Minutes of a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 20**th **January 2014** in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham at 7:15pm.

Present: Cllr. T. Bloomfield

Cllr. H. Cadd

Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins

Cllr. P. Collins Cllr. J. Harvey Cllr. P. Hirons Cllr. A. Mahi

Cllr. Ms. R. Newell Town Mayor

Cllr. Mrs. L. O'Donoghue

Cllr. M. Smith

Cllr. Mrs. C. Strain-Clark

Cllr. W. Whyte

In attendance: Mr. C. P. Wayman Town Clerk

Mrs. C. Bolton Committee Clerk

689/13 Apologies for Absence

RESOLVED to note that there were apologies from Cllrs Isham, Stuchbury and Try.

690/13 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Whyte declared a personal and prejudicial declaration in item 11, Planning Application 13/03392/APP Buckingham University.

Cllr O'Donoghue declared a prejudicial interest in item 7, Grants from FAP Minutes as a member of staff of the Youth Club.

Cllr Smith declared an interest in the Old Gaol grants section as a trustee – at the point of item 7.

691/13 Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 18th November 2013 (**BTC/06/13**). **AGREED**

692/13 Planning Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Planning Committee meetings held on Monday 25th November 2013 (**PL/09/13**) and Monday 16th December 2013 (**PL/10/13**).

Monday 25th November 2013 Copy previously circulated PL/09/13

Proposed by Cllr Hirons, seconded by Cllr Try and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that the report is entirely rejected.

Clerks Note: FOR INFORMATION ONLY – AGREED AT EXTRAORDINARY MEETING 9/12/13 MINUTE 586/13 REFERS

• Monday 16th December 2013

Copy previously circulated PL/10/13

611.1 Strategic Development Control

611.1.1 **13/01465/AOP** Sainsbury's, Lace Hill

Demolition of existing restaurant and development of supermarket (class A1 use), petrol filling station (sui generis use) with 394 car parking spaces and 36 cycle parking spaces together with a health care facility (class D1 use) with 77 car parking spaces and 12 cycle parking and associated highways works (including realignment of existing spine road), access, landscaping and ancillary works (Officer recommendation: Defer and Delegate, Refusal)

Cllr. Stuchbury had submitted a written report of the meeting which was read out by the Chairman. The decision had been to defer to discuss s106 matters with a view to approve.

Members expressed concern at the effect on town centre shops and the Hospital, and demanded that Town Councillors be represented at the s106 discussions to put in place conditions that would counteract the detrimental results of the decision. Subsidy of free parking in the town centre and provision of public toilets were suggested, and also a shuttle bus between the store, the town centre and the surrounding villages, or a footbridge over the bypass to Badgers. Should Tesco implement 10/00360/APP extending the store and car park they would have an extended range possibly including clothing and electrical goods, which would compound the effect on town centre shopping.

Proposed by Cllr. Harvey, seconded by Cllr. Hirons, and **RECOMMENDED** that the Town Council and Shop Buckingham (the traders' association) work with Sainsbury's on a town-friendly joint approach to investment in the town centre.

Members discussed the recent decision by AVDC to 'defer the application for approval subject to the 106 agreement'. Councillors felt that the Town Council had been marginalised by AVDC, who had not taken into account the local knowledge regarding the town and traders in considering the application. Members commented it had been an unusual decision, and felt that information from AVDC should be sought as to whether the s106 agreement to be put in place would mitigate the impact to the town centre as highlighted by the consultant's report. The Town Clerk commented that s106 agreements have taken considerable time to negotiate in the past and referred to the Market Hill development of 2010; the s106 agreement had not been completed to date.

An amendment proposed by Cllr Harvey, seconded by Cllr Whyte that the Town Council and Shop Buckingham (the Traders Association) work with AVDC and Sainsbury's on a town friendly joint approach to investment in the town centre: meaning a proportionate s.106 negotiation that mitigates the impact on retail as highlighted in the planning consultant's report and in the absence of such an agreement to refer the matter back to the AVDC planning committee for rejection of the original application, was carried. 10:2

The substantive motion was then carried 10:2 ACTION: TOWN CLERK

693/13 Town Centre and Events Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Town Centre & Events Committee meeting held on Monday 2nd December 2013 (**TCE/05/13**).

