	14,000	16,522			218.0 %
	Net Expenditure over Income	-1,655	23,446	45,750	22,304			

Month No : 12

Committee Report

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% of Budget
251 CHANDOS PARK							
4106 PLAY AREA MAINTENANCE	0	119	500	381		381	23.8 %
4601 REPAIRS& MAINTENANCE FUND	0	4,409	7,180	2,771	197	2,574	64.2 %
4602 ELECTRICITY	0	0	400	400		400	0.0 %
4603 WATER	478	1,246	1,500	254		254	83.1 %
4605 HORTICULTURAL CONTRACT	0	2,139	2,968	829	742	87	97.1 %
CHANDOS PARK :- Expenditure	478	7,914	12,548	4,634	939	3,695	70.6 %
1030 BOWLS INCOME	0	550	550	0			100.0 %
1035 TENNIS COURT RENT	0	625	625	0			100.0 %
CHANDOS PARK :- Income	0	1,175	1,175	0			100.0 %
Net Expenditure over Income	478	6,739	11,373	4,634			
252 BOURTON PARK							
4106 PLAY AREA MAINTENANCE	0	329	500	171		171	65.9 %
4122 TREE WORKS	0	0	6,129	6,129		6,129	0.0 %
4601 REPAIRS& MAINTENANCE FUND	0	2,964	12,000	9,036	3,217	5,819	51.5 %
4605 HORTICULTURAL CONTRACT	0	7,469	10,278	2,809	2,490	319	96.9 %
BOURTON PARK :- Expenditure	0	10,762	28,907	18,145	5,707	12,438	57.0 %
Net Expenditure over Income	0	10,762	28,907	18,145			
253 CEMETERY							
4225 RATES	0	968	1,300	332		332	74.5 %
4601 REPAIRS& MAINTENANCE FUND	0	1,355	4,000	2,645		2,645	33.9 %
4602 ELECTRICITY	-97	429	400	-29		-29	107.3 %
4605 HORTICULTURAL CONTRACT	0	4,680	6,380	1,700	1,595	105	98.4 %
4620 EXPENSES RE BURIAL DUTIES	0	6,470	6,500	30		30	99.5 %
4621 NEW CEMETERY PLANNING	0	0	20,000	20,000		20,000	0.0 %
CEMETERY :- Expenditure	-97	13,902	38,580	24,678	1,595	23,083	40.2 %
1041 BURIAL FEES	5,296	17,324	12,500	4,824			138.6 %
CEMETERY :- Income	5,296	17,324	12,500	4,824			138.6 %
Net Expenditure over Income	-5,392	-3,422	26,080	29,502			
254 CHANDOS PARK TOILETS							
4612 CONTRACTOR CHARGE	0	0	12,500	12,500		12,500	0.0 %
4709 MAINTENANCE	0	636	1,000	365		365	63.5 %
CHANDOS PARK TOILETS :- Expenditure	0	636	13,500	12,865	0	12,865	4.7 %
Net Expenditure over Income	0	636	13,500	12,865			

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Committee Report

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% of Budget
255 RAILWAY WALK & CASTLE HILL							
4120 FRIENDS OF GROUPS	0	663	2,000	1,337		1,337	33.2 %
4122 TREE WORKS	0	0	1,500	1,500		1,500	0.0 %
RAILWAY WALK & CASTLE HILL :- Expenditure	0	663	3,500	2,837	0	2,837	19.0 %
Net Expenditure over Income	0	663	3,500	2,837			
256 STORAGE PREMISES							
4066 GRENVILLE GARAGE RENT	0	549	650	101		101	84.4 %
4073 COLLEGE FARM	0	-1,083	1,000	2,083		2,083	-108.3
STORAGE PREMISES :- Expenditure	0	-535	1,650	2,185	0	2,185	-32.4 %
Net Expenditure over Income	0	-535	1,650	2,185			
257 KEN TAGG PLAYGROUND							
4106 PLAY AREA MAINTENANCE	0	111	500	389		389	22.2 %
4122 TREE WORKS	0	0	500	500		500	0.0 %
4123 PLAYGROUND REFURBISHMENT	0	1,113	0	-1,113		-1,113	0.0 %
4605 HORTICULTURAL CONTRACT	0	167	223	56	56	0	99.9 %
KEN TAGG PLAYGROUND :- Expenditure	0	1,391	1,223	-168	56	-224	118.3 %
Net Expenditure over Income	0	1,391	1,223	-168			
258 CEMETERY LODGE							
4034 PWLB REPAYMANTS INCL	0	4,702	4,702	0		0	100.0 %
4609 CEMETERY LODGE MAINT	0	423	500	77		77	84.5 %
CEMETERY LODGE :- Expenditure	0	5,125	5,202	77	0	77	98.5 %
1061 CEMTERY LODGE RENTAL	0	7,324	9,450	-2,126			77.5 %
CEMETERY LODGE :- Income	0	7,324	9,450	-2,126			77.5 %
Net Expenditure over Income	0	-2,199	-4,248	-2,049			
259 OTTERS BROOK							
4106 PLAY AREA MAINTENANCE	0	111	500	389		389	22.2 %
4122 TREE WORKS	0	125	150	25		25	83.3 %
4605 HORTICULTURAL CONTRACT	0	673	898	225	224	0	100.0 %
OTTERS BROOK :- Expenditure	0	910	1,548	638	224	414	73.3 %
Net Expenditure over Income	0	910	1,548	638			

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Committee Report

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% of Budget
<u>260</u> <u>CCTV</u>							
4100 CCTV ONGOING COSTS	0	450	2,400	1,950		1,950	18.8 %
CCTV :- Expenditure	<u>0</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>2,400</u>	<u>1,950</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,950</u>	<u>18.8 %</u>
Net Expenditure over Income	<u>0</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>2,400</u>	<u>1,950</u>			
ENVIRONMENT :- Expenditure	<u>1,126</u>	<u>223,056</u>	<u>271,282</u>	<u>48,226</u>	<u>163,697</u>	<u>-115,471</u>	<u>142.6 %</u>
Income	<u>7,470</u>	<u>162,886</u>	<u>76,472</u>	<u>86,414</u>			<u>213.0 %</u>
Net Expenditure over Income	<u>-6,344</u>	<u>60,170</u>	<u>194,810</u>	<u>134,640</u>			

Buckingham Dementia Action Alliance

Working Towards becoming a Dementia Friendly Community

Minutes of meeting 5.30pm Wednesday 1st March 2017 at Buckingham Library

Those in attendance	Organisation
Graham White (GRW)	BCC Community Links Officer - Prevention Matters
Pam Gowen (PG)	Manager, Buckingham Library
Karen Hills (KH)	Area Manager, Library Service
Nina Eriksen-Grey (NE-G)	Activities Co-ordinator, Red House Nursing Home
Elaine Hassall (EH)	Community Engagement Officer, AVDC
Eileen Winston (EW)	Alzheimer's Society Local Representative
Sam Brewer (SB)	Co- Head, Buckingham Primary School
Cllr Mike Smith (MS)	Buckingham Town Councillor representing Old Gaol Trust

		Action
1	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Joyce Anlezark (JA), North Bucks Carers/Alzheimer's Society Jan Kendall (JK), Memory Support Manager, Alzheimer's Society – to attend when able.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the meeting held on 4th January 2017</p> <p>The minutes were confirmed as correct.</p>	
3	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>NE-G contacted St Edmonds Church - Margaret Culley hoping to attend May meeting.</p> <p>NE-G spoke to Royal Latin School – Open to Dementia talk at Monday assembly.</p> <p>Action: To have further discussions.</p>	NE-G

4	<p>Appointment of Vice Chair</p> <p>KH volunteered to fill this role.</p>	
5	<p>Update on membership of National NDAA</p> <p>EH circulated draft of Buckingham DAA entry for NDAA website. The content was agreed. Once an email address for the BDAA had been organised, the entry would be emailed to the NDAA for our registration. - EH to email round once this was complete. Members were each given a pack explaining how to then enter their own organisation on to the NDAA website and stating membership of BDAA.</p>	
6	<p>Reports on activities since 4th January 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buckingham Library Open Day was held on 6th February and included the Dementia display. • JK provided DF talk to Buckingham WI where 25 people attended. • GRW was now a Dementia Champion. He had also given a short talk to the LAF members – Padbury since contacted showing interest in having a talk to their Councillors. 	
7	<p>Future Activities and Leads</p> <p>Tasks from the last meeting were reviewed and updated.</p> <p>Future tasks and leads were:</p> <p>EW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exeter DAA –to review booklet aimed at GP surgeries for possible use locally. • To attend Environment Committee (includes health issues) of Buckingham Town Council on 3rd April. • To progress invitation to Cllr Sue Renshell. • To pursue setting up of Alliance email address • To contact St Paul's and St Peter's. • Arrange meeting with Swan Practice Managers to discuss the work of the Alliance. <p>PG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buckingham School – PG to offer dates to SB to arrange DF sessions with 3 Year 2 and 5 classes during Dementia Awareness Week in May. To follow on with a rolling programme. • To bring display board to May meeting. • Library Coffee Morning Tuesday 16th May 10-1 pm • Library information event as part of Dementia Awareness week in May. <p>GRW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To progress church leads with a view to offer a DF 	<p>EW</p> <p>PG</p> <p>GRW</p>

	<p>session.</p> <p>NE-G</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide further information on Royal Latin School Monday assembly with a view to Alliance members providing a talk to students. <p>KH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To give a DF Session to Oddfellows on 19th March. <p>EH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To circulate contact lists of other organisations to SG members. To provide information for What Matters to You publication in the autumn. To follow up Buckinghamshire Dementia Training Programme with Gemma Workman. To alert SG members when Alliance on NDAA website. <p>SB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To contact Gracewell, Hamilton House and Red House care homes for children to visit and join in Singing sessions. Also for them to attend the Library's monthly coffee morning. 	<p>NE-G</p> <p>KH</p> <p>EH</p> <p>SB</p>
8	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was none.</p>	
9	<p>Date of next meeting.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd May at 5.30 pm at Red House Nursing Home. See revised Schedule for future meeting dates and venues.</p>	

Buckingham Dementia Action Alliance Action Log

Action / Decision / Of Note	Action	Created Date	Due Date	Owner	Update / Outcome	Status	Completion Date
Action	The Verney Centre - to introduce to work of Alliance	04-Jan-17		GRW	Has contacted the Bishop of Buckingham.	in progress	
Action	To provide list of organisations	04-Jan-17		EH	To circulate to SG lists compiled so far	Ongoing	
Action	EW to meet Chris Wayman on 12th January	04-Jan-17	12-Jan-17	EW	postponed until 03/04/2017	in progress	
Action	EW to personally invite Cllr Sue Renshell	04-Jan-17		EW		carried forward	
Action	Invite Open House Charity - Carol Penny	04-Jan-17		EH	To clarify organisation	in progress	
Action	To provide text for promoting on Buckingham What Matters to you - Cllr Mike Smith	04-Jan-17		EH	To aim for Autumn edition	carried forward	
Action	EH to collate points for publication for local people	04-Jan-17		EH		in progress	
Action	EW to send for copy of GP booklet and discuss at next meeting	01-Mar-17	03-May-17	EW		in progress	
Action	KH to give a DFS to Oddfellows on 19th March	01-Mar-17	19-Mar-17	KH		in progress	
Action	Buckingham School and Library to liaise over dates during Dementia Awareness Week in May to provide DFS for Years 2 and 5.	01-Mar-17	28-Apr-17	PG		in progress	
Action	GRW to make contact with church representatives re DF sessions	01-Mar-17		GRW		in progress	
Action	Royal Latin School - Monday assembly DF talk. To pursue further.	01-Mar-17		NE-G		in progress	
Action	EW to pursue setting up of Alliance email	01-Mar-17		EW		in progress	
Action	EH to advise members when Alliance was on NDAA website.	01-Mar-17		EH		in progress	
Action	EW to contact St Peter and St Paul's Church.	01-Mar-17		EW		in progress	
Action	EW to arrange Swan Practice Mananager meeting.	01-Mar-17		EW		in progress	

Action / Decision / Of Note	Action	Created Date	Due Date	Owner	Update / Outcome	Status	Completion Date
Action	SB to contact Gracewell, Hamilton House and Red House care homes for children to visit.	01-Mar-17		SB		in progress	
Note	Padbury PC showed interest in having a talk to Councillors	01-Mar-17		GRW		open	
Action	To bring display board to May meeting	01-Mar-17		PG		open	
Action	To follow up Buckinghamshire Dementia Training programme with Gemma Workman	01-Mar-17		EH		in progress	
Action	To progress initial contact made with Rosemary Frohock, Deputy District Commissioner.			ALL		in progress	

From: Aidan.Misselbrook@HistoricEngland.org.uk [mailto:Aidan.Misselbrook@HistoricEngland.org.uk]
Sent: 14 March 2017 11:16
To: townclerk@buckingham-tc.gov.uk
Subject: Notification of Designation Application; Buckingham War Memorial

14 March 2017

Dear Christopher Wayman (clerk),

**Buckingham War Memorial, St. Peter & St. Paul Parish Church, Castle Street,
Buckingham**

I am writing to let you know that Historic England has received an application to add the above building to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest ('The List'). We understand that you are the owner of the building and would be grateful if you could let us know if this is not the case.

Anyone can apply for any building to be listed. The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport has a duty to compile and maintain the List, and Historic England acts as the Government's statutory adviser on the historic environment with responsibility for listing. It therefore falls to us to assess whether Buckingham War Memorial holds special architectural or historic interest, before making a recommendation to the Secretary of State as to whether the building should be on the List.

Listing helps us to mark a building's significance and celebrate its special architectural and historic interest. It brings specific protection so that its special interest can be properly considered in managing its future. Listing does not mean, however, that no alterations can be made - in fact in the vast majority of cases applications to make changes to a listed building are approved. Further information about listed buildings can be found on our website.

We are now beginning our assessment of the building. Our Designation Adviser, Simon Hawkins, will be happy to answer any questions you may have about this process. If you wish you can contact him on 07795 453433.

If you would like to provide information or comments about the architectural or historic interest of the building at this stage, please send these to me by email or post.

Once we have carried out the preliminary assessment we will be in touch again to send you a copy of our consultation report. This report will set out the factual information on which we will base our recommendation. At that stage you will again be invited to make any comments you wish to about the architectural or historic interest of the building. We will consider all representations made before finalising our assessment and making our recommendation to the Secretary of State. We will notify you of the Secretary of State's decision in due course.

Please click on the link below to download additional supporting information.

