

**MINUTES OF THE BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT
BUCKINGHAM COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON MONDAY 21st JULY 2008 AT 7 PM.**

<u>PRESENT</u>	Councillors	T. Bloomfield Mrs. G. Collins P. Collins Mrs. P. Desorgher P. Hirons G. Loftus R. Lehmann 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 Councillors H. Cadd, D. Isham, and Mrs. P. Stevens

3140 DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were the following declarations of interest:- agenda item 15, Buckingham Community Centre, Cllr. P Collins, Cllr. G Collins, Cllr. Try and Cllr. Desorgher (prejudicial interest as Members of the Management Committee) and Cllr. Bloomfield as employee of the Community Centre.

Agenda item 17.18 Buckinghamshire Strategic Partnership, Cllr. Whyte as a member of the board.

3141 THE MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

It was proposed, seconded and **RESOLVED**: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd June 2008 are approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following changes in minute no 3126. The Interim meeting on the 30th June had been cancelled due to insufficient business to be discussed.

3126 AVALC remove the word "Deputy" before Cllr. Whyte's name
Licensing Forum add Cllr. Smith's name
Buckingham Economic Group remove Cllr. Smith's name
Twinning Association remove Cllr. Stuchbury's name

It was noted that the Council minutes had been circulated with the agenda and not as the normal practice soon after the meeting.

3142 TOWN CLERK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members were informed of the following items

4.1 NEWSLETTERS/BROCHURES

THE FOLLOWING BROCHURES AND NEWSLETTERS ARE IN THE OFFICE

OPTIONS – JUNE & JULY 2008

SLCC – THE CLERK JULY 2008

CLERKS & COUNCIL DIRECT JULY 2008

NALC – LOCAL COUNCIL REVIEW JULY 2008

BUCKS COMMUNITY ACTION – IN FOCUS SUMMER 2008

BUCKS PLAYING FIELD ASSOC. - THE PLAYING FIELD SPRING 2008

AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL – AYLESBURY TOWN MATTERS JULY 2008

BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL – ADULT SOCIAL CARE PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

AVDC – OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT – COPY SENT TO MEMBERS

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY – FLOOD NEWS

4.2 DIS ISSUES NUMBER 684, 685, 686, 687.

4.3 DIARY DATES – DETAILS ALREADY CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS

17.07.08 AV LOCAL COMMITTEE – AGENDA COPIED 09.07.08

21ST JULY 2008 THAMES VALLEY POLICE “HAVE YOUR SAY” – COPIED 13.06.08

The Clerk reported on the following additional items

4.2 DIS no 688 had been circulated via email on Friday 18th

4.3 22nd July Community Action re post office closures had been copied to Members

4.3 14th August AVALC Rural Area Strategy meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Loftus seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury and **AGREED** that the Council would pay for the Cllr. Whyte, Cllr. Hirons and Cllr. Smith to attend the meeting at a cost of £5 each plus travel.

The Clerk explained that the office was currently operating with only 2 Members of staff.

Cllr. Whyte asked that the Council make a formal comment on the AVDC Overview & Scrutiny annual report which had been circulated to all Members. It was **AGREED** that Cllr. Smith and Cllr. Whyte would compile a draft response to be considered by the Council at its next meeting.

ACTION CLLR. SMITH, CLLR. WHYTE

3143 RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

3143.1 PLANNING - 09.06.08 & 30.06.08

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

*(5204.4 Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Whyte, and **RECOMMENDED** that this Council allocate a budget of £500 for planning publications relevant to the production of the Buckingham Plan for submission as part of the Rural Areas document of the Local Development Framework.*

AGREED

5209 In response to a question the Town Clerk informed Members that the minutes, once ratified, are placed in the local library, put on the website, and given to the Talking Newspaper. Members discussed in detail whether this minute should be highlighted to the residents of Buckingham by issue of a news release. It was felt

that to do so would jeopardise the impartiality of the Council should a planning application for this site be submitted by the developer.

Proposed by Cllr. Collins, seconded by Cllr. Lehmann, and **AGREED** by 10 votes to 1 that this Council does not issue a press release in respect of minute no.5209.

Cllr. Whyte reported that the Buckingham Plan had a very successful first workshop meeting and that another was planned in August.

3143.2 ENVIRONMENT & PROPERTY – 16.06.08

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

(565.5 proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Collins, and RECOMMENDED that the Clerk actively seek other quotations; should none be received by the next Full Council then the AVDC quote would be accepted)

AGREED

The Town Clerk reported that no additional quotations had been received

(575 Proposed by Cllr. Mahi, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and RECOMMENDED that this Council charge £25 per trolley for recovery and that both Tesco and Waitrose be advised of this.)

AGREED

3143.3 EVENTS - 23.06.08

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

The Chairman thanked everyone for their help during the Festival Fortnight events. Following comments from the Chairman it was agreed that the Car Park charges would go on the interim council agenda.

Minute no 563 – it was noted that this should have been for the 2nd River Rinse in October.

