



BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

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Town Clerk: Mr C. P. Wayman

Tuesday, 11 August 2015

Councillors,

You are summoned to a meeting of the Full Council of Buckingham Town Council to be held on **Monday 17 August 2015** at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls 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. Presentation of the Honorary Freeman's Scroll

To present the Honorary Freeman's Scroll to retired Councillor and former Mayor Hedley Cadd.

4. Motion – Cllr Stuchbury

That following AVDC's agreement to enter into talks with Town/Parish Councils to transfer community assets, that Buckingham Town Council express interest in taking over with full budgetary information the following:

4.1 Cornwall's Meadows Car Park and to enter into discussion with AVDC to transfer all District-run Buckingham car parks to Buckingham Town Council.

4.2 the Swan Pool; to express an interest to entering into long-term talks to transfer the Swan Pool as a community asset to Buckingham Town Council in the future.

4.3 the Heartlands public open space.

4.4 Buckingham Athletics football ground.

5. Motion – Cllr Strain-Clark

This council calls on the Filmlace and the University of Buckingham to provide some seating in the Ian Fairbairn Lecture Hall that is accessible to wheelchair users and others with mobility problems, while allowing them to have a reasonable viewing experience.

The council understands that a platform could be built at the back of the auditorium, accessible by lift, necessitating the use of an evacuation chair in emergencies. The University would need to

Buckingham



Twinned with Mouvaux, France



build the platform and provide the chair. Filmpalace volunteers would need training to operate the chair.

This council therefore undertakes to start negotiations with the University and the Filmpalace, with a view to helping them find a way forward.

6. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

- 6.1 Cllr. S. Cole
- 6.2 Cllr. T. Mills
- 6.3 Cllr. H. Mordue
- 6.4 Cllr. R. Stuchbury
- 6.5 Cllr. W. Whyte

7. Minutes

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Full Council Meeting held on Monday 29 June 2015. **Copy previously circulated BTC/04/15**

8. Interim Minutes

10.1 To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Interim Council meeting held on Monday 27 July 2015. **Copy previously circulated IM/02/15**

10.2 (Min. 267/15 refers). In light of the additional information provided, to discuss whether to modify the Town Council's 'Oppose' response to the application 15/01218/AOP – the Mayor.

9. Planning Committee

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

- Monday 29 June 2015 (Extraordinary) **Copy previously circulated PL/03/15**
- Monday 6 July 2015 **Copy previously circulated PL/04/15**
- Monday 27 July 2015 **Copy previously circulated PL/05/15**

10. Environment Committee

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 20 July 2015. **Copy previously circulated E/02/15**

11. 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 13 July 2015. **Copy previously circulated TCE/02/15**

232/15 Proposed by Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Bloomfield and RECOMMENDED to Full Council to appoint a budget and approve the purchase of a Commonwealth Flag

12. Resources Committee

To receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the Finance, Administration and Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 3 August 2015.

Copy previously circulated R/02/15

13. Action List

To receive and discuss the action list
13.1 Report on 20MPH Speed Areas

**Appendix A
BTC/20/15**

14. HS2 Community Environment Fund

To receive and discuss an email from Buckinghamshire County Council in regards suitable project ideas related to HS2 fund.

Appendix B

15. Mayor Making Ceremony

To receive and discuss an email from the Buckingham Society suggesting combining Mayor Making with Civic day celebrations.

Appendix C

16. Car Parking Charges

To receive the notes of the Destination Buckingham group meeting held on 28th July 2015, and discuss Item 2 and agree the Town Council's position on this matter.

Appendix D

17. Speed Control on A413 Moreton Road

To receive a response from Graham Knight regarding residents' concerns about speed control between Buckingham and Maids Moreton.

Appendix E

18. New Homes Bonus

To discuss and agree projects suitable for NHB applications.

19. NALC Survey

To receive the survey and responses from Members and to discuss and agree further responses.