<http://services.historicengland.org.uk/webfiles/GetFiles.aspx?av=6E8C554D-A6FD-45ED-81F1-C70467C53167&cn=72A01FCE-CA59-4BD9-A320-D69006B7E6DD>

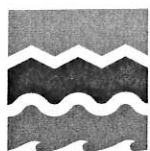
If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me on 0207 973 3377, quoting our reference 1445304. Further information can also be found on our website at www.historicengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Aidan Misselbrook

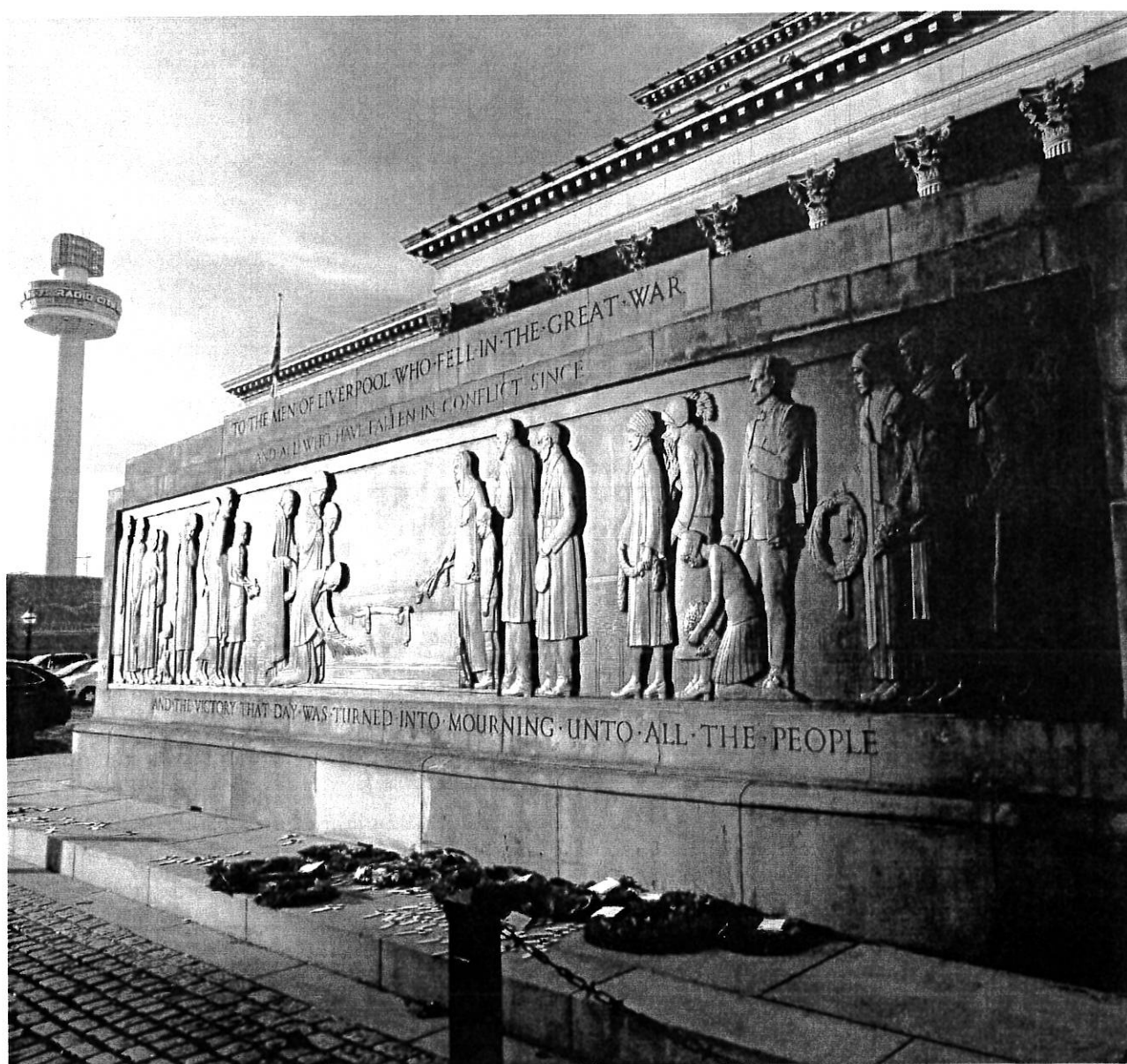
Listing Co-ordinator - South

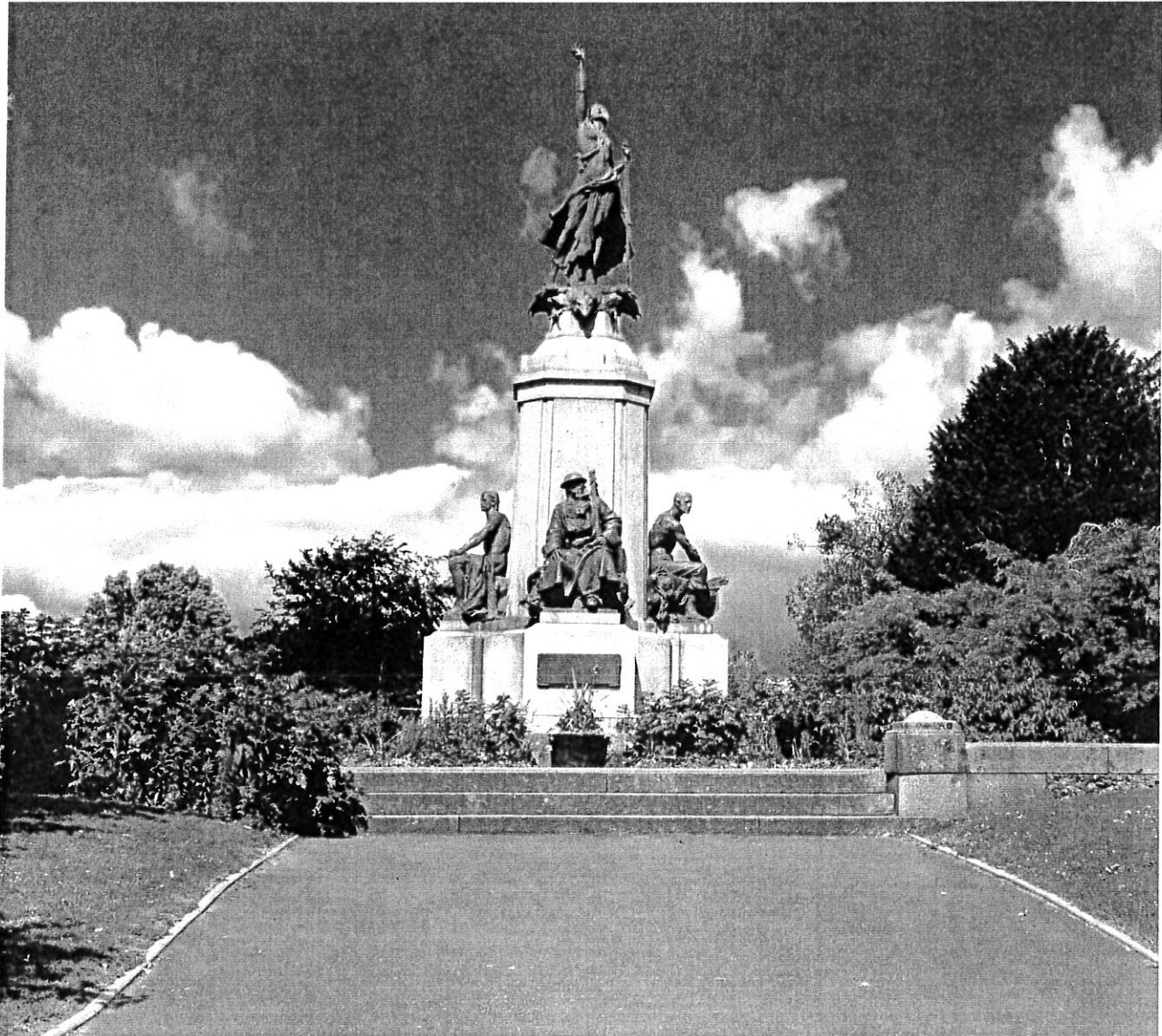
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Historic England

The Listing and Grading of War Memorials





Exeter City War Memorial: listed at Grade II* in 2014.

All war memorials deserve our respect, and all form important historical records. Many deserve to be included on the National Heritage List for England, available at www.historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list

Listed war memorials, like other structures, are graded:

- Grade I buildings are of exceptional interest. Just 2.5% of listed buildings are Grade I
- Grade II* buildings are particularly important buildings of more than special interest. 5.5% of listed buildings are Grade II*
- Grade II buildings are of special interest warranting every effort to preserve them. 92% of all listed buildings are in this category

Front cover

Liverpool Cenotaph: relisted at Grade I in 2013.

Grading is a reflection of relative significance and may influence planning considerations, and can sometimes prioritise grant awards. Grade I war memorials are currently very few: Lutyens' Cenotaph in Whitehall; his monumental War Memorial in Leicester's Victoria Park; and the Liverpool Cenotaph by Lionel Budden and H. Tyson Smith are examples, but the numbers are starting to increase as an outcome of work relating to the centenary of 1914-18. These will possess exceptional levels of design interest, in terms of architectural or sculptural conception, and will be of the greatest historic interest.

Grade II* will be warranted for those memorials with an above-average level of special interest: they may be highly unusual in form or symbolism, or of a high level of artistic accomplishment. The designers, masons or artists do not have to be famous for this level to be achieved.

Grade II covers the large majority of listed war memorials. It is still a reflection of special interest and should not be regarded as in any way unimportant. It is a national designation, warranting inclusion within the National Heritage List for England.

Grading may be determined by a range of factors, including quality of design and execution; subject matter and symbolism; rarity; and historic importance. It is determined at a national, not a local, level.

Occasionally, a war memorial may be felt not to meet the threshold for listing. This is not a decision lightly reached, and Historic England has been welcoming to almost all applications for listing in recent years. Situations in which such a decision might be reached would include when a memorial has suffered considerable alteration or loss; extremely modest memorials which warrant local, not national, designation; later replacement memorials which do not feature sufficient original material; and modern memorials of modest character.



Kilmington War Memorial, Devon: listed at Grade II in 2015.



Historic England

We are the public body that looks after England's historic environment. We champion historic places, helping people understand, value and care for them.

Please contact
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This publication is one of a number of Historic England projects to mark the centenary of the First World War.



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Design: Historic England

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this document

BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT****Monday 3rd April 2017****Committee Chairman: Cllr Ruth Newell****Contact Officer: Claire Childs****Sports Pitch Hire Proposal – Buckingham United**

Buckingham United Football Club has an existing one year hire agreement for one of the two sports pitches at the Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre (LHSCC), for use on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings. Exclusive use of this pitch was agreed meaning it has operated at 50% weekend capacity.

At a contract review meeting held on 5th January 2017 Buckingham United expressed a desire to negotiate a long-term hire agreement in order to ensure stability for the club and establish eligibility for grant funding. There are no concerns about discussing a long term hire from a management perspective.

They suggested 3 possible hire options:

a) A 10-year hire of both pitches

Currently the second pitch is used by a youth football team and a rugby team. Although Buckingham United has plans to expand, these are not sufficiently developed to rationalise the hire of both pitches at present, though this should be reviewed in 1-2 years' time.

b) A 10-year hire of one pitch to include maintenance

As we have recently purchased specialist grounds maintenance equipment and are still carrying out ground establishment works, it would not be practical to pursue this option at present, and in-house works would still be required on the second pitch. As per the existing agreement, Buckingham United will take over line marking once initial maintenance becomes routine. If a decision is made about hiring both pitches to the same hirer and once grounds works are established, this should be readdressed.

c) A 10-year hire of one pitch (expanding use from 50% to 100% on weekends)

There is an intention for the 2017/18 season to introduce an Under 13 Juniors team, and an Under 18 Youth Team. This would mean that the pitch would be utilised for two sessions on Saturdays, and two sessions on Sundays, totalling approximately 100-110 games per season. As the pitches are still new, there is some concern around how the increased use may affect the quality and standard of the pitch, and an appropriate disclaimer should be included in any future hire agreements.

If a long term hire is approved Buckingham United will be able to apply for grant funding to support and improve the team facilities, such as fencing and lighting, which will benefit the LHSCC in the long term. There is however a current request to install fixed dugouts, which at present would be difficult due to the initial few years' maintenance that is required, and may also affect the underground drainage system. This could potentially be mitigated by moving the hire onto the second pitch, where such equipment could be sited on the far edge of the drainage system; however, depending on the success of maintenance, it may be necessary to re-site the pitches and having fixed equipment would make this difficult. It would be preferable to defer a decision about installing fixed assets until long-term

maintenance requirements are known, and when the hire of both pitches is under discussion.

As there were multiple options discussed, there was no fee proposal put forward by Buckingham United at this stage. However based on progressing hire option (c), two possible rate structures have been prepared based on the current season hire rate. If accepted, this proposal will be put to Buckingham United for their agreement.

Rate Option 1:

- **From Aug 2017 – May 2019 (two seasons)**
Offer the current rate of £2250 per hire for the two adults' hires; and set the base rate for the two junior hires at £1800 per hire (Total hire: £8,100 for year one, which offers a 19% discount on published prices)
- **From August 2019 – May 2022 (three seasons)**
By June 2019, agree an increase, up to a maximum 5%, fixed for three seasons. Increase to be set once the Green Spaces Manager has determined the level of additional maintenance required for full time pitch usage.
- **From August 2022 – May 2027 (five seasons)**
By June of each year, agree an annual RPI increase (based on the previous year) up to a maximum of 4% per year
This option offers a maximum 10-year income of £94,123.46

Rate Option 2:

- **From Aug 2017 – May 2019 (two seasons)**
Offer the current rate of £2250 per hire for the two adults' hires; and set the base rate for the two junior hires at £1950 per hire (Total hire: £8,400 for year one, which offers a 16% discount on published prices)
- **From August 2019 – May 2022 (three seasons)**
By June 2019, agree an increase, up to a maximum 5%, fixed for three seasons. Increase to be set once the Green Spaces Manager has determined the level of additional maintenance required for full time pitch usage.
- **From August 2022 – May 2027 (five seasons)**
By June of each year, agree an annual RPI increase (based on the previous year) up to a maximum of 4% per year
This option offers a maximum 10-year income of £97,442.84

Should a long term agreement be granted, a penalty fee clause should be included that would protect from a mid-season breakdown which could potentially result in the loss of estimated annual income.

Officer Recommendation

To approve a 10-year agreement with Buckingham United (from the start of the 2017/18 season until the close of the 2026/27 season) based on the exclusive hire of one pitch for four sessions per weekend (specific pitch to be decided by the Green Spaces Manager), with an agreement to review extending the hire to the second pitch in June 2018, and if required June 2019, in line with Rate Option 1 fee structure.

To defer a decision about the installation of *fixed* dugouts / team shelters until the Green Spaces Manager is satisfied that it will not affect the maintenance of the pitches; and at such time as a decision is made about hiring both pitches to the same hirer; but to give permission to introduce *portable* dugouts / team shelters if desired.

