

**MINUTES OF THE BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT  
BUCKINGHAM COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2007 AT 7 PM.**

**PRESENT** Councillors T. Bloomfield  
H. Cadd  
Mrs. G. Collins  
P. Collins  
Mrs. P. Desorgher  
P. Hirons  
D. Isham  
G. Loftus  
A. Mahi  
H. Mordue (Mayor)  
Ms. R. Newell  
M. Smith  
R. Stuchbury  
M. Try  
W. Whyte  
Town Clerk Ms. P. J. Heath

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. H. Lewis.

**3026 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

There were the following declarations of interest for items on the agenda.  
Item 10 – Fire Service – Cllr. Cadd, Personal, as Member of the Fire Service Scrutiny Committee;  
Item 13 – Community Centre – Cllr. Bloomfield, Prejudicial, as the Centre Manager;  
Item 13 – Community Centre – Cllr. Desorgher, Cllr. Isham, Cllr. Cadd, Cllr. Try as Members of the Management Committee.

*Cllr. P. Collins and Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins arrived.*

**3027 THE MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED**: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th October 2007, and the Interim meeting held 5th November 2007, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**3028 TOWN CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Members were informed of the following items

**3028.1 NEWSLETTERS/BROCHURES**

THE FOLLOWING BROCHURES AND NEWSLETTERS ARE IN THE OFFICE

OPTIONS – NOVEMBER 2007

SLCC – THE CLERK NOVEMBER 2007

CLERK AND COUNCILS DIRECT – NOVEMBER 2007  
NALC – LOCAL COUNCIL REVIEW NOVEMBER 2007  
BUCKS PLAYING FIELD ASSOC – THE PLAYING FIELD AUTUMN 2007  
AYLESBURY VALE AREA NEWSLETTER – OCT 2007

### **3028.2 DIS ISSUES NUMBER 668, 669, 670**

### **3028.3 DIARY DATES – DETAILS ALREADY CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS**

18.02.08 AYLESBURY VALE TRANSPORT SYMPOSIUM.  
29TH NOVEMBER 2007 – THE BUCKINGHAM SOCIETY AGM

*Proposed by Cllr. Mordue, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury and AGREED to move item 11 – Buckingham Squash Courts to be heard next.*

### **3029 TO DISCUSS THE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED BY MEMBERS IN RESPECT OF THE SQUASH COURTS IN BUCKINGHAM (MINUTE NO. 3025.2)**

Members discussed the comments made at the public session prior to the meeting. Concern was expressed at the possible loss of the facility, the nearest court being at Aylesbury. The facility was used by the University and the sports college which is adjacent to the site. It was noted that the School already had a sprung floor dance studio.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Stevens, and **AGREED** to write to the Cabinet Member for Leisure supporting the retention of the Squash Courts in Buckingham.

**ACTION THE TOWN CLERK**

### **3030 RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES**

#### **3030.1 PLANNING – 15.10.07 & 05.11.07**

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

*(5116 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Hirons, and **RECOMMENDED** that this Council seek to be pro-active in the matter of the development of the town and produce an outline document with the aim of it becoming part of the Local Development Framework.)*

**AGREED**

#### **3030.2 ENVIRONMENT & PROPERTY – 22.10.07**

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

*(482 Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Bloomfield, and **RECOMMENDED** by 10 votes to 0 that this Council suspends any future acquisition of open spaces until fully aware of all implications - this includes transfers of Heartlands, Holloway Spinney and Embleton Way)*

**AGREED**

*(484. Proposed by Cllr. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Whyte, and **RECOMMENDED** by 8 votes to 0 that the Council sets up a Standing Committee to deal with the Cemetery, burials and buildings within the Cemetery. Concern was expressed as to how this committee would operate within the current*

*committee structure and meeting dates; it was **AGREED** that the Chairman of F & A should work with the Office to minimise the additional work load.)*

Members discussed the recommendation, the workload on the Environment and Property Committee, and the additional work load on the office with the servicing of the standing committee. It was also noted that there was no availability in the diary dates for a new committee to meet on a Monday therefore an additional night would have to be allocated. Comments were made that the day-to-day running of the Cemetery should be left to the Cemetery Manager and the Office and that Councillors should only be involved in policy making. In response to comments the Town Clerk explained the current position of the staff and day-to-day management. An amendment was proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Loftus, that the responsibility for all aspects of the day-to-day running of the Cemetery should be delegated to the Cemetery Manager with a report going to the Environment & Property Committee who would be responsible for policy decisions. **AGREED** by 9 votes to 4 and as the substantive motion by 10 votes to 4.

