

Minutes of a meeting of the **Town Centre and Events Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on **Tuesday 29th March 2016** in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham at 7.00pm

Present:	Cllr. Ms. J. Bates	
	Cllr. T. Bloomfield	Vice Chair
	Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins	
	Cllr. D. Isham	
	Cllr. A. Mahi	Town Mayor
	Cllr. H. Mordue	
	Cllr. M. Smith	Chair
	Cllr. R. Stuchbury	
	Cllr. Mrs. Strain-Clark	
	Also attending	Mrs. A. Brubaker
	Mr. D. Jones	Deputy Town Clerk
<i>for the Town Clerk</i>	Mrs. K. McElligott	

874/15 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Mrs. Gateley, Ms. Newell and Mrs. L. O'Donoghue.

875/15 Declarations of Interest

Cllrs. Strain-Clark and Mordue declared interests as members of the Twinning Association.

876/15 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8th February 2016 ratified at Full Council on 14th March 2016 were received and accepted.

877/15 Action List

877.1 DisabledGo. Disappointment was expressed at the lack of publicity for the 15th March meeting which had led to poor attendance.

Cllr. Strain-Clark also asked that the Flea Market traders be reminded not to park across the dropped kerbs.

877.2 Public Entertainment Licence: Members agreed that both a PRS and a PPL licences be obtained; budget 301/4202 (Firework Display).

877.3 Western Avenue parking: the survey had shown that there was a year-round problem, not just one during the Charter Fairs and Christmas Parade.

For this year's events, cone placement would continue up the southern end of Western Avenue as far as Grenville Road.

Members asked that the survey feedback be provided to the next meeting.

MAY AGENDA

878/15 Markets

878.1 The Deputy Town Clerk gave a verbal report on the Continental Market (Wed-Fri. of half-term). The first day had been wet, but turnout had been good on the next two days. There were very few stalls, and comment was made at the variable interpretation of 'Continental'. The organiser had said that it was too early in the year for many traders, but Members opinion was that he would have known this when the date was agreed and should have mentioned it.

878.2 The Deputy Town Clerk outlined the reasons for having Clerk delegated authority to hire visiting markets for the Cattle Pens area more frequently. He would ensure that the market organisers understood that they were responsible for clearing away all leavings, etc. and he would liaise with the Chairman as appropriate and report to the Committee at the following meeting.

Cllr. Mrs. Collins expressed concern at the possible effect on the Tuesday and Saturday markets, especially if the speciality ones were frequent. The DTC said that he had chosen non-market days and half-term as a means of bringing people into town, and they might well have done other shopping here as well.

Cllr. Isham asked about permission of the landowner to use the Cattle Pens. Mr. Jones said that he had been in touch with Chris Mason at AVDC and discussion about a charge and a formal agreement was ongoing. Cllr. Mordue pointed out that AVDC had a fixed scale for use of their open spaces; as BTC would be handling the bookings a special rate should be agreed to reflect this. Furthermore the Committee Chairman needed to be kept up to date as the ultimate responsibility was his.

Cllr. Smith raised the question of Flea Market traders parking all day in the High Street, North End and Paynes Court. It was agreed that a letter be written for Mr. Horwood to distribute to the traders, reminding them that they could park to unload providing they moved the vehicle away by 9am, and that there was a designated area for market traders in Cornwalls Meadow.

Cllr. Stuchbury reported a difficulty he had experienced with unauthorised parking in the Bull Ring disabled bays and had passed the matter to Cllr. Whyte. Members felt that some parking enforcement on Saturday mornings might be appropriate, and to suggest this to Cllr. Whyte.

ACTION EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR

879/15 Budget

To receive the latest budget figures.

Noted.

880/15 Forthcoming Events

880.1 17th April Spring Fair

Mrs Brubaker reported that this was almost finalised; 14 stalls were booked, including Hogwatch Brackley who looked after injured and orphaned hedgehogs. The Scouts would be providing a barbecue and launching their 'biggest pumpkin' competition.

880.2 3rd May Maypole Dancing

Buckingham Primary School was already booked and letters would go out to the other schools shortly. It would be 11am at the Church as usual.

880.3 29th May Music In The Market

This was being organised by Udo Dolz and Fraser Winterbottom and would feature the Montanas. Though the Whale might not be open, the Kings Head were happy to provide facilities.

