

MINUTES OF THE BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL EVENTS COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 22nd JANUARY 2007 AT 7pm

PRESENT Councillor H. Cadd
P. Collins (Mayor)
Mrs. P. Desorgher
D. Isham
R. Lehmann
H. Mordue
R. Newell
P. Strain-Clark
R. Stuchbury (Chairman)
Co-opted member Mr.M. Foster, Chairman, Buckingham Traders' Assocⁿ

For the Town Clerk Mrs. K. McElligott

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Ms. H. Saul and Mrs. P. Stevens and for late arrival from Cllr. D. Isham.

337/2007 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

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

338/2007 TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Members accepted the minutes of the last meeting held on 27th November 2006, which were ratified at the Council meeting held on 11th December 2006.

338/2007 ACTION REPORTS AND UPDATES

(302.3) Use of Garden Vouchers

Flowers of Distinction had changed ownership; the previous owners had donated the lobby display to the Council. A letter of thanks would be sent.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

(322) Charter Fair

A debrief meeting had yet to be arranged.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

Cllrs. Newell and Lehmann arrived.

Mr. Foster arrived during the following discussion.

339/2007 (328) PANCAKE RACE

No response to the appeal for an organiser in the *Buckingham Advertiser* had been received, and as the event would take place in half-term, Members decided to not run the race this year. They would, however, be loth to see the race discontinued.

Mr. Foster offered to discuss the subject with the Traders Association.

ACTION MR. FOSTER

340/2007 2007 EVENTS

Event (2006)	2007 – Councillor responsible
Farmers' Markets	1 st Tuesday every month
Pancake Day	Tuesday, February 20th Cancelled – see Min. 339
Buckingham in Bloom	(School & Business competitions only) Cllr. Lehmann – Business Cllrs. Newell & Cadd - Schools
Environment Month	Cllr. Newell
May Day (Min. 351.1)	Tuesday May 1 st – Cllr. Stuchbury Mayor to attend
Spring Music Festival	May 27 th [Bank Holiday Sunday] – Cllr. Stuchbury
French Market	May 27 th [Bank Holiday Sunday]
Owswick Morris	To be determined later
Teddy Bears Picnic (Min. 351.2)	June – date to be determined
Stiltwalker in the market (to promote Festival Fortnight)	July – details to be determined (Min. 352) Cllr. Stuchbury
Oxford Caledonian Pipes and Drums in the market (to promote Festival Fortnight)	
Festival Fortnight	
Buckingham Brass Ensemble in the market (to promote Festival Fortnight)	
Marionette Show	May Day to be confirmed
BandJam	August 26 th [Bank Holiday Sunday] – Cllr. Stuchbury
River Rinse	September 16 th – Cllr. Newell
Winslow Concert Band in the market	To be confirmed
Charter Fair	Saturday, October 13 th - Cllr. Cadd, Cllr. Stuchbury
Charter Fair	Saturday, October 20 th - Cllr. Cadd, Cllr. Stuchbury
Bonfire & Fireworks + Buckingham Acoustic in the Market	November 3 rd – Cllr. Mordue
Christmas Lights & carols	Saturday November 24 th - Mayor
Continental Market	Saturday 24 th /Sunday 25 th November [Italian] to be confirmed (Min. 353.5)
Community Fair & Marionette Show	December 8 th – Cllr. Lehmann
Christmas Parade	December 8 th – Cllr. P. Strain-Clark <i>pro tem.</i>
Pancake Race 2008	Tuesday, February 5 th

Members agreed the above and that any new Councillors after the election should be encouraged to shadow individual events and understudy the responsible Member.

341/2007 HANGING BASKETS AND PLANTERS

Members agreed to obtain quotes for hanging baskets and planters for the White Hart island and the Bull Ring. Holly was preferred to Leyland Cypress for the winter planters. Traders would also be contacted re sponsoring hanging baskets.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

342/2007 (330) YOUTH PROJECT

The Chairman reported that contact with the schools had resulted in The Buckingham School and the Royal Latin School co-operating on the window project and the junior schools providing wall-mounted artwork for the Junior Library. Full Council had agreed an amount of £750 from the Youth Budget; the Chairman suggested this be split with £500 for the senior schools and £250 for the junior, to pay for materials. He hoped that the Town Council's contribution would be publicly acknowledged.

343/2007 PURCHASE OF DIGITAL CAMERA

Members agreed that the purchase of a digital camera to record Events for publicity on the web site and to accompany press releases would be advantageous. Cllr. Cadd would liaise with the Town Clerk to select a suitable camera.