Appendix F

20. Correspondence

21. Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Members are asked to note the reports listed below:

23.1 Twinning Association Newsletter Summer 2015

23.2 Access for All Minutes 13th July 2015

Appendix G

Appendix H

22. Mayoral Engagements

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

Functions the Mayor has attended:

9 th July	High Sheriff's reception at the Open University
12 th July	Dog Show in Bourton Park
14 th July	Remembrance day meeting
15 th July	Graduation ceremony at Bourton Meadow Academy
19 th July	Mayor of Aylesbury Civic Service at St. Mary's Church
20 th July	The Town Clerk's Presentation at The House of Lords
21 st July	NHS Safe & Well open day at the Buckingham Library
26 th July	Mayor of Leighton Linlade Lunch
28 th July	Destination Buckingham Group Meeting

Functions the Deputy Mayor has attended:

12th July	Bicester Civic Service & Parade
18th July	Attend Milton Keynes 'Art in the Park' Festival at Campbell Park
26th July	Milton Keynes Civic Service at Emberton Church
3rd August	Present 'Buckingham in Bloom' prizes.

23. News Releases

24. Chair's Announcements

25. Date of the next meeting:

Interim Council – Monday 14 September 2015

Full Council – Monday 5 October 2015

To all Councillors

ACTION LIST

FULL COUNCIL, INTERIM COUNCIL & EXTRAORDINARY MEETINGS

Subject	Meeting date/ Minute	Form	Response received
Festival of Health	30 th June 2014 133.1/14	Town Clerk to explore possibility	
Councillors Photographs	30 th June 2014 133.4/14	Cllr. Newell to arrange for invoicing	
Toilets	28 th July 2014 220/14	DTC & TC to arrange for the construction	On Agenda
20mph Speed Limits	6 th Oct 2014 389/14	To complete report on 20mph areas following information gathered on accidents	Agenda Item 13.1
Community Centre Lease	6 th Oct 2014 393/14	Draw up funding Plan for Community Centre	Having to affect roof repairs currently seeking quotes
Cycling Signage	19 th Jan 2015 643/14	Work with BCC and other parishes – discuss with Canal Society and BCC cycling route	Discussions with BCC have commenced
S106 discussions	19 th Jan 2015 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
University Access	11 th May 2015 22/15	Talk to the University about Evac Chairs and disabled access	Met with new Estates Manager. Cllr. Strain-Clark will also arrange meeting
Red Cross Building	29 th June 2015 119/15	Explore possibility of temporary use of building	Ongoing
Well St Church	29 th June 2015 184/15	To meet with Reverend Edworthy and discuss options	Completed
Public toilets	29 th June 2015 190/15	To look at extending the existing shop mobility site	Ongoing
Buckingham Partnership	29 th June 2015 191/15	To call a meeting	
Allowance for Parish Councillors	29 th June 2015 193/15	To put forward recommendation that co-opted councillors should receive the allowance	completed
Bucks & MK Sport	29 th June 2015 194/15	To clarify nominations	completed

**BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL
FULL COUNCIL**

MONDAY 17th August 2015

Agenda item no. 13.1

Contact Officer: Eloise-Mary Medland

20MPH SCHEME

The standard speed limit in urban areas is 30mph, however for residential streets and other town streets with high pedestrian and cyclist movement 20mph schemes could be considered. Research shows that on urban roads with low average traffic speeds any 1mph reduction in average speed can reduce the collision frequency by around 6%.

The Department for Transport current guidance encourages and supports LAs to implement 20mph schemes in locations where there is a particular risk to vulnerable road users. The purpose of 20mph zones is to create conditions where drivers naturally travel at 20mph as a result of traffic calming measures or the general nature of the location. It suggests that 20mph limits are appropriate for roads where average speeds are already low (below 24mph) or along with traffic calming measures.

By reducing the speed limit to 20mph there is likely to be fewer accidents, and lower speeds reduce the severity of injuries for anyone involved in a collision. Indeed, a Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents study found that at a person is 7 times more likely to be fatally injured in a collision with a vehicle travelling at 30mph than at 20mph.

Important benefits of 20mph schemes include encouragement of walking and cycling and there may also be environmental benefits as, generally, driving more slowly at a steady pace will save fuel and reduce pollution.

