

**MINUTES OF THE EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2006 AT 7.00pm**

<b><u>PRESENT</u></b>	Councillor	H. Cadd P. Collins (Mayor) Mrs. P. Desorgher D. Isham R. Lehmann H. Mordue R. Newell R. Stuchbury (Chairman)
	In attendance	Mr. M. Foster, Chairman, Buckingham Traders' Association
	For the Town Clerk	Mrs. K. McElligott

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Ms. H. Saul, Mrs. P. Stevens and P. Strain-Clark.

**2006/275 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

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

**2006/276 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Members accepted the minutes of the last meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2006, which were ratified at the Council meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2006.

**2006/277 TO RECEIVE ACTION REPORTS AND UPDATES**

277.1 (238.4) Best Kept Village

The results of the competition had been circulated with the agenda. The winner of the Tindall (2005 cup-winners) Cup was Weston Underwood, with joint runners-up Cheddington & Cuddington.

277.2 (238.4) Thames and Chilterns in Bloom

The Town Council had been asked to supply a representative to attend the award ceremony, and pictures for background display.

The Mayor volunteered to attend, and the Clerk would ask permission of Olney Council for him to wear his chain.

**ACTION THE MAYOR/THE COMMITTEE CLERK**

277.3 (260.1) Barriers

The plastic clip-together barriers had been delivered. These would be made available to other organisation such as the British Legion if required.

277.4 (260.5) Cinema Sign

The sign was in process of manufacture locally and would match the AVDC sign. Members would discuss a presentation occasion at the next meeting.

277.5 (264.1.2) Market advertisement

Members were shown the advertisement which had appeared in the August edition of the free sheet *Market Trade News*, in colour due to an error of the publishers. Black-and-white (as ordered) would be charged for.

277.6 (264.3) French Market letter

Brunomarts had apologised for the absence of the baker's van at the May market; it had broken down. The baker would attend in November.

277.7 (268) Christmas tree

Mr. Betts had confirmed that AVDC would provide a tree as usual.

**2006/278(260.2) FUTURE OF THE REPLACED 'WELCOME TO BUCKINGHAM' SIGNS**

BCC's contractor would have all the new signs installed by the end of the month. The best of the replaced ones would be cleaned up for the Mayor to take to Mouvaux as a gift on the 2007 civic visit.

*Cllr. Newell arrived*

**2006/279 (260.3) TOWN CENTRE SIGNAGE**

Cllrs. Newell, Desorgher, Cadd and Stuchbury had yet to meet to discuss the matter. The results would be reported to the Full Council for decision, rather than wait for the next Committee meeting.

**ACTION CLLRS. NEWELL/DESORGHER/CADD/STUCHBURY  
FULL COUNCIL AGENDA**

**2006/280 (260.4) CO-OPTION TO THE COMMITTEE OF A REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE BUCKINGHAM TRADERS' ASSOCIATION**

Members discussed the benefits of co-option and closer working with the traders of the town. The co-optee would be able to speak to any matter before the Committee, but not to vote. Concern was expressed that the Association did not represent fully the businesses in the town.

*Proposed by Cllr. Isham, seconded by Cllr. Newell, and **AGREED** that Standing Orders be suspended to allow Mr. Foster to speak.*

Mr. Foster indicated that the Association had been re-formed, with a formal Constitution, and he had been elected Chairman at the last meeting. Membership was not as extensive as he had hoped, partly due to the holidays, and partly due to family commitments, but he hoped to have more than half of the traders in town signed up by the end of the month. The list and constitution were available for Councillors' information if required.

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

Members agreed unanimously to co-opt Mr. Foster on to the Events Committee. Mr. Foster joined Members at the table for the remainder of the meeting. The Chairman welcomed him to the Committee and reminded him that he could speak, but not vote.

*Cllr. Isham declared an interest in the following item.*

**2006/281 TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL TOILETS FOR THE TOWN CENTRE**

The Chairman circulated notes of meetings held with the Community Centre management on 13<sup>th</sup> April and 11<sup>th</sup> July 2006 at the meeting for Members' convenience.

He outlined the history of the Town Council's action to make the Community Centre toilets available to the public during the day, when possible, to cover the period when Moreton Road toilets were being redeveloped, and how this action had been prolonged when it became apparent that the redevelopment was not a complete success. The Town Council had paid the Community Centre for supplies, repairs and additional cleaning.

The Community Centre wished to end the arrangement, citing vandalism in the school holidays, and general wear and tear not covered by Town Council payments. December 2006 had been suggested, but March 2007 was agreed, as being the end of the financial year.

