

BTC/06/21

Minutes of a meeting of the **Full Council** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 at 7pm in the Council Chamber at Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

**Present:**

Cllr. M. Cole JP  
 Cllr. F. Davies  
 Cllr. M. Gateley  
 Cllr. J. Harvey  
 Cllr. S. Hetherington  
 Cllr. H. Mordue  
 Cllr. L. O'Donoghue  
 Cllr. A. Osibogun  
 Cllr. A. Ralph  
 Cllr. A. Schaefer  
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury  
 Cllr. M. Try  
 Cllr. W. Whyte  
 Cllr. R. Willet

Cllr. R. Ahmed attended Via Zoom. Standing Orders were suspended to allow Cllr. Ahmed to speak. Cllr Ahmed did not participate in any vote.

**In attendance:** Mr. P. Hodson  
 Mrs. N. Stockill

Town Clerk  
 Committee Clerk

There were two members of the public present for part of the meeting

**PUBLIC SESSION**

McDonalds 24 hr Licence premises application, Land adjacent to Tesco Store, London Road

Members of the public expressed a number of concerns in respect of the Licensing Authority's decision to award McDonalds a 24 hour premises licence for the London Road restaurant, in particular noting the risk of associated antisocial behaviour. The Council noted that the decision notice was based on a draft policy agreed by Buckinghamshire Council's Licensing Committee in October 2021 but not yet ratified by Buckinghamshire Council.

The Mayor thanked members of the public for attending the Public Session.

**512/21 Apologies for Absence**

Members **AGREED** to suspend Standing Orders should Cllr. Ahmed wish to speak.

**513/21 Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

**514/21 McDonalds 24 hr Licence premises application, Land adjacent to Tesco Store, London Road**

Members recalled that Full Council had previously decided to oppose the removal of the Terminal Hours Licensing Policy in accordance with the decision made by Interim Council on 7th June 2021 (Minute No. 73/21). When the Buckinghamshire Council Licensing

Committee met to consider the removal of the policy, they were not advised of the Town Council's opposition, or even that Members had expressed a view. The Town Clerk had written to the relevant officer expressing concern about this omission. Councillors noted that the final report recommending Buckinghamshire Council formally agrees to remove the policy at its meeting on 24th November did not mention the Town Council's opposition.

Proposed by Cllr. Cole and seconded by Cllr. Davies to appeal the decision to award McDonalds a 24 hr Licence premises application at the Tesco Store, London Road.

Members discussed the merit of submitting an appeal and discussed whether the draft policy may not be wholly sound as it had not taken into account Buckinghamshire and Buckingham Town Councillors' views.

Cllr Harvey called for a recorded vote.

A vote was taken and the results were:

In favour: Cllr. Gateley, Stuchbury, Mahi, Try, Harvey, Ralph, Hetherington, Davies, Willett, Schaefer, Cole, Whyte and O'Donoghue.

Abstentions: Cllrs. Mordue and Osibogun

**Motion carried**

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

**515/21 Full Council**

Members received and **AGREED** the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 4th October 2021.

**516/21 Interim Minutes**

Members received and **AGREED** the minutes of the Interim Council meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021.

**517/21 Planning Committee**

Members received the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on:

- Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021

**518/21 Town Centre and Events Committee**

Members received the minutes and **AGREED** the recommendation therein of the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting held on:

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

Members <b>AGREED</b> to Recommend to Full Council to include the Community's response to the Climate Emergency within the Annual Town Meeting
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Unanimously **AGREED**

**ACTION COMMITTEE CLERK**

Remembrance Parade - Cllr. Ralph expressed concern over comments made about the Town Council's decision to fund a large screen on the Church Green. Cllr. Stuchbury reminded Members that Interim Full Council had **AGREED** up to £2,000 be taken from the contingencies budget (132 4500) to hire a large mobile screen to show the Remembrance Sunday Service on the Church Green to reduce overcrowding and for those who are unable to see the event around the Memorial. The Town Clerk said a press release was

issued prior to the event, detailing who paid for the screen and why the decision was made. Cllr. Stuchbury said the event would be evaluated at the next meeting of TC&E Committee. The Mayor noted that feedback from those in attendance had been overwhelmingly positive.