Buckingham United - Option 1 (19%)

		% Increase		Saturday AM (Under 13s Juniors)		Saturday 1300 - 1600 (Over 18s)		Sunday 0930 - 1230 (Over 18s)		Sunday PM (Under 18 Youth)		MAXIMUM TOTAL FOR SEASON (4 Hires)		£ Amount Increase YoY (max)	
				Season Price	Season Price	Season Price	Season Price	Season Price	Season Price	Season Price	Season Price				
September 2016 - May 2017	1 season	Base Rate			£2,250.00	£2,250.00	£2,250.00	£2,250.00	£1,800.00	£1,800.00	£1,800.00	£4,500.00	£4,500.00		
August 2017 - May 2019	2 seasons	0%		£1,800.00	£2,250.00	£2,250.00	£2,250.00	£2,250.00	£1,800.00	£1,800.00	£1,800.00	£8,100.00	£8,100.00		
August 2019 - May 2022	3 seasons	Up to max 5% (TBC by Jun-19 fixed for 3yrs until May-22)		£1,890.00	£2,362.50	£2,362.50	£2,362.50	£2,362.50	£1,890.00	£1,890.00	£1,890.00	£8,505.00	£8,505.00	£405.00	£405.00
August 2022 - May 2023		Annual RPI increase (based on previous year) TBC by June each year up to max 4% per year*		£1,965.60	£2,457.00	£2,457.00	£2,457.00	£2,457.00	£1,965.60	£1,965.60	£1,965.60	£8,845.20	£8,845.20	£340.20	£340.20
August 2023 - May 2024			£2,044.22	£2,555.28	£2,555.28	£2,555.28	£2,555.28	£2,044.22	£2,044.22	£2,044.22	£2,044.22	£9,199.01	£9,199.01	£353.81	£353.81
August 2024 - May 2025	5 seasons			£2,125.99	£2,657.49	£2,657.49	£2,657.49	£2,657.49	£2,125.99	£2,125.99	£2,125.99	£9,566.97	£9,566.97	£367.96	£367.96
August 2025 - May 2026				£2,211.03	£2,763.79	£2,763.79	£2,763.79	£2,763.79	£2,211.03	£2,211.03	£2,211.03	£9,949.65	£9,949.65	£382.68	£382.68
August 2026 - May 2027				£2,299.47	£2,874.34	£2,874.34	£2,874.34	£2,874.34	£2,299.47	£2,299.47	£2,299.47	£10,347.63	£10,347.63	£397.99	£397.99
		TOTAL 10 Year Hire (maximum)		£19,916.32	£27,145.40	£27,145.40	£27,145.40	£27,145.40	£19,916.32	£19,916.32	£19,916.32	£94,123.46	£94,123.46		

	Pitch Only	Pitch, Dressing Room & Showers	Buckingham United Rate	Discount £ (Base Rate)	% Discount (Base Rate)
Standard Adult Rate:		3000	2250	750	25%
Standard Junior Rate:	2000		1800	200	10%
TOTAL Standard Rate:		5000	OVERALL DISCOUNT	950	19%

* previous RPI increases for reference

2011	5.2%
2012	3.2%
2013	3%
2014	2.4%
2015	1%

Predicted RPI (as at 11/1/17)

2016	0.8%
2017	2.0%
2018	3.5%
2019	3.2%
2020	3.2%

Buckingham United - Option 2 (16%)

		% Increase	Season Price				MAXIMUM TOTAL FOR SEASON (4 Hires)	E Amount Increase YoY (max)
			Saturday AM (Under 13s Juniors)	Saturday 1300 - 1600 (Over 18s)	Sunday 0930 - 1230 (Over 18s)	Sunday PM (Under 18 Youth)		
September 2016 - May 2017	1 season	Base Rate		£2,250.00	£2,250.00		£4,500.00	
August 2017 - May 2019	2 seasons	0%	£1,950.00	£2,250.00	£2,250.00	£1,950.00	£8,400.00	
August 2019 - May 2022	3 seasons	Up to max 5% (TBC by Jun-19 fixed for 3yrs until May-21)	£1,950.00	£2,250.00	£2,250.00	£1,950.00	£8,400.00	£0.00
			£2,047.50	£2,362.50	£2,362.50	£2,047.50	£8,820.00	£420.00
			£2,047.50	£2,362.50	£2,362.50	£2,047.50	£8,820.00	£0.00
August 2022 - May 2023	5 seasons	Annual RPI increase (based on previous year) TBC by June each year up to max 4% per year*	£2,129.40	£2,457.00	£2,457.00	£2,129.40	£9,172.80	£352.80
August 2023 - May 2024			£2,214.58	£2,555.28	£2,555.28	£2,214.58	£9,539.71	£366.91
August 2024 - May 2025			£2,303.16	£2,657.49	£2,657.49	£2,303.16	£9,921.30	£381.59
August 2025 - May 2026			£2,395.29	£2,763.79	£2,763.79	£2,395.29	£10,318.15	£396.85
August 2026 - May 2027			£2,491.10	£2,874.34	£2,874.34	£2,491.10	£10,730.88	£412.73
TOTAL 10 Year Hire (maximum)			£21,576.02	£27,145.40	£27,145.40	£21,576.02	£97,442.84	

Maximum

* previous RPI increases for reference

2011	5.2%
2012	3.2%
2013	3%
2014	2.4%
2015	1%

Predicted RPI (as at 11/1/17)

2016	0.8%
2017	2.0%
2018	3.5%
2019	3.2%
2020	3.2%

	Pitch Only	Pitch, Dressing Room & Showers	Buckingham United Rate	Discount £ (Base Rate)	% Discount (Base Rate)
Standard Adult Rate:		3000	2250	750	25%
Standard Junior Rate:	2000		1950	50	2.5%
TOTAL Standard Rate:		5000	OVERALL DISCOUNT	800	16%



**Buckingham Town Council
Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre
MANAGEMENT PLAN
2017 – 2020**



**V1. Draft
February 2017**

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1. MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to promote community spirit and the health and well-being of all residents of the recently developed Lace Hill Estate and the wider Buckingham Town area by supporting community engagement, providing both indoor and outdoor recreation and social activities in premises which are comfortable and accessible to all.

2. VISION

To provide facilities which enable every person in Buckingham to access and engage in community activities.

3. VALUES

We are committed to anti-discriminatory practice to promote equality of opportunity and valuing diversity.

We will treat people with dignity and respect regardless of disability, race, gender reassignment, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, age, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership.

At all times, people's feelings will be valued and respected.

We value the contribution made by members, staff and volunteers and we will use their time and resources responsibly and efficiently.

4. AIMS AND STRATEGIES

As well as providing space for junior and community groups, LHSCC will also develop the commercial use of the premises. The marketing strategy will seek to attract business users to hire space (for holding conferences, corporate training, pre-school child care, for example) and will promote the use of the hall for private receptions and functions.

LHSCC will offer space to small traders for regular activities such as table-top and craft sales, auctions and antique fairs. Voluntary organisations and charities can be encouraged to use the premises for fundraising events. Local churches and religious groups may also wish to make use of the facilities provided.

It is an aspiration that LHSCC will become progressively self-financing through careful management and pro-active marketing the space available has the capacity to generate an income stream sufficient to cover the running costs.

LHSCC will be available seven days a week and will seek to make maximum use of the facilities for the benefit of the local community.

4.1. Financial Management

To maintain financial stability through an appropriate balance of income from hiring, social events and activities and fundraising.

4.2. Working with Others

To work with hirers and other community providers on appropriate projects, linking our skills and facilities

To work with statutory authorities to help deliver core objectives, particularly the health and wellbeing of all local residents

4.3. Recreation and Leisure

To support hirers to offer, maintain and extend the range of social events and activities to all sections of the community, with special emphasis on those who are new to the area, elderly, vulnerable or socially isolated.

4.4. Premises

To maintain the premises in good condition, and to upgrade when required providing inclusive access and an environment which is welcoming, friendly and safe.

5. MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

5.1. Management Committee

LHSCC is owned and operated by Buckingham Town Council, and overseen by the Environment Committee.

The Environment Committee meets every seven weeks, where it will receive updates, reports and review financial performance against budgets.

The Town Centre & Events Committee will be consulted where social events are considered.

5.2. Staff

There is one dedicated member of staff responsible for day to day operations at LHSCC:

- Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre Coordinator - 27 hours per week

Other members of the council staff share a proportion of their time in relation to maintenance:

- Grounds Maintenance Staff – estimated at 144 hours per year

Management of the coordination and maintenance of the LHSCC is shared between the Estates Manager and the Deputy Town Clerk.

6. MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

Owned and operated by Buckingham Town Council, the Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre (LHSCC) opened in April 2016 and are situated on the Lace Hill estate.

There are two main rooms, a Sports Hall and a Committee Room, that offer a range of activities from sports to exercise, fundraising events to childcare and private functions. There are also two Sport England standard grass football pitches with four changing rooms and two Official rooms.

LHSCC aims to provide a well maintained, accessible community resource for the benefit of Buckingham residents, contributing to community growth, development and the economic wellbeing of the local area.

6.1. SWOT

Strengths

- New development and local community, with good support of initial activities
- Building up a long-term hirer income stream
- Varied facilities available allowing for indoor and outdoor activities
- Sport England standard facilities which are attractive to clubs
- Committed and enthusiastic staff
- Supportive local Councillors

Weaknesses

- The main entrance is kept locked meaning all access, including disabled access, is only available with support
- The reception area does not immediately identify the building as a BTC building
- The Building Management System makes heating and ventilation challenging
- Gas and electricity bills have initially been higher than expected
- The website domain name / Buckingham Town Council page needs to be developed to reach a greater audience
- As usage of the building increases, so will cleaning and maintenance charges, along with costs for sundry equipment

Opportunities

- The building is still new and the estate it is located on, is still under development
- The MUGA and children's play area on the site will soon be available for use
- Increased working with local organisations
- Centre well used and valued by new and establishing community

Threats

Lack of support from Developers to carry out outstanding snagging and maintenance works
High set up / early maintenance costs for the building and outdoor facilities
Hirers have started new classes so these are not established and there is the potential risk of losing hirers
Possible need to budget for events / large activities in the future
Possible need to budget for additional staff in the future
Difficulty in attracting a variety of hirers to use the facilities (i.e. because of other activities taking place / lighting / facility layout / location)

6.2. Hire Rates

In order to ensure accessibility to all groups and activities within the local area, a tiered pricing structure is set based on adult rates, community rates and junior group rates.

This structure sets a base hire rate (the adult rate) and then applies a 15% discount for community groups, and a 35% discount for junior groups.

The Sports Hall rates are set at 25% higher than the Committee Room. Both rooms are given a 30% increase for weekend use.

Long term hire (block bookings) attract an additional 20% discount on the base adult rates, as they secure longer term income as well as provide varied and interesting sustainable activities for the local community.

The outdoor pitches have a fee structure based on adult rates and junior rates. This sets a base hire rate (the adult rate) and then applies a 20% discount for junior groups. Booking for a half season or season attracts a discount of 7% from the casual pitch hire rate.

Long term hire (year on year) fees will be agreed by the Environment Committee and calculated on an individual basis, to capitalise on maximum occupancy and opportunity.

All rates will be reviewed at least annually.

The casual and long term (block booking) rates as at February 2017 are:

Sports Hall

Rates	Weekdays		Weekend Days		Weekend Evening
	Per 1 Hr Session	Block 10 Weeks	Per 1 Hr Session	Block 10 Weeks	Per 3-Hour Session
Adult (Base)	£17.50	£140.00	£24.50	£196.00	£150.00
Community (15% Discount)	£14.88	£119.04	£20.83	£166.64	
Junior (35% Discount)	£11.38	£91.04	£15.93	£127.44	

Committee Room

Rates	Weekdays		Weekend Days		Weekend Evening
	Per 1 Hr Session	Block 10 Weeks	Per 1 Hr Session	Block 10 Weeks	Per 3-Hour Session
Adult (Base)	£14.00	£112.00	£18.20	£145.60	£100.00
Community (15% Discount)	£11.90	£95.20	£16.07	£128.56	
Junior (35% Discount)	£9.10	£72.80	£12.29	£98.32	

Sports Pitches

Rates	Casual Booking	Half Permit (15 games)		Full Permit (30 games)	
	Per 2 Hr Session	Pitch Only	Pitch, Dressing Rooms & Showers	Pitch Only	Pitch, Dressing Rooms & Showers
Adult (Base)	£90.00	£1,250.00	£1,500.00	£2,500.00	£3,000.00
Junior (20% Discount)	£72.00	£1,000.00	£1,200.00	£2,000.00	£2,400.00

6.3. Activities

LHSCC aims to provide a thriving community centre which will help improve the quality of life for the whole local community. To achieve this, LHSCC will operate as a multi-faceted resource.

Families

In addition to hosting the Lace Hill Day Nursery, LHSCC will seek to offer a variety of family friendly groups and activities for children and parents. Buckingham Town Council has already successfully introduced 'Tea and Tots', a social group for parents and children aged 0-3 years.

Social Activities

LHSCC will offer a welcoming, friendly and safe environment for social activities and social contact for all sections and all age groups within the local community.

It will serve as a venue for functions and private receptions, as well as a meeting place for local residents and for community forums, a place where people will become motivated to meet new people and try new things.

Health & Wellbeing

Both the indoor and outdoor facilities will support a wide range of fitness activities - dance exercise, Pilates, Yoga, Badminton, Football, Rugby etc.

The hall has the potential to provide a range of health-related activities: forums run by local GPs, blood donor and blood pressure testing sessions, complementary, preventative and family health programmes, etc.

Information & Signposting

The Centre will act as a local information point providing details of local groups, activities and services. Its noticeboards will provide publicity for forthcoming events and local activities.

Commercial Use

As well as providing space for community groups LHSCC will also be available for commercial use such as a location to hold meetings, seminars, workshops, training sessions etc. LHSCC can also be used for table-top and craft sales, seasonal fairs and fun days.

Voluntary organisations and charities can be encouraged to use the premises for fundraising events. Local churches and religious groups may also wish to make use of the facilities provided.

LHSCC will be available seven days a week, and aims to make maximum use of the facilities by providing a variety of activities for the benefit of the local community.

7. FINANCIAL SUMMARY - Income and Expenditure (Year 1 2016/2017)

LHSCC started operating in April 2016. During the first years of operation, maintenance and initial equipment costs will be high.

Initial maintenance costs have been higher than budgeted, and the outdoor pitches need significant investment in the initial years whilst the ground settles and due to the type of underground drainage installed by the developers.

Maintenance includes mowing, fertilising, shallow tine aeration and drag matting, and it has been a requirement to make significant investment into pitch maintenance equipment.

There has also been a substantial investment into indoor setup equipment such as tables, chairs, kitchen equipment, desks, goalposts, changing room benches and storage equipment. The original equipment budget for FY2016/17 was £11,250. As at month 10, the actual spend is £15,491.

Business rates for the building were predicted at £8000 however the actual cost per annum is estimated to be £9,087.

The first year income budget for financial year 2016/17 was set at £14,000. As at Month 10 income was at £24,704 due to agreeing a number of significant long term hirers on annual contracts (i.e. £9,000 Year 1, predicted £12,000 Year 2 for one-hire; £4,500 Year 1, predicted £8,100 Year 2).

During the first three years of operation, relationship building, maintaining good relations and securing repeat hires will be important. The council and staff will seek ways to reduce costs and increase income to continue maintenance of the building and improvement of facilities.

Equipment purchases will also significantly reduce as initial set up is almost complete. Some additional equipment may be required when different activities or use of the building is arranged.

Income and Expenditure for Year 1 is shown below:

	Budget 16-17	Actual 16-17 (as at Month 10)	Variance	% of Budget
Playing Fields	£7,500	£7,038	£462	94%
Gas	£2,500	£5,752	£3,252	230%
Electricity	£2,500	£3,267	£767	131%
Water	£2,500	£0	£2,500	0%
Repairs & Maintenance	£5,000	£6,009	£1,009	120%
Contractors	£20,000	£6,544	£13,456	33%
Alarm	£500	£175	£325	35%
Equipment	£11,250	£15,491	£4,241	138%
Rates	£8,000	£9,692	£1,692	121%
Expenditure (excl. Salary)	£59,750	£53,968	£5,782	90%
Salary	£16,000	£10,667	£5,333	67%
Contractors	£75,750	£64,635	£11,115	85%
Income	£14,000	£30,522	£16,522	218%
Net Expenditure over Income (excl. salary)	£45,750	£23,446	£22,304	
Net Expenditure over Income (inc. salary)	£61,750	£34,113	£27,637	

8. BUDGET AND PROJECTIONS – Income and Expenditure (Years 2-4 2017-2020)

8.1. Expenditure

Playing Fields

The Maintenance of the two outdoor pitches started in November 2016. Maintenance equipment was purchased to allow mowing of the pitches, fertilising of the pitches (a minimum of twice per year), shallow tine aeration and drag matting.

Due to the settling of the ground, the initial 2-3 years maintenance costs will be high, though these should then reduce. A copy of the Pitch Maintenance Program for Year 2 is included in Appendix A.

Utilities

As the building is new, and a full year has not yet passed, utility costs are estimated. These will fluctuate seasonally and depend on the occupation of the building.

