# MINUTES OF THE EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2004 AT 7pm

**PRESENT** Councillor Mrs. P. Desorgher

D. R. Isham

R. Lehmann (Chairman)

R. Newell Mrs. P. Stevens P. Strain-Clark

R. Stuchbury (Mayor)

Guests Mr. S. Heywood

Mrs. R. Heywood

For the Town Clerk Mrs. K. McElligott

# **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors H. Cadd and Ms. H. Saul.

## 32/2004 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest for items on the agenda

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Stevens, and AGREED that Standing Orders be suspended to allow Mr. and Mrs. Heywood to address the meeting.

Item 5 on the Agenda was taken next.

Cllr. Newell arrived during the following item

#### 33/2004 CHRISTMAS PARADE

Mr. Heywood reported that the parade would be much the same composition of floats and walkers as in previous years. The band was more expensive and there was a cost for wardens of £540 which split 50:50 between the Parade and the Town Council deducted £270 from the Parade budget, leaving an operating amount of £1980; this might lead to certain regular features such as the clowns not being booked, which would be a shame as it had been hoped to make a big show for the 20<sup>th</sup> Parade.

A meeting with the Police had led to the need to see the insurance of all the vehicle drivers to ascertain whether they were covered should a child fall from a float and be injured. The Town Council's insurance would not cover this eventuality. A risk assessment would also have to be produced. Mr. Heywood would be seeking the Town Clerk's advice on this.

A "Victorian" burger van with suitably costumed staff had asked to stand in the market: Cllr. Stevens will check if the current casual trader will be attending on Parade day; if not, the Victorian van would be permitted to take his pitch.

**ACTION CLLR. STEVENS** 

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An advertisement for the Community Fair on the same day would be added to the publicity material. There would hopefully also be a website, which could be referenced from the Town Council's.

The Police had also required 10 marshals to attend: 8 had been found, so two more were needed. It was suggested that the Lions be asked.

For assembling the Parade, London Road had been put forward as a replacement for Chandos Road which was now very difficult for the purpose.

The prizes for various categories ranged from £50 to £25, totalling £330.

The Chairman asked if a full cost breakdown could be provided in time for the Full Council meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr Heywood agreed to provide this.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Stevens, and AGREED that Standing Orders be resumed.

Members discussed the possible source for the unbudgeted-for amount of £270.

Proposed by Cllr. Stevens, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and RECOMMENDED that the unforeseen £270 deficit in the Parade budget be restored if the money can be found within Committee funds.

Cllr. Strain-Clark had attended the Parade Committee meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September by request.

Proposed by Cllr. Strain-Clark, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and RECOMMENDED that the Town Council elect a representative to the Parade Committee.

The Chairman thanked Mr. and Mrs. Heywood for attending the meeting.

Mr. & Mrs. Heywood left

The Agenda was resumed at Item 3

# 34/2004 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Members accepted the minutes of the last meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2004, which were ratified at the Council meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2004.

# 35/2004 ACTION REPORTS AND UPDATES

#### (17.2) Welcome to Buckingham signs

No progress had been made since the July meeting report.

# (17.4) Charter copies – response from schools

The local schools had been offered the Charter for display; no response had been received to date.

# (17.5) Pancake Race

Rotaract had agreed to take over the running of the race, and had collected details from the office.

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#### (22) Gift for Mouvaux

The Mayor reported that he had commissioned a china salver with the names of the two towns, and if there was sufficient space the crests of both towns, to take as his official gift on the Twinning Visit. Members hoped that it would be possible to photograph the gift before it was taken to France.

#### 36/2004 COMMUNITY FAIR

Arrangements for this year's Community Fair were in hand.

It had been suggested that the Community Centre Management take over the running of the event. Members agreed that discussions should take place, but hoped that no change would be made to what was a successful format.

#### 37/2004 CHARTER FAIR

The signs would be put up on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October. Members queried whether the posts were available as the County Council had appropriated them for their accident statistics signs.

