

**MINUTES OF THE BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
BUCKINGHAM COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 11th DECEMBER 2006 AT 7 PM.**

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Mrs. H. Saul. Cllrs. Cadd and Lewis had given their apologies as they would be late.

2868 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

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

2869 THE MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd October 2006, and Interim meeting held 13th November 2006 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2870 TOWN CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members were informed of the following items

2870.1 NEWSLETTERS/BROCHURES

THE FOLLOWING BROCHURES AND NEWSLETTERS ARE IN THE OFFICE:

NALC – LOCAL COUNCIL REVIEW NOVEMBER 2006

AV ADVANTAGE A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

AV – STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT – ADOPTED OCT 2006

COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICE – HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

CLERKS AND COUNCILS DIRECT – NOVEMBER 2006

OPTIONS – NOVEMBER 2006

BTCV – CONTACT AUTUMN 2006

BUCKS PLAYING FIELD ASSOCIATION – THE PLAYING FIELD AUTUMN 2006

BCA –BIG TIMES – NOVEMBER 2006

2870.2 DIS

ISSUES NUMBER 643,644,645

2870.3 DIARY DATES – DETAILS ALREADY CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS

4TH DECEMBER – STANDARDS BOARD MEETING AT EXCHANGE STREET OFFICES.

11TH JANUARY 2007 – BALC – TRAINING EVENT

No member wished to attend

2871 RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

2871.1 PLANNING – 30.10.06 & 13.11.06.

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

2871.2 ENVIRONMENT & PROPERTY 06.11.06

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

Members noted that Cllr Newell was shown to have left the meeting on two separate occasions when in fact she had only left once; it was agreed to remove the first occasion.

2871.3 FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION 20.11.06

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

2871.4 EVENTS 27.11.06

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

*(330 Proposed by Cllr. Lehmann, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **RECOMMENDED** that a budget of £750 be set aside from the Youth Budget for this project.)*

AGREED

2872 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.

BCC – Unsung Hero Nomination required

BCC – Traffic regulation order closure A413 Adstock

2873 REPORTS FROM BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

2873.1 Buckingham Community Plan Steering Group – Cllr. Collins

Cllr. Collins reported on the amendment to the contract which would be discussed later in the meeting. Cllr. Barnett explained to Members the process the Community Plan wished to use, at their expense, to eliminate the glare which is causing a problem for members of the public wishing to read the plasma screen. Members **AGREED** to allow the use of an anti glare film placed on the inside of the Chamber window.

2873.2 Buckingham Partnership minutes

Members noted the minutes of the Partnership dated 20th July 2006. Concern was expressed that only one Town Council representative attended despite there being two nominated reserves; the representatives were reminded that they need to let the reserves know when they are not available.

Cllr. Stuchbury gave a verbal report of the Partnership meeting held on 28th November. Moreton Road toilets had been discussed; it was noted that a solution to improve the standard of cleaning was being chased by District Councillors as well as the Partnership.

2873.3 Buckingham Twinning Association minutes

Members noted the minutes of the Buckingham Twinning Association meeting held on 06.09.06 and the Annual General Meeting held on 04.10.06; the visit to Mouvaux was scheduled for 13th -15th April 2007.

2873.4 Buckingham Licensing Forum

Members noted the minutes of the licensing forum meeting held on 16.11.06; no member of the Council attended. The comments made by the police and environmental health officers that there had been no increase in criminality was challenged by some members, although it was noted that the members concerned had not reported incidents to the police or licensing officers.

2873.5 Request from Grenville School for a Councillor as a Community Governor

Members discussed the request from Grenville School for a Community Governor following the resignation of Cllr. C. Strain-Clark. No Member present was able to take on the governorship and it was suggested that this be placed on the list for allocation after the 2007 elections.

2873.6 Buckingham General Charities

Cllr. Collins reported on the work of the Charity and gave a verbal report on its recent meeting.

A question was raised as to the procedure for allocation of residency. It was explained that each applicant is interviewed by a panel whose recommendation is then discussed by the whole of the Management Committee and a decision made. Unsuccessful applicants are left on the list for consideration for future placements.

Cllr. Lewis arrived.

2874 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

2875 ACCOUNTS FOR RETROSPECTIVE PAYMENT

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

Cllr. Stuchbury declared a personal interest in the payment of a cheque to Winslow Concert Band as their President.

2876 NOTES ON THE MEETING WITH AVDC, THE LISTING OF LAND OWNED BY AVDC AND DETAILS OF COMMUTED SUMS,

The notes of the meeting held with AVDC to discuss the transfer of open space land had been circulated with the agenda for the 23rd October 2006 meeting; the item had been deferred to this meeting as the information from AVDC had not been received.

Members had been circulated with the notes again plus the list of land with commuted sums sent by AVDC. Members discussed the list.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **RESOLVED** by 11 votes to 0 that Buckingham Town Council negotiates the transfer of Hilltop Avenue and the Heartlands with their respective commuted sums.