Repairs and Maintenance

It is anticipated that in Year 2 this will continue to be reasonably high, but this is expected to decrease once settling into the building is complete. Maintenance costs will include grass cutting areas outside the outdoor pitches, litter picking and waste bin emptying carried out by external companies.

There is also the need to carry out an EPC inspection for a display energy certificate and following this some recommendations, which are unknown at this time, may be made which will have a financial implication.

Contractors Charge

This includes costs for cleaning, refuse and sanitary waste collections; fire alarm, fire safety equipment, emergency lighting, alarm, building management system maintenance. As usage of the building increases, the costs for cleaning and refuse will increase.

Equipment

The majority of equipment required was purchased in Year 1, and it is anticipated that there will be minimal replacement equipment required. The majority of equipment costs in future years will be for new activities.

Modifications / Improvements

There is currently a need to provide additional outdoor storage for grounds maintenance equipment / equipment for sports activities, and the Estates Manager is exploring costs for an outdoor container, which is expected to cost around £2500.

There are also ongoing modifications and adjustments required to the building systems (heating, fire and burglar alarms etc.). This is due to the system, installed by the developer, working differently to the building usage – for example, the heating system is not zoned and requires the sports hall to be heated before the changing rooms reach an appropriate temperature.

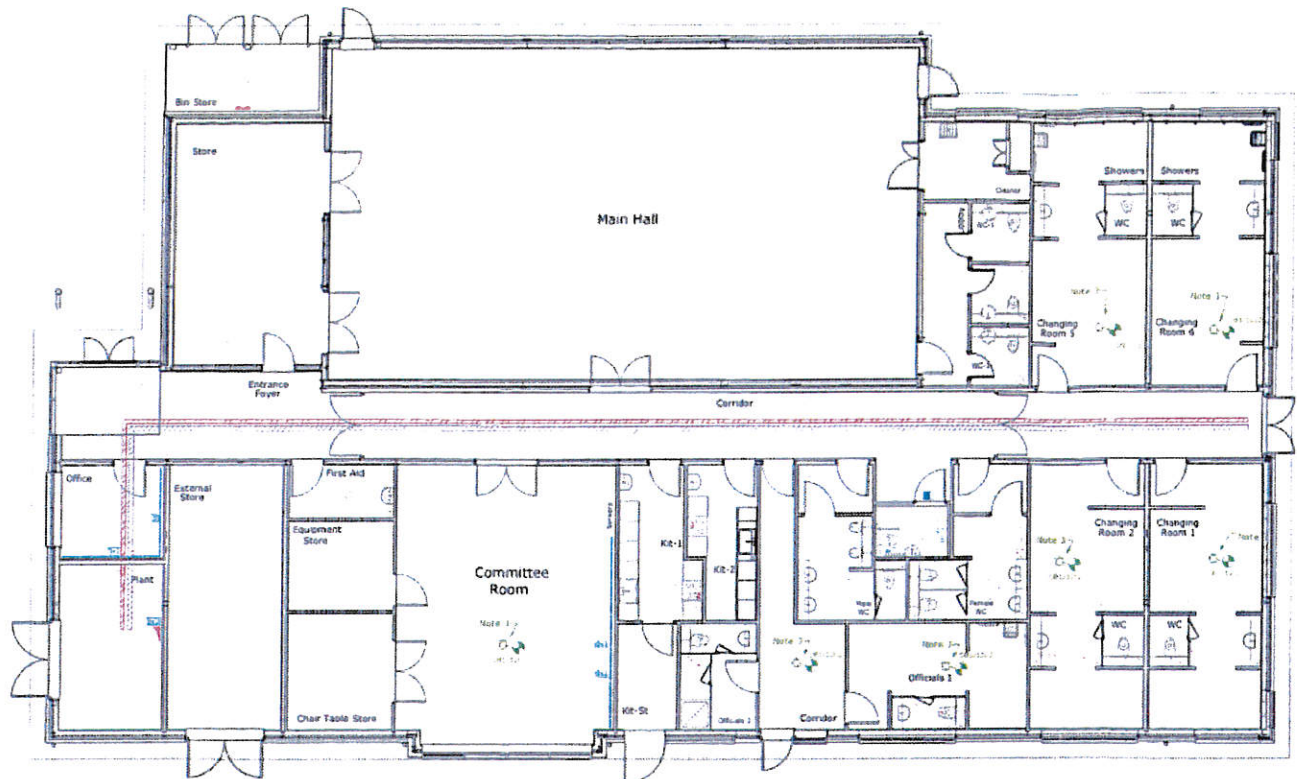
Some of the space within the building could also be utilised in a better way. There is the potential to convert the 28m² external store (which sits in between Offices 1 and 2) into an additional usable indoor space which could either provide more office space, or a small meeting room.

There is also the potential to combine the first aid room and equipment store, by way of knocking a door way between the two, which would create a larger space for a first aid room, or a more usable space as an additional office. Access into the committee room could be maintained, or separated as required.

Although there would be a cost for conversion, this could attract an additional rental cost and encourage different types of hirers i.e. commercial businesses in need of meeting room facilities. It is therefore recommended to include a modification / improvements budget in future precepts.

The costs for these potential modifications are unknown at this time, and would need to be explored, however it is anticipated that any expenditure would be made back through increased income within 5/6 years. *For this reason, the estimated costs have not been included in the projected budget.*

It is anticipated that the additional meeting room space would be primarily used as a commercial facility, attracting adult (full) rates similar to those set for the committee room.



8.2. Income

As at February 2017, LHSCC has two long term (year on year) hire agreements which make up a substantial proportion of income. If secured for Year 2, these hires are projected to provide an income of around £18,000. In Year 1, a number of long term (block booking) hirers were agreed, and again if secured for continued bookings in year 2, these hires are projected to provide an income in excess of £16,000.

However, due to a number of the classes being newly established and therefore there being no guarantee that these will continue, the Year 2 income has conservatively been budgeted at £25,000; with a projected increase in Years 3 and 4 as classes, activities and usage becomes more established.

8.3. Projected Budget to Year 4 (March 2020)

	Actual 2015/16	Budget 2016/17 (Yr 1)	Estimated 2016/17 (Yr 1)	Budget 2017/18 (Yr 2)	Estimated Budget 2018/19 (Yr3)	Estimated Budget 2019/20 (Yr4)
Playing Fields	£11,693	£7,500	£8,000	£13,000	£10,000	£5,000
Gas		£2,500	£4,000	£2,500	£2,500	£2,500
Electricity		£2,500	£3,000	£2,500	£2,500	£2,500
Water		£2,500	£2,000	£2,500	£2,500	£2,500
Repairs & Maintenance		£5,000	£6,000	£10,000	£5,000	£2,500
Contractors		£20,000	£6,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000
Modifications / Improvements		-	-	-		
Alarm		£500	£175	£500	£500	£500
Equipment		£11,250	£16,000	£10,000	£3,000	£2,000
Rates		£8,000	£9,692	£9,692	£9,692	£9,692
Activities & Events	£0	£0	£0	£0	£1,000	£1,000
Expenditure (excl. salary)	£11,693	£59,750	£54,867	£60,692	£46,692	£38,192
Salary & Labour Costs		£16,000	£10,603	£16,630	£17,500	£18,000
Expenditure (inc. salary)	£11,693	£75,750	£65,470	£77,322	£64,192	£56,192
Income	£0	£14,000	£31,000	£25,000	£35,000	£40,000
Net Expenditure over Income (excl. salary)	£11,693	£45,750	£23,867	£35,692	£11,692	£-1,808
Net Expenditure over Income (inc. salary)	£11,693	£61,750	£34,470	£52,322	£29,192	£16,192



Appendix A

Lace Hill Football Pitch Maintenance Program

(2 Pitches)

Task	Material Required and quantities	Occurrences per annum	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Who will carry out	Approximate Cost per year	Hours Taken per annum. By BTC
Mow @ 25 - 30mm	Cylinder mower	21			2	5	4			2	4	3	1		BTC		21
Mow @ 30 - 40mm	Cylinder Mower	11					5	4	2						BTC		11
	Total: 32 (Guide only weather dependant)																
Regular aerate (slit tine)	spiked to 140mm deep throughout playing season, weather depending to help level pitches, when weather allows	14	2	2	2						2	2	2	2	BTC		28
Drag mat pitches		12 approx.			3	3				2	2	2			BTC		12
Aerate-groundbreaker	Solid tine 300mm depth, Verti-drain	1					1								hire in equipment next season	Hire in equipment: £500.00	8
Selective herbicide treatment	selective broadleaf herbicide - spot spray	3					1			1		1			BTC	£70.00 (selective herbicide)	12
Topdress and work in with drag mat/brush	100 tonnes in total for both pitches at 6mm depth of P205 Sand. (1st 3years)	1					1								Contract out for 3 years minimum (volume of sand may reduce in year 2 and 3)	£6,910.00	
Overseed	Direct Drilling - 15g per m2 of Barenburg BAR7	1					1								hire equipment and carry out ourselves (next season)	Hire Equipment: £275.00 + 10x 20kg bags grass seed: £600.00. Total: £875.00	6
Fertiliser application	April - 12:6:6 at 350kg/ha. August - 5:5:20 at 350kg/ha. (slow release)	2				1				1					BTC	£880.00 (2x fertiliser only)	8
Renovation of worn areas during season	Areas of high wear to be dressed and seeded with a divot repair mix during the season	6			1							1	2	2	BTC		22
Install Posts and sockets															BTC		8
Initial Marking out		1								1					BTC		8
Overmarking		28	4	4	4	4					4	4	4	4	Football teams	Line Paint: £450	
TOTALS																	
																£9,685.00	144
																	Hours

BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN CENTRE & EVENTS COMMITTEE
MONDAY 27th MARCH 2017

Agenda item no:

Contact Officer: Sam Hoareau

Background

The Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre Coordinator (LHSCC Coordinator) is hoping to support Well Street Church along with other local groups in organising a free community event aimed at all Buckingham Residents.

It is felt that this would be a great opportunity for joint partnership working with a valued group in the local community. By aiding in the event it will promote the centre and hopefully increase the number of hirers.

There are three proposed dates during the summer, Saturday 27th May Saturday 10th June or the 18th June 2017. The event will initially take place outside on the pitches but if the weather turns then the event can be downsized and take place in the hall. Depending on the size of the final event the sports hall may be utilised as would the toilets.

Information

The event will be a family fun day, a three-hour event with a free BBQ but with donations to offset costs, free bouncy castle play and free tea, coffee, and juice. This will be organised and provided by the Church.

The LHSCC Coordinator would work with existing hirers and contacts in the local community to organise some craft stalls, sport games and dance sessions and entertainment, free of charge to which will showcase the activities taking place. It would allow the existing groups to recruit more members, thus increasing their sustainability and the financial stability of the centre.

Strategic Plan

The event would be a good example of Critical Success Factor (CSF) 3 – Established greater active engagement with local Partners and Public and would also aid with CSF 2 Improved Community Spirit.

Prioritisation

Social Value – 3 There would be a return on social value as the event is likely to attract large numbers of people who will benefit from a free afternoon of entertainment and food.

Officer Work – 3 While there would be some work entailed with would be through existing contacts (most of who would be contacted on other issues so it would just be added to existing conversations) and co-ordinating on the day and liaising with Well Street Church.

Urgency – 4 the work fits in with the existing Strategic Plan and due to the fact that the event is relatively close the work required would need to be carried out quickly to enable it to go ahead.

Recommendation

It is recommended to proceed with enabling and aiding in a large event and that hire fees are waived as the Town Council's contribution which may enable Well Street to spend more money on additional activities on the day.

BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MONDAY 3RD APRIL 2017.

Agenda item no: 10

Contact Officer: Lee Phillips

Dog Signage for Bourton Park and Lace Hill Sports Pitches.

Background:

New signage for Bourton Park and Lace Hill is required to clearly indicate where people should keep their dog on or off a lead and to inform people that they need to clean up after their dogs.

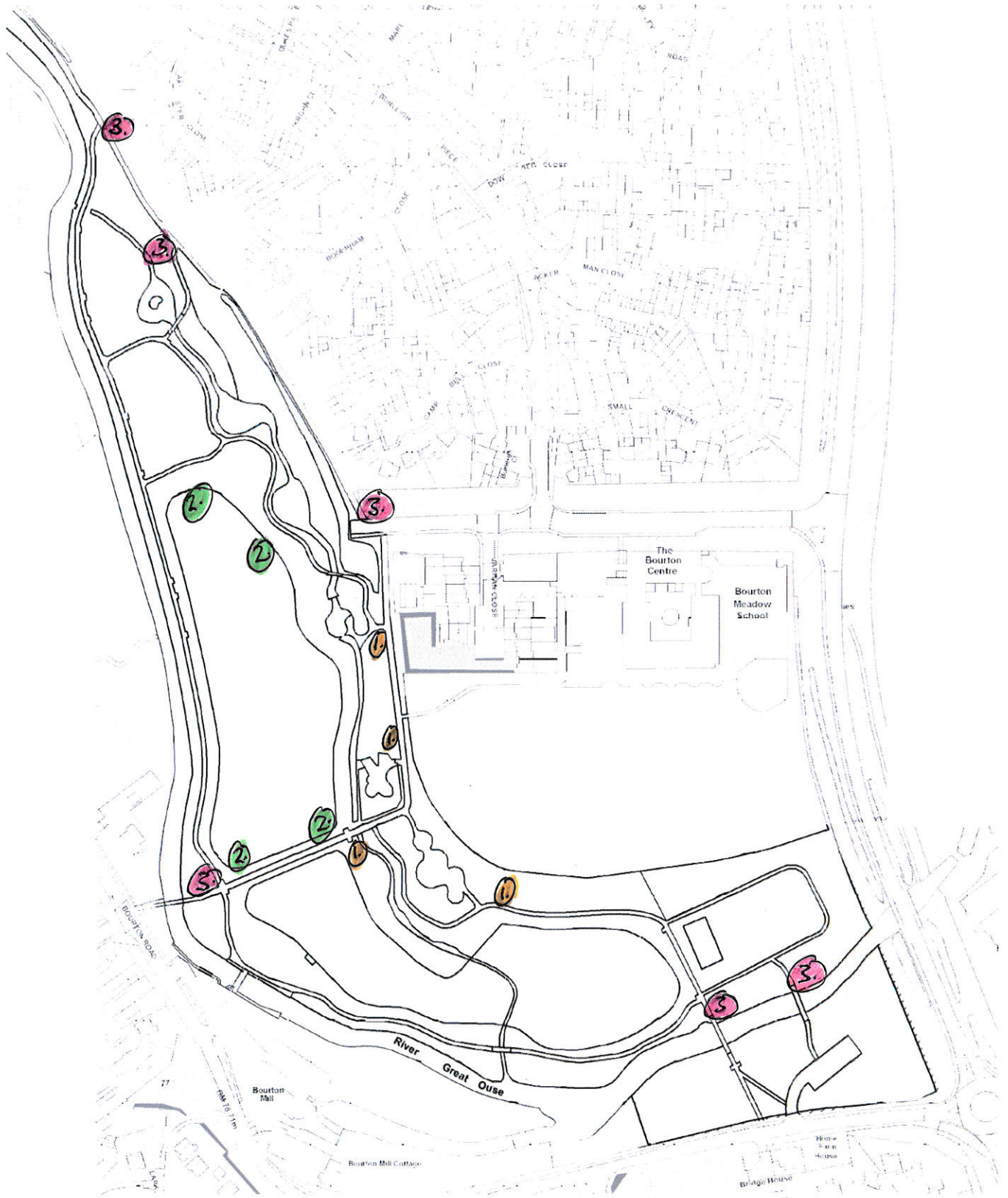
Information:

Please see attached maps for locations and sign designs.

