



# BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

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Town Clerk: Mr C. P. Wayman

Wednesday, 08 August 2018

Councillors,

You are summoned to a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council to be held on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2018** at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

Ms. N. Villa  
Interim Town Clerk

Please note that the Full Council will be preceded by a Public Session in accordance with Standing Order 3.f, which will last for a maximum of 15 minutes.

## AGENDA

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Members are asked to receive 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 and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council Meeting held on:

- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2018 (ASM)
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Copy previously circulated BTC/01/18  
Copy Previously circulated BTC/05/18

### 4. Interim Minutes

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Interim Council meeting held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018

Copy previously circulated IM/02/18

### 5. Planning Committee

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Planning Committee meetings held on:

- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018

Copy previously circulated PL/03/18

Cllr. Stuchbury proposed a Recommendation to Council, seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue (and agreed unanimously) that a Judicial Review should be pursued by the Council if required, working with the developers of the Lace Hill Care Home

- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2018

Copy previously circulated PL/04/18



Twinned with Mouvoux, France

Members are reminded to declare any prejudicial interest as soon as it becomes apparent.  
All Committee documents can be found on the Buckingham Town Council's website. Alternatively, the Clerk send you a copy of any minutes, reports or other information. To do this, send a request using the contact details set out above.

**6. Town Centre and Events Committee**

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Town Centre and Events Committee meetings held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018. **Copy previously circulated TCE/02/18**

To recommend to Full Council that all Members consider the Event Ownership spreadsheet and inform the Events Coordinator if they wish to lead or deputise at any of the forthcoming events

**Appendix A**

**7. Environment Committee**

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Proposed by Cllr. P. Collins, seconded Cllr Harvey and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council That the Council agrees to arrange a public works loans board loan for £47,413 for the cost of the photovoltaic panels and their installation

**Copy previously circulated E/02/18**

[For the benefit of those not on the environment Committee a copy of the Town Clerk's report has been attached]

**E/24/18**

**8. Resources Committee**

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Resources Committee meetings held on:

- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018

**Copy previously circulated R/01/18**

Members **RECOMMEND** Cllr. Harvey's motion for agreement by Full Council and further **RECOMMEND** that Councillors consider attending any appropriate and available courses

[Agenda item 11]

- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2018

**Copy previously circulated R/02/18**

**9. To receive and question reports from District and County Councillors**

**10. Action List**

**Appendix B**

**11. Motion – Cllr. Harvey**

For the Council and its officers, it is vital that all skills are refreshed on a regular basis. Whilst the Council Officers have had relevant training & development in recent times, very few councillors have, and some none at all over many years. As we move into a period of significant change with unitarisation looming and a new Town Clerk (among other matters), we resolve to ask every committee to consider what collective training & development its committee members need and report back to Full Council over the coming weeks.

**Appendix C**

**12. Motion – Cllr. Harvey**

This Council resolves to continue the practice of producing minutes that are accurate, legal and which provide a reasonably fulsome record of all the decisions made and the debate running up to such resolutions, combined with the occasional exercise of discretion to allow speeches of thanks, praise and appreciation to be appended.

**Appendix D**

**13. Motion – Cllr. Stuchbury**

To ascertain Buckingham Town Council opinion on 20 mph speed limits.

**Appendix E**

A) I Propose that Members discuss a policy to support 20 mph speed Limits out side of schools and other similar sections of highway.

B) Once agreed by councillors the policy is to be incorporated, where appropriate, into the refresh of the Buckingham Neighbourhood Development Plan.

C) If a policy is agreed then the council publicise the sensible and appropriate use of 20mph speed limits in Buckingham and lobby authorities to adopt a similar approach.

**14. MAJOR PLANNING APPLICATION – ADDITIONAL PLANS**

**17/04668/ADP**

Land north of A421 Tingewick Road [actually Land north of A421 and both sides of 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)

*BDW North Thames*

*Additional documents:*

- *s278 Agreement* (link <https://www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk/?p=4296>)
- *bypass roundabout white lining and signage drawings (circulated by email 31/7/18)*
- *Environment Impact Assessment Statement of Conformity* (link <https://www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk/?p=4296>)
- *Rights of Way Officer comments*
- *Crime Prevention Design Advisor comments*

And, listed and advised separately,:

**15/1242/AOP**

Land south of the A421 Tingewick Road [actually land south of the A421]  
Application for Outline Permission with access to provide Allotments, Cemetery, Associated Buildings, Landscaping, New Vehicular and Pedestrian Access, Engineering (including Ground Modelling) Works, Infrastructure Works (including Drainage Works and utilities Provision), Demolition, Car Parking and Lighting

*BDW North Thames*

- *Additional document: Construction Method Statement and Traffic Management Plan incorporating Construction Environmental Management Plan* (link <https://www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk/?p=4296>)

To discuss and agree a response to the new documents. Planning Clerk's report on the Proposals:

**BTC/25/18**

**15. MAJOR APPLICATION – NOT IN OUR PARISH**

**16/00151/AOP – AMENDED AND ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS**

Land off Walnut Drive and Foscote Road, Maids Moreton

Outline application with all matters reserved except access for up to 170 dwellings, public open space and associated infrastructure

