



BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, THE BUCKINGHAM CENTRE,
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Town Clerk: Mr C. P. Wayman

Tuesday, 19 January 2016

Councillors,

You are summoned to a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council to be held on **Monday 25th January 2016** at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham.

Mr C. P. Wayman
Town Clerk

Please note that the Full Council will be preceded by a Public Session in accordance with Standing Order 1.3, which will last for a maximum of 15 minutes.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence

Members are asked to receive apologies from members.

2. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of any personal or prejudicial interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 Sections 26-34 & Schedule 4.

3. Minutes

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council Meeting held on

- Monday 23rd November 2015 **Copy previously circulated BTC/08/15**
- Monday 11th January 2016 Precept meeting **Copy previously circulated BTC/09/15**

4. Planning Committee

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Planning Committee meetings held on:

- Monday 30th November 2015 **Copy previously circulated PL/10/15**

Proposed by Cllr Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr Harvey and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that the Town Council request the expressway come as near to Buckingham as possible and actively support the project.

- Monday 21st December 2015 **Copy previously circulated PL/11/15**

Proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr O'Donoghue and **RECOMMENDED** to Full Council that the Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan Policies be available at Full Council meetings for reference when considering planning applications of 10 houses, or for a mixed development.

- Monday 18th January 2016 **Copy Previously circulated PL/12/15**



Twinned with Mouvaux, France



5. Environment Committee

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 14th December 2015.

Copy previously circulated E/05/15

Proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr O'Donoghue and **RECOMMENDED** that the Town Council proceed with the Tender produced by Burley's subject to satisfactory references. Should references not be approved, the GSM would take up the second choice.

6. Town Centre and Events Committee

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Town Centre and Events Committee meetings held on Monday 7th December 2015.

Copy previously circulated TCE/05/15

Proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Strain-Clark and **RECOMMENDED** that the event [Clean for the Queen] be organised in co-ordination with schools and relevant organisations in the town.

7. Resources Committee

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 4th January 2016.

Copy previously circulated R/04/15

8. Motion – Cllr Hirons

That this Council uses its best endeavours to get a Minor Injuries Accident unit set up in Buckingham. This could be at an existing surgery, or at the hospital or otherwise.

9. Action List

To receive the updated list and discuss any actions

Appendix A

10. Cllr Mahi – To discuss the future of the library

To receive information from David Jones of the Library Service

Appendix B

11. Community Land Trust

To receive a written report from the Town Clerk

BTC/45/15

12. Bucks County Council – Parking Consultation

Proposed changes to Parking Restrictions in Buckingham Town Centre

Members are requested to view the online documents, plans and survey questionnaire

<https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/mqConsultationDisplay.aspx?ID=2119>

Survey end date 31st January 2016

13. Buckinghamshire Law Plus – Bucks County Council

To receive a request for Independent Panel Members

Appendix C

14. (428/15) Reply - District Councillor Questions

To receive a reply from Bucks County Council to a question asked at Full Council 5/10/15

Original Question below for Members information:

Cllr Harvey also requested that Cllr Stuchbury ask both AVDC and Bucks County Councils that following the announcement on 5th October by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the 'devolution revolution' how they would use their new powers to favour commercial activity in town centres and away from peripheral activity. How would both Councils use their powers for the purpose of keeping town centres alive for the benefit of both the public and commercial users?

Appendix D

15. Community Centre Executive Valuation Summary

To receive the Executive Summary report – the main report is available in the office **Appendix E**

16. Reports from District and County Councillors

16.1 For further discussion and agree any necessary action:

(548/15) Cllr Stuchbury asked all Members to look through the District and County budget setting reports and raise any pertinent issues with Councillors.

Cllr Mordue clarified the position on the CABs in the region – there were currently 2 serving the Vale, Buckingham and Aylesbury; the District's proposed cuts were aimed at promoting efficiencies and working together – a phased situation was proposed and that having one CAB office shouldn't affect front line services.

Members **AGREED** that a future agenda item was necessary to discuss the matter further.

16.2 New reports from District and County Councillors

17. Correspondence

(551/15) To receive a response from the Mayor of Mouvaux for information

Appendix F

18. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

19. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Members are asked to note the reports listed below:

Bourton Meadow Academy Working Group, School Travel Plan – minutes 26/1//15

Buckingham Society AGM Minutes 24/11/2014

Buckingham & Maids Moreton NAG Minutes 25/11/2015

Appendix G

Appendix H

Appendix I

20. Mayoral Engagements

To receive a list of events attended by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Functions the Mayor has attended:

28/11/15 Christmas Lights switch on
02/12/15 Milton Keynes Mayor's Christmas Carol service
05/12/15 Open Rotary Club Wine Festival
06/12/15 Olney Dickens of a Christmas Event
12/12/15 Christmas Parade
17/12/15 Buckingham School Award Ceremony
25/12/15 Community Centre Christmas Lunch

Functions the Deputy Mayor has attended:

22/11/15 Film Place Gala Evening
25/11/15 NAG AGM
28/11/15 Christmas Lights Switch On
12/12/15 Christmas Carols with Leighton Buzzard Council