Amendment to read that the Vice Chairman was Cllr Mahi, not Cllr Bloomfield. Cllr Whyte agreed an amendment to minute 566/13 which should state the Local Area Technician (LAT), not the Local Area Forum (LAF).

AGREED

694/13 Environment and Property Committee

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Environment and Property Committee meeting held on Monday 9th December 2013 (**EPH/0513**).

AGREED

695/13 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 6th January 2014 (**FAP/05/13**)

Proposed by Cllr Harvey, seconded by Cllr Try and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that Buckingham Youth Clubs be considered for a longer term partnership agreement for funding.

Proposed by Cllr Harvey, seconded by Cllr Cadd and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that Buckingham, Winslow & District Citizens Advice Bureau be considered for a longer term partnership agreement for funding.

Clerk's note: Supplementary agenda item; minute number 632/13 (AVDC and County Customer Service Receptions). It had subsequently come to light that Buckinghamshire County Council had not actually confirmed they were withdrawing Customer Service, but in the light of the AVDC decision were considering a decision.

An amendment to both motions above proposed by Cllr Whyte, seconded by Cllr Collins that the partnership agreements be considered from 2015/16 onward was carried, 9:3.

696/13 Extraordinary

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 9th December 2013. **(BTC/07/13)**

AGREED

697/13 **Precept**

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 13th January 2014. **(BTC/08/13)**

AGREED

Members agreed to move to item 17.1 for the benefit of Public visitors

698/13 Correspondence

698.1 New Homes Bonus Funding Scheme 2014/15

A letter from AVDC regarding the second round funding and agreement expressions of interest was received.

Members discussed the application to extend Wheldon House and felt that there were additional rooms available in community facilities around the town that should be used by community groups; those sites should be approached first before an extension was considered. Members asked for more information to be brought to another meeting to further discuss the CAB proposal.

Members **AGREED** that the cemetery provision and public toilets be re-submitted for consideration to the New Homes Bonus Scheme.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

20th January 2014

699/13 Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan

The Town Clerk provided a verbal update. The pre-submission consultation period had now ended; the most contentious issue was brought up by adjoining Radclive and Chackmore Parish Council relating to site M, who were to decide whether to withdraw support from the BNDP for 3 fields in that location. The Town Clerk was to attend a meeting with the Clerk and Chairman of Radclive and Chackmore Parish Council on Tuesday 21st January to discuss further and allay any fears of the public; the area was a reserve site only with protected access.

AVDC had submitted 26 pages of minor amended changes which the Town Plan Officer was working on to incorporate, along with other comments that had been collated. The next stage would be to get the plan independently audited. A further Full Council Meeting would be called to present the final plan incorporating all amendments.

Members discussed possible provisional dates for referendum; the Town Clerk stated that legislation prohibited the referendum taking place at the same time as European Elections. Members asked for clarification on the point.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK/TOWN PLAN OFFICER

Cllr Hirons reported on his attendance at the Local Council's Planning Liaison Committee meeting chaired by John Byrne of AVDC. Mr Byrne had reported that the Vale of Aylesbury Plan may not now be resubmitted for up to 2 years, and that the Buckingham Plan should go forward.

Cllr Harvey asked the Town Clerk whether any further representations from developers had come forward during the consultation period. The Town Clerk reported minor comments only had been received and that Buckingham was in a good position with the recent developments already agreed, completed or progressing on Lace Hill, and Moreton Rd.

The Town Clerk also commented that nothing had been submitted to suggest the Buckingham Neighbourhood Development Plan need change the housing allocation numbers, and understood that if the plan was agreed then the VofA plan (mark 2) when written, would have to pay to due regard for Buckingham's Plan numbers if previously agreed.

ACTION: TOWN CLERK

700/13 13/03392/APP - BUCKINGHAM CONDITIONAL SUPPORT

Buckingham University Tingewick Road Buckingham Buckinghamshire MK18 1EF Demolition of Former Factory Buildings with the exception of the Office Building and Change of use, extension and alteration of the Office Building to Class D1 Teaching Accommodation and ancillary uses together with associated car parking and landscaping

Members were requested to note that this was a full application for the outline application dealt with last month. Noted that the outline application had not been decided yet, but apparently that did not matter.

The response date was 17th January, but permission had been given to extend this to allow it to go to Full Council on 20th January.