The Town Clerk was arranging a meeting with the Police and Mr. Nichols.

Cllrs. Lehmann and Isham would supervise the setting-up on 15<sup>th</sup> October.

Members felt that it would be appropriate to have the copy Charter on display at the opening ceremony.

The fair operators would be reminded about having an additional person available to warn when cables were being laid across the pathway.

Of the Guests invited to the opening, only Furzedown School had responded so far.

#### 38/2004 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

# 38.1 2004 Lighting scheme

Members discussed the quotation from Blachere for various types of Christmas lights for the town centre.

The following scheme was proposed:

	T T		
<u>Area</u>	Cost of lights	Installation/removal (per year)	<u>total</u>
Old Gaol	£549.63	£1164.38	£1714.01
Tree, Bull Ring	£240.64	£ 517.50	£ 758.14
Jardines	£119.28	£1035.00	£1154.28
Market Hill	£568.15	£1725.00	£2293.15
(multi brins)			
Lloyds-Barclays	£340.89	£1035.00	£1375.89
(multi brins)			
Fitting brackets			£1840.00
Storage			£ 517.50
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If there were problems with permission to put lights on the Old Gaol, Members felt that the High Street trees should be lit instead, and any remaining monies in the budget could also be put to lighting this area. Members hoped that the existing pealights were still serviceable and could be used.

The shopkeepers could be encouraged to contribute in future years if this year's scheme was sufficiently attractive.

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#### 38.2 (28.2) Electricity supply for the lights

Babtie had agreed to install 5 feeder boxes and invoice for 4 this year and 1 next; the Town Clerk was arranging the necessary contract with Central Networks (formerly EMEB).

# 38.3 Christmas Light ceremony and Carol Service

The Christmas tree had been ordered, and would carry pealights as last year.

Grenville Combined School had indicated that they would like their pupils to perform a couple of items.

#### <u>39/2004 MARKETS</u>

#### 39.1 Street Market

Cllr. Stevens reported that the street market was struggling, with some traders having retired. Gaps were being filled by casuals, who paid on the day; regulars paid a month in advance. It had been suggested that casual traders who attended for two consecutive months should be asked to become regulars and pay in advance accordingly.

The supervisor reported that the Police were much more co-operative in respect of removing cars parked in the market area.

Mention was made of the trader who called his wares: he has been warned.

#### 39.2 Flea Market

The Flea Market was going well, and traders were parking in the car park rather than the High Street as per the letter sent out by the Council.

#### 39.3 Farmers' Market

The market was trading at much the same level as previously; an ostrich farmer had asked to attend the October market and had been permitted to although the farm was well outside the usual catchment, due to the unusual nature of the goods.

It was suggested that Buckingham Athletic be approached with a view to traders being permitted to use their car park in the event of charges being introduced.

The Chairman reported on the meeting held in August with Cllr. Stevens and the street and flea market supervisors.

In general the supervisors were happy, except for the introduction of car park charges. They would consider entering the parking charge refund scheme if the transaction were large enough - say £5 - but would not be able to for smaller purchases.

Barriers were requested to prevent traffic from driving through the street market (see 39.5). Flea market traders were asked to leave the High Street parking bays for customers (see 39.2).

The traders were also considering buying some of the Council's carrier bags.

#### 39.4 Market electricity supply cable

Members considered the three quotations for repair of the cable.

Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that the quotation from Taylor Kirkham of £75 inc. VAT be accepted (cost code 4051/302).

## 39.5 Barriers for the street market

There had been a problem with cars driving through the market; a portable barrier to be placed across the road outside the Whale, and kept by the market supervisor, was suggested. An outdoor "Tensabarrier" with black/yellow webbing would cost £192.58.

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Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that the funds to buy the barriers be sought from Market income, with the Council's permission.

#### 39.6 Entertainment in the Market

The Chairman proposed that he and the Clerk investigate possibilities and report to the next meeting.