21. News Releases

22. Chair's Announcements

23. Date of the next meeting: Interim Council – Monday 22nd February 2016
Full Council - Monday 14th March 2016

ACTION LIST

FULL COUNCIL, INTERIM COUNCIL & EXTRAORDINARY MEETINGS

Subject	Meeting date/ Minute	Form	Response received
Festival of Health	433.1/14	Town Clerk to explore possibility	Moved to Environment committee
Toilets	220/14	DTC & TC to arrange for the construction	NHB has been confirmed, awaiting revised lease
Community Centre Lease	393/14	Draw up funding Plan for Community Centre	Roof work carried out
Cycling Signage	643/14	Work with BCC and other parishes – discuss with Canal Society and BCC cycling route	Awaiting initial work to start on Buckingham-Winslow
S106 discussions	643/14	Write to Secretary of State ref legal position; publicly express desire to negotiate with AVDC	Awaiting formal response however, AVDC now more engaging
Red Cross Building	119/15	Explore possibility of temporary use of building	Awaiting Church to gain access to allow Town Council meetings to take place
Buckingham Partnership	191/15	To call a meeting	
AVDC Devolved	310/15	To write to AVDC to take on services	Holding letter received
District and County Reports	428/15	Town Clerk – Write to AVDC and BCC over the roundabout Cllr. Stuchbury – Source information from AVDC & BCC over devolved powers and town centre economic development	
CCTV	432/15	Purchase new CCTV system	Talking with company over a compatible system to existing
Purchase of Community Centre	436/15	Obtain survey of building	On agenda
Industrial Unit	437/15	Obtain surveys	Asbestos received proceeding
MKCCG Consultation	541/15	Contact MKCCG, Health Watch, Ayle Vale CCG	Discuss issue further
DisabledGo	547/15	Make payment and set up systems	Contract signed meeting 27/1/16
Lace Hill Comm Centre	549/15	Handover	Completed
Broadband – lace hill	553/15	Write to J Bercow ref issues at new development	

An options appraisal has been carried out to identify the most appropriate, cost effective and sustainable way to deliver the library service in the future.

The purpose of the options appraisal is to identify a future delivery model which can deliver the following;

- i} Specific reduction in annual revenue expenditure on libraries from April 2017
- ii} Buckinghamshire libraries able to deliver on the Face of the Council / Heart of the Community strategy and deliver on key council priorities
- iii} Buckinghamshire libraries have the potential for a high quality and low cost sustainable future

A survey of the different models of delivery adopted nationally identified a number of potential options. A combination of research, analysis and discussion identified that of these there are three options that could potentially deliver the required benefits. The options are described below

Option 1 Re-modelled in-house option

This option is the 'as is' – continuing to provide library services under the existing model of local council management and delivery

Option 2 Spin Out

Buckinghamshire's library service spins out as an independent entity. With this option, the whole library service is set up and run as a new organisation, independent from BCC. Operating independently and not-for-profit – and probably as a charity – it can generate income in new ways. It would be incorporated as some form of social enterprise, such as a public service mutual or charitable trust.

Option 3 Outsource

The County Council outsources the running of the library service to an existing external organisation of some kind, as the result of a competitive tender. The service is run via a commissioning contract from BCC. The winning bidder is likely to operate in other business areas, be for profit or not-for-profit, and may or may not be a charity. The contractor has the freedom to generate income in different ways.

Cabinet Member decision

The detailed narrative and scoring from the assessment panel identifies Option 2 Spin Out as the preferred option and a report summarising the options appraisal will be submitted to the Cabinet Member for Community Engagement for approval in February.

If the preferred options is approved, further work will then take place to

- i} work up a detailed business case exploring this option, taking into consideration the various organisational forms of 'spin out' including charitable trust and public service mutual.
- ii} clarify implementation / investment costs, levels of savings to be realised and procurement options and implications.
- iv} to deliver a comprehensive consultation exercise to include including users and non-users, elected members, internal and external partners

BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL

MONDAY 25 JANUARY 2016

Agenda Item no. 10

Contact Officer: Mr Christopher Wayman

01280 816426

Community Land Trusts (CLT)

Strategic Plan

The issue of Community Land Trusts could be seen as an extension of the 1st Critical Success Factor (Neighbourhood Planning). The aims of the CLT would be focused on similar ideas to the Critical Success Factors, namely Improved Community Spirit and Making Buckingham more attractive.

Background Information

Within the Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan there is scope for affordable housing to be undertaken by a Community Land Trust. The Community Land Trust Network defines CLTs as:

Community Land Trusts are local organisations set up and run by ordinary people to develop and manage homes as well as other assets ... The CLT's main task is to make sure these homes are genuinely affordable, based on what people actually earn in their area, not just for now but for every future occupier.

They give the scope to allocate affordable housing to a more local area than currently is the case. At the moment Buckingham is within the North Aylesbury Vale Area, this is roughly the Buckingham and Winslow LAF areas. Houses could be allocated under a CLT to those with local connections to the town (e.g. live, work or have family).

There are currently 375 people on the housing register for the North of Aylesbury Vale area for affordable housing.

What are the steps to do?

The initial step is to form a steering group, a range of 6-8 people is deemed as the optimum for progressing the idea and setting up the CLT. Following this there is a requirement to engage with the community to gain support and volunteers to take the project further.