Members supported the demolition, and renovation of the spine building with the following provisos:

1. It could be a long time before Phase II was implemented and in any case the decision had not been made on the AOP application; the Planning Authority might insist on modifications to the AOP. The temporary access point opposite Fishers Field could therefore be in use for some time, and Members felt that this was inadequate without further treatment – such as a mini-roundabout. It was reported that people already parked on the bridge, restricting vision to the right on a slight curve for emerging traffic. A roundabout would also limit traffic speed. Alternatively, the new access proposed in the AOP should be created.

20th January 2014

- 2. The concrete slab to be left; Members felt that this could easily become additional parking space rather than the uses proposed in the application, with concomitant increased use of the access. As long as there was a gap between phases, this would be an eyesore.
- 3. Members would like to see public access through the site to the new footbridge put in place as soon as possible.

701/13 13/03515/APP - BUCKINGHAM

SUPPORT

Buckingham University Tingewick Road Buckingham Buckinghamshire MK18 1EF Erection of a footbridge over the River Great Ouse

702/13 Town Council Surgery

Cllr Harvey – to discuss and agree the possibility of undertaking Town Council Surgeries.

Cllr Harvey informed Members that he had attended some of the recent public consultation events for the BNDP, and had been encouraged by the number of attendees and range of enquiries and comments made. Members discussed the benefits of holding regular 'surgeries' for public to attend and how the meetings could be useful for new and existing residents to call in and raise ad hoc issues in a less formal setting than the Annual Town Meeting.

Members **AGREED** the possibility of holding one informal surgery to gauge public interest and then review further. **ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

703/13 Street lights

Cllr Harvey reported following on various lighting issues raised at public consultation events. Members **AGREED** that the Town Clerk write to the County Council again about lighting required at the entrance to Linden Village, Badgers Estate, and at the Tingewick Rd Junction. **ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

704/13 To receive reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Whyte reported that he had attended a budget scrutiny meeting; the times were challenging for all local authorities, Bucks County Council was in a similar position. Cuts were inevitable; the library would have to maintain numbers, urban grass cutting would be reduced to 6 cuts per year; visits to the Customer Service Centre in Buckingham had significantly reduced, but further reduced opening times may be considered.

Cllr Whyte also reported on significant road repairs to the A413 north on the Akeley/Northants border which should be completed by spring 2015. As Chairman of the Environment, Transport and Locality Services Select Committee at Bucks County, Cllr Whyte had recently submitted a revised contract report for Transport for Bucks to Cabinet. Members had accepted 11 of the recommendations of the report.

705/13 Twinning

Members received an email from the Mayor of Pieta & Gwardamangia in Malta requesting the possibility of looking into twinning with Buckingham. Members discussed the correspondence and **AGREED** that regretfully the Town Council was not capable of sustaining further Twinning relationships. The Mayor would respond.

ACTION: CLLR NEWELL

20th January 2014

RATIFIED 10TH MARCH 2014

page 5 of 6

706/13 Correspondence

706.1 New Homes Bonus Funding Scheme 2014/15 See minute 698/13 above.

706.2 BCC Local Priorities Budget Leaflet

Members noted the content.

706.3 BALC - Nomination for Buckingham Palace Garden Party 3rd June 2014

Proposed by Cllr Whyte, seconded by Cllr P Collins and **AGREED** that the Mayor be nominated to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party on 3rd June 2014.

706.4 Grant support for Lunch Clubs for Older People Noted.

706.5 AVDC News for the Parishes Bulletin

The Town Clerk informed members that the official notification of changes to wards had been received in the office and would be placed on the next Full Council Agenda

ACTION: MARCH AGENDA

707/13 Members are asked to note the reports listed below:

Bucks Rural Affairs Group Annual Conference Report 29/11/13 Aylesbury Vale Transport Users Group Minutes 3/12/2013 Noted.

708/13 Mayoral & Deputy Mayoral Engagements

Members noted the information

709/13 News Releases

None

710/13 Chair's Announcements

The Mayor announced that the Mayor's Charity Ball on 14th February would be going ahead and reminded Councillors that tickets were available to purchase from her.

A cookery demonstration evening by the Reverend Helmsley's daughter, Claire Clark MBE would be held at the Church on Tuesday 1st April.

711/13 Dates of next meetings

Interim or Inform					2014
Full Council	- Monday 10) th March	201	4	

Meeting closed at: 8.45pm	
Signed	Date
Town Mayor	