

Minutes of an **Interim Council Meeting** of Buckingham Town Council held at 7pm. on **Monday 13th December 2010** in Room AdRB1 in the University of Buckingham, Hunter Street, Buckingham.

Present: Cllr. P. Collins
 Cllr. P. Hirons
 Cllr. R. Lehmann
 Cllr. G. Loftus
 Cllr. A. Mahi
 Cllr. H. Mordue
 Cllr. Mrs R. Newell
 Cllr. L. O'Donoghue
 Cllr. M. Smith (Mayor)
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury
 Cllr. M. Try
 Cllr. W. Whyte

For the Town Clerk: Mrs. K. McElligott

625/10 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Mrs. G. Collins, D. Isham and Mrs. P. Stevens.

626/10 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Cllrs. Loftus & Mahi arrived.

Cllrs. Newell & Try arrived during the following item.

627/10 Internal Drainage Board

Cllr. Hirons outlined his concerns with the Flood & Water Management Act 2010 which introduced Lead Local Flood Authorities: BCC is the LLFA for Buckingham. The Environment Agency is charged with producing a national strategy and LLFAs with a local strategy within this; they must also maintain a register of flooding in their area and an asset register and they have other duties and responsibilities. While the majority of the county is in the Thames catchment area, the north, together with MK, Bedford and mid-Beds is in the Ouse area. These latter authorities have already started to produce a single Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment, and Cllr. Hirons was anxious that Buckingham should get its share of the planning and resources. DEFRA is funding BCC to carry out a Surface Water Management Plan in the Thames area, but not in the Ouse area, and they are also consulting on whether the Internal Drainage Boards should come under the LLFA. Cllr Hirons felt that the present cross-boundary Board was to be preferred.

Cllr. Hirons proposed:

1. That a letter be sent to the Chief Executive of BCC asking how BCC intends to carry out its responsibilities under the Act with respect to the Ouse catchment area; and when we will have sight of the PFRA due June 2011
2. That a letter be sent to Mr. Bercow to ask for his help in getting DEFRA and the EA to support the production of a SWMP for the Ouse area.

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3. That a letter be sent to the IDB supporting the retention of the existing system. Members discussed the proposals and **AGREED** unanimously that these letters be sent; and that the first also be copied to Mr. Bercow and the appropriate Minister. Cllr. Stuchbury noted that the recent edition of Aylesbury Vale and County Times (formerly District Link) had contained an article on flood prevention work carried out in Buckingham, funded by the Government

ACTION THE CLERK

628/10 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman noted that this was the last Full Council meeting of 2010 and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

629/10 Date of next Meetings:

Full Council	Tuesday 4 th January 2011
Interim Council	Monday 7 th February 2011

Meeting closed at 7.10 pm

Signed **Date**