Recommendation:

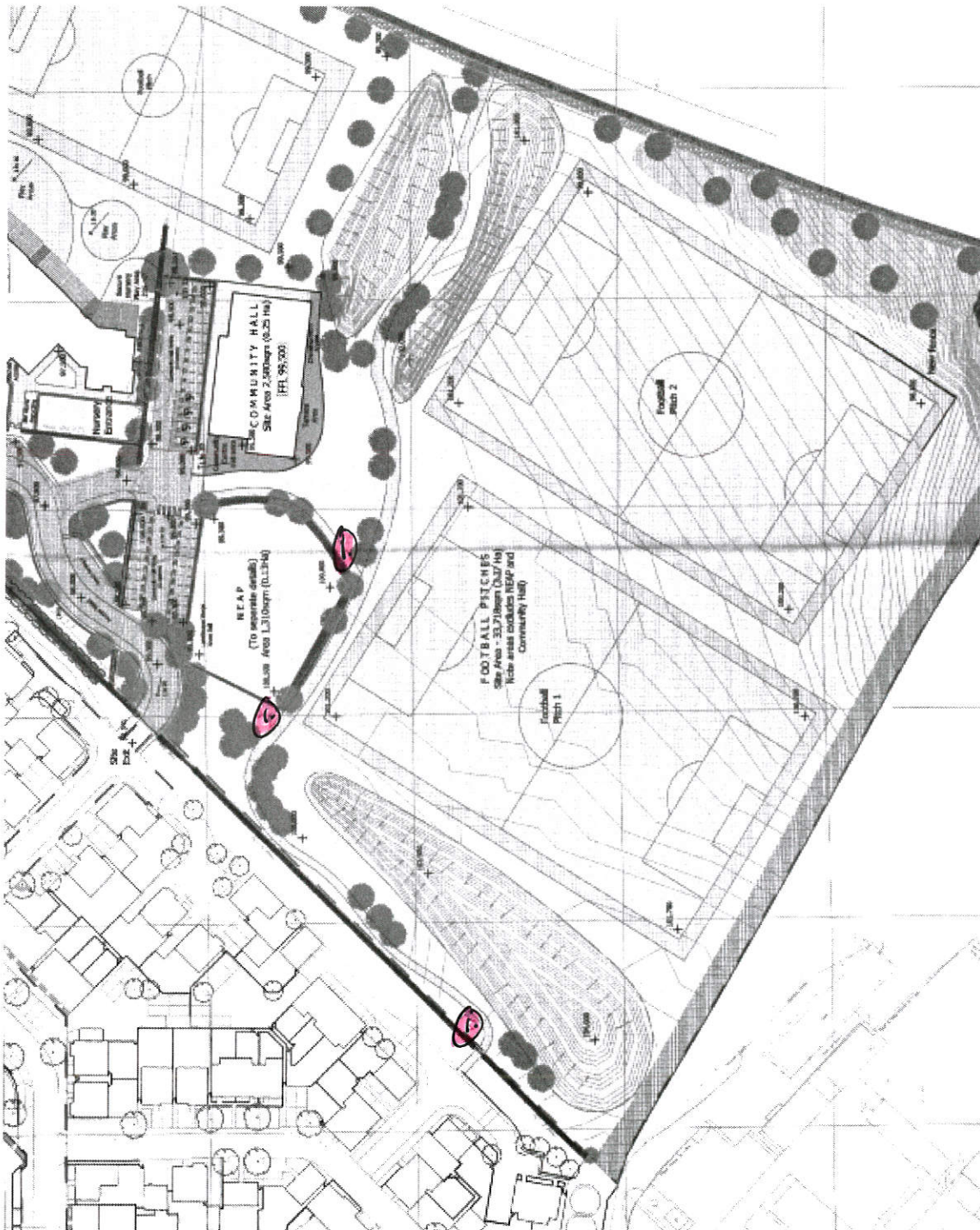
That members agree to proceed with the purchase and installation of the signage funds to be taken from 4162/250(Lace Hill) and 4601/252(Bourton Park).

Bourton Park - DOG SIGNAGE.



- 1. KEEP YOUR DOG ON A LEAD. + CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG. (x4.)
- 2. DOGS ALLOWED OFF THE LEAD IN THIS AREA (x4.)
- 3. CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG. (x6.)

LACE HILL SPORTS AND COMMUNITY CENTRE .



1 CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG. (x3).



**IT IS AN OFFENCE
NOT TO CLEAN UP
AFTER YOUR DOG
MAXIMUM FINE £1,000**



BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MONDAY 3RD APRIL 2017.**Agenda item no:****Contact Officer:** Lee PhillipsTopdressing of Football pitches**Background:**

As a part of the pitch maintenance and establishment of the 2 football pitches at Lace Hill sports and Community centre the pitches need topdressing to ensure a well-drained and level playing surface.

Information:

Spring renovation work required:

Aerate - groundbreaker	Solid tine 300-400mm depth, Verti-drain or equivalent to be used (to be agreed)
Topdress with sand and work in with drag mat/brush	100 tonnes for each pitch at 6mm depth of P205 Sand (sand and supplier to be agreed)
Overseed	Direct Drilling - 15g per m ² of Barenburg BAR7

Aeration and over-seeding to be carried out by contractor who installed pitches in lieu of work not carried out last year.

3 companies were approached for topdressing prices:

Price to include supply, distribution and working in.

Rigby Taylor Ltd
Woodward Turf Care Ltd
Land Unit Ltd

Company	Cost
A	£7,600
B	£6,910
C	£7,122.50

Recommendation:

That members agree to proceed with using company B to carry out the topdressing work to the football pitches.

From: jennymbates@aol.com [<mailto:jennymbates@aol.com>]
Sent: 12 March 2017 12:15
To: townclerk@buckingham-tc.gov.uk; deputytownclerk@buckingham-tc.gov.uk
Subject: Fwd: Updated Disabled Go list

I note that minute 793/16 of the meeting of the Environment Committee on 27 February 2017 asked Members to use the Disabled Go website and feedback on improvements to any properties. This has also been discussed by the Access for All group and one of its members, Clair Pudaruth, was asked to suggest possible updates and properties to be assessed this year. I'm attaching her email and the spreadsheet she prepared and wonder if it is worthwhile circulating this to Members in advance of the next Environment Committee meeting on 3 April to avoid duplication.

Kind regards
Jenny

-----Original Message-----

From: Clair Pudaruth <clairpudaruth@aol.com>
To: rumaizen <rumaizen@talktalk.net>; jennymbates <jennymbates@aol.com>; chris <chris@strain-clark.fsnet.co.uk>; mns47 <mns47@tiscali.co.uk>
Sent: Mon, 14 Nov 2016 19:07
Subject: Updated Disabled Go list

Hi,

I have attached the Updated Disabled Go information list.

I have separated onto three sheets; the first is what actually in on the Disabled Go website for Buckingham. Of these I think HSBC should be removed, and is R&H Chapman still open or have they closed now?

The second page shows that the Travelodge was surveyed but is not on the website - not sure if there is a reason for this. It also includes premises that did not want to be involved.

The third page is for suggestions for 2017 surveys.

I hope that makes sense.

Many thanks,
Clair

Angels Boutique	KAR	Surveyed	
Arthurs Radio	KAR	Surveyed	
Best Western Hotel	DAG	Surveyed	
Boots	DAG	Surveyed	
Bourton Mill Health Club	DAG	Surveyed	
Bourton Park	DAG	Surveyed	
Bridge Street Flooring	KAR	Surveyed	
British Heart Foundation	KAR	Surveyed	
Browns	KAR	Surveyed	
Buckingham Adult Learning Centre	DAG	Surveyed	
Buckingham Chantry Chapel NT	DAG	Surveyed	
Buckingham Circular Walk	DAG	Surveyed	
Buckingham Community Centre	DAG	Surveyed	
Buckingham Garden Centre	DAG	Surveyed	
Buckingham Golf Club	DAG	Surveyed	
Buckingham Library	DAG	Surveyed	
Buckingham Opportunities Centre	DAG	Surveyed	
Buckingham Post Office	KAR	Surveyed	
Buckingham Tennis Club	DAG	Surveyed	
Buckingham Town Cricket & Sports Club	DAG	Surveyed	
Buckingham Youth Centre	DAG	Surveyed	
Busiprint	KAR	Surveyed	
Carmichael's Vaping	KAR	Surveyed	
Clays of Buckingham	KAR	Surveyed	
Dragon Gallery	KAR	Surveyed	
Flowers of Distinction	KAR	Surveyed	
Gelateria Gazzeria	DAG	Surveyed	
Harpenden Building Society	KAR	Surveyed	
HSBC	KAR	Surveyed	REMOVE
Lace Hill Community Centre	DAG	Surveyed	
Lloyd's Bank	KAR	Surveyed	
M&Co	KAR	Surveyed	
Michael Graham	KAR	Surveyed	
Nelson Street Restaurant	DAG	Surveyed	
Old Gaol Museum and Tourist Information Centre	DAG	Surveyed	
Old Town Hall, Villiers Ballroom	DAG	Surveyed	
Oxfam	KAR	Surveyed	
Panache	KAR	Surveyed	
PK Kids Zone	DAG	Surveyed	
Precise Locations	KAR	Surveyed	
Prego	DAG	Surveyed	
Prezzo	DAG	Surveyed	
Red Chili Gold	DAG	Surveyed	
R&H Chapman	KAR	Surveyed	REMOVE?
RSPCA	KAR	Surveyed	
Scope	KAR	Surveyed	
Secret Messages Interiors	KAR	Surveyed	
Shopmobility	DAG	Surveyed	
Slade Recreation Club	DAG	Surveyed	
Stowe Landscape Gardens	DAG	Surveyed	
Stratfords Dry Cleaning & Laundry	KAR	Surveyed	
Subway	KAR	Surveyed	
Swan Pool And Leisure Centre	DAG	Surveyed	
Tesco Express	KAR	Surveyed	
The Centre	DAG	Surveyed	

The Courtyard at No. 6	KAR	Surveyed	
The Duke's Music	KAR	Surveyed	
The Fireside Bistro	DAG	Surveyed	
The Nimble Thimble	KAR	Surveyed	
The Radcliffe Centre	DAG	Surveyed	
The Woolpack	DAG	Surveyed	
Thomson	KAR	Surveyed	
Timpson	KAR	Surveyed	
Vibin's Cafe Bar and Grill	DAG	Surveyed	
Villiers Hotel and Restaurant	DAG	Surveyed	
Vision Express	KAR	Surveyed	
West Street Local	KAR	Surveyed	
WH Smith	KAR	Surveyed	

68 in total

Venue	Type	Done?	Comments
Travelodge	DAG	Surveyed	

Buckingham Fort	DAG	New	Owner did not want to be included
Cheng Du	DAG	New	Owner did not want to be included
China Cottage Cafe	DAG	New	Owner did not want to be included
Dipalee Tandoori	DAG	New	Owner did not want to be included
Eamayl	DAG	New	Owner did not want to be included

Venue	Type	Done?	Comments	Additional comments
Bank Chambers Dental Practice	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
Buckingham Athletic Football Club	DAG	New	No one available to open up the premises - try again in 2017?	
Citizens Advice Bureau	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
Film Place	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
Gyre & Gimble	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
Kings Head	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
Mitre	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
New Inn	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
New Scout Headquarters on Mt Pleasant	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
Payne's Court	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
Revival Health	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	REMOVE (included in Best Western Guide)?
Salvation Army	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
St Bernadines Church	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
St Peter & St Pauls Church	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
Swan Surgery	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
Tesco Superstore	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
Three Cups	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
Verney Close Surgery	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
Waitrose	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	REMOVE?
Well Street United Church	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	REMOVE?
Whale	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	
White Hart	DAG	New	Keep for 2017	

Other suggestions
 Buckingham House Dental & Optician
 Chandos Park (incl toilets and play equipment)

Notes from a meeting of the Buckingham Community Wildlife Project Steering Group held on 13th February 2017 in the Town Council Chamber.

Present:

Ruth Newell in the chair & notes	Buckingham Town Council
Athina Beckett	Buckingham Canal Society
Derrick Isham	Buckingham Town Council
Jenny Manning	Railway Walk Conservation Group
Ian Orton	Buckingham Society
Lee Phillips	Green Spaces Manager

1. **Apologies:** received from Terry Bloomfield, Paul Holton, and Bill Truscott.
2. Ruth agreed to take notes.
3. **Notes of Meeting** held on 24 October 2016, were agreed as a correct record.
4. **Matters Arising** from previous meeting none all on the Agenda.

5. Buckingham Railway Walk Conservation Group

Jenny reported the group had cleaned up the pond as when iced over it attracts people to throw sticks into it. The Town Council had repaired most of the fence.

The volunteer diary of planned work for the next 12 months had been published and sent in to the Town Council. The group were looking into buying a waterproof endoscope to go in the pond and poke into crevices and wood piles, and had consulted the Freshwater habitats trust for suitable waterproof equipment. The group already had a microscope and USB cable to view samples taken out from the pond.

The group would be labelling trees in the summer, when Michael Hunt had got the exact details of species. The hawthorns had been cut back over the path in December. The group were planning to have a 'tree of the month' based on interesting trees at the moment e.g. Alder and would include useful information on tree uses and characteristics.

The group would be taking part in the litter pick.

6. Maids Moreton Avenue Conservation Group

No report in the absence of Bill.

7. Bourton Park, Heartlands and Chandos Park

Lee reported that the tree survey was in hand for Chandos Park and Church Hill, and would log whether trees needed relooking at within the next 1 to 3 years. The Railway Walk trees would be recorded starting with those near to the path. Some willows in Bourton Park needed to be pollarded for safety and there was a conifer in Chandos Park damaging the bowling shed and a Poplar with limb that required removal.

Wildflower seeding would be undertaken in Bourton paddocks with meadow mix, and along the river banks following removal of Himalayan Balsam with a riverside mix, and some woodland mix for the parks.

It was confirmed that hedges had not been surveyed.

8. Buckingham Canal Society

Athina reported that there was a lot of work done at the Cosgrove end, where a bridge and surrounding area had been covered in with earth. The earth was being moved with excavators and dumper trucks to reveal the 2 sides of the bridge. The tow path had been rediscovered.

Lee was assisting with provision of labour from the community pay back at Hyde Lane reserve, and with re-watering and temporary dams the lock gate would be put in.

At Bourton Meadow end there would be a couple of gates along the towpath, hawthorn saplings had been planted, and the group would take part in the keep Britain tidy litter pick.

The Canal Society AGM was on Saturday 18th March 2017 at 7.15pm with a cheese and wine social evening and talk about the Anglo Saxon hoard by Susan Fearn.

The group were also taking part in the litter pick. They had got funding for a walk leaflet and was awaiting the printing.

9. Buckingham Society

Ian reported that the Society was working on the greater Buckingham footpath project but David Childs had hit a brick wall at the moment. The Society wanted the footpath to be to be designated whereas the University was willing to allow a right of access across the car park area.

Ian advised the Society would be meeting on Monday to decide how to update the Buckingham footpath trails leaflet and may want to include Buckingham's best examples of trees, e.g. the Silver Lime in the old graveyard, and the Copper Beeches on Church Hill.

Ruth agreed to check what was available in terms of leaflets on walks in Buckingham to include accessibility information.

10. Wildlife update from AVDC Ecologist

In the absence of Paul there was no report.

11. Trees and Hedges Town Action Commission and Tree Wardens

All were asked to complete the public questionnaire. Jenny suggested adding the protection of verges for wildflowers.