The key factors that should be taken into account in any decisions on local speed limits are the history of collisions, road geometry and engineering, road function, existing traffic speeds, composition of road users, including levels of vulnerable road users and road environment.

TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

In 20mph zones traffic calming measures are required at regular intervals and may be used in 20mph limits, if the average speed is not already low.

Approximate Costs

- Permanent signs - £ per sign
- Roundels - £ per roundel
- Coloured road surfacing - from £ (per square m)
- Narrowing's - £££ each narrowing
- Speed cushions - ££ per pair
- Road Humps - ££ per hump

£ = up to £500
££ = £500 - £5,000
£££ = £5,000 - £20,000

Research by RoSPA has shown that the more disruptive measures are the most effective; signage alone reduces speeds by 1mph, road humps by 10mph, and speed cameras by up to 20mph.

SAFETY

There are a high number of casualties on urban roads in the UK. In 2011, there were 816 fatalities and 145,530 injuries in total reported on built up roads in Great Britain. In fact, the majority of pedestrian casualties occur in built up areas; in 2011 there were around 5,000 serious pedestrian injuries on such roads and 336 pedestrians were killed. Cyclists are also vulnerable; 3252 cyclists were killed or seriously injured (KSI) in 2013 and around 75% of these incidents occurred in urban areas.

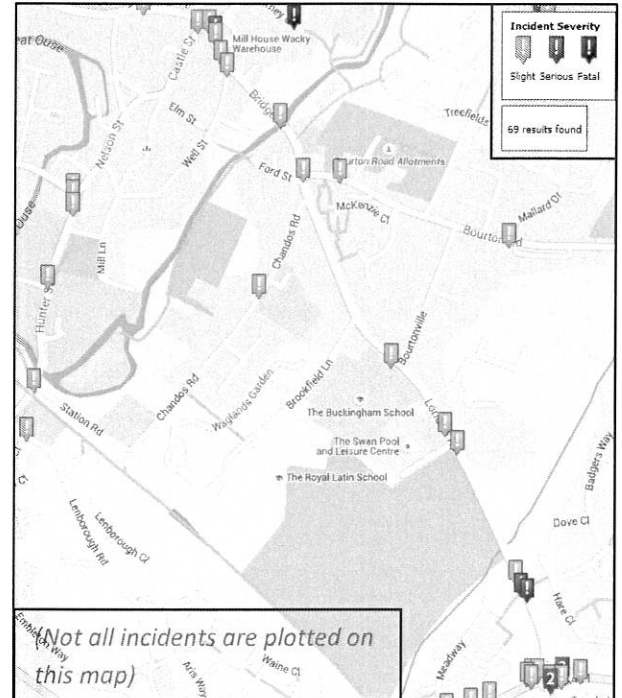
Reported road casualty statistics also show the role of *exceeding the speed limit* and *travelling too fast for the conditions* as contributory factors in road traffic collisions. In 2010 these two factors were reported to have contributed to nearly 400 road deaths. Other reported contributory factors such as *loss of control* or *careless, reckless or in a hurry* can often be related to excess or inappropriate speed, and even where the contributory factors are unrelated to the vehicle speed, higher speeds will often aggravate the outcome of the collision and injuries.

A major review of 20mph zones in London demonstrated that 20mph areas reduced the number of casualties by 41.9%. The zones were slightly more effective in preventing fatal or serious injuries to children, which were reduced by 50.2%. There was also a reduction in cyclist casualties of 16.9%.

BUCKINGHAM COLLISION & SPEED DATA

In total, there have been at least 37 collisions involving casualties on roads within the possible areas between 1995 and 2015. It may be a higher figure, as I have found no data for the surrounding areas to London Road between 1995 and 2006 or after 2011 and hardly any data at all from 2012 onwards.

These collisions involved a minimum of 48 vehicles and at least 3 bicycles, with 45 casualties, including 3 KSI. 8 out of 23 casualties there are data for were children (3 were on the bikes) including 1 KSI; there is no detailed casualty information for the remaining 22 injured.