### **3030.3 FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION – 29.10.07**

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

The Chairman at the request of a Member asked that the term “Circular Walk Group” in minutes number 353 and 342 be changed to “Community Plan Group” as the former does not exist as a body only as a project name; no provision was made to change previous minutes already ratified which contained the term.

*(341 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Cadd, and **RECOMMENDED** by 6 votes to 0 that this Council sets up an agreement for £3000 per year for years 2008/09, 2009/10, 2010/11; the amount of the grant being reviewed in years 2 and 3)*

**AGREED**

*(346.2 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Isham, and **RECOMMENDED** by 4 votes to 1 that the £4000 held in General Reserves be transferred to the Environment and Property Committee to undertake reed clearance in the Council's areas of riparian responsibility.)*

**AGREED**

*(348 it was proposed to **RECOMMEND** to Full Council a headline budget increase of 38% with the following budget amounts per Committee: Finance and Administration £245K; Environment and Property £200K; Events £40K; Reserves £103K)*

**AGREED** it was noted that this was only a guideline and did not prevent the discussion and decision at the precept meeting.

### **3030.4 EVENTS – 12.11.07**

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

## **3031 CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.

AVDC NEWS FOR THE PARISHES  
THAMES VALLEY POLICE – CONFIDENTIAL CRIME FIGURES  
Cllr. Smith and Cllr. Stevens asked for a copy of the figures  
AVDC CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT PLANS

Cllr. Whyte reported that a generic conservation plan was being developed, this would form the basis of all future plans reducing the time needed for each plan; local issues would be added on to the basic plan

AVDC [EMAIL] UK PRIDE OF PLACE POLL

AVDC STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

### **3032 REPORTS FROM BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

#### **3032.1 Buckingham Partnership minutes**

Members asked that the minutes of the meeting be circulated earlier rather so that Members can check on points raised.

#### **3032.2 Buckingham Twinning Association minutes 03.10.07 & 07.11.07**

Copies of the minutes had been circulated to Members who noted their contents including the dates of the Civic Visit 3rd – 6th April 2008.

#### **3032.3 Buckingham Town Neighbourhood Action Group**

Copies of the minutes had been circulated to Members who noted their contents.

#### **3032.4 BCWP Steering Group**

Copy of the minutes had been circulated to all Members who noted their contents.

### **3033 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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

### **3034 ACCOUNTS FOR RETROSPECTIVE PAYMENT**

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

### **3035 DISCUSS THE LONG TERM PLANS FOR THE FIRE SERVICE IN BUCKINGHAM (MINUTE NO 3025.1)**

*Cllr. Cadd confirmed a personal interest and took no part in the discussion.*

Members were informed that a consultation was currently being conducted by the Fire Service into ways to reduce the cost of service provision; one suggestion involved the use of retained members not living within the area. Concern was expressed that this could lead to a reduction in the level and efficiency of the service provided by Buckingham Fire Station. It was **AGREED** to write to the Chief Officer asking what the long term future of Buckingham Fire Station is. What are the call out times and indication of any changes? and implication of staff changes to Buckingham?

**3036 TO RECEIVE INFORMATION ON THE CHANGES TO THE GRAND JUNCTION APPLICATION FOR AMENDMENTS TO THEIR LICENCE – DETAILS ATTACHED**

Cllr. Cadd declared a personal interest as a Member of the Licensing Committee at AVDC.

Members discussed the amendments proposed by the applicant prior to the hearing on 5<sup>th</sup> of December. Members did not feel the amendments were sufficient to alter the Council's previous comments. Cllr. Mordue and Cllr. Hirons volunteered to attend the Hearing on 5th December.

**3037 TO RECEIVE NOTES ON THE MEETING WITH COMMUNITY CENTRE, DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL AND DECIDE.**

The Town Clerk read the advice received from the Monitoring Officer of the District Council as to the interest and position of the Community Centre Members on the Town Council. The advice stated that all those on the Community Centre Management Committee, Members of the Trustees, and the Community Centre Staff have a pecuniary interest and must leave the chamber.