Once the CLT is in this workable form it would need to define a clear purpose e.g. To develop affordable housing to enable people with a connection to Buckingham to be able to live in the town

After this it would be to formally set up CLT as a legal form and to develop the feasibility and business plans for the projects. The main initial project is expected to be affordable housing on the Tingewick Road Triangle.

Timetable

1 month	set up a steering group to progress the project and develop a project plan
3 months	hold public meeting to inform community of the plan and gain support and volunteers
6-9 months	time hold further public meeting having progressed the idea further and decided how to form the CLT
1 year	have an interim board set up and discussing with key partners
18 months	have the CLT registered as a legal entity
2-3 years	start on site with the Tingewick Road Triangle development
5 years	have 12 affordable home and look for new projects and developments.

Initial Feasibility and projects

The Community Land Trust would be in a great position to start off due to the Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan. Under HP5 paras 6.4 and 6.5 set out information regarding the CLT and request that at least 10% of affordable housing will be delivered through the CLT. This would result in at least 21 houses over the course of the Neighbourhood Plan. As a result this would be a good solid base to work from.

Sources of funding and Support

CLT Start up fund offers three stages of support

1. One day's support with a specialist CLT Technical Advisor to scope out your project. This day will help you consolidate your ideas and should give you a starting point to decide whether your plans are viable, and whether a CLT is for you. At the end of the day, your advisor will prepare a report including suggested next steps.
2. A further 2 days' support with a specialist advisor, to build on your plans developed during the first scoping day. You might choose to use this time all at once, or spread over a longer period. At the end of this stage, you should have clear aims for your CLT, a well-formed steering group and a solid idea of your next steps to take the scheme forward.
3. Grants of up to £4,000 to help you pay for the costs of formally setting up your CLT and developing your initial ideas into an investment-ready business plan.

There is also a £750 grant available to visit other CLT's to learn from their experiences.

When progressing the project further there is a £50,000 (or £2,000 per unit) of social investment loans available (payable only if the scheme is successful) to help cover activities such as architects fees, ecological surveys, ground surveys and community consultation. Beyond this there is a capital loan available of up to £300,000 to top-up other investments

Tenure Options

There are a number of options for what type of solution would fit onto developments including:

- Resale Price Covenant Sales
- Equity Loan
- Shared Ownership Sales
- Leasehold enfranchisement
- Social Renting
- Mutual Home Ownership

It would be up to the CLT to decide which format would be most suitable for it going forward.

Resources

The resource implications are fairly low for the Town Council. It would be beneficial for the Town Council to aid in the setting up of the CLT and arrange for the purchase of a year's membership of Community Land Trust Network which is £45 for new organisations.

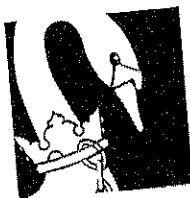
In addition a public meeting would be a good basis to obtain people who will drive the project forward. If the Town Council could host the meeting in the small hall of the Community Centre it would be a useful start for the group.

Officer Time is expected to be fairly low with approximately 4 days of time estimated in discussions with other groups and background reading and preparation for the public meeting. Work can then be passed on to the CLT once it has a working board.

Recommendation

Recommend that the years membership is taken out to the CLT Network and advertising is done through a news release and social media to find people who would be interested in setting up the CLT. In addition the small hall in the community centre is booked for a public meeting on the subject.

Buckinghamshire County Council's
In-House Legal Service



Buckinghamshire Law Plus

Quality. Affordability. Excellence.

The Clerk to the Council
Buckingham Town Council
Town Council Offices
Cornwalls Meadow
Buckingham
MK18 1RP

contact: The Appeals Team
telephone: 01296 383384/387548/383677
email: appeals@buckscc.gov.uk
address: Room G51, New County Offices,
Walton Street, Aylesbury, HP20 1UA

Date: December 2015

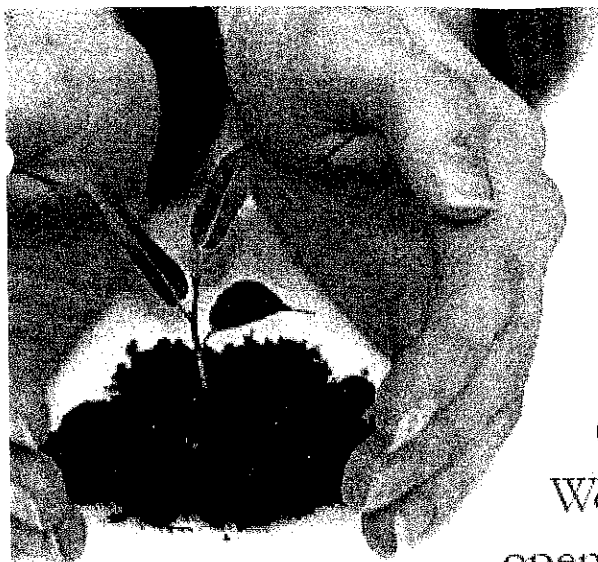
Dear Clerk,

We would be very grateful if you could forward the attached advertisement to your Council Members at the next Council meeting. We are looking for people to join our Independent Education Appeal Panels to hear education appeals for Buckinghamshire schools. We have seen a huge increase in appeals in the past few years and as a consequence we need to increase our pool of volunteer panel members in order to cope with the demand.