Accidents within the Area

- 1995 – London Road – slight – 1 casualty
- 1996 – London Road – slight – 1 casualty
- 1997 – London Road – 5x slight – 5 casualties
- 1998 – London Road – 2x slight – 2 casualties
- 1999 – London Road – 3x slight – 5 casualties
- 2000 – London Road – slight – 1 casualty
- 2000 – London Road – serious – 1 casualty (KSI)
- 2001 – London Road – slight – 1 casualty
- 2003 – London Road – 2x slight – 2 casualties
- 2004 – London Road – 2x slight – 2 casualties
- 2006 – London Road – slight – 1 casualty
- 2006 – Bridge Street/London Road – slight – 2 vehicles 1 casualty
- 2006 – London Road (Swan Pool) – slight – 1 vehicle 1 casualty
- 2006 – Hunter Street (by the Uni) – slight – 2 vehicles (bike & car) 1 casualty (child on the bike)
- 2007 – Chandos Road (outside School) – slight – 2 vehicles 1 casualty
- 2007 – London Road (Hare Close) – serious - 1 vehicle 1 casualty (KSI)
- 2008 – London Road/Ford Street – slight – 2 vehicles (car & taxi) 2 casualties
- 2008 – London Road (outside The Buckingham School) – slight – 1 vehicle 1 casualty (child)
- 2008 – London Road (Swan Pool) – slight – 1 vehicle 1 casualty (child)
- 2009 – Station Road (junction) – slight – 2 vehicles 4 casualties
- 2010 – Lenborough Road/Hunter Street – slight – 2 vehicle (bike & car) 1 casualty (child on the bike)
- 2010 – London Road (Hare Close) – serious – 1 vehicle 1 casualty (child – KSI)
- 2011 – London Road (Hare Close) – slight – 1 vehicle 1 casualty (child)
- 2011 – Bourton Road/London Road – slight – 2 vehicles (car & taxi) 2 casualties
- 2014 – London Road (outside The Buckingham School) – slight – 1 vehicles 1 casualty (child)
- 2014 – London Road (approach to roundabout) – slight – 3 vehicles 2 casualties
- 2014 – London Road – slight – 2 vehicles (car & empty double decker school bus) 1 casualty
- 2015 – London Road – slight – 2 vehicles (bike & car) 1 casualty (child on the bike)

Speed

A Speed camera was installed on London Road in July 2000.

Total prosecutions for speeding in 2010 were 872. The offence rate in 2012 was 345 and in 2013 it was 379.

Year	Average speed	85 th % (actual speed)
1999	34.2 mph	40 mph
2006	29 mph	33.3 mph
2007	27.6 mph	31.1 mph
2008	27.5 mph	30.6 mph
2009	27.4 mph	31.1 mph

Locations within the possible area

- Swan Pool junction, Leisure Centre (also used as a cut through to schools/crossing to the schools)
- Buckingham School is beside London Road
- Turn off for Brookfield Lane, Royal Latin School, from London Road
- Traffic Island by Brookfield, used to cross the road to access all 3 schools in the area
- Grenville School on Chandos Road
- Chandos Road and Station Road used to access the University
- Crossing by Sainsbury's Local used to access Grenville and walk further up London Road
- Hare Close, crossed frequently to get to the schools or to Tesco, also a bus stop.
- London Road is a main route to get to Grenville, the University, Buckingham School, The Royal Latin School, the Swan Pool and the town centre, both on foot and by car/bicycle.

Town Clerk

Subject: ACTION REQUIRED RE: HS2 Community and Environment Fund

From: Hodson, Paul [<mailto:phodson@buckscc.gov.uk>]

Sent: 27 July 2015 10:58

Subject: ACTION REQUIRED RE: HS2 Community and Environment Fund

Dear Parish Council Clerks

You may be aware that the Government has announced a Fund of £30m relating to HS2. We don't yet know the details of the administration of the fund. Buckinghamshire County Council feel this amount is derisory and will be appearing in front of the Select Committee to ask for more. In order to justify this, we have been asked to provide a list of possible projects.

