

MINUTES OF THE BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
MONDAY 16th FEBRUARY 2004 AT 7 PM

PRESENT:

Councillors	J. Barnett	H.H. Cadd
	P. Collins	Mrs P. Desorgher
	D. Isham	R.C. Lehmann
	G. Loftus	H. Mordue
	Ms. R. Newell	Mrs C. Strain-Clark
	Mrs H. Saul	P. Strain-Clark
	R. Stuchbury	(Mayor)
Town Clerk	Ms P. J. Heath	

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors K. Liverseidge and Mrs. P. Stevens

2370 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

2371 THE MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED**: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2004, the Precept meeting on 26th January 2004, and the interim meeting held on 2nd February 2004, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2372 TOWN CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEWSLETTERS/BROCHURES

Members were informed that the following were available from the office

AVDC – NEWS FOR THE PARISHES – NO 1/2004

CLERKS AND COUNCILLORS DIRECT – ISSUE NO 31

NALC – LOCAL COUNCIL REVIEW ISSUE NO 55.5

INVITATIONS AND NOTICES OF DIARY DATES (COPIES OF NOTICES ALREADY DISTRIBUTED)

AVNSC – AGM – 29 JAN 2004 AT BUCKINGHAM ATHLETIC

BCC – AREA COMMITTEE 29 JAN 2004 – WINSLOW CENTRE

AVDC – STANDARDS COMMITTEE -19TH JANUARY 2004

LOCAL FORUM 24TH FEBRUARY 2004 AT NEWTON LONGVILLE

DEDICATION OF WELL STREET CHURCH 22ND FEBRUARY 2004

ROAD CLOSURES

BUCKINGHAM CHRISTMAS PARADE – 13TH DEC 03 CHANDOS ROAD TO NORTH END SQUARE

DIS

ISSUES NO 570, 571,572,573

MEMO

A memo had been circulated to all members informing them that the Annual Tax Leaflet had to be produced by 15th March; all Chairmen were requested to get their reports to the Town Clerk by 25th February and all Councillors to ensure that Cllr. Mordue had a photograph by 27th February 2004.

2373 RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

2373.1 PLANNING – 12.01.04 & 02.02.04

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** - that the above minutes, and any recommendation contained within, be confirmed.

2373.2 ENVIRONMENT 19.01.04

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** - that the above minutes, and any recommendation contained within, be confirmed.

2373.3 ADMINISTRATION 26.02.04

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** - that the above minutes, and any recommendation contained within, be confirmed.

*(504 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Barnett, and **RECOMMENDED** by 8 votes to 4 that this Council awards Buckingham Tennis Club a 25-year lease.)*

This recommendation had been agreed at the Interim Council meeting on 2nd February 2004

*(507 Proposed by Cllr. Stevens, seconded by Cllr. Barnett, and **RECOMMENDED** that this Council although accepting the principle does not set up a Members Allowance and that this should be reviewed by the Council annually.)*

AGREED

*(508 Proposed by Cllr. Stevens, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that the £200 fee for the Internal Auditor be used to buy a specific item to enhance the Christmas Lights; the item to be agreed with the Internal Auditor.)*

AGREED

2373.4 TOWN CENTRE & EVENTS 22.12.03 & 19.01.04

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED** - that the above minutes, and any recommendation contained within, be confirmed.

*(489. Following a discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Desorgher, and **RECOMMENDED** that a donation of £2500 towards the Buckingham School Sports Status Bid be made from account number 4094 'Youth Budget' subject to the initial bid money being raised. Should there be an over subscription this donation is to be returned to the Town Council.)*

AGREED

2374 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.

6.1 Mid & South Bucks Health Community – Shaping Health Services

No Councillor volunteered to formulate a response to the above document which deals primarily with the south of the county

6.2 TV Police – CONFIDENTIAL breakdown of offences report

6.3 BCC – Notification of footpath repairs

6.4 AVDC – Buckingham Parking

6.5 AVDC – Buckingham Conservation Area review

It was agreed to invite Freya Burden to attend the Interim Town Council meeting on 15th March 2004.

