

Minutes of a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 15th August 2011** in the Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham, at 7:00pm.

Present: Cllr. T. Bloomfield
 Cllr. H. Cadd
 Cllr. T. Chan (until item 280.2)
 Cllr. P. Collins
 Cllr. P. Hirons
 Cllr. D. Isham
 Cllr. A. Mahi
 Cllr. H. Mordue
 Cllr. Ms. R. Newell
 Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Donoghue
 Cllr. M. Smith Town Mayor
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury
 Cllr. M. Try
 Cllr. W. Whyte

In attendance: Mr. C. P. Wayman Town Clerk
 Liz Campbell Committee Clerk

274/11 Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED to note that there were apologies from Cllr. Mrs G. Collins and Cllr. Harvey.

275/11 Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Stuchbury declared a personal interest in item 272.2/11 because his son played for Maids Moreton Rugby Club. The Mayor, Cllr. P. Collins and Cllr. H. Cadd declared personal interests in item 277/11 as members of the Buckingham Economic Group. Cllr. Isham and Cllr. P. Collins declared prejudicial interests in item 279/11 as members of the Buckingham Community Association.

276/11 Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council meeting held on 27th June 2011 (**BTC/04/11**).

277/11 Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Full Council held on Monday 9th May 2011(**BTC/05/11**).

278/11 Interim Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Interim Council meeting held on Monday 25th July 2011(**IM/02/11**).

279/11

Planning Committee

279.1 **RESOLVED** to receive the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 4th July 2011 and 25th July 2011 (PL/03/11).

Cllr. Stuchbury proposed, and Cllr. P. Collins seconded, the following recommendation:

“This Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the Council does not accept the findings of the Parking and Access Survey from Aylesbury Vale Advantage on the grounds that it is economically disadvantageous to the town due to its support for the introduction of widespread parking charges”.

Cllr. Whyte spoke against the recommendation stating that, whilst he recognised significant flaws in the report, there were also many useful suggestions, particularly with regard to cycling and road crossings, which the Council should not reject outright, and that therefore the report should be referred back to the Planning Committee for reconsideration. Cllr. Hirons also supported this view.

Members voted on Cllr. Stuchbury’s motion, which was **AGREED**, with 9 votes in favour, 3 against, and 2 abstentions.

279.2 Cllr. Stuchbury stated that in his view the minutes implied that developers had received support from AVDC for the allocation of s106 funding to the Maids Moreton Rugby Club and that this was not correct. He also asked for it to be recorded that he would not be expressing a view on the development prior to viewing a planning application. It was **AGREED** that the minutes of the 25th July meeting would be further reviewed at the Planning Meeting scheduled for 22nd August 2011.

280/11

Environment and Property Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 18th July 2011 (**EP/02/11**).

Cllr. Newell moved the following recommendation:

This Committee **RECOMMENDS** to Full Council that the play area at Otters Brook is transferred to AVDC.

Cllr. Stuchbury spoke against the recommendation, stating that there would be no protection for the play area against development if it were transferred. The recommendation was **NOT AGREED** and referred back to the next meeting of the Environment and Planning Committee.

Cllr. Stuchbury asked for clarification about Maids Moreton Parish Council’s contribution of s106 funding to the rugby club. The Town Clerk stated that he had written to MMPC but had yet to receive a reply, but in the meantime had been informed by AVDC officers that MMPC had no s106 funding available for the project.

281/11

Town Centre and Events Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes of the Town Centre & Events Committee meeting held on Monday 11th July 2011 (**TCE/02/11**).

281.1 Cllr. Stuchbury proposed that the following recommendation was not agreed on the grounds that the Town Clerk had received advice that the closure order would cost £4000, which was much higher than anticipated:

“This committee **RECOMMENDS** to Full Council that the Town Council amends the closure order and meets the costs.”

The recommendation was **NOT AGREED**.

281.2 Cllr. Stuchbury proposed the following recommendation:

“This Committee **RECOMMENDS** to Full Council that the Town Council includes an amount in its precept to cover the Diamond Jubilee celebrations next year.”

The recommendation was **NOT AGREED**, with Cllr. Mordue proposing that the recommendation was referred back to Town Centre and Events Committee for them to include as an item in their budget for next year. This was **AGREED** unanimously.

282/11 Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 1st August 2011. (**FAP/02/11**)

283/11 Motion from Cllr. Harvey

The following motion was received from Cllr. Harvey, and in his absence was proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury and seconded by Cllr. P. Collins:

“In line with good practice elsewhere, in tune with the Government’s policy on transparency, the growing importance of being beyond ethical reproach and in anticipation of our more critical role under the forthcoming localism arrangements, this Council resolves to put the Members’ Register of Interests on our website for all to see.”