#### **ACTION CHAIRMAN/CLERK**

Cllr. Isham declared an interest in the following item.

# **40/2004 CRAFT FAIR**

At a meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> September the Community Centre Management had agreed to take on the running of the Craft Fairs; their Chairman would be writing formally to confirm this. Cllr. Strain-Clark was assembling a folder for the Community Centre and would include changed letter headings etc., and would run the Fairs until the Centre took over.

#### 41/2004 BONFIRE & FIREWORKS

The Chairman reported that the Lions had asked to take over the selling of sparklers and necklaces in return for clearing up the site after the bonfire. Members discussed the offer and the consequent loss of funds in the collection which was distributed to the St.John Ambulance, Moretonville JFC and the Army Cadets as appreciation for their attendance. It was pointed out that the budgeted amount for clearing up would be saved.

Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Newell, that the Lions take over the selling of goods and the responsibility for clearing up the day following the event.

Amendment by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Strain-Clark, that the budgeted amount be added to the collection for distribution. Members voted 3:4; the amendment fell.

Members voted on the original proposal and **AGREED** 5:2 that the Lions take over the selling of goods and the responsibility for clearing up the day following the event.

Members had asked to be reminded of the minutes agreeing the distribution of monies: Minute 395, meeting of 2/12/02

Proposed by Cllr. C. Strain-Clark, seconded by Cllr. Desorgher, and **RECOMMENDED** that as from 2003 all the money collected at the display will be distributed to local children's charities and other worthy causes.

#### Minute 470, meeting of 10/11/03

Proposed by Cllr. Lehmann, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that the following donations are made from the monies collected at the bonfire; St Johns £200, Buckingham Riding for Disabled 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of balance, Scouts 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the balance, and Bucks Association for the blind 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the balance.

Proposed by Cllr. Lehmann, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that the following donations be made for their work at the event; Army Cadets £250, and Moretonville £150.

#### 42/2004 BUCKINGHAM SCHOOL FILM PROJECT

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Information from a community film rental organisation was circulated to the committee at the meeting. Cllr. Stuchbury felt that a holiday film club for 5-10 year-olds would not compete with other projects being considered in the town, and could be funded from the Youth Budget, as the hire of the All Weather Pitch had been originally. Buckingham School were interested in providing the venue for the club, which Cllr. Stuchbury proposed be called the "Chandos Club" after the cinema which used to occupy the building at the junction of Chandos and London Roads. If funds could be found, further details could be sought and brought back to the committee.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and RECOMMENDED that a sum of £750 be allocated from the Youth Budget 4094/131 to fund the holiday cinema project, thus enabling negotiations to be carried out.

#### **43/2004 NEWSLETTER**

The next Newsletter was projected to be available early December and would have a print run of 1000; copies would be available to pick up at the office, the Library, etc.

Suggested subjects were:

The Charter Fairs – Chairman to consult with Dennis Tunks

The cinema project, if organised.

The new Councillor (election date 18<sup>th</sup> November).

#### 44/2004 REVIEW OF THE 'BIG BASH' EVENT

Cllr. Strain-Clark reported on the de-brief held shortly afterwards.

In general the event was held to be a success, and stall holders would be keen to attend again in 2005.

The Sports events at the Swan Pool had also been successful.

The publicity was impressive, the banners excellent. Leaflets were distributed extensively.

The principle problem was felt to be communication – some organisations got missed out, some were contacted too late to be able to organise effectively.

The Old Gaolers had found performing a play in a tent difficult and would prefer to be in a building – at the University or in the Community Centre – next time.

Both Buckingham Acoustic Club and The Old Gaolers had found attendance down on their usual audiences.

The concession ticket was not well understood, and not everyone had realised that some events were free.

Members were concerned that an accounting for the 2004 event should be obtained in order to estimate the budget amount for 2005. An undertaking from AVDC not to reduce their proportion of the costs at the expense of the Town Council's contribution should be sought; if the costs turned out to be less than allowed both authorities could reduce their budgets accordingly.