Personal skills we are looking for include the ability to listen and communicate well, and the confidence to make (what can be very difficult) decisions. We provide ongoing comprehensive training for prospective Panel Members in the provision of Educational Law, as well as the procedural aspect of Education Appeals.

We would be very interested to hear from anyone with an interest in education, who would like to learn more about this voluntary role.

Yours sincerely



Safe hands needed.

Interested in education? If
so Buckinghamshire County
Council needs your help.

We are looking for committed and
open-minded volunteers to become
Independent Appeal Panel Members.

We welcome applications from all walks of life,
backgrounds, ages and ethnic groups. Full
training will be provided.

Call the Appeals Team on 01296 383384
for more information.



From: "Walford, Stephen" <stwalford@buckscc.gov.uk>
Date: 24 November 2015 10:13:41 GMT
To: "Stuchbury, Robin - (County Councillor)" <rstuchbury@buckscc.gov.uk>
Cc: "Turnbull, Sara" <sturnbull@buckscc.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Question from Robin Stuchbury - commercial activity

Robin

Powers to favour town centres at the expense of 'peripheral' activity could potentially fall into two camps. Firstly, planning powers could be utilised to strengthen a 'town centre first' policy (using what's known as the sequential test in planning terms) to only permit peripheral retail and related activity once strict tests have been met around not competing with or undermining the town centre. As you might imagine, this is largely a district council matter.

On the second, the 'devolution revolution' is still being sketched out let alone rigidly defined yet! I presume the Town Council's question relates to the extent to which any future devolved authority might use any new powers (for example over the setting of business rates) to overtly favour town centre commercial activity. At this point in time I think it's fair to say that a policy decision would need to be taken depending on what these powers actually look like. All we know at the moment is that devolved areas without Mayors are unlikely to be able to raise business rates, so we will have to see what freedoms and flexibilities any 'devolution' bestows upon Buckinghamshire...

This is a complicated area, which will no doubt become clearer over time once the 'rules of the game' are better understood.

Regards
Stephen

Stephen Walford
Director – Growth & Strategy
Transport • Economy • Environment

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Property:	Buckingham Community Centre, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham, Buckinghamshire MK18 1RP	
Location:	Town centre location with car park adjacent	
Description:	Detached purpose built community centre	
Tenure:	Freehold	
Market Value:	£50,000	
	Strengths	Weaknesses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freehold property. • Purpose built. • Car parking adjacent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No significant weaknesses.
	Opportunities	Threats
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for other uses, subject to planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic and / or market conditions which have been reflected in our valuation.
Demand:	Fair demand from alternative users.	
Volatility of Property Performance:	Static.	
Planning:	Use Class D1	
Title Issues:	None as far as we are aware.	
Other Pertinent Issues:	None.	
Economic Life:	We are of the opinion that the property has a useful economic life in excess of 25 years subject to normal wear and tear and appropriate maintenance.	
Valuer:	Peter J Wilson FRICS RICS Registered valuer	

This Executive Summary should not be relied upon in isolation and should be read in conjunction with our full report and valuation.

Département du Nord
Ville de MOUVAUX



Mister Andrew MAHI
Mayor
Buckingham Town Council
Town Council Offices, Buckingham Centre
Verney Close
BUCKINGHAM. MK18 1JP

ED/RH
03.12.15

Dear Mayor,

France has been hit hard in recent days.

Our country carries with it the face of every victim fell, struck by the barbarity and cowardice in the attacks in Paris on 13 November.

Innocent people were slaughtered coldly, executed.

The emotion is huge and I was very sensitive to your message of support.

Your thoughts for the victims, your share of the punishment that everyone can feel in these terrible moments are signs of solidarity and compassion that unite our peoples.

Please forward to the inhabitants of Buckingham my gratitude and of the entire Municipal Council of Mouvaux.

Yours faithfully,

It's a pleasure to meet you.

Eric DURAND
Maire de Mouvaux
Président du SIVOM
Centre Métropole

Hôtel de Ville - 42, Boulevard Carnot - 59420 Mouvaux

Bourton Meadow Academy
School Travel Plan – Working Group
26 November 2015

Those Present:

Jo Bunyan - Governor
 Lisa Horner – Travel Plan co-ordinator
 Julie Austen – SLT
 Urita Hopkins – Police representative
 Mike Smith – Town Council
 Warren White – County Council
 Lisa O'Donaghue – Resident
 Amber Pagano – Teacher
 Tash Thompson – Parent/staff
 Malcolm Holt – Resident/staff
 Kate Dukmanton – Governor/Parent
 JRSO's – Samuel, Etienne, Nathan

Meeting Notes:

Copies of the Travel Plan were given to everyone and notification of being awarded the Bronze level award for the second year running was announced. We confirmed we are working towards to silver award for next year.

LH explained the travel plan document and highlighted certain areas.