#### **519/21 Environment Committee**

Members received the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

#### **520/21 Resources Committee**

Members received the minutes and discussed the recommendation therein of the Resources Committee meeting held on Monday 8 November 2021:

Proposed by Cllr. Harvey and seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury to recommend to Full Council that: We recognise that as elected Members of Buckingham Town Council, we are custodians of the Climate Emergency Action Plan and commit to encourage Buckingham to become carbon neutral.

An amendment was proposed by Cllr. Osibogun and seconded by Cllr. Whyte

*“We, as elected Members, recognise that Buckingham Town Council is the custodian of the Climate Emergency Action Plan and commit to encourage Buckingham to become carbon neutral.”*

A vote was taken on the amendment and the results were:

In favour: 10

Against: 0

Abstentions: 4

The amended motion became the substantive motion and a further vote was taken:

In favour: 10

Against: 1

Abstentions: 3

The Substantive Motion was carried.

**NB:** *the other recommendations made by the Resources Committee to Full Council were considered during the confidential section of the agenda.*

#### **521/21 To receive and question reports from Buckinghamshire Council Councillors**

##### **Cllr. Mordue**

Cllr. Harvey asked Cllr. Mordue to investigate why the Town Mayor was not invited to the Green Flag Award flag raising ceremony in Heartlands Park. Cllr. Mordue said he would look into the matter.

##### **Cllr Osibogun**

Cllr. Osibogun reported on matters relating to The Queens Canopy Project, Adult Social Care and the Buckinghamshire Design Code.

##### **Cllr. Stuchbury**

Cllr. Stuchbury reported on his attendance at various Buckinghamshire Council and Bucks Fire Authority meetings.

Cllr Ralph asked Cllr. Stuchbury to press the Community Board for a decision on the funding request for 20mph limits in Buckingham.

## Cllr Whyte

Cllr. Whyte reported on various aspects of Buckinghamshire Council including: The Town Centre Welcome Back programme, Buckinghamshire Design Guide, and Heartlands Park's Green Flag Award.

Cllr. Whyte commented that Buckinghamshire Council had hosted a prestigious transport and climate event, in partnership with a group of businesses & organisations, as part of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26). The event focused on sustainable transport solutions, showcasing a range of technologies and initiatives being developed and used in Buckinghamshire to decarbonise transport. Buckinghamshire Council also announced it would be working to convert its vehicle fleet to electric power.

Cllr. Harvey asked for an update on the Buckinghamshire Council's Code of Conduct and Cllr. Mordue said he would seek an update from the Standards Board.

## 522/21 Committee Calendars

522.1/21 Members received a verbal update from the Town Clerk and **AGREED** the updated calendar of committee dates for 2022.

522.2/21 Members reviewed and **AGREED** the calendar of committee dates for 2023.

## 523/21 Action List

Members **AGREED** to add the following action back on the report, the Town Clerk having reported that no response had yet been received from the Police and Crime Commissioner:

13<sup>th</sup> Sept Interim

353/21 Motion – Cllr. M. Cole JP

*Proposed by Cllr. Cole and seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury that this Council, having been involved in the 2021 consultation about closing Thames Valley Police front desks as a cost-saving exercise, asks how TVP can justify wasting £14.4m of taxpayers' money in pulling out of the Equip IT venture being developed with Surrey and Sussex forces, in which it was the major partner. Prior to the May 2021 elections, TVP was also asking for an increase to its council tax precept to provide more officers. This waste of council taxpayers' money appears to be at odds with that, and we would ask the TV Police Commissioner to justify this profligacy. We would also ask what is the latest situation on counter closures, given that TVP itself noted 51%, a majority, of those taking part in the consultation were opposed to it.*

Members voted unanimously in favour of Cllr. Cole's motion and the Town Clerk was tasked with writing to the TV Police Commissioner. **ACTION TOWN CLERK**

## 524/21 Financial Regulations 6.11

The Town Clerk handed the Mayor with a sealed envelope containing his computer login details in accordance with [Financial Regulations 6.11](#) in the presence of the Council.