12. AOB

The Spring Fair was being held on 30th April.

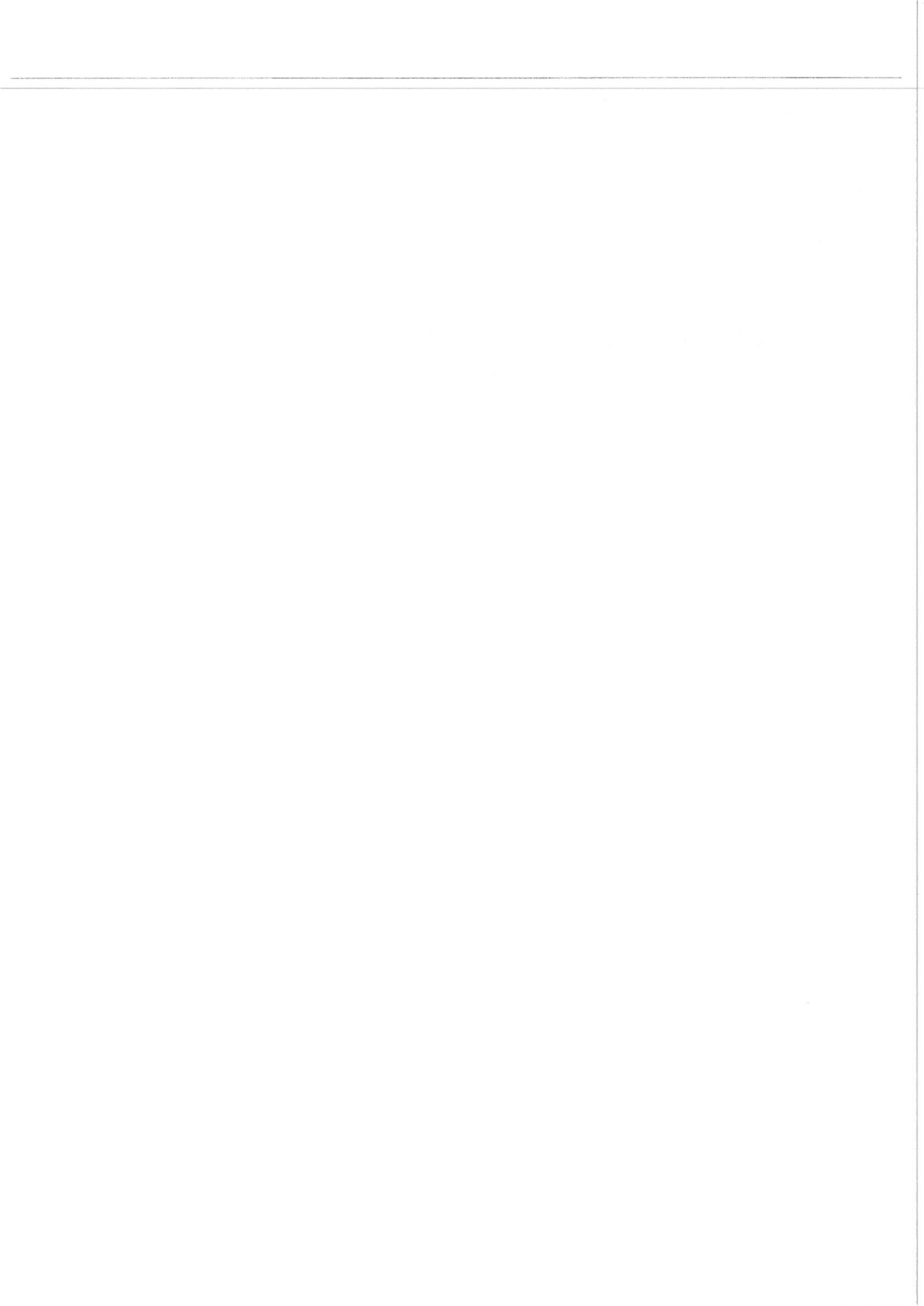
All were thanked for all the work they were continuing to do for Buckingham's Environment and Green Spaces.

13. Date and time of next meetings

Monday 17 July 2017 at 6pm

The meeting closed at 6:40 p.m.

Ruth Newell
13 February 2017





BUCKINGHAM TOWN ACTION COMMISSION (TAC)

Tree, Hedgerow and Open Spaces Report

INTRODUCTION

This Report has been produced by the Town Action Commission (TAC), which was established by the Environment Committee of Buckingham Town Council (BTC), due to concerns about the loss of trees, hedgerows and open spaces, largely resulting from new housing developments.

The objective is “the protection, creation and enhancement of trees, hedgerows and green spaces in new developments”. An initial meeting of interested parties, including representatives of local councils, conservation groups and other stakeholders was held.

From that meeting a steering group was established to produce this report for the Environment Committee of BTC. Members of that group were: Councillor Margaret Gateley (BTC), (Chair); Councillor Ruth Newell (BTC); Ian Orton (Buckingham Society); Neil Pasmore (AVDC Community Spaces Officer); Bill Truscott (Maids Moreton Avenue Conservation Group).

A. THE CONTEXT

1. Thanks to the foresight of previous generations Buckingham now has one of the most diverse mature treescapes of any small market town.
2. The planting activities of landowners and residents, especially during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, has endowed the town with a wide variety of mature native and non-native deciduous hardwoods, softwoods and shrubs planted both singly and in groups (e.g. Maids Moreton Avenue, The Spinney/Castle House, Brookfield House/Royal Latin School and the Old and New Churchyards.
3. These have been supplemented by the planting associated with Buckingham’s parks and open spaces owned by various local government authorities and/or agencies acting on their behalf, e.g. Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC) the former Buckingham Borough Council, the Buckingham Borough Development Company, Buckingham Town Council (BTC) Buckinghamshire County Council and the various agencies associated with water and drainage.
4. Buckingham’s extensive areas of open spaces that also make a significant contribution to its distinctive character, not least because of the backdrop provided by the River Great Ouse. Few towns have something like the Heartlands, for example, that effectively brings the countryside right into what is more or less the town centre.
5. Many of these open spaces provide the skeleton of what could become a linear park network (see Appendix A) linking together Buckingham’s parks and open spaces by paths in landscaped and naturalistic settings.
6. Some of the elements of this network are already in place. It is already possible to walk or cycle from the eastern by-pass to the town centre through open space along a network of footpaths. Thereafter it is possible to reach both the western and southern extremities of the



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town using another network of paths through other open spaces, e.g. Chandos Park, the University and the Circular/Railway/Riverside walks.

7. In future the development of the area between the bypass, Gawcott and Tingewick Road may enable walkers and cyclists to get to the Radclive roundabout using an extended network of paths and open spaces. The University's development of the former Hartridge site may also provide additional open space and facilitate an extension and/or completion of the existing Riverside walk.
8. A number of smaller "linear parks" providing footpath linkages between roads and existing open spaces, e.g. the Circular Walk, Maids Moreton Avenue and the Railway Walk have also emerged in recent years. These open spaces are owned and maintained by Local Authorities with support from local societies, e.g. Railway Walk Conservation Group and The Buckingham Canal Society (canal towpath).
9. Not all of Buckingham's open spaces and the land or pathways between them are within the public domain, i.e. are "public open spaces" that are accessible to the general public and owned and maintained by local government agencies.
10. Some open spaces are effectively owned by property developers or their successors (administrators and liquidators) and are outwith the ambit of local authorities. This is the case at Linden Village and Lace Hill, for example. Moreover, at Lace Hill and other new developments, residents are charged an annual fee to maintain their open spaces which have not been adopted by the local authorities, and this appears to be an increasing trend.
11. Schools, sports clubs and the University of Buckingham also own and maintain substantial open spaces and the trees, hedgerows and footpaths that fall within. On the whole, however, private owners, most notably the University, tend to allow public access and enable the community to enjoy their facilities.
12. Buckingham also incorporates extensive areas of hedgerows within its built-up area, a legacy of its agricultural past. In addition to containing a diverse variety of trees, shrubs and other flora these hedgerows provide important habitats for birds, mammals, rodents and insects.

B. THE PROBLEM

13. In recent years the activities of residential and commercial developers coupled with an expanding University have put increasing pressure on the Buckingham treescape, hedgerows and open spaces. Buckingham has expanded considerably over the past 30 years and, according to the Buckingham Neighbourhood Development Plan, is expected to grow even more over the next 20 years.
14. This will put our treescape, hedgerows and agricultural land that falls within the town boundaries, and the habitats that they support, under even more pressure. Even if Buckingham remained relatively static, however, it is likely that there could still be future problems. Growing trees and hedgerows do not always mix with people and buildings.



15. The reality is that trees and hedgerows can pose a number of problems to existing buildings as well as constraining future developments.

In addition to frustrating big housing and commercial developments by speculative developers, these can include:

- i. Trees can compromise public safety, especially if they become unsafe as a consequence of age or disease;
 - ii. Tree roots can undermine house foundations, sewers and water mains;
 - iii. Growing trees can overhang and shade neighbouring properties and compromise the efficiency of solar panels;
 - iv. Trees and hedgerows can constrain the extent to which “domestic developers” can “develop” their own property, i.e. build houses or extensions in their back gardens;
 - v. Not all trees - especially non-native trees - are compatible with houses or urban landscapes.
 - vi. Growing hedgerows, especially those that demark property boundaries, can become invasive (especially if they encroach on people's back gardens).
16. Furthermore mature trees and hedgerows need to be managed and maintained. This is very important if Buckingham's distinctive treescape is to survive. Many mature trees are probably over 100-years old and some of these may be near to the end of their lives. Some hedgerows may be even older.
17. Diseased and dangerous trees need to be treated or cut down if there is no chance of recovery and replaced by new plantings. Self-seeded trees may also have to be cleared to prevent future problems.
18. Trees damaged by adverse weather conditions, as exemplified by February's gales, which caused extensive damage to many trees, not least the big cedar in the grounds of Manor House, Church Street, may also have to be dealt with for safety reasons.
19. In theory trees, hedgerows and public spaces are protected by the planning system. Some tree work, including felling, requires a grant of permission from the appropriate authority, i.e. if the trunk or wood volume is more than a certain size. Similarly any development on open space, designated or undesignated, must receive planning permission.
20. Outstanding trees can receive additional protection through a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). Hedgerows can receive similar treatment as can trees and hedgerows in a Conservation Area, such as the trees within the Old Churchyard.
21. Unfortunately, and as recent events have shown, it is all too easy for the planning system to be ignored with the result that trees are routinely felled by speculative and domestic developers or have limbs removed. Similarly hedgerows can be grubbed-up.
22. There is often little that can be done to prevent open space being turned into de facto carparks as is sometimes the case on some of Buckingham's housing estates. Although it is much more difficult to develop open space this is not unknown, especially when its ownership is in doubt.



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Indeed open space whose ownership is unknown can pose particular problems, especially when it comes to ensuring that it does not revert to scrub through general neglect.

23. The reality is that for a variety of reasons the planning system cannot always be implemented and enforced. Resources are always scarce within local authorities and AVDC's planning department, and especially its enforcement division, is no exception in this respect.
24. Furthermore the planning system can do relatively little to "enhance" the treescape or hedgerows, other than making new or replacement planting a condition to securing planning permission or extracting additional resources through Section 106 payments and agreements.
25. Similarly, although the planning authority can insist on "new" open spaces being part of a new development as a condition of the grant of planning permission it can do little to "enhance" existing open spaces even when its ownership is known. The onus is left entirely to the owners.
26. The situation is not one of completely unmitigated gloom, however, as far as the activities of developers are concerned, especially when it comes to trees, hedgerows and open spaces.
27. Some developments effectively open up land that was previously inaccessible to the general public or have enhanced areas that were, to all intents and purposes, derelict or waste land.
28. This is especially the case as far as the University is concerned. Not only has the University enhanced much of central Buckingham - and especially areas adjacent to the River Great Ouse. Hitherto, it has turned out to be an exemplary custodian of the land it has acquired as well as allowing the public to access it.
29. The development between Gawcott Road, Tingewick Road, the A421 and the Old Railway could also provide benefits especially in relation to a putative giant linear park, although it will put some elements of the treescape, not to mention ancient hedgerows and the habitats contained therein under severe pressure.

C. PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND FEEDBACK

30. To help guide its thinking as well as attempting to raise awareness of the challenges faced we consulted the public through a questionnaire accessible via Buckingham Town Council and social media (see Appendix B) as well as staffing a stall on Buckingham Market on the morning of 11 February.
31. Appendix C summarises the responses. This shows, without exception, that the public is very appreciative of Buckingham's trees, hedgerows and open spaces, the flora and fauna these support, and the impact they have on helping to make the town a better place in which to live, work and study.
32. Respondents also identified the importance of linking Buckingham's growing network of public spaces by pathways and tracks.



33. The public is also well aware of the damage inflicted by developers in recent months. Many respondents noted the ravages inflicted on the hedgerows to the west of Moreton Road, the hedgerow that helped define the river boundary of the Clarence Park development, the loss of trees and hedgerows on the site opposite the old police station on Moreton Road, and the trees and hedgerows associated with The Sidings development.
34. Moreover, the questionnaire responses show that the public is very keen that something should be done to prevent future losses as and when subsequent development occurs. Survey respondents identified, inter alia, more rigorous enforcement procedures; the prosecution and fining of negligent or wayward developers for damage inflicted on trees and hedgerows; the use of Assets of Community Value designations to provide additional protection for sensitive open spaces; more use of native tree species; better monitoring systems to alert the relevant authorities of planning system transgressions concerning trees and hedgerows; and a general increase in the public's awareness of the qualities of Buckingham's trees, hedgerows and open spaces.
35. These responses have been incorporated in the list of possible palliatives and solutions that follow in the next section.

D. SOLUTIONS

36. The palliatives and solutions that we have come up with to help preserve and enhance Buckingham's trees, hedgerows and open spaces fall into two categories: medium and long-term and shorter term.
37. Because of their scope, which is more wide ranging, the former, i.e. medium and long-term palliatives will almost certainly involve other organisations and local government agencies in addition to BTC. They will also be much more costly to implement both in terms of personnel and other resources. As a consequence we have focused our attention on shorter term measures which can be introduced more quickly and cheaply by BTC in association with other organisations within the town.

a. Medium and Long Term.

- i. A long term arboreal, hedgerow and open space management plan for the town will be based on parameters established as part of a Vision and Design Statement that is supposed to be produced under the auspices of the Buckingham Development Plan.

Ideally this should be based on a vision of Buckingham's future treescape, open spaces (including linear parks linking both housing developments and more substantial open spaces) including details of preferred trees and shrubs etc. etc. as well outlining what type of "open space" we really want.

- ii. A management plan for the town identifying:
 - all open spaces, trees, and the ownership thereof;
 - planned "new" open-space, tree and hedgerow developments, i.e. new open spaces/linear parks, the ownership thereof etc.;



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- maintenance priorities;
- routine maintenance plans etc., etc.
- the time frame and phasing of any policies contained within the plan;
- the resources available along with any shortfalls to implement the plan.

This will involve consultations with a wide range of stake holding organisations within Buckingham as well as other elements of local government.

Two potential problems here are that the current system of local government may change in the near future with Buckingham forming part of a unitary authority, and that some areas of Buckingham sit outside the control of the public and Local Authorities (i.e. housing associations and managed estates).

b. Short Term.

- i. *More tree wardens and information for members of the public to help enforce and implement the planning system, especially as far preventing tree felling or hedgerow grubbing by developers is concerned.*

BTC, or the BTC's Environment Committee should, as a matter of urgency, produce materials outlining the nature of a tree warden's responsibilities along with useful contact numbers to enable the relevant authorities to be alerted quickly in the event of unauthorised work on trees, hedgerows etc.