To give us an idea of the likely demand, Locality Managers have been asked whether any of the parishes with whom we are working have lists of priority projects which might be put forward for funding. Unhelpfully the guidance for the funding eligibility has not yet been published and so we are working somewhat in the dark but I attach the list from Warwickshire will give you an idea of the kind of projects being suggested.

If you have anything ready to share that you can send me it would be most helpful in demonstrating the kind of project for which you are currently seeking funds so that I can include this in our draft list of examples as evidence.

Kind Regards

Paul

Paul Hodson

Localities Manager

Buckinghamshire County Council, County Hall, Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 1UA

Tel: 01296 383479

Mobile: 07771 952956

Email: phodson@buckscc.gov.uk



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Community benefit fund ideas

Idea	Location	Accountable body	Estimated Value
Community halls in the parish	Kingsbury	KPC	
<p>Outdoor Gyms</p> <p>To provide 8 or 9 items of outdoor fitness equipment for all ages (eg skiing machines, cycling and stretching machines). This will be placed on our recreation ground that is easily accessible from the Water Park and Kingsbury village for all to use. These items are becoming more popular in areas easily accessible to the public as a means of keeping fit and healthy without the cost of expensive gym fees.</p>	Kingsbury	KPC	The cost of one piece of equipment including installation is from £1,000 to £1,500. Circa £15k all in
<p>Kingsbury Station</p> <p>Kingsbury Councillors have come up with the idea that if the Kingsbury Station and parking were reinstated this would considerably reduce the traffic on the roads.</p>	Kingsbury	KPC	SDC parkway was £5m as a indicative figure Possible funding from LTP3 (new stations fund) Will need political backing Capacity and new train services
<p>BODYMOOR HEATH VICTORY HALL</p> <p>To improve the environment of the village hall</p>	Bodymoor Heath	Bodymoor Heath Victory Hall	£10,000

Idea	Location	Accountable body	Estimated Value
<p>Railhead Community Collaboration Group The purpose of the Railhead Community Collaboration Group is to broker and facilitate community engagement to deliver environmental topic mitigation outcomes.</p> <p>Provide infrastructure support for the 20 year operational life of the Railhead Community Collaboration Group</p>	Kingsbury Rail head	Lea Marston Parish Council	£20,000 over 20 years @ £1,000 a year.
<p>Railhead Community Collaboration Group Community Benefit Grant.</p> <p>The purpose of the Railhead Community Collaboration Group is to broker and facilitate community engagement to deliver environmental topic mitigation outcomes.</p> <p>Provide community environmental and educational support for those communities who will be impacted on during for the 20 year operational life of the Railhead. This Fund will be held and administered by the proposed HS2 Railhead Community Collaboration Group.</p>	Kingsbury Rail head	Lea Marston Parish Council	£2m over 20 years, £100,000 per year
<p>Heritage Centre in the old school Re-fit the Victorian part of the school to make it suitable for a Heritage Centre, with display Boards, electronic media equipment, some computers and a small kitchen to provide teas. Security alarms and possible upgrading of the heating and a thorough</p>	Water Orton		All this could cost up to £100,000 to refit plus the value of the building and the ongoing running costs

Idea	Location	Accountable body	Estimated Value
check of the actual building structure especially the roof. The same would apply to the hall except here the toilets would need upgrading as presently they are for children and a shower block would need to be installed and we would need sports equipment and tables and chairs etc as well as a small kitchen..	Water Orton	WCC	See highway planning team – Pam for project cost comparison
M40 footpath upgrade to meet safer route to school for local area- benefits include health, well being and access to open space	Coleshill	CTC	£10,000
Community Centre redecoration	Coleshill	CTC	£30,000
Replacement of lead lined windows to the front of the Town Hall.	Coleshill	CTC	50,000
Town Hall Green Room internal doors	Coleshill	CTC	£23,000
Cemetery purchase	Coleshill	CTC	£120,000
Coleshill Community Forest	Coleshill	CTC	£5 -20,000, no land acquisition
Memorial Park Project – existing plans	Coleshill	CTC	£480,000
River Cole footbridge	Coleshill	CTC	£40,000
Shed project to support long-term unemployed and homeless	Coleshill	CTC	£9.500 per year

