

**MINUTES OF THE BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
BUCKINGHAM COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 19th SEPTEMBER 2005 at 7 pm.**

PRESENT: Councillors H. Cadd
 P. Collins (Mayor)
 Mrs P. Desorgher
 D. Isham
 R. Lehmann
 H. Lewis
 H. Mordue
 Mrs. P. Stevens.
 Mrs C. Strain-Clark
 P. Strain-Clark
 R. Stuchbury
 Town Clerk Mrs P. J. Heath
 In attendance Cllr. D. Polhill – County Councillor, Buckingham North

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors J. Barnett, G. Loftus, Ms. R. Newell and Ms. H. Saul.

2645 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

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

*Proposed by Cllr. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **AGREED** to move items 18 comments from District and County Councillors to be heard next.*

*Proposed by Cllr. Mordue, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **AGREED** to suspend Standing Orders to enable Cllr. Polhill to address the Council.*

2646 COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Polhill informed Members that the Director of Adult Services, who had originally been going to attend this meeting to discuss the closing of Maids Moreton Hall and the implications on health provisions in the north of the County, had sent his apologies due to personal reasons. Arrangements have been made for him to attend the Council's Interim meeting on 17th October. The Embleton Day Unit and the provision for Mental Health support was still with the County Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

*Proposed by Cllr. Mordue, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **AGREED** to reinstate Standing Orders.*

2647 THE MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st August 2005, and the interim meeting held on 30th August 2005 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Cllr. Stuchbury queried whether the actions required under minute no 2619 had been undertaken; this was confirmed. Members were reminded that this item was for the ratification of the accuracy of the minutes and not to discuss items on those minutes.

2648 RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

2648.1 PLANNING - 08.08.05 & 30.08.05

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

It was agreed that the matter detailed under minute no 4800.3 be discussed at the Interim Council meeting.

2648.2 FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION 04.07.05

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

*(124/2005 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Stevens, and **RECOMMENDED** that the Discipline and Appeals panels that sit for stages 2 and 3 should consist of those Councillors who are not Chairman, Vice Chairman, Mayor or Deputy Mayor; eligible Members to be listed alphabetically - first three being Discipline Committee, the second three being the Appeals Committee, with remaining Members acting as reserves. Stage 4 Appeal Committee may, in order to preserve the integrity of the Council's employment procedure, include independent Councillors from other authorities.)*

AGREED

2648.3 ENVIRONMENT & PROPERTY 27.06.05

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

*(157.5 Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Newell, and **RECOMMENDED** by 4 votes to 3, with Chairman's casting vote, that Buckingham Town Council installs suitable signage in Chandos Park informing people that it is an offence under the bye law to continue drinking once told to stop by a police officer.)*

Members discussed at great length the comments made by the police during the public session, concern was expressed that the police's interpretation of the bylaw was as a total ban instead of just an ability to request drinkers to desist.

An amendment was proposed by Cllr. Lewis, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, that this Council write to the police and clarify the bylaw's wording and intent; agreed by 6 votes to 0 and as the substantive motion by 9 votes to 0.

A second amendment was proposed by Cllr. Lehmann, seconded by Cllr. Collins, that this Council does not put up any signs. This was defeated by 6 votes to 3.

The Clerk advised the Council that the second amendment was a direct negative of the original recommendation and that amendments should be dealt with individually and not tabled as a list; Members decided to continue with the amendments as tabled.

*(161/2005 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Collins, and **RECOMMENDED** that this Council accepts open space land transferred from AVDC providing the bonded maintenance contribution was also transferred.)*

AGREED

*(161/2005 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Collins, and **RECOMMENDED** that designated authority be given to Cllr. Mordue, Cllr. Collins and Cllr. Stuchbury to negotiate any transfer agreement, reporting regularly to the Committee, and bringing the final document to the Council for ratification.)*

Proposed by Cllr. Lehmann seconded by Cllr. Lewis and **AGREED** by 4 votes to 3 that names be changed to positions therefore the recommendation read "designated authority be

given to The Mayor, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Environment and Property Committee to negotiate any transfer agreement, reporting regularly to the Committee, and bringing the final document to the Council for ratification.”