*David Wilson Homes*

*Additional document: Highways Technical note [this was accessible in June but without any of the necessary drawings, which have been added recently] link to Planning/Major Applications/Maids Moreton Walnut Drive/Additional Highway Note*

*Amended plans [available on the website, dated 20 July, and on the boards in the Chamber on the night]]:*

- *1158-01 Proposed Mini-roundabout Main Street/Walnut Drive*
- *1158-02 Potential Highway Improvements*
- *1158-F07 Potential Traffic Calming Works to College Road/Church Street*
- *1158-F08 Proposed A422 Stratford Road Improvements*
- *1158-F09 Potential College Road Improvements*

To discuss and agree a response to the new documents. Planning Clerk's report on the Proposals:

**BTC/26/18**

**16. Licensing Policy Review 2019-22**

To receive and discuss AVDC Licensing Policy Review 2019-22

**Appendix F**

**17. Financial Risk Assessment**

To review and approve the Financial Risk Assessment (*min 128/18 refers*)

**Appendix G**

**18. University of Buckingham opening of the Vinson Building**

To receive and discuss a request for publicity material from the University's Head of Development Services.

**Appendix H**

**19. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Members are asked to note the reports listed below:

- 19.1 Access for All 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018
- 19.2 Access for All 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018
- 19.3 Lace Hill Health Hub Development Focus Group 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018

**Appendix I**  
**Appendix J**  
**Appendix K**

**20. Mayoral Engagements**

To receive a list of events attended by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Functions the Mayor has attended:

Thu 21 Jun Buckingham Primary School - Art Exhibition

Thu 21 June Young Enterprise Regional Event  
Tue 10 Jul Bourton Road Allotments Association judging awards  
Tue 10 July Buckingham School Sports Presentation Evening  
Wed 11 Jul Bourton Meadow Teacher Graduation.  
Thu 12 Jul Prize Giving at Purbrook Park School (Portsmouth)  
Mon 16 Jul Lace Hill Steps Opening Ceremony.  
Mon 16 July Rotary Lunch.  
Tue 17 Jul Mr Andrew McGinnes, Head Teacher, Buckingham School: meeting  
Thu 19 Jul RLS/Buckingham School Youth Project (Fringe)  
Fri 20 Jul Mary's Meals Backpacks (Rotary Club) at Buckingham Primary School  
Fri 20 July Age Concern & Buckingham Primary School get together  
Fri 20 July Summer Quiz (Fringe).  
Sat 21 Jul Picnic in the Park - Hamilton House.  
Sat 21 July Family camp out day (Fringe)  
Wed 25 Jul Pontio Group (first meeting).  
Wed 25 July UoB Medical School Charity Concert.  
Wed 8 Aug Unveiling of Silent Soldier  
Sat 11 Aug PK Kids Zone - Charity Event.  
Mon 13 Aug Thames Valley Partnership visit

Functions the Deputy Mayor has attended:  
Wed 8 Aug Unveiling of Silent Soldier

#### **21. Chair's Announcements**

**22. Date of the next meeting:** Interim Council – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
Full Council - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018

## EVENTS 2018/19

Event		Lead Cllr	Deputy
<b>2018</b>			
<b>August</b>			
Sun 26th	Band Jam		
<b>September</b>			
Sat 8th	Good Endings Fair	Jon Harvey	
Sun 9th	Dog Show	Lisa O'Donoghue	Terry Bloomfield
Sun 23rd	River Rinse		
<b>October</b>			
Sun 7th	River Rinse		
Fri 12th	Charter Fair	Robin Stuchbury	
Fri 19th	Charter Fair	Robin Stuchbury	
<b>November</b>			
Sat 3rd	Bonfire & Fireworks	Andy Mahi	
<b>December</b>			
Sat 1st	Christmas Light Switch On		
Sat 15th	Christmas Parade	Howard Mordue	
Sat 15th	Community Fair		
<b>2019</b>			
<b>February</b>			
TBC	Pancake Race		
TBC	Food Fair		
<b>March</b>			
<b>April</b>			
TBC	Spring Fair		
<b>May</b>			
TBC	May Day Celebrations		
26th May	Music In The Market		

Please could Councillors place their name next to the event that they would like to lead on or be Deputy Cllr on. This will mean that they will be available on the day to help at the event and to help with any planning beforehand.

**BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**Contact Officer:** Christopher Wayman

PV panels for Buckingham Community Centre and Lace Hill Sport & Community Centre

**Background:**

The Town Council has agreed previously to progress the issue of PV panels for the two centres. Agreement was made to obtain borrowing from the Ministry of Housing Community and Local Government to obtain an interest free loan from SALIX. This was achieved.

**Information:**

Following obtaining the borrowing approval SALIX passed the enquiry on to their technical team who asked for extra information and provided information on what their loan could cover and other conditions.

Notability, that any percentage of electricity which would be exported to the national grid would not be eligible for grant funding. i.e. it was assumed 50% of electricity would be exported and therefore the loan would only be for 50% of the overall project.

Another factor was that the Feed in Tariff (FiT) would not be able to be claimed. These two items seriously impact the economics of undertaking the work. The FiT was expected to bring in £2,500 per year (£62,500 over the live time of the panels).