Members were aware that a local authority was not obliged to provide public toilets but felt that it was of benefit to the town to have decent clean toilets available. People had come to expect access to the Community Centre and there would be dismay when the facility was withdrawn if no plans for replacement were made. Though the Centre was against having signage to indicate the availability of toilets, it was surely possible to have a sign saying whether they were open or not at a particular time. It was suggested that toilets in the proposed extension to the Council Offices could be made available to the public, with the Caretaker looking after them. An amendment to the existing plans to form a single toilet with simple plumbing in the end of the extension, facing outwards, would be expensive and lead to an odd-shaped Chamber. A separate facility, or if Council agreed, access to the toilets in the redeveloped building, would be preferable.

Complaint had been made at the last Partnership meeting about the state of Moreton Road toilets, and Mr. Skedge had agreed to look into a better cleaning regime.

Proposed by Cllr. Lehmann, seconded by Cllr. Mordue, and **RECOMMENDED** unanimously (Cllrs. Collins, Cadd, Desorgher and Isham abstaining) that this Council urge the Community Centre management to reconsider their decision to cease making their toilets available for public use in March 2007; and should an agreement to continue the arrangement not be forthcoming to note that this Council will have to consider the financial ramifications of that decision in the light of the need to consider an alternative solution.

**2006/282 (262) BUCKINGHAM IN BLOOM COMPETITION**

The judges had voted two entries equal; Members decided to split the first prize for this category. The winners were therefore:

Individual Frontage First = Mrs Helen King and Mr. Les Side

Group Frontage	First	Nos. 16 & 18 McKenzie Close
First Time Entrant	First	Mrs. Margaret Cyster
Schools:	First	Grenville Combined School
	Second=	Field House Day Nursery and Bourton Meadow School
Business Class	First	Cornwall Place
	Second	Villiers Hotel
	Third	Buckingham Hospital

Members felt that the Schools competition was successful; the children clearly enjoyed gardening. However the very sparse residential entry was a cause of concern and Cllr. Newell offered to give the future of this part of the competition some thought and bring suggestions to the next meeting.

**ACTION CLLR. NEWELL  
OCTOBER AGENDA**

**2006/283 (261) BUCKINGHAM FESTIVAL FORTNIGHT**

The few problems encountered had been resolved by the two Councils working together; the toilets had been closed before a Chandos Park event had finished, and this needed to be looked at for next year and appropriate arrangements made.

The cost breakdown had been supplied by AVDC and circulated to Members; Mr. Barham was also preparing a letter of thanks to participants including an invitation to a review meeting which would go out as from both Councils. Mr Barham was thanked for all his efforts towards a very successful event and Members agreed that the invoice be paid upon presentation.

**2006/284 (265) RIVER RINSE**

AVDC could not contribute to the cost of the skip but indicated that if the rubbish was piled at the skatepark and fenced off, their refuse team would collect it. Buckland's had agreed that placing of a skip was possible.

Members decided that a skip was less temptation than a pile of rubbish, whether fenced or not, and opted to hire the skip.

Cllr. Newell confirmed the date and time as Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> September at 10am, and the stretch of river from the blue-green bridge towards the skatepark.

**2006/285 CHARTER FAIR**

**285.1(266) Requirements for the specification for post-Fair cleaning**

The Town Clerk had provided a list of the required items providing a basis for quotation.

Members asked that a draft quote specification be drawn up by the RFO and submitted to the Committee for discussion.

**ACTION THE TOWN CLERK**

**285.2 Councillor cover for each Fair**

The Police had asked for at least 2 Councillors to be present each Fair Friday, from 8am onwards, as they could not guarantee police presence to man barriers due to operational demands. The Chairman also informed Members that the Police could not provide a motorcycle escort to lead the Fair in. The Police had made a particular point about keeping

the roadway around the mini-roundabout at the Town Hall completely clear – all rides to be behind the white line; Mr. Nichols had undertaken to adjust placements accordingly. The Chairman, the Caretaker and Cllr. Isham would be able to attend for the first Fair, with the Town Clerk as necessary. Cllr. Cadd would check his diary commitments, and would prefer to observe for the first Fair and then attend for the second, if possible, with Cllrs. Isham and Stuchbury and the Caretaker.

### **2006/286 (267) BONFIRE & FIREWORKS**

Cllr. Mordue informed Members that the display would be much as in previous years, with a Guy Competition outside the Old Gaol at lunchtime, but that he intended to make the torchlight procession more of a feature.