Cllr. Stuchbury requested that his opposition to the amendment be recorded.

2648.4 EVENTS 18.07.05

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

2648.5 CHAIRMAN'S STRATEGY GROUP.

Members confirmed acceptance of the response as recommended by the Chairman's Strategy Group in respect of the "pre submission draft statement of community involvement" consultation.

Members discussed in detail the recommendation by the Chairman's Group on the format for the budget setting of the Council; Members agreed unanimously not to accept the recommendation.

2649 TOWN CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members were informed of the following items

NEWSLETTERS/BROCHURES AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE

Members were informed that the following items are available from the office

ODPM – HOW TO. CREATE QUALITY PARKS AND OPEN SPACES; ODPM – HOW TO MANAGE TOWN CENTRES; SLCC – THE CLERK ISSUE SEPTEMBER 2005; CLERK & COUNCIL'S DIRECT – ISSUE SEPT 2005; NALC – LOCAL COUNCIL REVIEW ISSUE SEPTEMBER 2005; BALC – MATTERS ARISING AUGUST 2005; BCC – MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME; BUCKS COMMUNITY ACTION – BIG TIMES – ISSUE 1; BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL – SAFER ROUTES TO SCHOOL – ISSUE AUTUMN 2005; BUCKS PLAYING FIELD ASSOC – ISSUE SUMMER 2005; ANGLIAN WATER – DRINKING WATER QUALITY SUMMARY REPORT 2004; BERNWOOD PROJECT – THE BERNWOOD JIGSAW – ISSUE 1

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

2ND NOVEMBER 2005 - GARDINER AND SAUNDERS CONSULTANTS HOUSING GROWTH IN MILTON KEYNES AREA

13TH SEPTEMBER 2005 – PARISH CLUSTER MEETING, GAWCOTT VILLAGE HALL

13TH SEPTEMBER 2005 – AV TRANSPORT USERS GROUP

28^H SEPTEMBER 2005 – BUCKS PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION

4.3 DIS

ISSUE NO 612, 613, AND 614

4.4 ROAD CLOSURES

FOOTPATH NO 41 –HIGHLANDS ROAD TO MAIDS MORETON AVENUE.

4.5 NEW LICENCES/TRANSFER OF LICENCES

PER ATTACHED TABLE – NONE LISTED AS AT 13TH SEPTEMBER 2005

2650 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.

NALC Campaign for new bill to empower local Councils

Local Works - Campaign to end Ghost Town Britain

TV Police – Crime details (confidential) July 2005

SLCC – Regional Training one day conference

It was **AGREED** by a vote of 7 to 0 that the Clerk attend the SLCC Training day in Reading.

2651 REPORTS FROM BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

2651.1 Buckingham Community Plan Steering Group – Cllr. Barnett

Members were given an update on the current work of the Community Plan Group which included emailing Councillors direct with information. Members also discussed the replacement of the electronic notice board.

2651.2 Buckingham Twinning Association – minutes 07.09.05 – Cllr. Mordue

Members noted the minutes which had been circulated prior to the meeting, which included details of the civic lunch.

2651.3 Buckingham Community Wildlife Project – Minutes 03.05.05 & 24.08.05 – Cllr. Newell

Members noted the minutes which had been circulated prior to the meeting

2651.4 Buckingham Partnership - Cllr. Stuchbury

Members noted that no minutes of the previous meeting had been received. Cllr Stuchbury gave a verbal report.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **AGREED** to request details of the transportation available between Stoke Mandeville and Wycombe hospitals.

ACTION THE CLERK

2652 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

Members were reminded that as the day to day entry is undertaken by the Accounts Assistant any detailed question on the accounts for payment will need to be made in advance.

2653 ACCOUNTS FOR RETROSPECTIVE PAYMENT

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

2654 CONSULTATION, AND MAKE RESPONSE, FROM BUCKINGHAMSHIRE MENTAL HEALTH TRUST “PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST, DEVELOPING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE”

Members discussed at great length the consultation document particularly the small section relating to Buckingham. Members felt that the arrangement with the new assessments was unfair and placed too high a burden on the voluntary services at the Red Cross, especially as it appears that there is no actual planned training. Members commented that if 1 in 4 people have a mental illness then approximately 2700 people in Buckingham will need to use the services provided by the MHT in some form.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **RESOLVED** by 11 votes to 0 that this Council should respond to the consultation calling for a review of all mental health

provision and requirements in Buckingham and the immediate hinterland and the retention of specialist care at Buckingham Hospital.

