

**R/02/20**

Minutes of a meeting of the Resources Committee of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 21st September 2020 **at 7pm online via Zoom.**

**Present:** Cllr. Bloomfield  
 Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins  
 Cllr. J. Harvey  
 Cllr. P. Hirons  
 Cllr. A. Mahi  
 Cllr. H. Mordue  
 Cllr. Ms. Newell  
 Cllr. Mrs. O'Donoghue      Vice-Chair  
 Cllr Smith                      Chair  
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury  
 Cllr. M. Try

**Also present:** Mr. P. Hodson              Town Clerk  
                          Mrs. N. Stockill              Committee Clerk  
                          Ms. C. Molyneux              Deputy Town Clerk  
                          Cllr. P. Collins              Buckingham Community Association

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Cllr P. Collins attended the public session in his capacity as Treasurer of the Buckingham Community Association, and provided Members with a history of the Buckingham Community Centre's lease arrangements with the Town Council.

*Cllr. P. Collins left the meeting at 19.06*

**363/20              Apologies for Absence**

None were received

**364/20              Declarations of Interest**

Cllr. Stuchbury declared an interest in agenda item 6 (Community Board Funding) as a Member of Buckinghamshire Council.

Cllrs. Mahi, G. Collins, Bloomfield and Try all declared an interest in agenda item 10 as Trustees of the Buckingham Community Hall Association.

The following Councillors declared an interest in agenda items 7 & 8:

Cllrs. Smith and Bloomfield as being Trustee and Treasurer of Buckingham Old Gaol Trust respectively.

Cllr. Hirons as a member of the PCC of St Peter & St Pauls Church.

Cllr. Newell as a member of St Peter & St Pauls Church.

Cllr. O'Donoghue as an employee of the Buckingham Youth Club.

Cllr. Mordue as a representative on the Swan Community Hub.

Cllrs. Mahi, G. Collins, and Bloomfield as Trustees of the Buckingham Community Hall Association.

**365/20              Minutes of last meeting**

Members received and **AGREED** the minutes of the Resources Committee meeting

(21<sup>st</sup> September /2020)

Ratified

1

*PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY 2010/CRIME AND DISORDER ACT, 1988: the decisions made during the course of the meeting were duly considered and it was decided that there were no resulting direct or indirect implications in respect of crime and disorder, or equalities considerations, other than those stated in the minutes.*

Initial.....

**R/02/20**

held on Monday 29th June 2020 and received at the Full Council meeting held on the 13th July 2020.

**366/20 Minutes of Communications Strategy Group**

Members received the minutes of the Communications Strategy Group meetings held on:

- 366.1/20 [2nd July 2020](#)
- 366.2/20 [30th July 2020](#)
- 366.3/20 [3rd September 2020](#)

**367/20 Action Report**

Members noted the updated report.

**368/20 Community Board Funding**

Members received and discussed a written report from the Town Clerk regarding options and the timescale for applying for Community Board funding.

Cllr. Newell suggested a BMX/Scooter track at Lace Hill as discussed in Environment Committee on the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

Cllr. Harvey proposed funding for a (permanent) pedestrian crossing on the Moreton Road from Prezzo to the Kings Head, public toilets in the Bourton Park parking area and a temporary structure in Heartland Park for outdoor performances and (Covid compliant) social gatherings.

Members unanimously **AGREED** that councillors suggest ideas for funding proposals which officers can investigate in time for Full Council to endorse proposals to be submitted at its meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

**369/20 2020 – 2021 Covid-19 Related Grants Changes**

Members received and discussed a written report from the Communications Clerk and unanimously **AGREED** to recommend to Full Council to grant Lace Hill Residents Association £900 and Swan Community Hub £1,000 in line with their original applications, plus an additional £1,350 to the Swan Community Hub in line with their change of grant request form.

Members held a lengthy debate over the Buckingham Churches Holiday Club and whether elements of the revised craft packs and online activities contravened the equalities policy of the Town Council.

The Chairman called for a vote on the recommendation that Members do not grant the Buckingham Churches Together Holiday Club funding as the primary focus of the videos that were produced was religious worship and evangelism. The results of the vote were:

In favour: 3

Against: 4

Abstentions: 4

Motion not carried

(21<sup>st</sup> September /2020)

Ratified

2

*PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY 2010/CRIME AND DISORDER ACT, 1988: the decisions made during the course of the meeting were duly considered and it was decided that there were no resulting direct or indirect implications in respect of crime and disorder, or equalities considerations, other than those stated in the minutes.*

Initial.....

R/02/20

Cllr. Harvey declared a point of order and questioned the legality of the vote in light of the Town Council's Equalities Policy. The Town Clerk explained that some Members had put forward a view that the Officer's recommendation was incorrect and the holiday club's offering did not focus on religious worship and evangelism. Therefore, it was appropriate to put forward the funding as the materials were deemed by Members to be appropriate within the Council's policy. The Chairman moved next item of business.

