

**MINUTES OF THE INTERIM MEETING OF BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL HELD  
AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2004 AT 7 PM.**

**PRESENT**

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

**APOLOGES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. H. Cadd and Cllr. Mrs. P. Stevens.

**2490 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

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

**2491 A RESPONSE TO AVDC POLICY CONSULTATION LICENSING ACT 2003**

A copy of Cllr. Lehmann's draft response had been circulated with the agenda. Members discussed the comments and responses made.

Proposed by Cllr. Lehmann, seconded by Cllr. Collins, and **RESOLVED** by 11 votes to 0 with 1 abstention to accept the following responses to the consultation document.

1.8 To ensure the development of cultural diversity the District Council will consider seeking premises licences from the licensing authority for some public spaces in the community in their own name. This might include, for example, village greens, market squares, community halls, local authority owned art centres and similar public areas.

[RESPONSE - TC welcomes this consideration.](#)

2.0 In accordance with section 4 of the Licensing Act 2003, AVDC acknowledges and accepts its duty to carry out its functions under the Act with a view to promoting the licensing objectives. The licensing objectives are:

- a. The prevention of crime and disorder
- b. Public safety
- c. The prevention of public nuisance; and
- d. The protection of children from harm

Each of these objectives has equal importance.

[RESPONSE - TC believes the objectives should include an equitable approach to licensing across the whole District, recognizing people throughout the Vale enjoy drinking and](#)

public entertainment with an objective such as: 'Equal opportunity of licensed premises for all residents'.

3.2 Individual applications will be considered on their own merits and in general terms a flexible approach will be adopted and arbitrary restrictions will be avoided ...

RESPONSE - TC welcomed this approach. It cannot be acceptable that residents who live in Aylesbury can go to licensed premises to 2am, but elsewhere this is not possible.

8.6d Where premises licensed within Aylesbury Town Centre or Buckingham Town Centre operate beyond 11.00pm it is likely that they will be required to install a CCTV system that meets the approval of the police...

RESPONSE - TC strongly opposes such a possible qualification for Buckingham premises (why not Wendover or Winslow?). We challenge the suggestion that any evidence currently exists to necessitate such a qualification. We reject the implication that the Town Centre is in any way an unsafe environment, and consequently cannot see the justification for imposing such a financial burden on licensed premises in the town.

8.6e Where pubs and clubs within Aylesbury Town centre and Buckingham Town centre operate beyond 11.00pm, the Licensing Authority will normally expect the premises to become members of the local Pub-watch scheme and to become part of the Pub-watch radio system in order to alert other premises of potential troublemakers.

RESPONSE - TC supports this proposal as a realistic approach.

8.10c It will be noted that certain designated 'no drinking' areas exist in Aylesbury and Buckingham Town Centres. Pavement licenses granted in these areas will be under particular public and agency scrutiny.

RESPONSE - TC questions the effectiveness and necessity of the 'no drinking' bye-laws. TC opposes the suggestion that pavement licences in the town are scrutinized differently to elsewhere in the District, and does not believe any evidence exists to justify this qualification. (TC notes that the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister advises that consumption of alcohol is permitted in 'no-drinking' areas and is only an offence if people continue to consume alcohol when they have been warned by a constable against doing so).

12.7 A licensing sub-committee of three Councillors will sit to hear every application where representations have been received from interested parties and responsible authorities.

RESPONSE – TC feels that the altering of the licence hearing from all the Licensing Committee to a sub-committee of three will be less democratic.

## **2492 RECOMMENDATION FROM EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING 4/10/04**

*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.*

Members discussed the recommendation and **AGREED** by a vote of 12 to 0.

**2493 THE BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION RE CHANGES IN PRIMARY SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREAS**

Copies of the maps and the details of the consultation web site had been circulated with the agenda. Members felt they had insufficient information and asked for the County's figures justifying the altering of the boundaries.

Members felt that the Heartland houses should remain in Grenville School catchment area, thereby giving a mix of housing types, and also that Gawcott Fields should remain in the Buckingham Schools catchment areas.

**2494 NOTIFICATION OF TRAINING SESSION AT HIGH WYCOMBE.**

No Member wished to attend the finance training session to be held in High Wycombe on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October.

**2495 MAYOR'S ITEMS FOR INFORMATION.**

2495.1 Forum 19<sup>th</sup> October

Members were reminded that the Buckingham Partnership's Annual Forum would be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October. Cllr. Mordue and Cllr. Newell volunteered to serve refreshments on the night.

*The following item will be heard under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960 which excludes members of the Public due to the confidential and financial nature of the business to be discussed*

**2496 A VERBAL REPORT ON QUALITY PARISH COUNCIL TRANSFER OF SERVICES**

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