2655 CONSULTATION, AND MAKE RESPONSE, ON THE HOME OFFICE “STANDARD POWERS FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS AND A FRAMEWORK FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF POWERS”

A report from the Town Clerk with a draft response had been circulated prior to the meeting. Following a discussion it was **AGREED** to accept the report and the recommended response.

2656 CONSULTATION AND MAKE RESPONSE ON HOUSING GROWTH IN MILTON KEYNES AND SURROUNDING AREAS

It was **AGREED** that each Councillor make an individual response.

2657 RESPONSE FROM E. A. RE THE FUTURE OF BUCKINGHAM FLOOD DEFENCE SCHEME

The Clerk explained the background to the letters, copies of which had been circulated with the agenda. Concerns were expressed over the toxicity test and the length of time this was taking. Members were unhappy that the goalposts had been moved by Central Government which mean that Buckingham would not get the flood defence scheme that had already been agreed by the Environment Agency, particularly as planning applications had already been submitted and considerable amount of consultation work done. Members supported the letter sent by the Clerk and awaited the response.

Concern was again expressed in the Chamber that the promised dredging would not take place increasing the risk of flooding in low lying areas.

It was **AGREED** that the Mayor would contact the local paper; a request to write to all land owners bordering the river and involved in the holding tank part of the scheme was put on hold until a response was received from the Environment Agency

2658 THE SE: CONSULTATION ON DISTRICT-LEVEL HOUSING AS PER PLANNING MINUTE NO 4800.1

The Chairman of Planning queried whether all the papers had been sent for this item as he felt that there was additional paperwork needed; this item was deferred to the interim meeting.

(Clerk's Note: all the paperwork had been sent to Members prior to the meeting)

2659 REPORT ON THE TWO DAY TRAINING COURSE AT UNIVERSITY OF GLOUCESTER

A copy of the Town Clerk's article published in the "The Clerk" had been circulated to all Members prior to the meeting; Members accepted the report.

2660 CLLR. MR. T. MILLS – AVDC, BUCKINGHAM NORTH, TO GIVE AN OVERVIEW OF THE NEW LICENSING PROCESS.

The Clerk reported that Cllr. Mills had not responded to the invitation sent by the Council to attend the meeting nor had there been any response following the agenda being emailed to Cllr. Mills; Cllr. Isham informed the Members that Cllr. Mills was away on holiday.

2661 “IN VIEW OF THE INCREASE IN YOUNG FAMILIES IN BUCKINGHAM, I THINK WE NEED TO PUSH VERY STRONGLY FOR ANOTHER PRIMARY SCHOOL IN THE TOWN. THERE ARE VERY MANY 2/3 YEAR OLDS ALREADY, & BABIES GROWING IN NUMBER” – CLLR. DESORGHIER

Cllr. Desorghier explained that this item had been requested due to the apparent high numbers of 2 – 4 year olds in the town who would be seeking school places, more, she felt, than the schools had places to offer.

Members agreed that further information on the number of children both in the schools and rising school age would be needed before Members could discuss this item.

ACTION CLLR. DESORGHIER

2662 TOWN MAYOR’S ITEMS

2662.1 AVDC Housing Transfer Video

Cllr. H. Lewis declared an interest as a District Councillor and took no part in the discussion.

Concern was raised by some Members as to the Video made for AVDC on the transfer of tenants from the Council to Housing Association, believing it to be biased.

It was agreed to obtain a copy and allow Members to view it if they so wished.

ACTION THE CLERK

2662.2 Councillor’s Surgery

The Mayor thanked Cllr. Isham for his help. The Mayor informed Members that he would be unable to run the surgery on 3rd December; Cllr. Isham volunteered to man the surgery.

The following item was 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.

2663 THE CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

2664 CONFIDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES

19.1 FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION DATED 22.08.05

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