We propose running the following initiatives in the near future:

1. Walk to school Wednesday – sticker reward scheme (weekly)
2. JRSO safety assembly to the whole school
3. JRSO's will conduct a survey on the playground as parents arrive to collect their children regarding parking, time of arrival at school etc.
4. Teacher briefings – regular reminders in staff meeting as to where to park around the school.
5. The Cycling proficiency is offered to 36 year 5 children and is completed annually.
6. The Fire service drive past – this has already been completed but will be repeated during this school year.
7. Scooter skills and possible scooterpod may be obtained as a safe place for scooters to be left and therefore encourage more children to come to school on them.
8. A Poster campaign was run in the autumn term and a poster was made by each class. These will be laminated and displayed around the school on a regular basis.
9. There is a Safety snippet on the weekly bulletin which is accessible to all parents.
10. Parent pledges are to be signed when a child joins the school and each year subsequently when the date sheets are sent out.
11. The Police have agreed to present to the children in assembly about road safety and in car safety.
12. We will encourage children to be more independent although the decision is that of the parents and the school can accept no responsibility until the classroom doors are open in the mornings and after the children have left the school gates in the afternoon. Warren White felt children from 9 years should be encouraged to walk to school independently. We discussed and challenged the difference in maturity for 9 years, objections from parents and how it would be a parent's decision not something the school could insist on. He felt we needed to work on changing people's perception of danger.
13. We supply families with information to 'park and stride' from further round the Linden Village estate or from the Badgers estate and Tudor Meadows estate. If a child has walked from these areas they will be included in the stickers on Walk to School Wednesdays.

14. Malcolm Holt usually supervises at the drop off lay by in the morning and busiest crossing point in the afternoon. He is frequently verbally abused but his role is vital and we are grateful for his presence.
15. Maps have been provided to all parents to show where they can park safely.
16. We discussed a walking bus from the Stratford Fields car park but following our research it was deemed unsuitable for our circumstances.

Unita confirmed that PCSO's would no longer be policing the area outside school due to resources but confirmed she would continue to support the school in any way she can.

We would very much welcome both Warren and Mike at the school on either morning drop off or afternoon pick up and so would be grateful if they could confirm their availability to ensure one of us is there to greet them. We would suggest sometime in the new year. If you could both e mail me on jo.bunyan@ hotmail.co.uk and we can put a date in the diary.

It was suggested that hi visibility jackets encourage parents to park more courteously so we have recommended Malcolm wears one!!!

Ideally we would like to extend or create a bigger car park and we will look again at the footprint of the school and any possibilities that we may not have considered. Ultimately most of these decisions are not proceeded with due to funding.

Although we encourage staff to park in the staff car park or towards the 'dead end' by Jarmen Close they don't always do so- we will work harder to encourage them to park in these areas until they are completely occupied.

LH will be looking at the school statistics to establish the proportion of children with in the catchment area and the proportion outside and then we can work on the smaller groups of parents to ensure they are making the right choices each day.

The school have already segmented the parking issues by offering:

- Breakfast club approx 93 children per day
- Early drop off approx 23 children per day
- Drop off layby
- Late pick up at 4.30pm approx 15 children per day
- Clubs approx 58% of the children per week
- Activators approx 100 children per day

The school funded a letter drop to all homes on the Linden Village estate inviting them into school if they have any worries or concerns particularly regarding parking – to date no one has contacted the school.

A defibrillator is going to be available for the community to use from January and will be situated near the corner of the building by the Bourton Centre.

We would like to thank everyone for their time and look forward to the next meeting in the Spring term.

MINUTES OF BUCKINGHAM SOCIETY AGM
24th November 2014
Held in The Sunley Lecture Theatre, University of Buckingham

Attendees:

William Howkins, Ginny Bannerman, Gillian Smith, Paul Radcliffe, Mary Buckingham; Ron Buckingham, Alfred May, Paul Ketteridge, Pat Lindsay, Mike Lindsay, Gillian McDonald, Maurice Stanton-Saringer, Pauline Stanton Saringer, Bill Mercer, Anne Mercer, Carolyn Cumming, Robert Cumming, Ed Grimsdale, Janet Farmer, Ted Farmer, Tony Webster, Anthony Smith, Pauline Brown, Richard Brown, Helene Hill, Kay Meadows, David Child, Margaret Taylor, Roy Taylor, Sally Howarth, Jennifer Barker, Bill Robins, John Hockley, Christine Hockley, Ian Orton, Roger Edwards, Kathy Robins,

1 The Chair welcomed those in attendance and read out the names of those who had apologised for their absence.
 Belinda Morely-Fletcher, Gill & Ernie Jones, Elizabeth Lane, John Murray, John & Celia Clarke, Richard & Rima Scott, Anthony Barr, Desmond Bonner, Una Robinson, Geoff & Valerie Shaw, Alistair Allcock, Derek Isham, Colin & Christina Smith, Nigel Morrison

2. **The Minutes of the 2013 AGM** were agreed as a true copy.

3. **Matters arising:** None

4. **Membership Report:** (Read in membership secretary's absence.)

There are currently 190 members. Gift Aid will be approximately £280 this year. It was proposed that membership should remain at £10 for adults, £16 for two adults and £4 for the unwaged. One person felt that the cost of membership for seniors should be higher. This will be raised again next year.

Ways of increasing membership are in hand, including an updated membership brochure, and regular use of the charity stall in the town market. Any suggestions to increase membership numbers would be welcomed by the Committee.