3143.4 FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION - 07.07.08

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

(408 Proposed by Cllr. Isham, Seconded by Cllr. Hiron, and RECOMMENDED that the Accounts for 2007 – 2008 be accepted and agreed, and that the Annual Return is accepted and agreed.)

This was **AGREED** by 8 votes to 2 – Cllr. Stuchbury wished his vote against the recommendation to be recorded due to the placing of Members Allowance in Administration Costs instead of in Contingencies in the Accounts analysis. Cllr. Newell abstained as she was not present at the Finance and Administration Committee meeting.

3143.5 PREMISES COMMITTEE - 29.05.08 & 17.07.08

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

29.05.08 it was agreed to amend the wording of the action point under the Right of Way to remove the figure shown.

17.07.08 Members accepted the notes and discussed the contents, feeling that more information on the detailed discussions should have been recorded

particularly to explain in detail why the option to employ a Client representative had been discussed.

(Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Collins, and RECOMMENDED that Buckingham Town Council employs a dedicated Client Representative with an understanding of project management within the construction industry and other project-related requirements, possibly on a consultancy basis, to manage the Town Council Chamber Extension Project to completion.)

Was **AGREED** in principle with details of costs required being presented to the interim meeting before a final decision was made.

ACTION CLLR. MORDUE/CLLR. WHYTE/TOWN CLERK

3144 CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting.

- 3144.1 AVDC News for the Parishes
- 3144.2 Thames Valley Police – Crime Details (Confidential)
- 3144.3 AVDC Housing & Homeless Strategy
- 3144.4 AVDC Housing & Homeless Strategy

Members discussed the responses from AVDC, items .3 & .4. Members **AGREED** to take up the offer for the Environmental Health & Private Housing Manager to meet with Town Council representatives to discuss the Empty Homes Strategy.

Members noted that the Rural Housing Enabler did not work in Buckingham and that the Officer acknowledged that Buckingham University Students had an effect on the Private Housing market.

- 3144.5 AVDC Community Safety Partnership plan
- 3144.6 Bucks PCT Bucks joint commissioning strategy for older people
- 3144.7 Bucks PCT Bucks joint commissioning strategy for physical and sensory

Members discussed the notification of commissioning strategy, items .6 & .7. It was felt regrettable that again the PCT and Bucks. CC had not allowed sufficient time for Members to comment nor had they given sufficient warning to allow Members to attend the workshop.

- 3144.8 Bucks Community Action – post office closures

Members were given details of the following correspondence circulated at the meeting

- 3144.9 Environment Agency – Road Closure Notification procedures
- 3144.10 NALC Legal briefing note “Corporate Manslaughter & Corporate Homicide Act 2007”
- 3144.11 BCC Bucks Locality Strategy Consultation

3145 REPORTS FROM BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL’S REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

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

3145.1 A V Association of Local Councils

Cllr. Whyte gave a verbal report on the work of AVALC; minutes are not published but a report following a request from this council will be put into Matters Arising. It was noted that the latest copy had not been received - the Town Clerk to chase

ACTION TOWN CLERK

3145.2 AV Local Committee minutes 17.04.08

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

3145.3 AV North Sports Council minutes 10.04.08

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

3145.4 Buckingham Arts Steering Group

No report was received.

3145.5 Buckingham Community Centre minutes 22.05.08

A copy of the minutes had been circulated to all Members who noted their contents. Members asked for copies of the sub-committee meetings to accompany the minutes.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

3145.6 Buckingham Community Wildlife Project

Cllr. Newell gave a verbal report on the work of the project and its manager; it was noted that a standing invitation had been issued to the Project Manager to attend the Environment & Property committee meetings. The funding for the project manager was due to end in February 2009 but it was hoped to extend her employment beyond that date.

3145.7 Buckingham General Charities

No report was received

3145.8 Buckingham Partnership minutes 08.05.08

A copy of the minutes had been circulated to all Members who noted their contents. Cllr. Stuchbury gave a verbal report on the July meeting of the Partnership. One item had been the future of the Buckingham Partnership with the formation of the Local Committee forums. Members felt that the importance of the Partnership should be stressed to both AVDC & BCC.

ACTION THE TOWN CLERK

3145.9 Buckingham Youth Centre

No report was received.

3145.10 Bucks Association of Local Councils

No report was received.

3145.11 Citizens Advice Bureau

The Annual General Meeting had been held the previous week; the minutes will be circulated to all Members.

3145.12 Buckingham Licensing Forum minutes 20.11.07

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

3145.13 Neighbourhood Action Group minutes 28.05.08

A copy of the minutes had been circulated to all Members who noted their contents. A request was made for traffic wardens in the town at peak times on a regular basis.

ACTION CLLR. SMITH

3145.14 Buckingham Economic Group

The next meeting will be held on 30th July; the minutes would be circulated to all Members

3145.15 Public Transport Consultative

Cllr. Whyte gave a verbal report explaining that the 66 would receive a better service with the introduction of more up to date buses, and the 32 was now being run by Arriva and not MK Metro.

3145.16 Twinning Association minutes 04.6.08 & 02.07.08

A copy of the minutes had been circulated to all Members who noted their contents. The visit to Mouvaux is scheduled for 3rd – 5th April 2009.

