

**MINUTES OF THE INTERIM BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2007 AT 7.10pm FOLLOWING THE
PUBLIC SESSION**

PRESENT: Councillors T. Bloomfield
H. Cadd
P. Collins
Mrs P. Desorgher
P. Hirons
G.P. Loftus
A. Mahi
H. Mordue (Mayor)
Ms. R.D. Newell
M. Smith
Mrs. P. Stevens
R. Stuchbury
M. Try

for the Town Clerk Mrs. K. W. McElligott

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Mrs. G. Collins, D. Isham and W. Whyte.

2998 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Cllr. Cadd declared a personal interest in the Draft Licensing Policy item; as a member of the AVDC Licencing Committee he would not debate or make comment on the response from this Council.

2999 TRANSFER OR NEW LICENCES

Grand Junction – Extend licensing hours Monday – Wednesday from 23.00 to 00.00 and remove condition preventing the use of the garden after 23.00 following the 1st July smoking ban.

Cllr. Stuchbury wished it noted that as Chairman of the Events Committee he had rearranged a flooded-out event from the Festival Fortnight at the Grand Junction; this was not an interest per se needing to be declared.

Members discussed the application at some length, recalling the arguments made at a previous application hearing in 2006 and noting that the nature of the residential area had not changed. Some information on the number of incidents requiring police attendance would be useful, but in general people were entitled to undisturbed sleep and pushing the licensing hours forward –

with the likelihood that other premises would follow suit – extended the noise nuisance into early hours of the morning to the detriment of residents' amenity.

It had been stated at the preceding public session that in 2006 the applicant had undertaken to keep the fire door closed and install a 'break glass' lock on it, to keep other doors shut, to have external areas cleared by 23.00, and prevent customers taking open drinks outside. The Police had withdrawn their objection to the then proposed extension if the closing time in the early part of the week was not extended. Nevertheless, the fire doors were frequently open and customers had been observed sitting outside on the pavement drinking and smoking. Also there was no indication of whether the application was for 'indoors', 'outdoors' or 'both' in respect of live and recorded music, dance facilities and supply of alcohol.

Members agreed unanimously, Cllr. Cadd abstaining, not to support the application as the management was not complying with its previous undertaking, had not completed the form with adequate details, and out of consideration for the local residents peaceful enjoyment of their own premises.

The Clerk would seek to establish police call-outs to disturbances in the vicinity.

ACTION THE CLERK

3000 DRAFT LICENSING POLICY STATEMENT CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Cllr. Smith presented the draft response, which had been circulated with the agenda.

Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Collins, and **AGREED** that the terms of the draft become the Council's response to the draft document.

3001 REQUEST FROM AVDC RE THE SALE OF OPEN SPACE LAND

AVDC had asked for comments from the Town Council on two cases of the sale of open space land to adjacent residents.

With reference to 8 Nightingale Place: this land had been the subject of a recent planning application (07/01602/ACL). The Planning Committee had responded "*Members had commended the applicants for their care of the piece of land and supported the continued use as a planted area but felt that it should remain Public Open Space as originally planned.*" and this was therefore the Council's response. The other address had not been previously considered.

Members expressed themselves averse to the private acquisition of public land, noting that such areas could have been incorporated into a residential curtilage at the time of development if the open space was not considered important. The principle of open space and amenity areas should be supported.

Members opposed the sale of both areas of land.

3002 TOWN MAYOR'S ITEMS

3002.1 Thames and Chiltern in Bloom 2007

The Mayor displayed the Silver Award recently presented to the town.

3002.2 Fair Trade Town

The Mayor displayed the Certificate showing that the Town had acquired Fair Trade Town status.

Councillors expressed their thanks to Cllr. Newell for undertaking the considerable work involved in each of the above.

3002.3 River Rinse

The river rinse carried out the previous day had produced rather more items than the skip hired would accommodate, plus several tyres that Bucklands would not take. Some wooden items had been left on the Heartland for AVDC to remove.

Members agreed that the excess needed to be removed promptly before it got thrown back in the river, Cllrs. Mordue, Smith and Bloomfield volunteering their help to fill a second skip.

Proposed by Cllr. Stevens, seconded by Cllr. Collins, and **AGREED** that arrangements be made to dispose of the tyres and other items, costs to be met from 4500/132 'Contingencies'.

Members who had attended and all the volunteers concerned were thanked for their efforts.

ACTION THE CLERK/CLLRS. MORDUE/SMITH/BLOOMFIELD

Meeting closed at 7.45pm.

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