It was **AGREED** that the Environment and Property Committee would discuss the transfer of the other areas listed and make a recommendation back to the Council.

2877 NOTES FROM THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON 27.09.06.

Members discussed the notes and the statement from the PCT which had been read at the meeting; a copy had been circulated at the meeting.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **RESOLVED** to invite the Buckinghamshire PCT to the Town Council meeting in February to report on their proposals for health provision for Buckingham and the future of Buckingham Hospital.

ACTION THE CLERK

2878 RESPONSES TO LETTERS SENT RE A421 FOLLOWING MINUTE NO 2809

Members noted the letters received in response to minute number 2809, 17.07.06.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **RESOLVED** to write to Buckinghamshire County Council to request the priority list for the SEEDA bid for funding to upgrade the A421, and a copy of any minutes relating to that bid.

ACTION THE CLERK

2879 NOTICE OF ALTERATION TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN BCC AND BTC CONCERNING THE CIRCULAR WALK PROJECT.

Cllr. J. Barnett declared a personal interest as a member of the Community Plan Steering Group.

Cllr. H. Cadd arrived part way through the following item.

Members had been circulated with a copy of the letter from Bucks. County Council amending the contract signed by the Town Council in respect of the SEEDA grant. Concern was expressed as to the independence of the County Council in this matter as they would now be SEEDA representatives responsible for the grant, and undertaking the actual project. The amendment removes the requirement for all works, contracts, and orders to be placed under the terms of the Town Council's procurement policy, which calls for 3 quotations or tenders, and allows the County Council to award contracts to its preferred contractors. The Members asked that clarification be sought from SEEDA as to the Town Council's actual role and assurances that should the County Council go over budget no recompense will be requested from the Town Council.

The Town Clerk read the motion which had been agreed at the 23rd October 2006 meeting appointing Bucks County Council as project consultants. Cllr. Barnett informed Members that the BCC Rights of Way department were acting as project consultants free of charge and that the only consultancy fees were being paid to Jacobs Babbie.

It was **AGREED** that the Town Clerk and Chairman of Environment and Property would meet with representatives from SEEDA, Bucks. County Council and Mr. M. Gadd to seek the clarification and assurances required by the Council; a verbal report would be made to the Environment and Property Committee on 18th December with a recommendation going to the 8th January 2007 Interim Council Meeting.

2880 TO RECEIVE A MOTION FROM CLLR. R. LEHMANN AS ATTACHED

"This Council regrets the comments made by a representative of the Community Plan Group in the public session before the Council meeting on 23rd October and clarifies the misconceptions of the Group's members with the following letter to the project manager – (a draft suggestion had been circulated with the motion)

The motion, which had been circulated with the agenda, was discussed by Members. The motion was **DEFEATED** by 9 votes to 2.

2881 TO RECEIVE A MOTION FROM CLLR. COLLINS AS ATTACHED

"That this Council requests Buckinghamshire County Council to carry out a full consultation with affected residents and the Town Council before any crossings in the Parish of Buckingham are agreed."

RESOLVED

2882 REQUEST FROM THE COMMUNITY PLAN ECONOMIC GROUP FOR FUNDING OF A MARKET TOWNS PROMOTION LEAFLET

Members discussed the initiative to produce a promotional leaflet and felt that it should go to the Events Committee for consideration from their budget with a recommendation that the Council is sympathetic and supports in principle.

ACTION EVENTS COMMITTEE

2883 TO DISCUSS CUTS IN EDU AT BUCKINGHAM HOSPITAL AND INCREASES IN COST OF DAY CARE

Members discussed the information provided by Cllr. Stuchbury on the reduced use of Embleton Day Unit and the increased use of the day centres which is charged to the clients. Members felt that the Mental Health Trust should be asked to attend a Council Meeting to discuss the future plans for the Embleton Day Unit and the increasing use of the day centres. Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **RESOLVED** by 14 votes to 0 to invite Buckinghamshire Mental Health Trust to a meeting with the Council to discuss the future provision of services in Buckingham.

ACTION THE CLERK

2884 TO RECEIVE, IF REQUIRED, COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Isham as a District Councillor informed the Members that the Winslow Area Office would be moving location and would then be open 5 days a week. The Buckingham Area Office when it moves to Verney Close will be opening 4 days a week although this may increase to 5 days if the County Council would agree to share officer time; Cllr. Cadd as a County Councillor agreed to investigate this with the appropriate portfolio holder.

Cllr. Cadd as a District Councillor informed Members that a £10,000 bid would be made to SEEDA for the operating of a Shopmobility scheme in Buckingham.

2885 TOWN MAYOR'S ITEMS

2885.1 Advertiser Reporter

The Mayor informed Members that David Brennan who had been the Council's reporter for the last 5 years was moving on to pastures new. Members thanked him for his support of the Council and wished him well in his new job.

2885.2 Mayor's Surgery

The Mayor informed Members that the last Mayor's surgery would be held on 3rd March 2007.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

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