Idea	Location	Accountable body	Estimated Value
residents back into work and back into the local Coleshill community.			
<p>Park equipment (children's play area, adult 'trim trail', BMX landscaping...)</p> <p>Community minibuses</p> <p>Community café</p> <p>Community workshop (place for creative hobbies – pottery/blacksmith/....)</p>	Burton Green		
<p>You may be aware that County Highways are designing a scheme to help overcome traffic diversion issues when the Ford is impassable by automating the warning signs. This might even be a direct benefit during the construction period of HS2.</p>	Kenilworth	KTC	<p>We believe that the scheme would be of greater benefit if the number of signs was increased but this requires an additional £20-30,000.</p>
<p>The success of the children's playground in Abbey Fields has emphasised the inadequacy of the toilet block there. A major refurbishment of the toilets both there and at Abbey End is needed.</p>	Kenilworth	KTC	<p>Although not specifically costed such a project could easily cost up to £50,000.</p>
<p>There are current discussions between the Councils, the Environment Agency and English Heritage about</p>			

Idea	Location	Accountable body	Estimated Value
<p>the possibility of limited reinstatement of the Mere at the Castle in order to reduce the risk of flooding in the town.</p> <p>It is possible that HS2 might wish to be involved in such a scheme particularly as it would also reduce the risks associated with realigning Canley Brook. The total costs involved will obviously be of a different order of magnitude, but it is too early to have an estimate as investigations of feasibility continue.</p>	Kenilworth	KTC	
<p>The pavilion is also in need of major refurbishment. Weston – Cubbington</p> <p>The creation of a footpath/cycleway from Weston to Cubbington along the B4453. This is a project which was requested during the first Parish Plan undertaken in the village, and strongly endorsed at the Parish Plan review a few months ago.</p> <p>The existing pavement on the B4453 ends at Garryvoe Lodge. The village would like a footpath/cycleway from the lay by on the south side of the road along the B4453 to where the pavement begins in Cubbington. There are several justifications for this:</p> <p>i) Road safety - the B4453 is not safe for either pedestrians or cyclists</p>	Kenilworth Weston under Wetherley	???	???

Idea	Location	Accountable body	Estimated Value
<p>ii) Access to services in Cubbington (schools, shops, pubs, healthcare, sports and social facilities) on foot or by bicycle would be appreciated by those who otherwise have to rely on an inadequate bus service</p> <p>iii) Health interests - to encourage the use of bicycles or walking in order to reduce reliance on motor vehicles and reduce carbon emissions.</p>			
<p>North Cubbington Wood, trust to own and manage it.</p> <p>The placing of an environmental management contract, to include provision for the felling of intrusive species and restoration planting over a period of time, with a suitable organisation, e.g. Warwickshire Wildlife Trust.</p> <p>The building of all-weather footpaths through the wood and the seeking of creation orders to establish them as public footpaths.</p> <p>Making a small area for off-road car parking.</p>	<p>North Cubbington wood</p>	<p>TBC</p>	
<p>Offchurch</p> <p>Double/ secondary glazing to the village Hall</p>	<p>Offchurch</p>	<p>Village Hall committee Jane Inman</p>	
<p>Offchurch</p> <p>Improvement to the outside space, toilets, shed and</p>	<p>Offchurch</p>	<p>Village Hall committee</p>	

Idea	Location	Accountable body	Estimated Value
event area		Jane Inman	
Amenity/ Activity Park	Southam		
Adjacent to the Bloor homes development			
Health Trail – around Southam inc outside gym	Southam		
Cycling infrastructure	Southam		
General improvements			
Village Hall – Improve disabled access by extending Village Hall on West side.	Ladbroke	LPC	£20,000
- Upgrade car park to improve accessibility for disabled car user			£10,000
Church restoration work. Preservation of Grade 1 Listed Building Contribution towards full cost of	Ladbroke	LPC	£40,0000.
Flood protection - protection to vulnerable village properties. (Complement ongoing programme by WCC) at £2000/property	Ladbroke	LPC	£24,000
- Fund dredging of the brook and restoration of banks - Needs WCC support.			£50,000
Fund FTP (fibre to premises) Internet connections –	Ladbroke	LPC	