### **2006/287 (268) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

Members had been provided with a further breakdown of the new proposals, as requested. The Christmas displays were discussed, with reference to extending beyond the immediate town centre to provide an inviting aspect on town approaches. It was **AGREED** to provide the Traders' Association with a payment of £500 to aid the installation of small trees on the existing brackets with the light strings donated last year. It was **AGREED** to ask the contractor to extend the pealight coverage in the High Street trees with an additional six FL501 LED strands @ £84.15 + installation £115.95, the lights to left in situ. The Chairman indicated that, as quotations would need to be sought for 2007, companies would be contacted this Autumn so that they could, if they wished, see the Town's existing light display in December and use it to make proposals for additional lighting.

### **2006/288 MARKETS – TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND UPDATES**

In the absence of Cllr. Stevens no full market report was available.

#### 288.1 Street Market

No problems had been reported in regard to the traders clearing their own rubbish.

#### 288.2 Flea Market

Concern was expressed about the length of time some cars were parked, blocking through traffic. The usual letter will be sent reminding traders to remove their vehicles to the car park as soon as possible after unloading.

**ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK**

#### 288.3 Farmers' Market

The Clerk reported that 13 traders were in regular attendance.

#### 288.4 Market Entertainment

##### 4.1 Marionette Show – August 19<sup>th</sup>

Members reported that the shows had been well attended and of good quality, and recommended that the entertainer be booked again later in the year; when dates were available discussions could take place with respect to a suitable venue.

##### 4.2 Band Jam – August 27<sup>th</sup>

There would be 10 bands taking part; the Chairman hoped to make this an annual event. Members agreed it should be considered for budget allocation for next year.

#### 4.3 Winslow Concert Band – 16<sup>th</sup> September

Arrangements had been finalised for the band to play outside the Old Gaol between 1pm and 3pm.

#### 4.4 Events for later in the year

The Chairman would obtain details of a talented youngster who had taken part in the recent Battle of the Bands run by Rotaract, to see if he was interested in performing in the market.

Members **AGREED** that the Chairman and Clerk investigate other entertainments for the Christmas period.

### **2006/289      DISPOSAL OF HANGING BASKETS AT THE END OF THE SEASON**

The Caretaker had confirmed he could remove the baskets; Members agreed that the Clerk should investigate the possibility of disposing of the baskets to Thrift Farm and the contents to the green waste unit at College Farm.

**ACTION THE CLERK**

### **2006/290      RESPONSE TO AN AVDC GRANT APPLICATION**

The refusal letter had been circulated with the agenda. The Clerk pointed out that it was often not possible to provide a “fully costed event structure” so far in advance of the event (the grants meeting applied to must take place before the proposed event) and the Committee agreed that it would be difficult to “provide specific details about the benefits to business in the Buckingham area”.

Members agreed that it would be useful to have a copy of a successful application to view for information.

**ACTION THE CLERK**

### **2006/291      (269) YOUTH PROJECTS FOR 2006 ONWARDS**

No suggestions were put forward, but the item will remain on the agenda.

### **2006/292      (271) THE FUTURE OF ENVIRONMENT MONTH IN LIGHT OF AVDC'S RESTRUCTURING OF SAVE**

This was postponed to the next meeting so as to include BTCV in the discussion.

**OCTOBER AGENDA**

### **2006/293      TO INVITE JASON WEST, BTCV, TO MAKE A PRESENTATION AT THE OCTOBER MEETING**

Cllr. Newell informed the meeting that Mr. West was leaving to become a teacher as of September, but that a colleague would be available.

Members **AGREED** to invite a representative of BTCV to the October meeting to discuss the organisation of Wildlife events for the forthcoming year.

**ACTION THE CLERK**

**2006/294 TO INVITE MR. & MRS HEYWOOD TO UPDATE THE COMMITTEE ON THE CHRISTMAS PARADE 2006**

The Chairman indicated that Cllr. P. Strain-Clark was willing to continue as Town Council representative on the Parade Committee.  
Members **AGREED** to invite Mr. & Mrs. Heywood to the October meeting to discuss the Christmas Parade.

**ACTION THE CLERK**

**2006/295 BUDGET**

No other discussion of budgets took place.

**2006/296 PRESS RELEASE.**

No specific press releases were agreed, other than the normal advice of forthcoming events at the appropriate times.

*Cllr. Lehmann left during the following discussion*

**2006/297 CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Christmas Dinner

Members discussed whether a Christmas function to which representatives of other entities such as the Community Plan could be invited should be organised. A buffet on December 11<sup>th</sup> following Full Council was suggested; the per capita cost would be less than a restaurant dinner.

Members thought the idea worth investigating.

**ACTION THE MAYOR/THE CHAIRMAN**

Meeting closed at 8.45pm.

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