The Public Works Loans Board is available to provide a loan within 7 days of an application (as borrowing approval has already been given). With the budget set aside for the project a loan can be taken out over 5 and ½ years. And £47,413 can be loaned at 1.84% interest with half yearly repayments of £4,551.83. This would give a total repayment of £50,070.13

**Recommendation**

That the Committee agrees to arrange a public works loans board loan for £47,413 for the cost of the photovoltaic panels and their installation.

Action Item	Minute No.	Action Required	Action Taken	Result
A	405/17	Sign posting to Cornwall Meadow Toilets	AGREED to install two additional finger post signs directing people to the toilets.	Expected delivery date 16th July 2018
B	712/15	Community Land Trust	Proceed with interest and advertising for local interest	Longterm

Event	Date
Councillor Induction Training	12/07/2018 18:30
Budget Setting for Town and Parish Councils	13/09/2018 10:00
GDPR for Town and Parish Councils and Councillors	25/09/2018 18:30
CiLCA Portfolio of Evidence 2018	27/09/2018 10:00
Agenda & Minutes for Town and Parish Councils	23/10/2018 10:00
Risk Management for Town and Parish Councils	23/10/2018 13:30
CiLCA Portfolio of Evidence 2018	25/10/2018 10:00
B&MKALC 2018 - Annual General Meeting	09/11/2018 18:30
CiLCA Portfolio of Evidence 2018	22/11/2018 10:00
General Data Protection Training for Town and Parish Councils	23/11/2018 10:00



**BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL  
FULL COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY 13 AUGUST 2018**

Written by the Mayor, Cllr Jon Harvey

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES: THE FUTURE**

**The context**

In my view we appear to have accidentally arrived at a point where I (and I believe others) are confused and concerned about what the minutes of our meetings should record. I think we need to resolve this so everyone (including our public) knows what we and they should expect to see in the minutes of meetings. Although our Committee Clerk does an excellent professional job in often fast moving debate, I think there could be more clarity in our collective expectations.

The law and best practice states that minutes of proceedings of a council and its committees must be kept<sup>1</sup>. They are intended to be formal records of official acts and decisions, not reports, still less verbatim reports, of the speeches made by Councillors. Minutes should, therefore, be as short as is consistent with clarity and accuracy, and the arguments used in the discussion need be recorded only if the decision cannot be clearly expressed in any other way. Before allowing the Chairman to sign them, the Council should satisfy itself of the accuracy of the minutes but discussion of the words should not be allowed to stray in to the merits of the decision which they express.

The NALC Good Councillor's Guide<sup>2</sup> says:

**11. After the meeting**

*Decisions have been taken and these need to be implemented. The clerk or the minuting secretary writes the minutes as a legal record of what was decided at the meeting. It is important that the minutes are accurate and therefore the minutes of the last meeting are confirmed and signed at the start of the next meeting. It is a good idea if the minutes record clearly the actions to be taken following the meeting.*

And that is about all it says. Our own standing orders say:

***t The minutes of a meeting shall include an accurate record of the following:***

- i. the time and place of the meeting;*
- ii. the names of councillors present and absent;*
- iii. interests that have been declared by councillors and non-councillors with voting rights;*
- iv. whether a councillor or non-councillor with voting rights left the meeting when matters that they held interests in were being considered;*
- v. if there was a public participation session; and*
- vi. the resolutions made.*

<sup>1</sup> Local Government Act 1972 Sch 12 para 41(1)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.nalc.gov.uk/library/publications/801-good-councillors-guide/file>

And that is pretty much all too. There are no upper limits to the level of detail contained merely the baseline limit as expressed above in our standing orders and the NALC guidelines. But of course the minutes must be accurate. We also have a standing order which states very clearly:

*12. b There shall be no discussion about the draft minutes of a preceding meeting except in relation to their accuracy. A motion to correct an inaccuracy in the draft minutes shall be moved in accordance with standing order 10(a)(i) above.*

It would seem to me that past resolutions (based on unevidenced suppositions that I or someone else 'instructed' the Committee Clerk to write the minutes in a certain way - or that others did not have the time to write speeches) do fall foul of this standing order in that the matters were not ones of accuracy. But we are where we are and I don't want to go over those past decisions.

Nonetheless I have attached some examples of speeches some of which have subsequently been expunged from the public record of the meetings in which they were given and some of which have not. In my view this has some serious downsides:

- It is our job as a Town Council to be transparent and show our public the debates we are having about local issues. If we minimise our minutes to the bare bones of the resolutions made (with little or no details of the debate, including speeches, preceding those resolutions) then we are not doing this to the best of our capabilities.
- Many of the speeches made and since deleted included sincere expressions of thanks to our staff, our volunteers and our partners in the town. I am deeply saddened that (for example) the speech about our Mace Bearer to celebrate her sterling service over three decades to the town, that I wrote after seeking stories from several councillors, has been summarily deleted from the public record. I just don't think that is respectful, fair or helpful. I therefore propose that speeches of thanks for appreciation be appended to the minutes where is it desirable to do so
- We have the situation currently where one of our Friends this year is honoured by two speeches still extant in the minutes but the other person (Firefighter Neil Stafford) has had similar praiseworthy remarks deleted from the minutes of the ASM. This is inconsistent, confusing and again (in my view) disrespectful.
- There is much suspicion (I know I read it all the time) that local politicians are just out to feather their (i.e. our) own nests and that the council is nothing but a cosy club. I happen to think that our meetings should be reported on as fully as possible so that our public can track the logic of our decision making. So, for example, my speech in support of Cllr Smith to be Chair of Resources was partly done for that precise reason. I am concerned that our public might think that people become committee chairs due to backroom deals or muggins turn. I believe we must be and indeed are better than that and need to show it being so to our public through our minutes.
- We are the elected leaders of the Town. (Not the only ones I would add of course!) With this leadership position comes a commitment to role model good practice, transparency and accountability. I believe our minutes should provide the scope for us to do that. Currently I am concerned we are drifting into a state where that won't happen as well as it might and should.