## 525/21 Statement of Licensing Policy made under the Gambling Act 2005

Members received and discussed the consultation being carried out by Buckinghamshire Council.

Cllrs. Harvey, Davies and Gateley offered to form a Working Group to draft a response with the Town Clerk on behalf of the Town Council.

This was **AGREED** unanimously

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

## 525/21 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Members noted the reports listed below:

525.1/21 Local Dementia Action Alliance

Members noted a verbal report from Cllr. Harvey noting the next meeting was on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 7pm and the group were seeking more members.

525.2/21 Rural Town Centre, High Streets & Villages Hub Online Seminar 24<sup>th</sup> Oct 2021

Members received and noted the slides from Cllr. Whyte <https://rsnonline.org.uk/27-10-21-rsn-seminar-town-centres-high-streets-village-hubs>. Cllr. Whyte noted that the seminar had been interesting, and proposed a range of measures other towns were taking, but that nothing was suggested which had not already been considered or carried out in Buckingham.

### **526/21 Mayoral Engagements**

Members received and noted a list of events attended by the Mayor:

Functions the Mayor has attended:

October 5: Election of Bard of Buckingham.

October 15: Local Democracy Week event at Buckingham School.

October 16: opening of the Charter Fair.

October 21: BACAB meeting.

October 22: Pontio meeting.

October 25: University of Buckingham graduation.

October 26: launch of Poppy Appeal.

October 28: Buckingham Almshouses and Welfare Charity trustees meeting.

November 6: University of Buckingham graduation.

November 7: Bonfire and Fireworks.

November 9: 2nd Buckingham Guides Parliament Week.

November 11: Civic Remembrance Service, Aylesbury.

November 13: Buckinghamshire Magistrates Association AGM.

November 14: Remembrance Parade, Buckingham.

November 17: Buckingham Primary School Council visit.

### **527/21 Chair's Announcements**

Cllr. Gateley circulated information on the national White Ribbon Campaign.

### **528/21 Date of the next meeting:**

Interim Council – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Full Council - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 (Precept)

Full Council – Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022

### **529/21 COMMITTEE IN PRIVATE SESSION**

#### **Exclusion of Public and Press**

**530/21 RECOMMENDED** In terms of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters and it is, therefore, **RECOMMENDED** that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded. **AGREED**

### **504/21 Confidential Minutes of the Resources Committee**

Members receive the minutes and discussed the recommendations therein of the Resources Committee meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021:

**504.1/21 Purchase of Estates Vehicle**

To recommend to Full Council to agree to option C to purchase the Isuzu LWB Utilitruck from Cordwallis Group.

Recommended that the Committee recommends to Full Council to agree that funds are taken from the budgets listed in Table B. for the 2021/22 budget with a 10% deposit paid on order and the remaining funds to be placed in an earmarked reserve until the balance will have to be paid once the vehicle is received in May/June 2022.

**Table B. Funds to be taken from:**

Amount	2020/21 Budget	Code
£6,200	Vehicle hire and maintenance	205/4063
£4,000	Community Service	201/4068
£21,823	New Cemetery Repayments	253/4619
<b>£32,023</b>	<b>Total</b>	

**Unanimously AGREED**

**504.2/21 Website Rebuild and Maintenance contract**

It is RECOMMENDED that the introduction of the new website is scheduled for April 2022, using the forecast underspend in the 4041/102 Website Provision & Operation budget and the remainder from the same budget in 2022/23 to fund the setup cost and first year’s running cost.

It is RECOMMENDED that Zonkey are awarded the website rebuild contract and the ongoing maintenance, hosting and support contract for the website for the next three to five years.

**Unanimously AGREED**

Meeting closed at: 20.54

Signed ..... Date .....

Town Mayor