Idea	Location	Accountable body	Estimated Value
improves values of village properties offsetting HS2 blight impact.			
Museum for artefacts found locally during the construction of HS2	Wormleighton	Wormleighton Parish meeting	Unknown

Town Clerk

From: Roger Edwards [randhedwards@btinternet.com]
Sent: 28 July 2015 15:25
To: Chris Wayman
Subject: Mayor-Making Ceremony

Dear Chris

Following up from this morning's DBG meeting, I would like to raise on behalf of the Buckingham Society the idea that the Mayor-Making Ceremony should in future take place on Buckingham Civic Day. That would in 2016, I anticipate, be on Saturday June 18th.

The Mayor-Making is an important part of Buckingham's civic year and it is an event that, at present, passes most people by. Would it not be fitting for the ceremony to place in full view of the public on a Saturday morning so that everybody could see who their mayor is? The Town Council could still invite dignitaries from surrounding towns and parishes, and have a reception after the ceremony as I believe happens now, but the important part of the event, the actual induction of the new mayor, would take place with all citizens of Buckingham able to see what is happening.

I realise that this would be quite a change from what happens now but the Buckingham Society considers that it is a suggestion worthy of consideration by the Town Council. I would be very grateful if you could bring it to the notice of the Mayor and his colleagues and would welcome their views on the matter.

Yours sincerely

Roger Edwards
Chair of the Buckingham Society

DESTINATION BUCKINGHAM GROUP

Thoroughly MODERN
Traditional
BUCKINGHAM

NOTE OF MEETING HELD ON 28 JULY 2015

Attendees: Henry Cooper (HC) Roger Edwards (RE) Stephen Harding (SH)
Jonathon Judkins (JJ) Andy Mahi (AM) Jane Mordue (JM)
Nigel Morrison (NM) John Riches (JR) Mike Smith (MS)
Elliot Wallis (EW) Chris Wayman (CW)

Apologies: Warren Whyte (WW)