So where do we go from here? Following consultation with the Interim Clerk, I believe there are **two options**:

- A. Our minutes only record the absolute minimum as defined by NALC and our Standing Orders and no more.
- B. We exercise some discretion in this matter and allow speeches of thanks, praise and appreciation where they are given (and sometimes pre-written for very good reason) to be appended to the minutes where is it desirous to do so

Naturally I favour option B and seek a resolution to that effect:

*This Council resolves to continue the practice of producing minutes that are accurate, legal and which provide a reasonably fulsome record of all the decisions made and the debate running up to such resolutions, combined with the occasional exercise of discretion to allow speeches of thanks, praise and appreciation to be appended.*

Cllr Jon Harvey  
Town Mayor

7/8/18

## APPENDIX

**Example One:** *speech of thanks to those who have supported the Mayor and Town Council throughout the 2017/18 year (Cllr Harvey)*

My ladies, my lords, distinguished guests and honoured members of the Buckingham community, welcome to this Mayor Making event.

This has been an intensely engrossing, uplifting and joyous year for me & Julie, my amazing Mayoress who has helped me stay clear, centred and focused.

Buckingham is a bright and brilliant town, full of ambition, heart and dynamism. There is always something happening in our town. In fact all life is here. When I set out on this last year, I made ambition the theme for my Mayoralty. I said I would be looking for all the ways in which to support and celebrate ambition in the town.

I am lucky that throughout my life, I have met many people wrapped up in their sense of purpose, their aspirations and their ambitions. And this year I have met many more in my journey as your Mayor. It has been a glorious year of discovering ambition. But unlike panning for gold, the nuggets of shining ambition have been easy to find.

I have seen how ambition has built new sports facilities and encouraged even more sporting achievement. I have seen the intensity of relief and pride on the faces of students as gained their graduation. I have seen the joy of town council colleagues as they help the community make the town more accessible to all or finally get the new toilets built! I have seen new partnerships, plans and places become established and people grow in confidence and strength. I have discovered about the so many ways in which teachers inspire their students and pupils to learn and develop new dreams. I have been in awe of the determination and professionalism in lots of places to make a difference to people's lives. I have been charmed by the way in which some fragile, vulnerable or cautious people are helped so carefully to shape their ambitions and enjoy the ride along the way.

I could go on and on... And if you really want to know more, please browse my blog - all of what I have done is all there! I have written about the 160+ occasions when I have represented the town and/or added a bit mayoral glitter when needed. It has been my pleasure to explain what a year in the life of a town mayor is all about and make that accessible to all. For those who like numbers, the blog I started this time last year has now been uploaded over 137,000 times. For me, social media can transform the relationship people have with their elected representatives and the councils that look after their interests.

This is now the time to thank a few people. This may take a couple of minutes but I am impelled to say these thank yous

Firstly there are two wonderful town council staff who have helped me to manage this year and follow due protocol. Thank you Katharine McElligott for all your wisdom and wry humour. Thank you Eloise-Mary Godwin for all of your gentle firmness and ability to remember things when I have forgotten them. Next, I must thank the Town Clerk: thank you Chris for your professionalism, integrity, insight and precise advice. You have helped me Chair the Council. Indeed, I could name every single member of the Town Clerk's staff because each person has added something very special and uniquely helpful to my year as Mayor. I won't list you all, but I hope each one of you knows how deeply grateful I am.

But I will mention Russell Cross, our illustrious Town Crier who has not quite burst my eardrums but has helped feel less lonely on many occasions. And Barbara Farmer of course who has carried the Mace for many a year now. Thank you for your long and dedicated service to our town. You really do add the gold. Thank you. And a bit more later of course.

And I must thank Cllr Mark Cole, the Deputy Mayor and his wife Alex who sadly cannot be here this evening due to an unchangeable work commitment. Both Mark and Alex have offered me and Julie wise counsel and sterling support on many occasions as well as deputising on many others.

I must also thank my fellow town councillors, especially the past mayors who have offered me their experience based advice and general support. Again I won't list you each by name, but I hope you each know how much I value you and am just how proud I am to call you a colleague. You have helped make this year very special for me. And thank you for all that you do for the town.

And thanks also to fellow Mayors across the county and beyond in Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire. I have received invaluable guidance and ideas from them as indeed I have from all the members of the so called 'chain gang' here in the county, appointed and elected. I must especially highlight the past High Sheriff, Peter Kara - thank you.