Although BTC has recruited more tree wardens (and probably many more people who would be willing to act as tree wardens) the current lack of relevant materials may result in interest evaporating.

- ii. *Inculcating a sense of community pride in Buckingham's treescape and outstanding examples of particular trees along with our open spaces.* The reality is that many residents are probably unaware of just how good some of our trees and open spaces are.

(Outstanding trees could be included in the updated "Town Trail" leaflets produced by The Buckingham Society. One problem here is that some trees are on private property).

- iii. *Encouraging neighbouring residents or local organisations to "take ownership" of the maintenance of trees/hedgerows or open spaces following the examples set by Railway Walk Conservation Group, Maids Moreton Avenue Conservation Group; Friends of The Old Churchyard etc.*
- iv. *Enlisting the help of schools and other organisations to create more interest in our trees, hedgerows and open spaces as valuable habitats that may be "adopted".*
- v. *Organising something similar to the annual "River Rinse" or "Spring Clean" events to help clear and tidy open spaces, hedgerows etc., especially those bordering the by-pass.*
- vi. *Making property owners aware of their [legal] responsibilities under the planning system, especially if they have trees in the curtilage of their property along with the help available to*



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assist with tree maintenance and planting from local authorities and other bodies. BTC to consider providing a free tree advice service, if this were feasible.

- vii. *Extending and completing the existing network of footpaths and embryonic linear parks in conjunction with both local authorities and community groups to help create a giant linear park embracing the whole of Buckingham.*
- viii. *Making use of Assets of Community Value designations to provide additional protection to open spaces where ownership may be unclear.*
- ix. *Paying much greater attention to boundaries when examining planning applications, especially if the boundaries contain trees and hedgerows and making sure that these are protected as far as possible.*

CONCLUSION

This report has been produced, following consultation with members of the public, representatives from conservation groups, and organisations who have an interest in, or responsibility for, protecting, promoting and enhancing trees, hedgerows, green and open spaces in Buckingham.

The response to this consultation shows that the public is appreciative of Buckingham's trees, hedgerows and open spaces and the impact they have on helping to make the town a better place in which to live, work and study; but is also aware of the damage inflicted to trees and hedgerows in the town. A pleasing number of responses indicated a willingness to either join or set up conservation groups (12) or become a tree warden (14) and this demonstrates a keenness to be involved in preventing future losses.

This report seeks to summarise those views and opinions, and set out potential, achievable solutions for consideration by the Buckingham Town Council Environment Committee. It is hoped that the information included here will be able to influence future planning and council decisions.



APPENDIX A: Linear Parks

There is no dictionary definition of a linear park, but the concept has a long established tradition in urban and regional planning.

At its most basic, a linear park is nothing more than an urban or suburban park or open space that is longer than it is wide. It may be little more than a former railway line or track to link larger open spaces together.

Indeed the provision of links between larger parks and open spaces underpinned the creation of the 'Emerald Necklace' a chain of parks linked by pathways designed by Frederick Olmstead, the great American landscape designer in the 1880s that connects Boston Common and Public Garden to Franklin Park.

Nearer home, Milton Keynes has made extensive use of the linear park concept with nine different examples that include the floodplains of the River Great Ouse and its tributaries.

Floodplains along with disused railway lines are used extensively to provide linear parks. And this is why it makes sense to incorporate the concept into a landscape plan for Buckingham as we have both a river floodplain and a disused railway line.

Linear parks can also provide "green highways" for wildlife.

Other UK examples of linear parks include the Lee Valley Park, a 10,000 acre 26 mile long linear park that runs along the floodplain of the River Lee from Ware, Hertfordshire to its confluence with the River Thames in east London and the Brampton Valley Way which follows the bed of the former Northampton to Market Harborough railway line.



APPENDIX B: Trees, Hedgerows and Green Spaces in Buckingham Survey

Many people have been concerned about the loss of trees and hedgerows in Buckingham, due largely to the ever-increasing new housing developments. The Town Council therefore decided to set up an Action Commission: a group of people, to find a way to reduce the risk of further loss of such beautiful resources, which enhance our lives so much.

We had an initial meeting, which involved people from the various conservation groups, such as those working in the Railway Walk and in Maids Moreton Avenue. From that meeting a smaller steering group was established, which will report to the Environment Committee in April. We would really value the input of people who share our concerns.

Thank you for participating in our survey. Your feedback is important.

1. Please provide your postcode	
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2. What trees, hedgerows or green and open spaces in Buckingham do you value, and why?	
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3. How important is it to you that parks and green spaces in Buckingham are linked by pathways – making the town more accessible by foot?	
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4. Which of these aspects do you value in Buckingham? <i>Please rank in order of importance with 1 being the most valuable, and 7 being the least.</i>	Allotments
	Green and Open Spaces (e.g. Meadows & Play Areas)
	Native hedgerows
	Individual trees / hedges / features of interest
	Sports Pitches
	Walks / Footpaths
	Woodland / Woodland Flowers

5. Are there any green amenities in Buckingham that have been lost recently, that you particularly cared about?	
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<p>6. If you were moving, what outdoor features would you most value about where you move to?</p> <p><i>Please rank in order of importance with 1 being the most valuable, and 7 being the least.</i></p>		Grassed verges / lawns
		Green and open spaces
		Patio / Low maintenance garden (minimal trees / foliage)
		Play areas
		Sports pitches
		Trees
		Walks / footpaths

<p>7. There are existing planning rules and legislation such as Tree Protection Orders, but how else do you think trees, hedgerows and green spaces could be enhanced and protected?</p>	
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<p>8. In respect of the layout and provision of trees, hedgerows and green spaces, which of the following local estates do you find most visually attractive?</p> <p><i>Please rank in order, with 1 being the most attractive and 8 the least:</i></p>		Badgers
		Lace Hill
		Linden Village
		Mount Pleasant
		Page Hill
		Town Centre
		Treefields
		Western Avenue

<p>9. Would you be willing to join, or set up, a conservation group?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, I would be willing to join now • I am interested in finding out more information • I am interested, but am not able to commit time at present • No, I am not interested <p><i>If yes, please specify which group / geographical areas / features you would like to help conserve and provide your name and contact details.</i></p>	
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<p>10. Would you like to find out more about becoming a tree warden?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • No <p><i>If yes, please state which area of Buckingham you could volunteer in and provide your name and contact details</i></p>	
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APPENDIX C: Survey Outputs

Q2: What trees, hedgerows and green spaces in Buckingham do you value and why?

Churchyard and trees/green space around St Peter & St Paul because of history, sense of place and views over the town. Stowe avenue for trees, views and walks. Maids Moreton avenue for woodland walk. Riverside for all above reasons. SO important to provide green space for connectivity. So would say almost every tree, hedgerow, etc. within the parish!
Maids Moreton Avenue, important because it is a beautiful mature tree lined pathway. Holloway Spinney, mature trees a good place for bird and bats, also a play area. Bourton Park a mix of parkland including mature trees, play areas and riverside walks, will be enhanced by the return of a wildflower meadow. Chandos Park, parkland for families with all important mature trees. Railway Walk, a designated wildlife area, should continue to be managed with this in mind. The meadow next to St Rumbold's Well due to be left as a green space next to a new housing estate. One of the remaining true meadows in the area, hopefully to be left uncut to retain the species of butterflies, flowers and grasshoppers.
All but particularly woodland areas and large trees
Bourton Park & Railway Walk/Scenic Walk - natural and unspoilt
The parks, Railway Walk, the trees and shrubs between Maids Moreton and Stafford Road, all of them really.
All of them, for various reasons. I enjoy walking my dog in the park and wider countryside. I also love to see birds, bats and other wildlife using hedgerows, woodland and green spaces in the area.
The ancient hedgerows along Moreton Road, A413, but a long stretch of them have been ripped up and decimated. When I drew attention to this initially I was told by the council that they would be replaced. This shows total lack of understanding, you cannot replace hedgerows which have established over hundreds of years.
All publicly owned green spaces - these provide a welcome break in amongst all of the housing
The green spaces on estates like Badgers and Linden. Conker tree in Chandos park and weeping willow in skate park play area and two trees in church carpark.
Bourton Park and Chandos Park are invaluable. Well located for the majority of residents and well managed for wildlife and fauna.
all of them but particularly the avenue along page hill avenue and MM. the spinney and amenity space at the back of Page Hill and the green space in the centre of the town over the river from waitress car park in particular.
Fields, hedgerows, open parks, the daffodil field nearby. These are good for mental health and quality of life
All the parks because they are great spaces to be in.
All of them, but the planning around the bypass especially near Linden Village, the autumn colours and spring flowers lift the heart as you drive past
All of them. I moved here from London for the countryside, the life style, free flowing traffic and quality of life. So much green space has been built on since we moved.
All of them. We need green spaces for wildlife and our own wellbeing!
All, they provide home for wildlife and help to purify the air from all the car pollution from the main roads around us
All of them, from the aspect that wildlife value them more and its destroying their natural habitat without which their population will be decimated. Green and open spaces also provide places for children to play and adults to enjoy, for all to partake in valuable exercise and alleviate mental health issues (recent research has evidenced these benefits).
All. It's proven to combat traffic pollution effects. New spaces should have oxygen provision at the top of the agenda.



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any green space, trees and hedge is important. It enhances our town and wellbeing as a community.
Bertie's Walk for the wildlife and its natural (but tended) flora and fauna Hedgerows along the bypass for their colour in spring and summer. And do they halt noise pollution to the housing estates? The horse chestnut trees in Chandos park and Stowe avenue for their colours! And for the colour in autumn. The old railway line. I realise some of these have gone with the new development but we call it the "yellow brick road" from about 30 years ago when the path was actually yellow and clean. It's a sanctuary. The two church yards. Interesting trees, lovely in the summer (aromatic flowers, grass cutting) and for the trees in the autumn.
All of them.
All trees and hedgerows but especially Bourton Park, a lovely peaceful walk into town or out with my dogs. Bertie's walk, Chandos Park. I could go on and on.
Chandon park alongside the river and also along the railway walk.....so peaceful
Railway walk- is not only beautiful but has lots of history. Chandos- lively river and clear green space with lovely clean air and lots of good memories. Bourton park lovely walk and family area- lots of wildlife. Maids Moreton fields and paths
Riverside walk, railway walk, parks and other open spaces
Walks around Buckingham and Bourton Park
small wood by library, open space over river by circular walk
The Green Heart of Buckingham, the Railway Walk and the section of Buckingham Canal are much valued by residents as the town has a rural feel.
Enjoy the local parks, woodlands and pathways throughout Buckingham
Bourton park riverside, cornwalls meadow, Verney park, maids moreton avenue, Chandos park with its fine liquidambar and Tulip trees and fine golden weeping willow, Brookfield lodge and Chandos Rd fine veteran trees
All hedge rows and trees, especially the green open spaces on Linden Village, now being used as a car park
I don't have one I like over the other I like all of them for all kinds of reasons.
All of them, because everywhere is being built on and wildlife habitats are being destroyed
Stratford field, bourton park, heartlands, made up footpaths, various habitats, river, spinneys, grass land, mature trees, shrubs and young trees. Good play equipment, keep fit circuit seats and benches and ball court. All ages catered for.
When tidy they present a pleasant outlook but more importantly good for wildlife
The route along the park area / bourton road
MM avenue. Riverside by library. Walk from woolpack to weir past university
Bourton Park, Maids Moreton, Good for dog walking
All of it
All, they help to make it what it is
All
All the ones that are left
Them all, but we keep losing them to housing and about to lose more protected trees, wild space on Chandos Road. Lost Whitebeams behind Station Row, just criminal. Bourbon heart land is good but over managed, more wild preferred. Railway Walk with Bertie's Walk a favourite too, but extent to riverside walk. Chandos Park would be good to see some of the grass area, fringes to left uncut and wild flowers added.



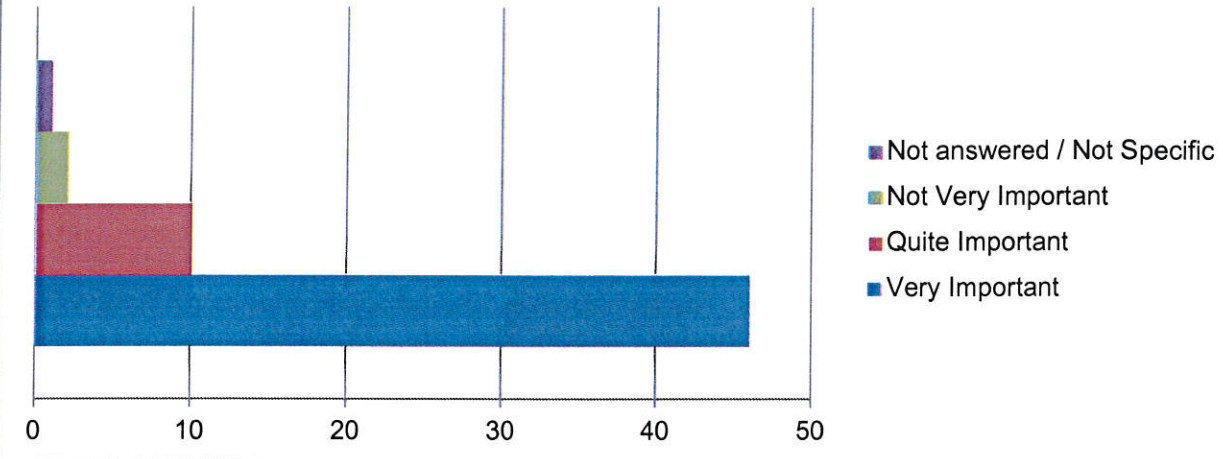
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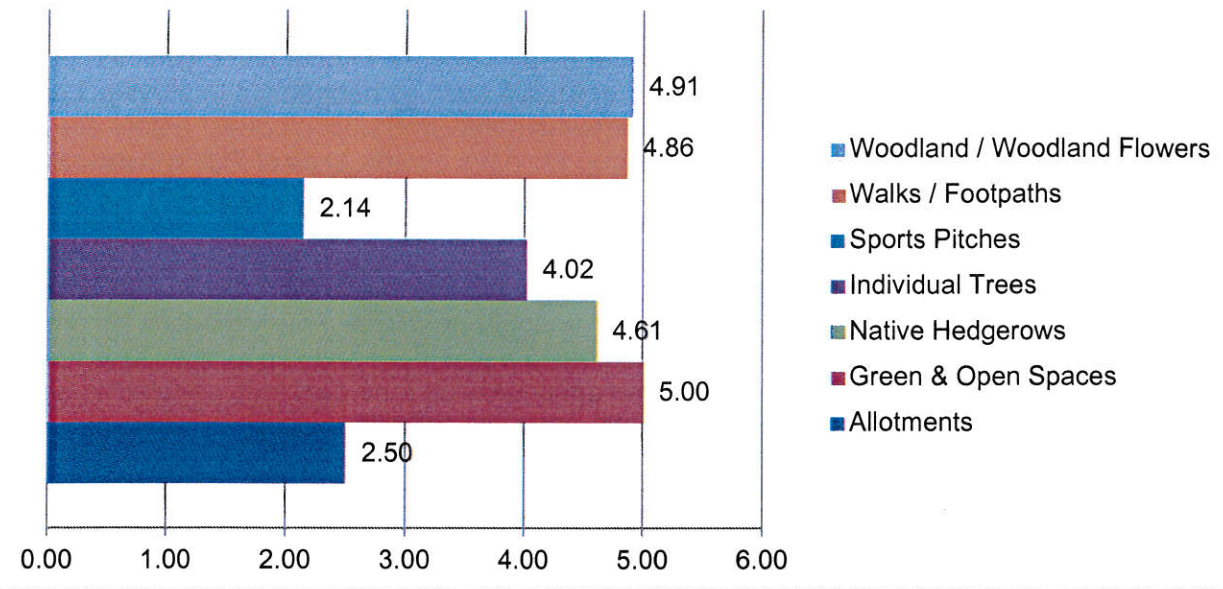
<p>Maids Moreton Avenue: this is my main walking route into the town, great to be able to avoid the traffic and to enjoy the trees and hear the birds.</p> <p>Heartlands and Bourton Park. An enjoyable place to walk by the river.</p> <p>Holloway Spinney. Again for walks.</p>
<p>All of the above. They break up what can seem a hard urban environment, improve air quality and provide diverse habitats for our birds and wild friends. If you want to see a stark message of how important they are, pop along to Tingewick, where, on entry, there's a new settlement being built to its left. I think it's called Tingewick Park. It's built on a hillside so there are brick houses and many brick retaining walls. No trees or shrubs in sight... Yet. It's ghastly. Time and vegetation will soften it. But, unless we care for hedges, and create new ones, our lives will be denuded. I see housing estates without flora as similar to living in a Nudist Colony : houses need green clothes just as much as people need variegated ones!</p>
<p>All of them. The parks for leisure/wildlife. Outside my house. Also roads for aesthetics and noise reduction.</p>
<p>The woodland either side of Page Hill. The railway walk. The canal. Bourton and Chandos parks. They are pleasant peaceful areas, with lots of wildlife. They are all in walking distance of my house.</p>
<p>We need to keep as much of the above as possible to protect the environment, stop erosion from flooding which trees in particular help prevent and stop turning Buckingham into more of a concrete jungle than it has become with badly planned, badly constructed housing estates.</p>
<p>All the parks and walks since they are very relaxing to be around/walk through</p>
<p>The "spinney" the area you walk through from the footbridge by the skatepark through to Waitrose car park and the trees all along the river.</p>
<p>Bourton Park is a massive asset to buckingham as it provides safe pedestrian access to town as well as allowing nature to thrive and providing areas for dog walking and family interaction outside in nature. I also value the green spaces found along badgers way in and around the estate. My children are able to go out and play with their friends and explore without being confined to either a garden or just a path. These areas also allow for wildlife such as hedgehogs to survive. Learning to ride a bike, explore rivers and streams, socialise in safety and walk amongst nature are all vital to personal wellbeing and we are fortunate enough to have access to all of that in buckingham.</p>
<p>All of the parks are a need in the modern concrete riddled world. I like the river and the trees.</p>
<p>I especially value the old hedgerows around the top of page hill and the spinney and drovers route</p>
<p>All of our parks, open spaces and existing hedgerows. We live in a beautiful town that is enriched by these places. We are also lucky to have an abundance of wildlife which needs to be protected.</p>
<p>Really do appreciate Bourton Road allotments. I have a plot there and it is a beautiful open space near the centre of town where local people can enjoy growing their own fruit, vegetables and flowers. Such a valuable resource for wildlife, too, as many allotmenters grow organically.</p>
<p>Heartland</p>
<p>All but particularly the wildlife conservation areas</p>
<p>Bourton Park. Trees along the ring road</p>