ACTION CLLR. CADD/TOWN CLERK

Proposed by Cllr. Mordue, seconded by Cllr. Lehmann, and **AGREED** to vire an amount of £200 from Budget 4229 for the purchase of a digital camera for Events use.

344/2007 PROMOTION OF EVENTS – ADDITIONAL MEDIA

The Chairman suggested an A-board display outside the Gaol carrying pictures and posters of Town Council events would increase attendances.

Mr. Foster offered to donate a re-usable frame of a suitable size.

ACTION MR. FOSTER

345/2007 PROMOTION OF PAST AND FUTURE EVENTS

A list of 2006 events had been circulated with the agenda; the Chairman noted that the Committee had organised something for every month of the year. An outline of 2007 events had been agreed and these would be sent to the *Advertiser*, updated as events became finalised.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

346/2007 (Full Council Minute 2882) COMMUNITY PLAN PROPOSAL

The Economic Sub-Committee of the Community Plan Group proposed to produce a leaflet promoting tourism in collaboration with other towns adjacent to Milton Keynes. They had requested help with funding the project. The matter had been passed to the Committee at the Council meeting of 11th December 2006. Members agreed to contribute towards the costs.

Proposed by Cllr. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Lehmann, and **AGREED** to vire £400 from Budget 4229 as the Town Council contribution.

347/2007 (324) CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Public reaction was reported to be favourable, and the Traders had made good use of the Council's contribution. Members regretted the vandalism which meant some lights were off for part of the Christmas period. The pealights had been checked and made to work for a short time, but appear to have reached the end of their useful life. If budget remained after all the invoices had been paid, these could be checked by contractors and replaced as necessary to remain lit through the year.

The Committee discussed the possibility of extending the decorative scheme to Castle Street, West Street and Bridge Street/Well Street to provide a unified effect. Quotations would be obtained for the installation of appropriate power supplies for these areas.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

The three contractors who had offered to quote (Min. 311) and the current contractor would be contacted after the Precept meeting with a view to quoting for the 2007 scheme; the specification for quotation would include all the lights owned by the Council, their collection (if necessary) from store, storage, maintenance, testing, installation and taking down, and suggestions for additional lighting if the remaining budget allowed.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

348/2007 (321) TOWN CENTRE SIGNS

The signs had been ordered; it was agreed that quotes for installation costs be obtained and a decision made by the Chairman, Vice Chairman and the Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee, the funding in principle being sourced from Budget 4104.

ACTION THE CLERK/CLLRS. STUCHBURY/NEWELL/LEHMANN

Cllr. Newell would check her notes on the proposed siting of the posts and agree these with the Chairman. Permission would then be sought from the appropriate landowners.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

349/2007 (324) CIVIC TWINNING VISIT

Cllr. Mordue reported that the places remaining would be opened to booking by other than Councillors next week and invited the Traders Association to participate.

To avoid the difficulties of transporting, and exporting, a tree, Mouvaux would be asked to source a specimen of English Oak (*Quercus Robur*) for planting.

350/2007 (325) CHRISTMAS PARADE 2006

Cllr. P. Strain-Clark reported that the organisation had all gone smoothly.

The Mayor had found that judging as well as leading the parade had presented a problem. Members felt that a representative from the Town Council, preferably the Mayor, should be a judge; perhaps the Parade should not move off until the judging was completed, to enable the Mayor and other judges to take their places. It was also felt that the band led the parade at too fast a pace.

A request had been made for the Flanders Giants to return for the 2007 parade, but it was possible that Mouvaux had other plans. The Sealed Knot would attend again, and also at the Bonfire and Fireworks event.

Members felt that a list of persons available to marshal events should be kept, and Town Council tabards provided for them. The Clerk would obtain prices.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

Proposed by Cllr. Cadd, seconded by Cllr. Lehmann, and **AGREED** that 20 high-visibility tabards or waistcoats be purchased for barrier marshals at Town Council events funded by £250 from the barrier budget 4232.

351/2007 (326) COMMUNITY FAIR 2006

Cllr. Lehmann reported that letters of appreciation had been received from organisations at the fair. He thanked the Councillors who had made themselves available at the end of the afternoon in his absence.

The marionette show had been a popular addition and would be booked again for 2007.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

352/2007 (331) NEW EVENTS

352.1 May Day Event

Buckingham Primary School had responded that the ground at the church was suitable and they would be pleased to maypole dance. The other primary schools would be approached to see if they wished to provide other sorts of entertainment. The Church had no event of its own on that day.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

Members agreed that £50 from the Entertainment Budget 4228 could be set aside to pay for simple refreshments for the children.

Cllr. Isham arrived.