I would also like to highlight the support and friendship I have built along the way with the University Vice Chancellor. Thank you Sir Anthony for all your help during this last year and thank you for all that you are doing for the town as well as the university. I am looking forward to continuing to build yet more bridges between the town and the gown.

And last but not least, all my family and close friends who have watched with intrigue and wry smiles as I have navigated my way through being Mayor these last twelve months: thank you for your love and support. And of course, my wife, Julie, my Mayoress, my love: thank you from every level and chamber of my heart.

I will say more about the coming year a little later on.

Meanwhile, I have the most enormous pleasure of presenting a cheque to each of the three charities I have been collecting for this year. Each cheque is for £1300. So firstly, the Buckingham Youth Centre who do such brilliant work for local young people.... Secondly for the NSPCC who support children locally and beyond to help them stay safe and be all that they can be... And finally UNICEF will receive this cheque soon. I did ask Eddie Izzard, a well known supporter of UNICEF, to be here this evening but sadly other prior engagements kept him away. But this one is for you Eddie and all the children of the world that have received life saving and life affirming help from UNICEF.

**Example two:** *Speech to celebrate the contribution of our Mace Bearer who has given three decades of service to the Town Council (Cllr Harvey)*

Barbara Farmer was appointed to become the Town's Mace Bearer on 2 November 1987. She has faithfully served the Town and Council since then, a period now of over 30 years. And I have the most enormous pleasure of recognising, celebrating and thanking Barbara for her dedication and long service.

Barbara's role is a ceremonial and voluntary one - but one that she has done with exemplary skill, professionalism and panache. I know she will remember for example, accompanying the Town Mayor, Cllr Derrick Isham on the visit by HM the Queen in 1996. And how wonderful a day that was.

The Mace is priceless. It is made of silver gilt, and dates from the time of Charles II. On the raised flat top are the Royal Stuart arms. And between the letters at the base is an inscription as follows: "In the 12th year of the reign of our sovereign lord King Charles II by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland 1660".

So I know I am glad I do not have the responsibility of carrying such a precious piece of history! I would probably have dropped it my now. More than once...

I should add Barbara is effectively my bodyguard at events such as these as the mace was originally a weapon of battle. Fortunately I have not had reason to call on her martial arts skills so far, but I have no doubt that she would despatch any combatant swiftly and without mercy should anyone threaten the Mayor

of Buckingham. Indeed I know that Barbara has battled the elements of inclement weather on many occasions with grace, stoicism and determination.

Barbara is from a local family and is one the stalwarts of our solid Buckingham community. She is of course, the first woman to hold this position. And I am told, this was controversial at the time she was appointed by the then Mayor, Cllr Mordue after being nominated by Cllr Isham. Heaven knows why gender should have mattered but I am so glad that times have moved on much since then.

And so here we are, 30 years on Barbara. I am guessing that when you signed up for this role, you may not have expected to be here all this time later. But you are and Buckingham Town Council, Buckingham people and me as the current Mayor are extraordinarily grateful. Thank you so much for your long and dedicated service.

In honour of your service, here is small gift for you to wear. For those who cannot see it is a lapel brooch miniature of the mace itself. Thank you again.

**Example three:** *Chairman's comments outlining the forthcoming Mayoral year, featuring two poems written by local schoolchildren and especially commissioned for the Mayor Making evening and thanks to musical performers (Cllr Harvey)*

Thank you again for making the time to be here this evening. I just have a few words to say, before we have some refreshments and be serenaded by musicians from the Royal Latin School

I am humbled and deeply honoured to have been elected Town Mayor for a second year by my councillor colleagues. Thank you for trusting me with this responsibility again. I never presumed I would pass my probationary year. So thank you for your confidence in me.

I promise to continue to be the best Mayor that I can be. I will faithfully and diligently serve the Town Council and the people of our fair parish to the best of my abilities. I promise to uphold the seven Nolan principles of public life and service: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

I will be relentless in searching for all ways to help Buckingham become an even better place in which to live, work, study, visit and play.

This year I have chosen three different charities to raise money for. Well, I say different, one is the same: the Buckingham Youth Centre. The other two are Bucks Mind and BACAB which raises money for the local Citizens Advice services. You might be wondering what links these three charities.

I have a very simple political philosophy: I want to help build a world in which everyone has dreams and ambitions and the wherewithal to achieve those.

The first part of that is fairly straightforward - everyone should have dreams and ambitions - having dreams and ambitions should not be a privilege just for a fortunate few. The second part needs a bit of unpacking: what do I mean by 'wherewithal'?

For me this includes a combination of positive life skills, an understanding of how the world works brought about by good education and reflection, sufficient basic resources such as shelter, food and friendship, good health and well-being, confidence and hope. And the three charities I have chosen all help people gain elements of that wherewithal. (That is why they are so important and why I implore you to be generous later on with the collecting buckets!)

And when these charities (along with so many more people and agencies) help people increase their wherewithal, they also help people regain and refresh another magic ingredient, without which there can be no ambition and ultimately no progress for individuals or our society as a whole. And that ingredient is imagination

Imagination opens our minds and makes us explore the world in different ways. From *Midsummer Nights Dream* to *Matilda*, from *Harry Potter* to *Yoda* (May the fourth be with you of course) and from daffodils to *Xanadu*: writers, poets and lyricists enrich our lives and help us think of something new and better

It is imagination that will be the theme of my second year as Town Mayor. Before I say a bit more about this, let me read you two poems especially written for this evening by pupils from our two secondary schools.