Q3: How important is it that parks and green spaces are linked by pathways?



Q4: Which of these aspects do you value in Buckingham?





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Tree, Hedgerow and Open Spaces Report

Q5: Are there any green amenities in Buckingham that have been lost recently, that you particularly cared about?

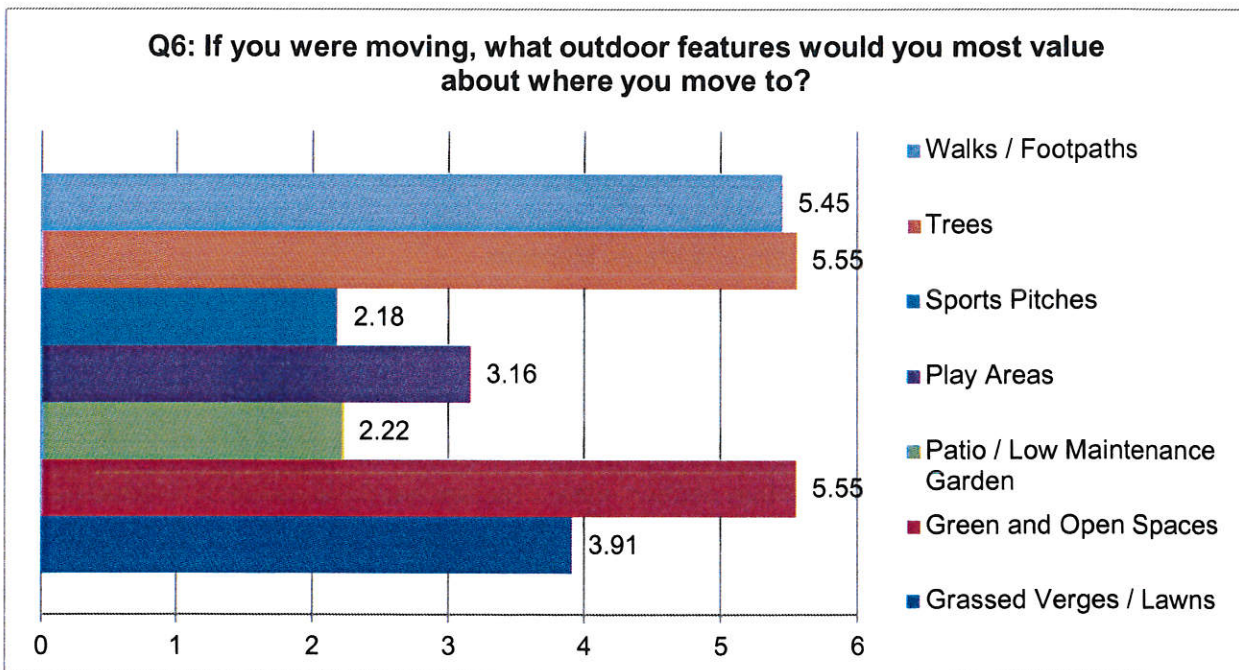
Yes. Bridge connecting Fishers Field walk with town. Tree at foot of Chandos Road. Spinney behind Station Terrace and deeply regret loss of top bit of Maids Moreton Avenue that the school has requisitioned from the town's historic route to Maids Moreton. Potential loss of green riverside habitat south of Grand Junction.
Woodland behind Station Terrace because it encroached into a designated wildlife area and in all probability more trees were removed than absolutely necessary.
Clarence Park, area next to Uni car park, area opposite Police Station
Some riverside "natural" areas
Hedgerows along the track beside the rugby club. They were important foraging habitat for bats and birds.
The fields and hedgerows alongside Moreton Road were a haven for wildlife, somewhere for sheep to graze, a place for quiet walks and to experience wide open skies, beautiful sunsets all within walking distance of the town centre
The trees around the back of Clarence Park
New developments in Lace Hill, Maids Moreton and by river in town have been so densely developed that there is no green space or any soft landscaping. This is not the developers, but national planning policy requiring such density. We are at risk of creating a generation of couch potatoes and agoraphobics.
New to Buckingham so not sure. The area in Maids Moreton
Around the bypass at the top/back of Badgers/Bourton Park and the opposite side of the road
Lace Hill farmland
I care about all of the green amenities in Buckingham.
Loss of trees around Lace Hill
The riverside walks, particularly the trees that have been felled (under dubious means) which will increase flooding and also provide invaluable natural habitats for wildlife.
Anytime development occurs without provisions to replace or increase the greenery.
All the trees lost as part of the pointless work on A421.
Hedgerow/ trees near rugby club
Railway path and general walks are littered often
Closing of footpath (Brentwood Jubilee Way) between London Road and Bletchley Road
Clarence Park Development
The green belt between Buckingham and Maids Moreton.
Tingewick Road riverside
All the trees that were needlessly cut down to make way for the new roundabout on A423 by Tesco's.
Moreton Road
The wooded area behind Castle House could be reached at side of CAB. There were masses of crocus and good blackberries and bird nesting sites. Encroachment in Moreton Avenue by properties backing onto the avenue.
Tingewick Road (Moreton Road development was not too bad!)
Yes, trees chopped down on the Tingewick Road new estate and trees in people's gardens.
Land at Police Station Hill



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Moreton Road developments
Trees at the rear of Station Terrace
Area by river on Clarence Park development
Yes , the fields under Lace Hill, the land off Moreton Rd, Evan the scrub land "behind Woolies".
Footpaths on Moreton Road development and now have to walk through a housing estate, same with Lace Hill
The countryside lost to all the recent housing estates around Maids Moreton and Tescos.
The loss of land outside Tingewick to housing developments has been upsetting as that space was somewhere we walked our dogs and sledged in the snow. The lace hill development onto the fields opposite badgers and tesco is a shame as it makes our town less in the countryside and we have lost some habitats for animals who were already struggling. The estate on the Tingewick road near Westfields is another example of the overcrowding issue we are getting. Traffic in general is increasing and the roads can't cope which in turn means out green spaces are demolished to make the roads wider. Case in point the buckingham bypass has been widened and significantly reduced the land either side of the road. This was established hedgerow and shrubs but now its turfed and alien to its previous natural enhabitence.
The local tip is now a joke and we've stopped taking tree and hedge waste there anymore. We now have to burn it all.
The hedgerow along the boundary with the rugby club - they took away a huge width of hedge to make more car parking spaces - this was not the fault of the developers of the estate next door who have left green space between the houses and the boundary . The replacement hedge is very thin and narrow with now opportunity to flourish due to the hard standing which has been put down right next to the roots
The beautiful open fields on the left of the Moreton Road when driving out of Buckingham and the beautiful mature trees adjacent to the river that have been removed to make way for the monstrosity that is Clarence Park.
River banks looking neglected with less plant diversity as they have become overgrown
Railway station, Chandos / Station Road
Woodlands and valuable trees





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Q7: There are existing planning rules and legislation, such as Tree Protection orders, but how else do you think trees, hedgerows and green spaces could be enhanced?

Assets of Community Value (a Civic Voice initiative)
Increased public awareness of their importance for wildlife, such as features in local magazines, social media and events.
Protection of areas in local plan, and having residents as eyes and ears of their local area.
Management plans, more planting of local species
Educating people on their importance, not just for wildlife at a small scale but as connectors for wider habitats, which are important for pollinators and subsequently us and our ability to produce food. People need to know how much they benefit personally from protecting green spaces, otherwise they are much less likely to care. Developers should also be under much more pressure to create and enhance green spaces in their designs.
Regulate the cutting in the spring, the machinery used violently massacres the trees and hedges. It would appear no thought to the wellbeing of these sites is considered. The destructive nature of the cutting is distressing to the plants, wildlife and anyone who cares.
Proper maintenance of existing trees and the planting of new ones.
Green spaces should be adopted by local authority and maintained by them. Local community groups/community service would help maintain.
Make developers protect them as part of planning permission
Don't build over open spaces in residential areas, encourage headgrows
Don't arbitrarily cut them down before any future expansion, wait to see what is necessary. Also employ contactors who understands when plants and trees flower, and don't prune them just as they are coming into bud or flowering!
Ensure trees and hedgerows are not grubbed out when planning is granted.
Everyone involved in planning/building/ and the council should be protecting them as a matter of course.
They end up coming down because of housing developments and infrastructure developments so maybe some kind of ruling on preservations/conservations in the same way that historic/beautiful houses do. (E.g. Permission is needed to put solar panels/changes to the exterior of certain houses in conservation area or listed buildings). How about "listing" certain areas of natural beauty or wildlife conservation. Are there already rules about that?
Enhanced by planting and maintaining more of these ongoing
If there is a pressing need for any natural habitats to be removed (after the relevant wildlife surveys are carried out) they should be replaced in an area that will benefit people and wildlife to best effect. As a member of various environmental groups these matters are of great concern to me, in particular the decrease of wildlife. For example, my garden is usually full of bats flying in the evening, this year I only saw 2. I have not seen any hedgehogs this year and am sure other species are likewise diminishing.
Trimming hedges at correct times. Relaying council owned hedges. Legislation specifically to new developments- an impact assessment scheme to identify and replace/enhance existing greenery in quantifiable gas output.
Stop building housing on green field site. Stop widening roads.
Making it more a public decision when such things are to be removed/altered
people power like in sheffield
Labels and diagrams of wildlife, to raise awareness and get people interested and educated, features and sculptures
Regular planned maintenance
Have a required proportion of green space to built up space
Regular checks upkeep and management.
Green spaces for all dogs on leads.
Wild areas for exploring and dogs run free.
Raising awareness of specimen trees in parks and estates



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Better maintenance.
Local people getting together to clear litter, keep the areas around our greenery clear and not overgrown
it is possible to in some cases leave the hedgerows incorporated into the gardens of new builds and prevent them being uprooted in the planning unless a safety problem. Putting in fruiting trees or community run garden/vegetable gardens to engage folk
Set up a "reporting system" so that local people can monitor these aspects of our community. Reports need to be followed up by local authorities to ensure protection of these areas.
I don't know as it seems some companies ignore the restrictions, preferring to pay the fines.
Prosecute builders who do not take notice rules
Fines for failing to adhere to planning restrictions should be rigorously upheld and should be greater.
Have more importance in any planning process give them the same protection as listed buildings are covered by and better education of their value
By someone taking responsibility for the trees that over the years have got very big on several estates in the area, developer have gone so no one to look after them.
By imposing fines if anybody is caught vandalising, trees and throwing their rubbish around
The could be a map of trees with TPOS if interested people had a 'patch' to oversee and keep an eye out for litter, damage etc and there was a hub to report problems. Vehicles should keep to roads and not cross double yellow lines and damage verges as at No 13 Grand Junction.
Perhaps something equivalent to neighbourhood watch
Consult the 'man in charge of trees' in Milton Keynes
All trees should stay protected
Proper maintenance e.g.hedge laying
Allow areas to left more wild were its suitable. Tree protection orders are consistently being ignored, maybe I don't fully understand to process? What can you do to increase their protection?
Fence off important trees and hedgerows while the area is being developed. Greater penalties for breaches.
T.L.C. From bands of community green warriors. Adopt a space! I have a litter-picker, and wish that others "Take Up Arms".
Educating the children, getting schools involved in the conservation to help teach respect for the environment.
I would say make it illegal to build on any area of green-space. The legislation supposedly protecting these areas is complex and open to abuse by dodgy housing companies.
Regular maintenance to ensure they are free of litter, clearly marked public footpaths and bridle ways around the edges of fields and meadows. Stricter planning regulations for building on green space which is not agricultural land. More tree protection orders in built up areas to save what few trees there are left there.
Stop building houses on them!
Any change to hedgerows should require permission
By stricter regulation of building contractors to ensure they don't demolish previous trees. By preventing townscape developments like Lace Hill where there don't appear to be any green spaces or kerbside verges, just roads and pavements.
By writing in strong clauses and responsibilities to developers who would have to enhance / improve with a fine / retention if they do not
Removing ivy that is smothering so many of our trees. While it is a valuable habitat for wildlife it is gradually destroying wooded areas as weight of ivy growth can weaken trees so they are vulnerable to strong winds or flooding.
Issuing a specification for the tree wardens so they can start taking action
By local people being eyes and ears. Watching our trees and protecting parks (e.g. wardens)
Better finance for protection / maintenance levy on developers
Maintenance. Creation and maintenance of 'screen highways' for wildlife



Q8: In respect of the layout and provision of Trees, Hedgerows & Green Spaces which of the following local estates do you find most visually attractive?

