

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2018** in the Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham at 7pm.

**Present:**

Cllr. Mrs. M. Gateley	
Cllr. J. Harvey	Town Mayor
Cllr. P. Hiron	
Cllr. D. Isham	Vice-Chair
Cllr. A. Mahi	
Cllr. Ms. R. Newell	
Cllr. M. Smith	Chairman
Cllr. Mrs. C. Strain-Clark	
Cllr. R. Stuchbury	

**In attendance:** Mr. L. Phillips Green Spaces Manager  
Mrs. N. Stockill Committee Clerk

**77/18 Election of Chair/man**

To elect a Chair/man of the Committee for 2018-2019

Proposed by Cllr. Harvey, seconded by Cllr. Newell and unanimously **AGREED** to appoint Cllr. Gateley to the position of Chair of The Environment Committee for the forthcoming year.

*Cllr. Gateley took the chair for the remainder of the meeting.*

**78/18 Election of Vice Chair/man**

To elect a Vice Chair/man of the Committee for 2018-2019

Proposed by Cllr. Harvey, seconded by Cllr. Mahi and unanimously **AGREED** to appoint Cllr. Newell to the position of Vice Chair of The Environment Committee for the forthcoming year.

**79/18 Apologies for Absence**

Members received and accepted apologies from Cllr. P. Collins, Bates and Cllr. O'Donoghue.

**80/18 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.

**81/18 Minutes**

To receive the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 5th April 2018 and approved at Full Council on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

**AGREED**

**82/18 Action Report**

To receive the report and note the updated information.

Play parks Motion – Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury for the Town Clerk to write to AVDC's Assistant Director, Jeff Membery requesting a meeting to review Section 106 funding for local play parks. Cllr. Harvey raised a point of order [*Standing Order 10.a*] in that Cllr. Stuchbury's proposal was not on the evening's agenda and had not been submitted to the Proper Officer in advance. Therefore, the motion was dismissed.

Proposed by Cllr. Harvey and seconded by Cllr. Smith for the Town Clerk to prepare a report for the next Environment Committee meeting recommending factors of play area design to be considered within the NDP refresh, Section 106 funding and any new play parks adoptions arising from unitisation.

A vote was taken and the results were:

8 in favour

1 abstention

**Motion carried**

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

Finger Post – Following a question from Cllr. Smith the Estates Administrator confirmed that an order had been placed for new Finger posts signs at the Community Centre, Cattles Pens and Market Hill.

Steps from Church Street – Cllr. Stuchbury **AGREED** to write to County Councillor Whyte and Cabinet Member Mark Shaw to raise Members' concerns on the lack of progress.

Cllr. Harvey reminded Members of the point of order raised earlier in the meeting and The Chair confirmed that the item could be remitted to the next Environment Committee agenda for discussion.

Dog bins – The Estates Administrator explained there was no interest in the poster competition despite numerous invitations to local primary schools and youth groups. Members **AGREED** to delete the action from the report.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Hirons and **AGREED** for the Estates Administrator to prepare a written report for the next Environment Committee meeting on the cost of installing dog bag dispensers across the parks.

**ACTION ESTATES ADMINISTRATION**

Wooden Otter Sculptures –. The Estates Administrator reported residents' comments following a Facebook post on the Committee's decision to replace the wooden otters in Bourton Park. A number of individuals did not want the existing sculptures removed until it was deemed absolutely necessary. The Estates Manager explained that the larger otter sculpture was removed earlier in the year because it was rotten and was at risk of collapse. The smaller sculptures were not as severely rotten but the Estate Manager confirmed it was unlikely to be more than a couple of years before they would need to be removed. The Estates Administrator explained that the office had issued a press release on the replacement of the Bourton Park otters and other key issues arising from the Council's Annual Town Meetings.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury and seconded by Cllr. Harvey for the Estates Manager to investigate the condition of the existing otters and the feasibility of

them being moved to another location in Bourton Park and to issue an additional press release on the subject.

Cllr. Harvey subsequently withdrew his seconding of the proposal and Cllr. Strain-Clark stood as seconder for Cllr. Stuchbury's proposal.

A vote was taken and the results were:

3 In favour

6 Against

**Motion fell**

### **83/18 Budgets**

To receive the latest figures

Maintenance Public Toilets 47902 – Estates Manager to investigate the year to date spend. **ACTION ESTATES MANAGER**

### **84/18 Access Awareness**

Cllr. Strain-Clark reported a lip on the kerb opposite the Cornwalls Meadow bridge that proved to be insurmountable for mobility scooters. Cllr. Stuchbury **AGREED** to progress the matter.

### **85/18 New Cemetery and Allotments**

To receive and agree the Masterplan and Heads of Agreement document

Cllr. Harvey expressed concern over the cost associated with the Council's obligations to build a new road into the cemetery on top of the purchase price and paying the college's legal costs. Cllr. Harvey highlighted that the 'T' marks (boundary markers) were not present on the Masterplan and that Area C (land adjacent to the cemetery) could, in the future, be developed into a petrol station-inappropriate given proximity to cemetery.

Cllr. Mahi reported on Cllr. O'Donoghue's concerns that prospective allotment tenants may be put off by the site's proximity to the burial plots. The Estates Manager confirmed that a full Sustainable Drainage System Survey (SUDS) would be completed identifying any potential drainage issues.

Proposed by Cllr Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Hirons and unanimously **AGREED** to **RECOMMEND** the report to Full Council.

Cllr. Stuchbury asked for the Council's original motion to be copied onto the report to be taken to Full Council. **ACTION TOWN CLERK**

### **86/18 Plastic Free Buckingham**

To receive a written report from the Estates Administrator

Members thanked the Estates Administrator for the report and **AGREED** the recommendations with the following addition: "To investigate costs and appropriate budget for the purchase of reusable plastic free Buckingham bags."

**ACTION ESTATES ADMINISTRATOR**

### **87/18 Solar Panels**

To receive a written report from the Town Clerk

Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Harvey and unanimously **AGREED** to accept the report recommendations.

*[To Recommend to Interim Council:*

*To agree a resolution to borrow for a total of £47,413. That an application is made to MHCLG to borrow the money to fund the installation of the PV panels at Buckingham Community Centre and Lace Hill Sport and Community Centre. That subject to a satisfactory application for borrowing that the money is borrowed from Salix. That the Report including the budget is agreed]*

**88/18 Buckingham Community Wildlife Project**

Minutes from 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018

**Noted**

**89/18 Terms of Reference**

To review and agree Committee Terms of Reference as agreed at Full Council.

**AGREED**

**90/18 Chair’s Announcements**

**91/18 Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018.

Meeting closed at: 20.25

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