2375 REPORTS FROM BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

To decide if the Council wishes to nominate a replacement for Grenville School

The Clerk explained the implications of the recent Education Act which has removed the Minor Authority Governor from the governors' listings. When under taking a reconstitution, which all governing bodies will have to undertake prior to 2006, they can choose to designate a Community Governor for the previous role of the Minor Authority Governor or work with the County Council to have them as a designated LEA Governor. No Member volunteered to take on the role as the Town Council's representative on Grenville School's Governing Body.

The Mayor informed Members that Bourton School had already undergone a reconstitution and he had been requested to stand as a Parent Governor; the Clerk had written to the Chairman of Governors informing him that it was inappropriate for the Town Council's representative to be elected as a Parent Governor, a view endorsed by the Members.

2376 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the invoices per attached list be approved.

2377 ACCOUNTS FOR RETROSPECTIVE PAYMENT

Proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the payments made per the attached list be approved.

Members queried the invoices and retrospective payments attributed to the Mayor's Allowance account shown in the listings, feeling that such payments should not be shown as a separate entity. The Clerk explained that all cheques written from the Town Council's account have to be shown in the listings for audit purposes. The Clerk confirmed that in previous years the Mayor's Allowance had been paid in two half yearly amounts, on request, to the Mayor.

Proposed by Cllr. Lehmann, seconded by Cllr. Cadd, and **RESOLVED** that the Mayor's Allowance is to be paid in two half yearly amounts.

2378 REPORT FROM MR MACKEY ON SID SURVEY IN NOVEMBER 2003

Members discussed the information on the average speed of vehicles passed Gawcott Field houses taken with the use of SID (Speed Indicator Device). This had indicated that the average speed was just over 49 mph.

Cllr. R. Newell arrived

Members agreed to send a copy of the report to Thames Valley Police Traffic Unit asking for their comments.

Following a question it was confirmed by the Clerk that the Town Council could borrow SID again but Members need to be aware of the commitment required by Councillors to be with the machine and record the data.

Concerns were raised by a Councillor that the signage on Gawcott Hill Road on leaving the by-pass was inadequate. Members were reminded that the County Council are conducting a review of all the speed limits.

2379 NOTIFICATION OF CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO THE ENTRANCE DOOR

Members were informed that some time between 9th and 12th of January graffiti was sprayed on the Town Council's entrance door; this had been reported to the Police.

2380 NOTIFICATION OF DAMAGE TO PROPERTY AT CHURCH HILL

Members were informed that part of the boundary wall between Church Hill and Hill House had collapsed; this wall is owned by the Town Council and the Owners of Hill House and any claim on the insurance will be 50/50. The Clerk was obtaining quotations from 3 builders.

Proposed by Cllr. Cadd, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **RESOLVED** to claim for 50% of the rebuild cost from the Town Council's Insurers and the Town Clerk to have authority to pay the £250 excess on the claim.

2381 COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. D. Isham reminded members that the Parishes Forum would be held on 24th February 2004 in Newton Longville.

2382 TOWN MAYOR'S ITEMS

2382.1 Community Plan Working Group

The Mayor informed members that Mrs. J. Good who had been employed by Buckingham Town Council on behalf of the Working Group had resigned; no reason was given. Cllr. Barnett who is a member of the Working Group has volunteered to complete the outstanding work to produce the action plan; Members thanked Cllr. Barnett for rescuing the project.

2382.2 Parking Charges

The Mayor reported on the District Council's budget meeting which he had attended with Cllr. Lehmann. The Meeting had agreed to introduce parking charges in Buckingham, but, Members were informed, the District Council was meeting on 3rd March 2004 to discuss the principle on rural parking which may have bearing on the charges levied and also may open the possibility of leasing the car parks. Members discussed the option briefly, in particular the policing of the car park, the systems to maintain the long and short stay sections, and also the lack of maintenance over the years resulting in potholes, damage to the paving, and poor lighting.

Proposed by Cllr. Lehmann, seconded by Cllr. Cadd, and **AGREED** to write to Mrs. V. Baxter - the relevant portfolio holder - expressing the Council's interest in discussing the leasing of the car parks.

CHAIRMAN..... DATE.....