5. **Executive Committee Report**

Roger Edwards outlined the work carried out by the society over the last year, including the Planning Group who scrutinise all planning applications. Ian Orton is standing down from his representation of the Society on the Buckingham Town Council Planning Group. His role will be taken by Carolyn Cumming with Paul Fello deputising. Ian Orton will now take the lead on Open Spaces. He described the work of the Transport Group, and the essential work of the Society's Treasurer, Secretary and Membership Secretary. Roger thanked all of the committee for their hard work, especially Ian Orton who has represented the Society on the Town Council Planning Committee for five years.

Roger described the many activities that had taken place during the year including the District Council election hustings organised so well by Kathy Robins, Ian Orton and Ed Grimsdale. The vicar, Will Pearson-Gee was thanked for chairing the meeting. The celebration of Civic Day took place in June and Roger thanked Russell Cross, John Bercow and the Glee Club for their contribution and AVDC for their financial support via the Destination Buckingham Group. In 2016 a Trader of the Year Award is proposed. The enjoyable annual garden party was preceded by a talk by the Chief Executive of the Milton Keynes Parks Trust. Kathy Robins and her team were thanked for organising the evening. Heritage Open Day was a great success and Jeremy and Sally Howarth were thanked for opening their garden as was Ed Grimsdale for his guided walk. Alistair Allcock was thanked for providing an invaluable link to the University and for their allowing the use of rooms. Finally, The Villiers Hotel and the University were thanked for providing committee meeting rooms and other facilities throughout the year.

6. **Treasurer's Report:** The audited accounts were accepted as published.
 Proposed: Ian Orton Seconded: Kathy Robins

7. **Election of Officers:** Roger Edwards was re-elected as Chair

Proposed: Ian Orton Seconded: Ginny Bannerman
The proposal was accepted unanimously by Members present

All other Officers and Committee members agreed to carry on in their present posts:

Proposed: Ian Orton Seconded: Ginny Bannerman
Again the proposal was accepted unanimously by Members present

8. Buckingham Society response to Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan consultation

Roger Edwards said that the society needs to formulate a response to the VAP consultation by 4th December. The real issue is how the VAP links to the already agreed Buckingham Neighbourhood Development Plan. After discussion it was agreed that the society's response would be agreed at the Planning Special Interest Group meeting on Friday 27th November at 2.00pm. Any contributions should be submitted to this group and members are welcome to attend.

9. Any Other Business:

Anthony Smith asked when the footpath on the North side of the river (behind Candleford Court) would be finished and made more accessible particularly at the London Road end. It still needs to be tidied and rubbish removed.

Robert Cumming suggested that the ring road should have large brown signs saying "Buckingham – Historic Market Town". This point will be passed to the Destination Buckingham Group.

Roger Edwards then introduced the speaker Dr. Susan Fern who gave a fascinating talk entitled "Anglo-Saxon Treasure – Unravelling the Lenborough Hoard"

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

BUCKINGHAM & MAIDS MORETON NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP

NOTE OF THE ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT BUCKINGHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON WEDNESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2015

In attendance:

Ms T Agbaje	Cllr J Bates	Mr D Child	Mrs G Child
Ms D Cotter	Mrs C Cumming	A/Insp E Dover	Ms V Elgaain
Cllr P Hirons	Cllr J Harvey	Mrs M Howard	Cllr D Isham
Mr J Lowe	Mrs C Moxon	Ms M Oadcj	Mrs K Robins
Mr A Rudolf	Cllr M Smith (Chairman)	Cllr W Whyte	

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr T Bloomfield	Mrs D Clements	Mr N Robinson
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Welcome and Introduction

- 1.1 Cllr Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly A/Insp Emily Dover from TVP and Ms Dawn Cotter from AVDC Community Safety Team.
- 1.2 He reminded everyone that NAGs, as the TVP website link said, were a key part of Neighbourhood Policing. Paraphrasing from the Constitution, he said that a NAG *is a problem-solving group of relevant partner agencies, key stakeholders and members of the community, each bringing different skills to resolving the identified priorities. By focussing on those concerns, community safety can be improved, and crime and disorder reduced.*
- 1.3 He explained that the meeting, which should take no more than about an hour, would summarise NAG activities in the preceding year, hear from TVP, and then discuss what NAG priorities would be for the coming year. Finally, after deciding who would be NAG Chairman for the coming year, there would be an opportunity for networking, discussing issues with TVP and/or AVDC Community Safety, collect leaflets etc kindly provided by both – and hopefully volunteer for the several vacancies that the NAG currently had.