Cllr. Whyte asked for an assurance that Members’ signatures on their Registers of Interest would not be scanned into the website. This was given by the Town Clerk. The motion was **AGREED**, with 12 votes in favour and 2 abstentions.

284/11 Industrial Park Signage

It was **AGREED** that the Town Council would act as a fund-holder for the signage group and be the applicant for planning permission.

Cllr. Whyte asked whether a decision about the name of the park being an industrial or business park had yet been made, and was informed that it had not. Cllr. Try said that he believed that more signs would be needed than the initial two proposed.

285/11 Otters Brook Play Area

Members reviewed the drawing of the proposed new play equipment received from AVDC. The Town Clerk reported concerns about disabled access to the area and the proposed wooden posts and retention wall. Cllr. Whyte asked for more seating to be included, and Cllr. Mahi was concerned that the play area was not enclosed.

It was **AGREED** that the Town Clerk would write to AVDC to raise these concerns.

Cllr. Isham and Cllr. P. Collins declared prejudicial interests in the following item as members of the Community Centre Association and left the Chamber.

286/11 Buckingham Community Centre Grant Funding

Cllr. Mahi and Cllr. Try asked for it to be noted that they are Town Council representatives on the Community Centre Association.

It was **AGREED** unanimously to fund the Community Association’s grant application. Cllr. Whyte and Cllr. Try suggested that the Town Clerk opened discussions with the Community Centre regarding joint management of lettings of the Chamber and the Community Centre. The Town Clerk said

that he was already exploring this and hoped to bring a report to Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee later in the year.

Cllr. Isham and Cllr. Collins returned to the Chamber.

287/11 Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence and, in addition, **AGREED** the following:
287.1 AVDC Review of Polling Arrangements - the Town Clerk to write to AVDC requesting additional polling stations in Buckingham South and pointing out that 700 new properties were planned for that side of Buckingham. Cllr. Mahi asked the Town Clerk to point out that the signage directing voters to the Adams Close polling station was poor.

Cllr. Chan left the Chamber

287.2 AVDC street cleansing schedules 2011-12 – the Town Clerk to include the schedules in a future newsletter. Town Clerk to write to AVDC requesting a schedule for the cleansing of non-estate roads; details of whether the defined areas are swept daily or monthly; clarification about the extent of the area defined as the town centre and to query the assertion that it was mechanically swept daily. Town Clerk also to write to BCC to request a schedule of drain cleansing.

287.3 AVDC allowances for parish and town councils – Town Clerk to respond providing information about BTC's current councillor allowances.

287.4 Boundary Commission draft electoral arrangements for BCC – Town Clerk to write expressing support for the proposal to retain two electoral wards in Buckingham.

287.5 BCC reply to BTC's letter about Day Services - Town Clerk to write expressing concerns that the original questions posed by the Town Council had not been answered, and asking them for detail about the sites being considered for the new purpose built centre in Buckingham referred to in the letter. Cllr. Stuchbury proposed, seconded by Cllr. P. Collins, that the Town Clerk also request information about BCC's plans for public health services, and asked why BTC had not been included in consultation over the plans. Cllr. Whyte spoke against this proposal on the grounds that he believed it to be a separate issue from the day centre closures, and which had not been notified on the agenda. The motion was **AGREED** with 9 votes in favour, 1 against and 4 abstentions.

287.6 Additional legal costs for Town Council offices – Town Clerk to query why the Town Council is being charged for BCC's failure to register the building, and whether it is being charged for the title registration fee for the entire building rather than just the portion occupied by the Town Council.

287.7 BCC result of Local Area Forum bids – Members were informed by the Mayor that the bids were recommended by the LAF however, the funding was then removed to top-up the road repair budget. Members agreed to ask for these projects to be taken forward next year and that a press release is written about the funding withdrawal.

288/11 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Members noted the reports.

Cllr. O'Donoghue agreed to forward minutes from the Youth Centre Management Committee to the Town Clerk for inclusion with a future agenda.

Cllr. Smith (as NAG chair) provided an update to Cllr. Stuchbury on antisocial behaviour at Ryeland. He said that the housing association was prepared to evict tenants guilty of repeated anti-social behaviour.

Cllr. Try asked that the NAG look at the danger to pedestrians caused by the missing railings by the pedestrian crossings outside Timpsons, but Cllr Smith indicated that this was beyond the NAG remit.

Cllr. Stuchbury requested that the Town Council receive an update from the Youth Centre Management Committee on how the £15,000 grant, allocated to preserve existing youth worker staff, was being spent.

289/11 Mayoral Engagements

Members noted the information.

290/11 Chairman's Announcements

There were no Chairman's announcements.

291/10 Dates of next meetings

Interim Council – Monday 12th September 2011

Full Council – Monday 3rd October 2011

Signed Date

Town Mayor