

Minutes of an **Interim Council Meeting** of Buckingham Town Council held at 7pm. on **Monday 9th April 2018** in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

Present:

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| Cllr. T. Bloomfield | |
| Cllr. M. Cole | Deputy Mayor |
| Cllr. P. Collins | |
| Cllr. Mrs. M. Gateley | |
| Cllr. J. Harvey | Mayor |
| Cllr. P. Hirons | |
| Cllr. D. Isham | |
| Cllr. A. Mahi | |
| Cllr. H. Mordue | |
| Cllr. Ms. R. Newell | |
| Cllr. L. O'Donoghue | |
| Cllr. M. Smith | |
| Cllr. R. Stuchbury | |

Also Present: Mrs. K. McElligott On behalf of Town Clerk
Mrs. N. Stockill Committee Clerk

In accordance with Standing Order 3.f the Planning Committee meeting was preceded by a public session.

PUBLIC SESSION

Mrs Cumming of The Buckingham Society
17/04668/ADP Land north of A421 Tingewick Road

Mrs Cumming expressed The Buckingham Society's grave concerns regarding the unimaginative building design that does nothing to reflect the distinctive character of Buckingham. Buckingham Society shared the Historic England Inspector's concerns on the proximity of the play area and trees planting to the ancient monument, St Rumbolds Well. Mrs Cumming added that the landscape plan detailed only one (existing) public footpath and it was imperative that both Areas 1 and 2 are connected to other existing rights of way, especially those that connect to the town centre and school/recreational facilities. Mrs Cumming suggested that an information/interpretation board be placed at St Rumbolds Well to allowed residents and visitor to greater enjoy the surroundings.

909/17 Apologies for Absence

Members received and accepted apologies from Cllr. Strain-Clark, G. Collins, Bates, Try and District Councillor Tim Mills and County Councillor Whyte.

910/17 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

There were no declaration of interest.

911/17 17/04668/ADP Land north of A421 Tingewick Road

Approval of the details of the external appearance of the buildings, the landscaping of the site, layout and scale for each phase or part of the development together with discharge of conditions 2 (phasing) and 6 (design code).

Members had reviewed the buildings and phasing at Full Council on 22nd January 2018 (Report No. BTC/51/17; Minute No. 729/17; no response pending supply of missing documents) and the Design Code at the Interim Council on 19th February 2018 (Report No. BTC/68/17; Minute No. 790/17; extensive comments relayed to AVDC but no formal response made); the remaining documents had now been received (16 x Hard Landscaping, 18 x Soft Landscaping, 1 x NEAP, 2 x LEAP) and Members were further advised of consultee responses from Anglian Water, Historic England, AVDC's Heritage, Parks & Recreation and Tree Officers, and BCC's Footpaths/Rights of Way Officer (Report No. BTC/86/78)

Members reiterated their previous comments about monotonous architecture with no reference to Buckingham styles, the inadequacies of block paving, the dangers of having no demarcation of footpaths on shared surface roadways, the visible differentiation of the Affordable Housing (no garages) from the privately owned contrary to AVDC "tenure blindness" policy, the remoteness of the NEAP from the nearest housing and the distance some mid-terrace householders would have to haul their bins, and discussed the consultee responses.

Comment was made that the developer appeared to have learned nothing from their experiences at Lace Hill, so that known faults had been designed in.

1. Both entrances needed to be available from first occupation of the phase and street widths needed to be wide enough for footways so that on-street parking did not force pedestrians into the main carriageway.
2. Concern was expressed about Anglian Water's view that the foul sewage capacity was inadequate, especially if unadopted roads implied unadopted sewers.
3. The lack of attention to the heritage assets and archaeological remains was censured. Further investigation was needed to establish the extent of these, and interpretation boards installed in the park area to establish local recognition. Care was needed with the landscaping proposals so that nothing underground was damaged.
4. The footpaths needed to be properly surfaced, connected with Railway Walk, and their use encouraged as a safe route to schools and the industrial estates. Concern was expressed that there was no proposal for a safe crossing from Area 1 to Area 2 and its play areas, park, and access to the cycle network, nor is there a footpath on the south side of Tingewick Road until the junction with Westfields, so all Area 2 residents wishing to walk into town this way will have to cross to the north side. Members had already included the following in their response to 18/00216/APP, a site adjacent to Area 1: "Access to the footpath and cycle network along the old railway line and hence the senior schools and employment areas would be across a busy 50mph road; to encourage use of the network it was suggested that the original railway arch be reopened, perhaps via a s106 contribution." If this proposal does not meet with support, then a pedestrian crossing must be installed close to the access points with a linking paved footpath through the accesses on the south side to the crossing point (and any future bus stops, should a service along Tingewick Road be created to serve these estates).
5. There was some duplication of equipment in the play areas, including the one item suitable for a disabled child (and both of these roundabouts were sited on the grass matta surfacing), and there was nothing to provide sensory experiences apart from

the Loudspeaker. There was also concern about unsuitable materials and lack of litter bins.