880.4 11th – 19th June Fringe Week

The following are arranged:

Saturday 11 th	Kite flying at Buckingham Primary School + small school fete
Sunday 12 th	Queen's birthday party cream teas/picnic/church fete
Monday 13 th	Buckingham Society – Historic Walk
Tuesday 14 th	Cream teas at the Villiers with jazz band; (evening) Oxford Fiddle Group
Wednesday 15 th	Karaoke at the Kings Head

Saturday 18th
Sunday 19th

Drum-off - "Rufus Stone" & Colin Saunders
Comedy Night – Mark Steel (part of his national tour)

There is nothing finalised for Thursday & Friday 16th/17th; the Radcliffe Centre is not available (proposed for a flamenco evening) and the cost of a samba group + Community Centre hire comes to about the same price. Other suggestions are being investigated.

Cllr. Strain-Clark asked that the Kings Head be requested to clear the rear entrance of obstructions to allow easier access to the toilets. It was agreed that all such contributors to the success of an event should be publicly thanked.

881/15 Beacon for the Queen's 90th Birthday 21st April

The Chairman reported that the beacon sites (and their distance apart) were officially approved by the Palace – the nearest approved site was at Akeley.

Members discussed alternatives, and agreed that a donation be made to the Church to have the spire lit for the occasion.

882/15 Best Kept Village Competition

Members noted the rules of the competition. Mrs Brubaker reported that the judging would take place between 6th June and 8th July.

883/15 Flags

To note St George's and Union flags will go up on 20th April on premises around the town centre on the day before the Queen's birthday.

Proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Collins, and **AGREED** that only Union flags should be installed around the town and the St George's flag flown only on the flagpole on 23rd April.

Cllr. Stuchbury thought that the alternating flag scheme was agreed at Full Council, and this could not be revised by the Committee without a new Recommendation being agreed. Cllr. Mordue said that only applied to the town flags; flagpole etiquette was different.

The Chairman suggested that the minutes be checked; if nothing was found then Cllr. Mahi's proposal would stand and only Union flags be installed. **AGREED.**

ACTION EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR

[Full Council minutes 258/14 and 398/14 confirm Cllr. Stuchbury's view]

884/15 Event Reviews

884.1 Pancake Race (written report)

Noted, and the Recommendation that it be held in half-term in 2017 **AGREED**, Cllr. Mrs. Collins dissenting as she felt it should be held on Shrove Tuesday.

884.2 Food Fair (written report)

Cllr. Bates noted that two stalls had been missed off the list – Brightwell and Indian Orchard. The event had gone well, though it was a pity the bread had sold out early. Report noted, and the Recommendation to extend the radius to 30miles around Buckingham **AGREED**. The name should be Buckingham Food Fair.

884.3 Clean For The Queen

The Events Co-ordinator gave a verbal report noting the number of local schools and organisations that had taken part. It had been a success.

There was a brief discussion on some dead rats found during the event; these had been reported to Environmental Health. It was possible that the rats had succumbed during the floods of the preceding week.

884.4 Commonwealth Day

The Events Co-ordinator gave a verbal report on the flag-raising; photos taken were put on Twitter and Facebook. Commonwealth students from the University had been invited to attend, in national dress if possible, but only one of the media team had turned up, half an hour late.

885/15 Twinning Boules Competition 2016

To receive a request from the Twinning Association for the loan of the PA system for the Boules competition.

AGREED. Cllr. Mordue will collect it. He appealed for suggestions for a source of straw bales; Members suggested the NFU, Young Farmers or the Church, and that hay bales might be more available early in the summer. Sandbags were suggested as an alternative, but these were very labour-intensive to fill.

886/15 Youth Council

Deferred due to the absence of Cllr O'Donoghue. Members had previously suggested a written report that could be circulated with the agenda. However, Mr. Jones reported that the Youth Council had met, and seemed engaged.

887/15 Visitor Information Centre – latest statistics

Noted.

888/15 Shop Buckingham

No report had been received from the Traders Association.

889/15 Twinning

The Chairman relayed an update from Cllr Newell regarding the Civic Lunch on Sunday 2nd October. Members agreed that from previous experience it was important that firm numbers were provided as soon as possible. The office should organise the catering, with the Mayor and Chairman deciding the menu, and send out invitations.

It had been agreed at the last meeting (Min 763/15) to obtain catering costs, and if budget allowed, to have a ballot for 3 residents (and guests) to attend.

Efforts would be made to obtain attendance numbers for the next meeting.

ACTION EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR/MAYOR/CHAIRMAN

890/15 Correspondence

None.

891/15 News Releases

Civic Lunch. The Mayor would be provided with a briefing note of the history of the Civic Twinning events.

ACTION EVENTS CO-ORDINATOR

892/16 Chairman's Items

None.

893/15 Date of the next meeting: Monday 23rd May 2016

Meeting closed at 7.55 pm

Signed Date

Chairman

TC&E 29th March 2016

18/05/2016

Draft minutes subject to ratification

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