In advance, may I say a huge thank you to the two poets who have created these compositions. They are both wonderful and inspiring poems.

Firstly is a poem by year 8 student, Ffion Hacker, from the Royal Latin School. It is entitled "Imagination"

*To the kneeling girl, the field is where she'll be on her wedding day.  
Pink peonies in her hair and a pearly white veil.  
With creamy satin shoes and a fairy tale dress.*

*To the old gentleman next to her, the field is where his allotment will flourish.  
Ripe rosy beetroot leaves tickle the delicate frothy sweet peas.  
Parsnips and potatoes nestle underground.  
In the centre a portly pumpkin watches over them.*

*To the small boy nearby, the field is where he'll become an explorer.  
Crawling through the undergrowth, on muddy hands and filthy knees.  
Peering through his binoculars and navigating by the stars.*

*To the little girl making a daisy chain, the field is where she will meet the fairies.  
With gossamer wings and tiny hands and feet.  
Sprinkled with fairy dust, they will grant her a wish.*

*Although the field is just a field,  
To them it is so much more.....  
A wedding day, a thriving allotment,  
an adventure and a fairy world.*

And I have another poem by Daisy Abra from the Buckingham School, also in year 8. She has called it "I closed my eyes"

*I closed my eyes and I could see,  
A whole new world in front of me.  
A blood red sky, bleak mountains high,  
Trees like silk, rivers of milk.  
Clouds of gold above the ground,  
And a deafening silence, not a sound.  
No people, no war,  
Just peace, and adventure in store.  
No suffering, no anger, no sadness, no death,  
No greed, no gain, no bereavement, no pain.  
Happiness and joy floated by,  
Like glimmering angels that never die.  
And as beautiful colors joined my view,  
My spirit flew.*

I am enormously grateful to Ffion and Daisy for these beautiful poems. I think they deserve a round of applause.

This year, the Town Council will be refreshing and revising the Neighbourhood Development Plan. The world around us is changing rapidly and we must make sure that we do not allow ourselves to be boiled alive because we fail to respond to much bigger forces, trends and plans. But we must do more than simply try and react: we must seek to imagine the kind of future we want for our town. Without imagination we risk being drowned by the waves of change. With imagination we can surf these waves and arrive on the sunny beach of the future smiling and proud.

Just #imagineBuckingham - what can and should we be 30 or more years from now?

So imagination is my theme for the coming year and I invite everyone to become imagineers, and to flex and stretch our imagination 'muscles' - and set about imagining new and better futures for ourselves, our families and our glorious town of Buckingham and its community.

**Example four:** *Speech given by Cllr Ruth Newell in honour of the Friend of Buckingham Award to Mr Neil Stafford*

I am pleased to tell you about NEIL STAFFORD and why he is being presented with the award of Friend of Buckingham for a magnificent 40 years service as a retained fire fighter here in Buckingham.

It started with John Rooney talking to the Mayor last November, and proposing that Neil needed recognition for his 40 years' service and the Mayor suggested that he could be nominated as a Friend of Buckingham, for Councillors to consider and I am pleased to say this was unanimously supported by the Town Council at a recent meeting.

Neil is Buckingham born and bred from a long established Buckingham family, and he first joined the fire service aged 20 on 24 February 1978, whilst working at Phillips garage, and later on when he worked for McQuordales the Printers, based in Wolverton, he was on joint emergency cover in Wolverton during the day and on call in Buckingham in the evenings and weekends!

Subsequently NEIL worked for British Waterways on canals and then Highways England as a traffic officer, before joining the Royal Latin School as caretaker 7 and a half years ago.

As a retained fire fighter NEIL has to be able to get to the fire station within 5 minutes.

Neil has not missed a Buckingham Christmas Parade with the Fire Engine since it started 25 years ago! He's also been to lots of fetes, and other events with the fire tender.

Notable events that Neil has attended with the fire service have been:-

- The Buckingham Floods in 1998
- Windsor Castle Fire
- The Abattoir fire, Radclive Road, Buckingham
- Dickens and Jones, department store fire in CMK
- In 1991 IRA incendiary devices in CMK
- And of course numerous road traffic accidents and local fires

NEIL enjoys helping people, providing the emergency fire service that we all rely on, and after 40 years' service I am pleased to say that Neil is continuing as a retired fire fighter in BUCKINGHAM.

So NEIL please come and collect your friend of Buckingham award from the Mayor.



**Example five:** *Speech given by Cllr Chris Strain-Clark in honour of the Friend of Buckingham Award to Mr John Barnett*

I've known John Barnett and his unswerving devotion to Buckingham's youth for over 20 years. John Barnett became a Buckingham Town Councillor in 2003. I remember John as being a great team player, but one who was never afraid to take the lead on issues he was concerned about.

The Buckingham Community Plan had been initiated the previous year. As a member of the Steering Committee John quickly took on a leading role in its development including the appointment of its first project manager.

John appreciated and understood the problems that young people faced in Buckingham. The Chandos Road cinema was long closed so they couldn't even get to see a film unless they had their own transport. Soon he was involved in the successful funding application which in time led to the set-up of the Filmplace.