### 370/20 Grants Review Report

Members received and discussed a written report from the Communications Clerk and unanimously **AGREED** to make the following recommendations to Full Council:

- Add £2,000 to the contingencies budget which may be used by the Resources Committee to support voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations who urgently need funding during the year.
- Invite those regularly receiving annual grants or funding currently to apply for four-year funding, including VCSE organisations that we currently support through other grant funding avenues.
- Grants will only be considered for projects and activities beneficial to the people of the civil parish of Buckingham.
- Grant recipients must be based in the civil parish of Buckingham or provide evidence of the percentage of the work that directly benefits Buckingham residents.
- Only not-for-profit bodies will be eligible for a grant.
- Agree new one year and four-year application forms
- Agree new one year and four-year grant monitoring forms
- Agree new grant policy
- Change the order of decision making, so that the Precept meeting in January sets the grants budget for the year, and then the next Resources meeting decides on specific grants. This will enable better budget control, and allow grant applications to be scrutinised after the grants fund budget has been decided.
- Change three year grants onto a four-year system, starting in April 2022. All new long term grants to have a Grant Award Agreement.
- The funding currently provided to the following organisations to be moved to the grants budget, and each organisation invited to apply for a grant: Tennis Club, Chandos Park Bowls Club, Buckingham Community Centre, Literary Festival, Summer Festival, Fairtrade Association.
- Improve the content, search engine optimisation and layout of the grants page on our website. All of these improvements should explicitly present and promote diverse applications, including those from individuals with protected characteristics.
- The Town Centre and Events Committee should investigate holding a Buckingham community group fundraising day, to be a large summer fair with 4 stalls from local VCSE groups and local grant giving bodies in order to support local groups to raise their profile, funds and recruit volunteers. Funding for this event should be included in the Town Centre and Events 2021/2022 precept.

**ACTION TC&E AGENDA**

(21<sup>st</sup> September /2020)

Ratified

3

*PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY 2010/CRIME AND DISORDER ACT, 1988: the decisions made during the course of the meeting were duly considered and it was decided that there were no resulting direct or indirect implications in respect of crime and disorder, or equalities considerations, other than those stated in the minutes.*

Initial.....

R/02/20

- A new 'supported by Buckingham Town Council' text and logo image should be created for mandatory use by successful grants applicants. This should be funded from the Publicity budget, 102/4032.

**371/20 Town Council Awards**

371.1/20 Members discussed and **AGREED** for the Town Clerk to arrange a suitable time and location for the Mayor to present Town Council awards that were to have been presented during the Mayor Making ceremony in May 2020. An update is to be provided to the Full Council on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

**372/20 Buckingham Community Centre**

372.1/20 Members received and discussed a written report from the Town Clerk regarding the current lease on the Buckingham Community Centre. The Town Clerk reminded Members that the full lease was a commercial document so had not been published with the papers for the committee. It had however been circulated to Councillors with the papers for this meeting.

The Chairman called for a vote on the following report recommendations:

- It is **RECOMMENDED** that councillors consider whether the lease should be formally reviewed.
- If so, it is **RECOMMENDED** that the Community Hall Association be consulted and invited to provide their views on any potential changes to the lease as the first step
- It is recommended that the Council requests the Community Hall Association to pay 50% of future capital works to the building, in line with the recommendation made by the Council (393/14)

The results of the vote were:

In favour: 7

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

Motion carried

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

**372.2/20** Members discussed a tapestry on display in the Buckingham Community Centre. The Town Clerk reminded Members that the Town Council had no powers or responsibility over decorations in the Community Centre. Members debated the tapestry. The Chairman asked Cllr. G. Collins if she would like to speak on the matter. Cllr. G. Collins reported that the series of tapestries had been removed from the wall of the Community Centre that morning and were in storage until a new home could be found by the Royal British Legion. The Chairman and Cllr Stuchbury thanked the Mayor for removing the tapestry.

**373/20 Chair's Announcements**

**374/20 Date of next meeting: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Meeting closed at: 20.08

(21<sup>st</sup> September /2020)

Ratified

4

*PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY 2010/CRIME AND DISORDER ACT, 1988: the decisions made during the course of the meeting were duly considered and it was decided that there were no resulting direct or indirect implications in respect of crime and disorder, or equalities considerations, other than those stated in the minutes.*

Initial.....

R/02/20

Signed

Date

(21<sup>st</sup> September /2020)

Ratified

5

*PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY 2010/CRIME AND DISORDER ACT, 1988: the decisions made during the course of the meeting were duly considered and it was decided that there were no resulting direct or indirect implications in respect of crime and disorder, or equalities considerations, other than those stated in the minutes.*

Initial.....