*Cllr. Cadd, Cllr. Isham, Cllr. Desorgher, Cllr. Collins, Cllr. Mrs Collins, Cllr. Bloomfield and Cllr. Try all declared pecuniary interest and left the Chamber.*

Copies of the notes had been circulated prior to the meeting which included the proposals for a 3 year agreement and these were discussed at great length.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Loftus, and **RESOLVED** that this Council would provide funding to Buckingham Community Centre for 3 financial years 2008/09, 2009/10, 2010/11 on the following terms:

1. Up to £10,000 cash flow underwrite per year;
2. Up to £6000 for 50/50 capital funding per year, all funding to be agreed in advance by the Town Council;

(The above amounts are annually with no roll-over provision.)

3. The Town Council will appoint 1 representative to the Management Committee;
4. A regular report is made by the Town Council's representative to the Council and copies of the minutes are circulated as with other outside organisations;
5. Annual report and copies of the Accounts to be circulated to Members as with the Council's Grants policy;
6. The Community Centre to formally recognise the funding provided by the Town Council in a format to be agreed between the Management Committee and the Town Council.

*Cllr. Cadd, Cllr. Isham, Cllr. Desorgher, Cllr. Collins, Cllr. Mrs Collins, Cllr. Bloomfield and Cllr. Try returned to the Chamber.*

**3038 TO RECEIVE NOTES ON THE MEETING WITH BOURTON ROAD ALLOTMENT HOLDERS SOCIETY, DISCUSS THE 3 YEAR AMOUNT UNDER CLAUSE 6 OF THE AGREEMENT.**

Members discussed the notes which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Proposed by Cllr. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Mrs Collins, and **AGREED** by 16 votes to 0 to increase section 6 payments to the Bourton Road Allotments Holders Society to £650 per year.

### **3039 TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING THE VARIOUS HEALTH BODIES IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.**

The Town Clerk went through all outstanding responses from the various health bodies and detailed those who had responded.

Members discussed at length the lack of response particularly from the PCT and the Secretary of State for Health. Members also discussed the different departments and organisations that make up the NHS.

It was agreed to write again to the Chief Executive of the PCT and if no response was received send a copy to the Strategic Health Trust and then upwards to the Secretary of State.

### **3040 TO DISCUSS THE AWARDING OF "FRIEND OF BUCKINGHAM"**

The Mayor reported to Members that he had received 4 names for Friends of Buckingham awards. Members discussed the 4 candidates and gave the Chairman their support in his decision.

### **3041 RECEIVE, IF REQUIRED, COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

There were no comments from the District and County Councillors present.

### **3042 TOWN MAYOR'S ITEMS**

#### 3042.1 Diary Dates

The Diary dates had been circulated to all Chairmen for checking then circulated to all Members with the Finance and Administration Agenda. Members noted the following alterations: March 24<sup>th</sup> date should read March 25<sup>th</sup> and August 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> were the wrong way round.

#### 3042.2 Christmas Lights

Cllr. Stevens raised a complaint she had received from a resident in Castle Street about the Christmas Lights and the lack of display in Castle Street. The resident requested money from the Town Council to put up lights.

For new Members it was explained that following problems 3 years ago the Traders' Association had been invited to put forward a co-opted representative to sit on the Events Committee to act a liaison between the Council and the traders; Mr. Foster had been subsequently co-opted on to the Committee. The traders had been offered the old Christmas lights, which the Town Council had paid to be refurbished and checked, with a sum of £500 towards installation. A further £500 had been given to the traders last year. The traders had not put up any lights this year. Members agreed that the complainant be asked to contact the Traders' Association.

3042.3 Meeting Protocol

Members were reminded that the Standing Orders of the Council govern protocol at meetings under the 1972 Local Government Act under which all comments should be made through the Chairmen of the meeting.

3042.4 Congratulations

The Mayor congratulated the Town Clerk for becoming the Bucks. Ladies Indoor Long Bow Champion.

3042.5 Christmas Parade

Members were reminded that the Christmas Parade was on the 8th December and that the Council would be leading the parade as usual. This year the Quad bike, Mace, Mace Bearer and Town Clerk would be involved for the first time.

3042.6 Continental Market

Cllr. Stuchbury as Chairman of the Events Committee wished to minute his thanks to the staff Members who were involved in the setting up of the continental market from 5. 30 am.

*The following item were 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*

**3043 MINUTES OF BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**3044 TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON THE TOWN COUNCIL EXTENSION PROJECT**

Meeting closed at 9.45 pm

**CHAIRMAN..... DATE.....**