6. It was noted that no tree documents have been submitted by the applicant, although trees are a material consideration in the planning process.
7. The roundabout at the junction of Tingewick Road and the bypass actually formed part of application 15/01242/AOP which was still undecided. Members felt it would be best if this was completed before construction traffic started to use the Tingewick Road, and urged AVDC to come to a decision about this application. (A condition of the housing application states that the roundabout works should be completed and adopted before occupation of the housing).
8. There was no Affordable Housing scheduled for Area 1 (north of the Tingewick Road), contrary to AVDC's policy of distribution throughout a development.

Proposed by Cllr. Cole, seconded by Cllr. Smith, and **AGREED** that the response be **OPPOSE & ATTEND**.

A vote was taken and the results were:

In favour: 12

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

Motion carried

The previous comments on the Design Code were appended to the response for the Case Officer's convenience.

912/17 Improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the Council

To receive a written report from the Town Clerk

Councillors discussed and **AGREED** that the item was not considered to be time sensitive and would therefore be referred to the meeting of Full Council on Tuesday 8th May 2018.

ACTION COMMITTEE CLERK

913/17 Council Meeting Structure

To receive and discuss a report from the Town Mayor.

Proposed by Cllr. Harvey and seconded by Cllr. Newell that this Council decides to embark on a significant change of its meeting structures (frequency, terms of reference, names etc) so that it is more match fit for the coming changes to local government structures (and other impending big developments like the Oxbridge Arc and Expressway for example).

Cllr. P. Collins and Stuchbury said it was too early to make any structural changes to the Council's meetings and Members should wait for the Secretary of State's final decision before anything is changed

An amendment to the motion proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury and seconded by Cllr. Hirons that the report be referred to the next Full Council meeting following the Government Minister's decision on an alternative model for local authority in Buckinghamshire.

A vote was called and the results were:

Amended Motion

In favour 10

Against 2
Abstention 1

The amended motion becomes to substantive motion and a further vote was taken.

Substantive Motion
Unanimously in favour.

The Substantive Motion was carried.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

914/17 Review of Local Government Ethical Standards: Stakeholder Consultation

To discuss and agree Buckingham Town Council's response to the consultation Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. P. Collins and unanimously **AGREED** for Councillors to submit individual responses to the consultation.

915/17 Buckinghamshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan

To discuss and agree Buckingham Town Council's response to the consultation

[Link to Plan and consultation](#)

Proposed by Cllr Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Cole and unanimously **AGREED** for the Town Clerk to respond to the consultation opposing the location of gravel extraction works at Hydelaide Farm on the grounds that it could cause significant flooding further down the River Great Ouse.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

916/17 BACS Credit Limit

Members to receive a report from the Finance Officer

Members discussed the report and concerns were raised over the transaction limit of £25,000

Proposed by Cllr. P. Collins and seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue to remit the report back to the Finance Officer asking for a limit of £5,000 per transaction and no multiple transactions of £5,000 within any one calendar month.

Cllr. Harvey cautioned against amending the report recommendation without the Finance Officer or Town Clerk present. Cllr. Cole reminded Members that at Resources Committee on the 6th November 2017 it was **AGREED** 'That this council ends the archaic and costly system of payment by cheque, which incurs extra expense to both the council and the recipient, and makes all future payments, *where possible*, by bank transfer. Current cheque signatories would instead sign a bank transfer approval'.

An amendment to the motion proposed by Cllr. Smith and seconded by Cllr. Bloomfield that the report be remitted to the next Resources Committee and with an accompanying report from the Town Clerk on the rationale behind a £25k transaction limit.

A vote was called and the results were:

Amended Motion
In favour 10
Against 0

The amended motion becomes to substantive motion and a further vote was taken.

Substantive Motion
In favour: 9

Against: 2
The Substantive Motion was carried.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

917/17 Unitary Parish Meeting

Members to decide if they wish to attend and contact the Planning Clerk to RSVP.
Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Hirons and unanimously **AGREED** for individuals for respond to the meeting invitations.

918/17 Chairman’s Announcements

Cllr. Harvey explained the Town Council had been invited by John Bercow MP to receive and plant a tree as part of the Queen’s Commonwealth Canopy project. Members **AGREED** to accepted the donation.

919/17 Date of next Meetings:

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|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Full Council | Tuesday May 8 th 2018 |
| Interim Council | Monday 4 th June 2018 |

Meeting closed at 19.49 pm

Signed **Date**