It was the council's loss in 2007 but the town's gain when John decided to devote his energies to the Buckingham Community Plan and also to Buckingham Youth Centre, where John is now both Chair of the Board of Trustees and Chair of the Management Committee. But the person who knows far more about this than I do is Councillor Lisa O'Donoghue.

**Example six:** *Speech given by Cllr Lisa O'Donoghue in honour of the Friend of Buckingham Award to Mr John Barnett*

Sometime after moving to Buckingham in 2003 I was asked to get involved with the Buckingham Plan which is where I was first introduced to John, I could see he was passionate about this town and that made this newcomer glad to be a part of it, we met again when I joined the Youth Club Management Committee possibly around 2007.

The role of the Management Committee at that time was very different to how it is now; Buckinghamshire County Council ran and managed the youth clubs and staff, but when they pulled out sometime before 2011 it was clear the Management Committee were not going to disband, as had happened elsewhere, instead emergency meetings were called, action plans were drawn up, agreements were made and a business plan was written, this was to include taking over the management of the building, staff and all of the clubs. John, in his role as Chairman was committed to making sure this invaluable resource for our town did not disappear, he quickly became one of three trustees and Director of Buckingham Youth Clubs Ltd, shortly thereafter Charity status was granted.

John's involvement has taken up even more of his time when over a year ago one role was split into two jobs; Youth Club Leader and separate Buildings Manager. This transition had to be carefully managed and John continues to have weekly meetings in his own time showing this is an ongoing process that he probably didn't dream he was signing up for. I'm happy to say the building hasn't fallen, the young people are thriving, the clubs still running, staff are all happy and no-one has been sacked, which I think says it all. Therefore I am more than happy to second Cllr. Stuchbury's nomination for John Barnett to be a very good friend of Buckingham.

(Examples five and six are also to be found in the minutes of a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council held on Tuesday 8th May 2018)

**Example seven:** *Speech made in support of Cllr Mike Smith's nomination for the role as Chair of the Resources Committee 2018/19 (Cllr Harvey)*

As a Town Council we have a changeable if not turbulent time ahead. We face several significant challenges now & in the near future:

We are in the process of recruiting a new Town Clerk, a new Deputy Town Clerk and possibly an interim Clerk to bridge the almost certain gap when we will have neither Clerk nor Deputy. Since the Chair of Resources is the supervisor of the Town Clerk, we need an experienced and grounded Chair to engage actively in and marshal these recruitment processes. Moreover, once we have appointed, we need the Chair of Resources to establish a positive, productive and developmental relationship with the new Clerk(s) and carry out effective support & supervision to the person(s)

We have agreed that we need to refresh our approach to budget & precept setting this coming autumn. We need an experienced, proactive, efficient and effective Chair of this Committee to help ensure we do this well. We need someone who is not only very comfortable and skilled with budget management but also one who has the leadership & determination to work collaboratively to drive forward on these changes ahead.

Unitarisation is almost inevitably just around the corner. The changes looming around devolvement and new governance structures will test all of our committees hugely. The resources implications are likely to be massive and so we need a Chair who is demonstrably well connected with other parishes, authorities and agencies in the town. The Chair must also have the strategic nous to guide this Committee through the complex changes ahead. These changes are likely to have most impact on our estates services and so we would benefit greatest from a Chair with that understanding and experience too.

So for all of these reasons I am happy to second Cllr Mike Smith to Chair this Resources committee - Mike ticks all of these boxes and more. He is best suited to this role. Mike has either chaired a main committee or been Mayor for the last nine years. No one else comes close to this amount of experience. The nearest two are Robin (who chaired a committee for six of the last ten years) and Ruth (Mayor and committee chair for six of the last ten years also). Mike has the most experienced set of chairmanship hands that we have.

In my view, this decision is so very critical to the success of our Council that I would like the vote to be a recorded one.

**Subject: Local Authorities can enforce 20mph and Transport for London announces wider use of 20mph for central and shopping roads to reduce casualties**

Rod King MBE has written a press release and technical briefing on how Local Authorities could enforce 20mph limits and London has announced wider use of 20mph

## **LOCAL AUTHORITIES COULD ENFORCE 20MPH**

**By collaborating with their police force, local authorities could institute public prosecutions for non-compliance with 20mph limits to transform community streets.**

Lower speeds reduce casualties and 20mph is a key threshold above which pedestrian and cyclist danger rises rapidly. That is why the best practice internationally (WHO, OECD, Global Network for Road Safety legislators, iRAP) calls for an enforced 30km/h (20mph) speed limit where pedestrians and cyclists mix with motor vehicles[1].

But whilst local authorities can gain large societal benefits from properly marketed and enforced wide-area 20mph limits, a cap on police resources and competing calls means many forces don't commit sufficient resources to deter non-compliance.

A generally held view that it is only the police that can enforce 20mph or other limits. However, legislation may provide appropriate scope for local authorities to institute criminal proceedings for speed limit violation if it is authorised by a police force to do so. The rationale and references for this are detailed in our briefing sheet[2].