Review of the Year's Activities

- 2.1 Cllr Smith said that the NAG had met quarterly but NAG members had also been very active between meetings on a number of issues. The priorities decided upon last year were **Noise** (particularly from pubs late at night) and associated ASB, **Drug Awareness**, and the introduction of **Community Speed Watch**.
- 2.2 **Noise** – for the second year, following AVDC Environmental Health issuing Noise Abatement Notices in 2014, the problem has been drastically reduced. In fact, there were few noise complaints, and much reduced ASB associated with late-night drinking.
- 2.3 Connected with this, the NAG had inputs to the revised AVDC licensing policy which would come into effect during 2016. Changes to this included restricting late-night closure to 1.30am (midnight for new applicants unless extra tests for later closing were satisfied), which were justified by the earlier sound measurement exercises undertaken in conjunction with the NAG following discussions with the Environmental Health and Licensing Departments about better controlling town centre late-night noise.
- 2.4 The NAG has continued to work closely with the Community Safety Team and the University, and Cllr Smith was delighted to report that former problems attributed to students had virtually disappeared, thanks to the University's very robust approach to such matters.
- 2.5 **Drug Awareness** - it was very apparent that TVP's "Operation Awareness" had been a resounding success, although they are still very diligent in this matter. Our thanks are due to Inspector Davies and his Team for their successes in our area. The NAG had offered to fund a hard-hitting leaflet to young people and their parents pointing out the very real dangers of substance abuse, but TVP had decided to go their own route with this.
- 2.6 The NAG had also tried to get the play "Mum – Can You Lend Me Twenty Quid" put on locally, as it provides a vivid portrayal of the early signs of substance abuse. After a couple of possible dates, this eventually fell off *Young Addaction* radar, which was disappointing.

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- 2.7 **Community Speed Watch** – Cllr Smith reminded the meeting that at last year's Annual Public Meeting, it had been agreed to bid for Community Speed Watch equipment, and several people present had agreed to undertake training so that it could be deployed at suitable "hot spots" in Buckingham and Maids Moreton. The bid to the Local Area Forum (LAF) was successful, but only Cllr Warren Whyte and he turned up for the training. Also, it had been planned to store the equipment locally, but it went "missing" and was eventually located at the TVP office in Winslow. He was glad to report that it was now in the Town Council Chamber store room and, if further volunteers were forthcoming and further training could be arranged, it could be put to good use.
- 2.8 TVP had confirmed suitable sites at:
- **Stratford Road**, in both directions (between Lower Wharf and the triangular sign toward the town, both sides of the road)
 - **Brackley Road**, towards town only (by the bench at the town end of the cemetery).
 - **London Road**, away from town only (by the third streetlight, away from the traffic island by the Swan Pool)
 - **Bourton Road**, both directions (by the direction sign, about 30 metres west of the Bourton Meadow car park, both sides of the road)
 - **Moreton Road**, away from town (by the footpath which leads into the Gilbert Scott estate, which is between Beech Close and Bradfield Avenue)
 - **Moreton Road**, towards town (between and opposite the two Jacob roads)
 - **Tingewick Road**, both directions (outside Hamilton's' Engineers, both sides of the road)
- 2.9 Cllr Smith added that there might be other suitable sites which could be explored, but one thing was certain – unless this NAG could put it to use, the Speed Watch equipment would have to be re-located to an area where it would be used. He also reminded the meeting that West Street and Western Avenue were both unsuitable sites for Speed Watch.
- 2.10 Having dealt with the priority issues, Cllr Smith went on to say that, as in previous years, the NAG had continued to work with other partner organisations to encourage activities for young people, both to give them something to do but also to perhaps divert some of them from more mischievous activities.
- 2.11 During the past year, a hitherto loose affiliation of community partners re-branded itself as the **Buckingham Activities Group**, and set in train the following programme of activities for young people in the Buckingham area:
- Work experience placements, kindly offered by Balfour Beatty (Swan Pool)
 - Arranged 12 weeks of Basketball training sessions
 - Looked into organising a Buckingham Bake-Off
 - Explored the feasibility of "Boot Camp" type physical training sessions
 - Introduced American Football training sessions
 - Organised a "Blood Guts & Gore" First Aid course
 - Began organising a Gaming League for computer-based football management, that should take place in the New Year
 - Are encouraging the Buckingham Youth Council to put on their own Music event
 - Supported the *Young Addaction* bus regular attendances in Buckingham
 - Opened discussions with *Box Cleve* in Aylesbury about similar events in Buckingham
- 2.12 This all followed extensive analysis of what our young people had said they would like to see happening. The group had applied for funding via the recent *Buckingham Decides* vote for LAF funding (Ms Cotter confirmed during the meeting that £1,500.00 had been awarded); and had also been supported by TVP, Town Council and NAG funding.

