

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on **Thursday 5th April 2018** in the Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham at 7pm.

Present:

Cllr. T. Bloomfield	
Cllr. P. Collins	
Cllr. Mrs. M. Gateley	
Cllr. D. Isham	Vice-Chair
Cllr. A. Mahi	
Cllr. Ms. R. Newell	
Cllr. M. Smith	Chairman
Cllr. R. Stuchbury	

In attendance:

Mr. L. Phillips	Green Spaces Manager
Mrs. N. Stockill	Committee Clerk

893/17 Apologies for Absence

Members received and accepted apologies from Cllr Bates, Strain-Clark, Hirons, O'Donoghue, Harvey and County Councillor Whyte.

894/17 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.

None.

895/17 Minutes

To receive the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 12th February 2018 and approved at Full Council on the 12th March 2018.

AGREED

896/17 Action Report

To receive the report and note the updated information

304.5/17 (Bourton Park Tree Works) Members **AGREED** to remove the action from future reports.

521/16 (Interpretation Boards) The Estates Manager informed Members that the new boards would be installed within the next couple of weeks.

517/19 (Dog Bins/Poster Competition) In view of the lack of response by local schools, Councillors **AGREED** to extend an invite to local youth groups to participate in the poster competition.

ACTION ESTATES ADMINITRATOR

897/17 Budgets

To receive the latest figures

Members noted the report.

898/17 Friends of Bourton Park

To receive a written report from the Town Clerk

Members discussed the report recommendation to commission replacement

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EQUALITIES ACT 2010/CRIME AND DISORDER ACT, 1988: the decisions made during the course of the meeting were duly considered and it was decided that there were no resulting direct or indirect implications in respect of crime and disorder, racial equality or diversity.

Initial

wooden sculptures of the Bourton Park Otters. The Estates Manager advised Councillors that the wooden sculptures would be carved from fallen Oak trees and, if treated correctly, could last up to 20 years.

Members **AGREED** the report recommendations. *[That the Environment Committee agrees to commission replacement sculptures from company B funded from the Parks Maintenance budget.*

That the Estates Manager advertises and convenes an initial meeting of the Friends of Bourton Park with the aim of galvanising community support and fund raising ideas for the restoration of the Bourton Park ponds and, possibly, additional (smaller) wooden sculptures throughout the park.]

ACTION ESATES MANAGER

899/17 Tree Works

To receive a written report from the Estates Manager

Members discussed and **AGREED** the report recommendation. *[That members agree to use Contractor C for all of the work required with the work in Bourton Park and at the Cemetery (£12,070) carried out as soon as possible as this work is urgent, with a pre-works survey being carried out to ensure no actively nesting birds are disturbed and any trees with nesting birds are not worked on. The remaining works will then be carried out after the 31st July. The funds for the later work will need to be carried forward to next financial year (£2,710), both coming from the budgets listed above.]*

ACTION ESTATES MANAGER

900/17 Lace Hill Management Plan

To receive and agree an updated version of the Management Plan

Cllr. Stuchbury said that regular users of the Sports and Community Centre should be made aware of its Management Plan. Members **AGREED** the updates.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

901/17 Buckingham Tennis Club

To note correspondence from Buckingham Tennis Club

Members **AGREED** for the Town Clerk to reply to the Tennis Club acknowledging their letter and reminding them to update the Tourist Information Centre with the dates they will be closed.

ACTION ESTATES ADMINISTRATION

902/17 Plastic Waste

To receive and discuss a written report from the Estates Administrator

Cllr. Newell welcomed the report recommendations and suggested commissioning a new Buckingham Bag for Life. Cllr. Smith commented that some of Buckingham's Market traders use plastic bags and should be encouraged to seek alternatives.

Members **AGREED** the report recommendations with the addition that the Town Council seek opportunities for the installation of public drinking fountains in appropriate locations, in particular the Buckingham parks. *[That Members agree for Buckingham Town Council to sign up to the Refill project and launch a campaign for Refill Buckingham.]*

Members agree for the Town Council to seek opportunities for involvement in the plastic bottle deposit consultation] **ACTION ESTATE ADMINISTRATOR**

903/17 Moreton Road Toilets

To receive a written report from the Town Clerk.
Members discussed their previous concerns regarding the Moreton road toilets, raising issues over the smell and general cleanliness.

Proposed by Cllr. P. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Newell and unanimously **AGREED** to progress with the transfer of the Moreton Road toilets, subject to an acceptable terms of lease. AVDC is to be contacted to arrange investigation of the drains and prices are to be sought for a refurbishment of the toilets including cost proposals for correcting the entrance to the disabled toilets. **ACTION TOWN CLERK**

904/17 Residential Burial Fees

To receive and discuss correspondence from Heritage & Sons
Members discussed the circumstances and **AGREED**, in this instance, to reduce the fees to residents' rates. **ACTION ESTATES MANAGER**

905/17 Access Awareness

Cllr. Smith commented on the recent difficulties for any disabled person visiting the Villers Ballroom. Members **AGREED** to raise the issue with the Villers Hotel Management Team.
Access Awareness Group – Cllr. Smith advised Members the group were investigating the installation of wheelchair friendly park benches.

901/17 Buckingham Community Wildlife Project

Cllr. Newell circulated the minutes from previous meetings.
Members agreed to place them on the agenda for the next Environment meeting. **ACTION COMMITTEE CLERK**

906/17 News Releases

Members **AGREED** a press release on 'Plastic Free Buckingham'.

907/17 Chair's Announcements

There were none.

908/17 Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 29th May 2018

Meeting closed at: 19.33

Chair..... Date.....