Local Authorities can, by prior arrangement, use their powers in collaboration with their police force to initiate public prosecutions against speeding drivers as well as having the powers to identify registered keepers of vehicles. Benefits are :-

- Costs of robust enforcement would be aligned with the societal benefits to the local authority.
- There would be increased benefits far beyond those 20mph successes already being achieved with minimal enforcement such as Bristol[3] and Calderdale[4].
- There would be a transformational reduction in vehicle speed from increased compliance as a result of more robust enforcement.
- A sharing of the burden for enforcing 20mph limits could free up police resources for other work

More and references at

[http://www.20splenty.org/las\\_could\\_enforce\\_20mph\\_limits](http://www.20splenty.org/las_could_enforce_20mph_limits)

Technical document at [http://www.20splenty.org/how\\_las\\_can\\_enforce](http://www.20splenty.org/how_las_can_enforce)

## **FOCUS ON 20MPH AS TFL LAUNCHES ITS VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN FOR LONDON.**

**A much wider use of 20mph limits and a raft of measures to increase compliance are at the heart of a bold plan from Transport for London to reduce serious and fatal casualties to zero by 2041. The vital role that lower vehicle speeds can play is underscored as TfL calls on the UK government to amend the standard urban speed limit to 20mph.**

The plan has a sharp focus on speed and recognises that speeds play a large role not only in causing casualties but also in the routine intimidation that puts people off walking and cycling. The result is a huge impact on public health as people avoid active travel.

20mph speed limits are a core part of the plan and will be the default speed limit within the central London Congestion charging Zone by 2020. Plus 20mph limits will be introduced in 37 town centres and high-risk locations in both inner and outer London. 20mph is set to become the norm across London.

Major steps to increase compliance include re-designing streets for lower speeds in the Healthy Streets programme, enhancing the safety camera network, trialling area-based average speed cameras, beefed-up Metropolitan Police enforcement, fitting speed-limiting technology to TfL buses and working with vehicle manufacturers.

**TfL also calls for the UK Government to reduce the default urban speed limit from 30mph to 20mph.**

More with quotes and references at  
[http://www.20splenty.org/20splenty\\_for\\_londons\\_vision\\_zero](http://www.20splenty.org/20splenty_for_londons_vision_zero)

Kind regards

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More with quotes and references at  
<http://www.20splenty.org/20splenty> for london's vision zero

Kind regards

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**BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL  
FULL COUNCIL  
MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2018**

**Agenda item: 15**

**Contact Officer: Mrs. K. McElligott**

**MAJOR PLANNING APPLICATION – MAIDS MORETON**

16/00151/AOP Outline application with all matters reserved except access for up to 170 dwellings public open space and associated infrastructure  
*David Wilson Homes*

*Members have commented on this application previously insofar as it affects Buckingham and have responded **OPPOSE & ATTEND**. Their last response is appended*

*New documents:*

*Highways Technical Note;*

*5 drawings of proposals for road junctions as follows:*

- 1. Mini-roundabout on Main Street at Walnut Drive junction*
- 2. Potential Highway improvements, Foscoote Road*
- 3. Potential Traffic Calming Works to College Road/Church Street junction*
- 4. Potential College Road [Mill Lane] improvements (s278)*
- 5. Potential College Road [Mill Lane] improvements (s106)*

The Highways Technical note was notified for consultation at the beginning of June; however none of the drawings referred to in the text were available, and the item was thus removed from the agenda, and a complaint made to the officer that it was difficult to provide a reasoned response without them. A Minor Amended consultation was notified on 20<sup>th</sup> July, which was changed (after a protest that these were not Minor matters) to a full consultation on 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

The stated purpose of the Note is to demonstrate that the proposed changes are acceptable and will not have a severe impact within the village or at the A422 Stratford Road junction with Mill Lane. The junction of Mill Lane and Church Street and the stretch of Foscoote Road between Manor Park and the site are not mentioned in the Note.

BCC have said that the previously proposed traffic lights at the A422 junction are not appropriate in a rural location, and that the choice of day for survey figures should be given consideration (the Road Safety Audit was carried out on a Sunday between 11.15am and midday). The new survey commissioned in 2018 extended over 7 days and the daily figures averaged out, and a Wednesday was judged to be typical. Calculations have been based on 40% of the traffic from the development using the Foscoote Road access and Mill Lane, and the junction will be at capacity in the morning peak hour (8am-9am, an additional 10 vehicles queuing) and rather under capacity in the afternoon peak (5pm-6pm). BCC think 75% is more likely, and their calculations show an increase in the morning queue of 18 vehicles and 2 in the afternoon. The consultants disagree with BCC's %age, but even so they think the impact on the junction is not severe (£ 3.26) - an increase in queuing vehicles of 10 – 18 is described as 'modest' (£ 4.8). If the queues are really bad they reason that some drivers will choose an alternative route (not specified, but the only alternatives are the gated unfenced road from Foscoote, or the Moreton Road). The traffic calming proposed for Mill Lane 'will also have a deterrent effect'.

The document mentions a short right-turn lane (for 3 – 4 vehicles) for traffic turning right into Mill Lane from the A422, described as a 'safety improvement', but the new drawings do not show this, so presumably this has been discarded.

There will also be a Travel Plan for residents, and a financial contribution to improving the frequency of the bus services [*currently two-hourly and not conveniently timed for school or office hours*].