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- 2.13 Finally, Cllr Smith felt confident that the meeting shared his wish for good fortune to Inspector Davies who had moved to pastures new. Inspector Davies had achieved a number of obvious successes during his time here. By the same token, Cllr Smith was confident that his replacement on 2 December, Inspector Chris Young, would receive a warm welcome in Buckingham and Maids Moreton. In the meantime, he thanked Acting Inspector Emily Dover for so ably taking the helm, and was delighted that she would be remaining as Sergeant in the local Neighbourhood Team.
- 2.14 Having said that, however, he touched on the changing relationship between the NAG and TVP. As he had said at the outset of the meeting, NAGs were deemed to be a key part of Neighbourhood Policing. For many years, this NAG had enjoyed an excellent rapport with the local neighbourhood Policing Team: NAG members had been invited as observers at some HGV checks and speeding exercises; and were regularly approached over local issues, including such matters as the school travel plan and parking issues at Bourton Meadow School. The NAG had been glad to contribute to the purchase of a speed gun in 2010 for their use, and had purchased sports equipment to help local police engage with the youngsters.
- 2.15 The Neighbourhood Team had encouraged the Town Council to purchase CCTV equipment to monitor areas where problems were likely to occur, on the understanding that the images could be picked up by the police locally. Such equipment is more expensive, but it was provided. Last year, after a couple of years of enquiring why they couldn't get direct access to the images, we were informed that TVP are unwilling to meet the modest cost of it relayed to their equipment. As a consequence, they have to continue to go to the Town Council Office to view the images. And they have recently asked for an additional camera!
- 2.16 Buckingham now only occasionally sees a PC or PCSO patrolling the streets as Government cuts impact heavily on Neighbourhood Policing. Regrettable though this is, it stands to reason that cuts to police back-room staff simply means shoving more work on to the front-line officers. Today, the Chancellor's Spending Review indicated no further cuts in police budgets. Although welcome news, there might still be devil in the detail and we should remember that some 17,000 officer posts have already been lost nationally.
- 2.17 These criticisms were not directed at our local Neighbourhood Team, and Cllr Smith knew that local officers did a difficult job while, in his experience, remaining approachable (when you can find them) and of good humour. But it did give rise to questions about whether the police in general continue to value NAGs, and how NAGs might continue to contribute.
- 2.18 Similarly, Cllr Smith was aware that residents and local organisations only engaged with the NAG when problems arose and there were perceptions that "something needs to be done". Attendance at NAG membership meetings continued to decline, and some groups (Age UK, British Legion, schools, youth services, the University, faith groups, traders and the licensed trade) and residents (Linden Village, Western Avenue, Chandos Road, Highlands, and Lace Hill) remained unrepresented. This made it all the harder for the rest of us.
- 2.19 In conclusion, Cllr Smith wondered if the NAG was still needed. Arguably, Community Speed Watch could be undertaken by the Town Council, and the Buckingham Activity Group would continue its good work with or without NAG input. All other issues that the NAG has dealt with over the years, such as noise and anti-social behaviour, could simply be reported to the police and/or other appropriate authorities – the Community Safety Team, AVDC Licensing etc. These are things needed to be born in mind when it came to considering the NAG's future.

Policing Successes and Challenges

- 3.1 A/Insp Dover confirmed that the Neighbourhood priorities were drugs, anti-social behaviour, and burglaries. On the drugs front, "Operation Awareness" had been very successful, with a significant number of convictions reported in the media. The operation also included the issue of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and support for youths who were vulnerable.

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- 3.2 Tackling anti-social behaviour had also seen many successes. Thanks to closer working with housing associations, which had resulted in several evictions, many potential trouble-makers had now left the area.
- 3.3 Burglaries were reduced from 37 last year to 30 in the current year, although there had been a slight increase in reported thefts from vehicles.
- 3.4 Turning to wider issues, A/Insp Dover said that NAGs were still valued and that the Chief Constable had confirmed Neighbourhood Policing as the bedrock of TVP activities. TVP priorities were now "Demand Reduction", which meant the elimination of repeat events and the targeting of crime "hot-spots"; dealing with vulnerable adults and youth; and local issues identified by NAGs and similar local groups.
- 3.5 She encouraged wider use of the Thames Valley Alerts website (www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk) which provided advice and trends and was now available on mobile 'phones, as well as their Twitter feeds.
- 3.6 Finally, she confirmed the personnel changes noted at 2.13 above, and added that PC Nikki Tipping had now moved to a position liaising with Aylesbury Vale schools.

Priorities for the Coming Year

- 4.1 Discussion revealed no new pressing issues, and centred on getting Community Speed Watch up and running, the increase in on-line fraud, ongoing issues with substance misuse in Buckingham, and litter. There was also an enquiry about Neighbourhood Watch and its availability in the NAG area, which A/Insp Dover said was co-ordinated by TVP but required a 60% sign-up for any given area.
- 4.2 After further discussion, the following priorities were agreed:
 - o **Community Speed Watch** – Cllr Harvey pointed to the urgent need to get more people involved and volunteered to publicise this need via social media as well as putting his name forward for training. Cllr Hirons and Mr Rudolf also volunteered their names. These were in addition to those volunteering last year, only two of whom had attended the training session. It was agreed to try and secure a further training session, and then work to the list at 2.8 above.
 - o **Drug Awareness** – promote and publicise means of spotting a potential problem, based on a survey that Ms Cotter agreed to provide.
 - o **On-line Fraud** – publicise and promote wider use of Thames Valley Alerts and other advice.
 - o **Litter** – encourage proper disposal of litter, particularly take-away food containers; and support any initiatives arising from next year's prioritisation of the issue by BCC.

Election of NAG Chairman for the coming year

- 5.1 Having fulfilled the role since 2007, Cllr Smith invited anyone wishing to take the Chair for the coming year to signify their interest. Nobody volunteered, and several wished him to continue. He thanked them for their expression of confidence and, while reluctantly agreeing to continue for yet another year, indicated that it would be his last.

Close

- 6.1 Cllr Smith thanked everyone for attending, particularly A/Insp Dover and Ms Cotter who had attended to contribute to the meeting; and Mrs Moxon for so ably handling all the publicity for the meeting. He then closed the meeting.