## 45/2004 REVIEW OF RIVER RINSE 2004

Cllr. Newell reported that she and Cllr. Lehmann, two members of the Buckingham Society and five members of Stowe Sub-Aqua Club had attended. There had been less to

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remove from the river than on previous occasions, but still a substantial amount, including some scaffolding poles.

## <u>46/2004</u> <u>BUCKINGHAM IN BLOOM 2004</u>

The winners of Buckingham In Bloom were as follows:

Individual

 $1^{\rm st}$  (and first time entry) Mrs Sheila Newell 24 Embleton Way  $2^{\rm nd}$  (and first time entry) Mrs. Anne Liddle 27 Lenborough Close

Group

1<sup>st</sup> Nos. 14, 16, 18, 20 McKenzie Close 2<sup>nd</sup> Paynes Court Residents' Association

**Hanging Baskets** 

1<sup>st</sup> Mr. Gerald Smith 22 Valley Road

<u>Schools</u>

1<sup>st</sup> Grenville Combined School

2<sup>nd</sup> Buckingham School
3<sup>rd</sup> Field House Day Nursery

**Business Class** 

1<sup>st</sup> The Whale, Market Hill

2<sup>nd</sup> The Grand Junction, High Street
3<sup>rd</sup> = The Three Cups, Bridge Street

3<sup>rd</sup> = Cornwall Place

Winners in each class except Business had received £75-worth of Garden Vouchers; an engraved salver would be presented to the Business winner. All would receive a certificate at the Buckingham Forum on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Chairman had toured the town and the industrial estates looking for suitable candidates for the Business class; he regretted the lack of effort displayed by the companies on the industrial estates

## Aylesbury Vale in Bloom

In future, this competition will be within the Events Committee remit.

Cllr. Newell reported on her entry which had won the competition and displayed the crystal bowl, which the winners hold for a year, and is accompanied by £300 Garden Vouchers. She hoped that her entry could be returned for display at the Forum meeting. She had included pictures of all the Buckingham in Bloom winning entries, as well as of various venues in and around the town.

Members thanked Cllr. Newell for her work on the town's entry.

#### 47/2004 BEST KEPT VILLAGE

Buckingham had been judged as runner-up in the Michaelis Cup section of the Best Kept Village competition, and also runner-up in the Bucks. Village of the year competition (larger community category). The judges' comments were circulated to the committee; the principle criticisms were of the condition of the noticeboards by the recycling bins and by the Swan statue, and the graffiti on the blue-green bridge.

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#### 48/2004 HANGING BASKETS

Due to wrong information as to the extent of their property, Newman Ward had been charged for 6 hanging baskets when in fact only 2 were actually placed in Meadow Row; the other 4 being hung in Meadow Walk. The charge for 4 has been reimbursed.

#### 49/2004 **SAVE 2005**

Members were asked to consider what events might be included as Buckingham's contribution to SAVE month and bring their suggestions to the next meeting. (2004 events: Botanical Walk; Open Day at Sandpit; Cycling/wildlife quiz in Bourton Park; Battery collection)

#### 50/2004 'DISTRICT LINK' AND 'THE VIBE'

Members had been asked to suggest Buckingham items for these publications and offered

- Best Kept Town/Aylesbury Vale in Bloom wins
- (The Vibe) the proposed cinema club
- (District Link) the Markets

#### 51/2004 2005-2006 BUDGET

Members were asked to consider items for the budget discussions. New additions to the existing list were suggested as Youth Project; expenditure on the Market (other than advertising). The Christmas lights installation/storage charges would also have to be covered for the next year's display, with some additional lights if possible.

Members would be asked for definite figures at the next meeting.

#### 52/2004 CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

felt

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that this was a matter for the Full Council to del	1 1
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Meeting closed at 9.00pm	
CHAIRMAN	. DATE

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