3145.17 Local Area Agreement Forum report 03.06.08 & bulletin 06.08

A copy of each had been circulated to all Members who noted their contents.

3145.18 Bucks Strategic Partnership

A verbal report was given by Cllr. Whyte.

3145.19 N Bucks Parishes Planning Consortium report & minutes 22.05.08

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

3145.20 Buckingham & Gawcott Charitable Trust

A verbal report was given by Cllr. Stuchbury on the grants provided by the Trust.

Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr. Lehmann, and AGREED that due to time constraints item 14 "Proposals for CCTV in Buckingham" and item 18 "Transfer of AVDC Assets" be moved to be heard next.

3146 TO RECEIVE AND DISCUSS PROPOSALS FOR CCTV IN BUCKINGHAM.

Members received and noted the report by Cllr. Smith and the neighbourhood policing team on the provision of CCTV system in Buckingham Town Centre. Members discussed the conclusions of the report, whether there was a need, and the image of the town in respect of antisocial behaviour.

Proposed by Cllr. Mordue, seconded by Cllr. Hirons, and AGREED to suspend standing orders to allow PCSO Steve Staley to address the meeting.

PCSO Staley gave Members details of crimes in Buckingham town centre over the last 3 months, and what benefit the system would have had in solving those crimes; he responded to Member's questions.

Proposed by Cllr. Mordue, seconded by Cllr. Hirons, and AGREED to reinstate standing orders.

Following a further discussion the recommendation in the report was put to Members with amendment.

Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Newell, and **RESOLVED** that consideration be given to installing a modern CCTV system, and other measures to reduce crime, in Buckingham town centre.

3147 TO DISCUSS THE TRANSFER OF AVDC ASSETS

A copy of the open letter sent to all tenants by AVDC, which had been circulated to Members of the Town Council Premises Committee for the 17th July meeting, was circulated to all Members prior to the Council meeting. The letter informed tenants that a company was being set up to receive all corporate assets owned by AVDC and leased to third parties. Members discussed whether the Community Centre should form part of the asset transfer on moral grounds; the history of the building of the Community Centre was explained and discussed.

It was **AGREED** that the Council request a list of all Buckingham assets to be included in the company.

Cllr. Lehmann and Cllr. Loftus left the meeting.

3148 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

3149 ACCOUNTS FOR RETROSPECTIVE PAYMENT

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

Proposed by Cllr. Whyte, seconded by Cllr. Bloomfield, and **AGREED** to transfer agenda item 17 "Mallard Drive" to be heard next.

3150 TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE FROM CHANDLER RAY RE LAND ADJACENT TO MALLARD DRIVE/MOORHEN WAY; TO RECEIVE THE REPORT FROM THE TOWN CLERK, TO DISCUSS AND AGREE RESPONSE.

Members discussed at length the offer from the Mallard Drive developers to transfer 3 areas of open space to the Town Council, the offer being received via the developer's solicitors. The 3 areas were not included as public open space in the original plans, they are mature shrub areas which would require extensive maintenance, and the areas would only be a visual benefit to the surrounding properties. After discussion it was

Proposed by Cllr. Whyte, seconded by Cllr. Hirons, and **RESOLVED** that Buckingham Town Council declines the offer on financial grounds and suggests that the areas are offered to all local residents to maintain jointly.

Due to time the following items were deferred to the Interim Council meeting on 18th August 2008:-

- **TO RECEIVE AND DISCUSS THE CHANGES TO THE STANDING ORDERS AS ISSUED FOR 14.04.08 MEETING [MINUTE NO 3105]**
- **TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE LARGER LOCAL COUNCIL CONFERENCE 24TH/25TH APRIL 08 – ALREADY CIRCULATED WITH 02.06.08 AGENDA**
- **TO RECEIVE THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER FOR 2007 – 2008**

- **TO RECEIVE A REPORT ON THAMES VALLEY POLICE AUTHORITY: “HAVE YOUR SAY” – CLLR. SMITH**
- **TO RECEIVE AND DISCUSS A REQUEST FROM BUCKINGHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE RE 50/50 FUNDING AS PER 2008 – 2011 AGREEMENT**
- **TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE FILM PLACE REQUESTING SUPPORT FOR ROAD SIGNS – TO DISCUSS AND AGREE RESPONSE**
- **RECEIVE, IF REQUIRED, COMMENTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

3151 TOWN MAYOR’S ITEMS

3151.1 Council Family Barbecue

Members were reminded that the Social at Wappenham would be held on 17th August at 12 midday.

ACTION THE CHAIRMAN

3151.2 Weak Bridge – removal of restrictions

Members requested that the letter received from Bucks County Council re the removal of weight restrictions on London Road Bridge be put on the Interim Council agenda.

ACTION THE TOWN CLERK

The following item was heard under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 which excludes Members of the Public due to the confidential and financial nature of the business to be discussed

3152 TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES/NOTES AND ADOPT ANY RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED THEREIN

3152.1 Full Council 2nd June 2008 – confidential minutes

Meeting closed at 10.20 pm

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