352.2 Teddy Bears Picnic

The Church had suggested some suitable dates in June when the grass area would be available. The Clerk would confirm one of these and book the marionette theatre.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

353/2007 (332) EVENT IN THE PARK 2007

Members expressed surprise that the dates had been announced to the press before the Town Council had been contacted. It appeared that the event would be the last two weeks of July.

AVDC would be contacted and a meeting set up.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

In the absence of Cllr. Stevens, general reports on the markets were not available.

354.1 Street Market

1.1 Complaint from trader

A Saturday produce trader had made complaint about the use of a generator and hawking of wares by the other produce trader; details had been circulated with agenda. The other trader had moved into the Bull Ring area and expanded the size of the stall.

Members agreed to wait for any other complaints about calling of wares and review the matter at the next meeting; the generator would be banned and electricity made available from the feeder pillar by Jardine's at a charge to be determined providing the trader undertook to lay proper safety cover over the cable.

1.2 Market of the Year competition

Members decided not to enter this year, but to consider it for next.

1.3 Flower trader – Valentine's Day

Mr. Pelling had asked to have an additional stall on Valentine's Day (a Wednesday). Members refused, as the town had an adequate number of florist shops.

1.4 Charity cake stall

Miss. J. Barrell had requested permission to take the charity stall on Saturday 24th March to sell cakes and raise funds for 'Stop the Traffik' and organisation against human trafficking. Members agreed.

1.5 Rotary Club stall

The Rotary Club wished to hold an awareness day on availability of audio materials for the blind and partially sighted on Saturday March 3rd outside the Gaol and in the market. Members agreed.

354.2 Flea Market

No report.

354.3 Farmers' Market

3.1 Advertising banner

Traders had asked if the banner could be put up the weekend before the market. Members agreed that it could be put up during the daylight hours of the preceding Saturday.

3.2 Unpaid pitch fees

All the unpaid fees from the November market had now been paid.

354.4 French Market

Members agreed to invite the French market for the day of the Music Festival on the same basis as previously – to clear own rubbish and pay for their proportion of the Road Closure Order.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

354.5 Other Speciality Markets

Details of other speciality markets had been obtained and references were favourable. Members considered that an Italian market to coincide with the switching-on of the Christmas Lights, possibly for both days of the weekend should be further investigated. A different type of market would be considered for some time in the summer.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

355/2007 CAR PARKING

The agreement to maintain free parking at Cornwall's Meadow expires in 2010. The Chairman felt that negotiations over the prolongation of this agreement and discussion of other concerns over parking provision in the town, given the likely permanent loss of the spaces at Bridge Street, should be started with AVDC. On market days, trader's vans took up a considerable part of the long-stay area, restricting further the available spaces.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Mordue, and **RECOMMENDED** that this Council start discussions on parking provision with AVDC.

Cllr. Isham reported public concerns over the closure of the layby by the Community Centre without barriers or cones leading to fines being issued for illegal parking. He felt that the Town Council should be informed if a Parking Order was in force, and that there should be visible closing off of the lay-by and adequate signage.

Comment was also made about the height of the 'sleeping policemen' which were too high for electric vehicles used by the disabled to cross.

Cllr. Newell left the meeting.

356/2007 COACH PARKING

The Chairman reported that provision of coach parking for the town had been discussed by the Partnership, without progress being made. The suggestion had been made that, as AVDC owned Stratford Fields, the Athletic Football Club could be approached. AVDC had denied ownership, and Members disputed this.

It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Athletic Football Club asking their views on the periodic use of their car park for coaches.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

Cllr. Lehmann left the meeting.

357/2007 ADDITIONAL TAXI RANK PROVISION

The Chairman felt the provision for taxi-cabs in the town was inadequate.

Members pointed out that hackney carriages (red badge) were permitted to ply for hire from a rank; private hire cars (yellow badge) were not and should be legally parked until summoned.

The number of red badges issued for Buckingham would be ascertained and the matter taken to the next meeting.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

Mr. Foster left the meeting.

358/2007 BUDGET

The Chairman expressed concern that no money had been allocated to the Youth Budget and no definite decision had been made to remove funding from this important area. The Committee agreed to include £2000 for Youth Projects in the Events budget.

359/2007 PRESS RELEASES

Press releases on May Day, the Teddy Bears Picnic, the Italian Market and the other speciality market would be drawn up as details became finalised. The Events list above would be sent to the *Advertiser* immediately and updated and enlarged as necessary.

ACTION THE COMMITTEE CLERK

360/2007 CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

There were no Chairman's Items.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

CHAIRMAN DATE