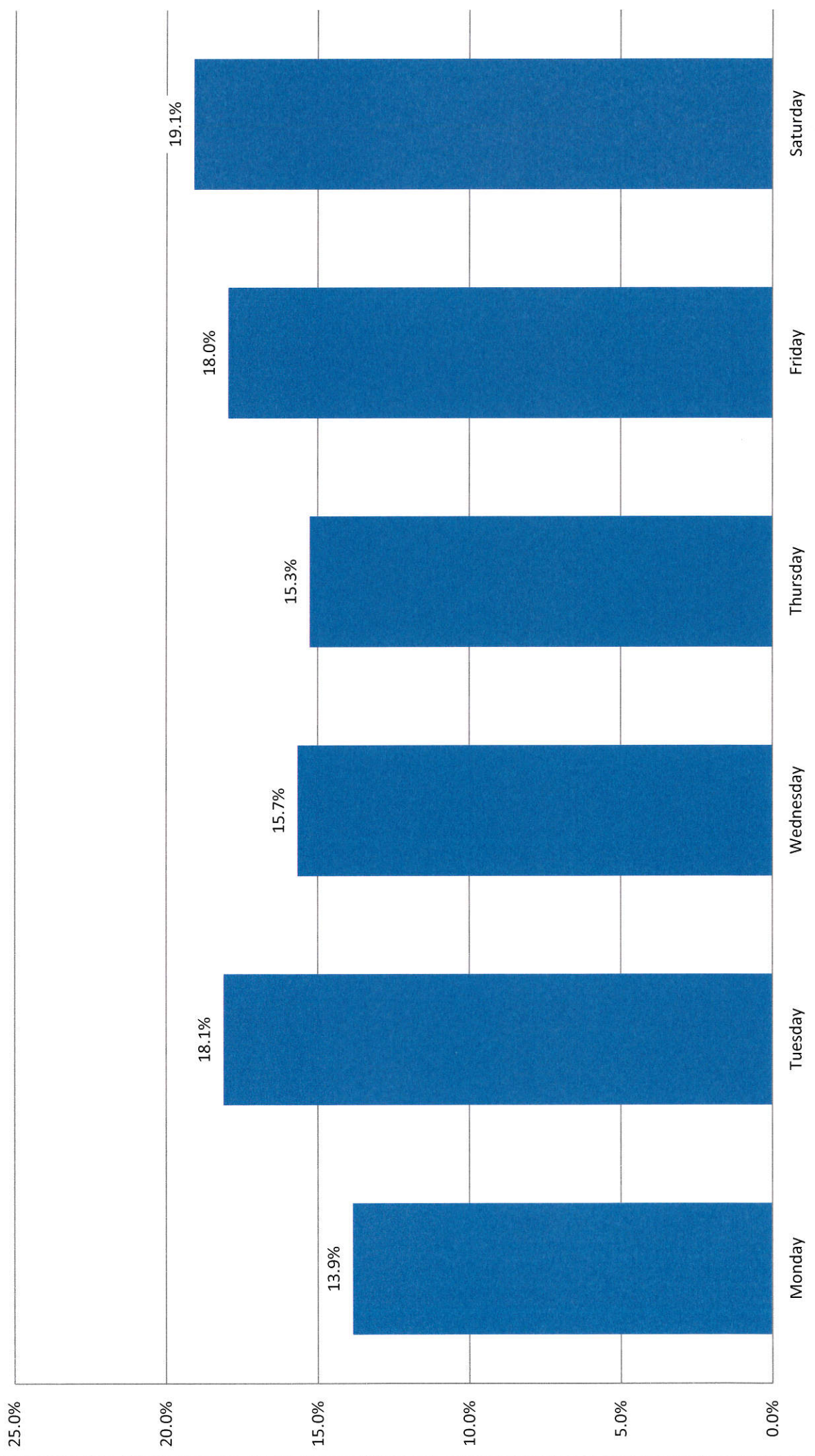
ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION BY
1	Apologies and Introductions	
1.1	MS introduced NM, and all introduced themselves. The Apology for Absence noted above was accepted.	
2	Car Parking Charges ("<i>Free from Three</i>")	
2.1	This item was dealt with first for the convenience of guests JJ (Manager of Waitrose) and SH (AVDC Parking Manager).	
2.2	EW outlined the problem – evidence from many local traders had indicated that the changes to car parking charges, re-vamped Tesco and new Aldi on the by-pass, and long-term work on the new roundabout had led to changed shopping habits which had impacted heavily on town centre trade, with many reporting a heavy decline in footfall and customers. Although Buckingham car park charges were cheap by comparison with other towns, they still amounted to another cash transaction which, together with the problems caused by the atrocious roundabout, were causing many from the outlying villages to shop elsewhere instead of coming into the town centre. They needed attracting back. Some traders were now finding things critical (up to seven were looking not to renew their leases) and could not survive unless remedial action was taken. The current down-turn might even jeopardise long-term survival of the town's signature grocers.	
2.3	The traders had taken some steps in an attempt to ameliorate matters, including publicity of <i>The Hidden Quarter</i> (Bridge Street and Well Street) – but more needed to be done. Given clear evidence of a gap in trade between 3.00pm and the onset of free car parking at 5.00pm (in particular, Waitrose had noted this), they suggested that removal of car parking charges during these times would stimulate the post-school trade.	
2.4	MS asked JJ whether he had considered re-funding parking charges, as other stores had done, but JJ said that this was the domain of larger stores and, given the proximity of Waitrose stores in Towcester and other nearby locations, could not be offered.	

2.5	NM referred to the responsibility of AVDC to contribute to town centre vitality, and MS mentioned that in a recent Prime Minister's Questions response, the Prime Minister had said that car parking in market towns should ideally be free.	
2.6	SH reminded the meeting that the traders had supported the current car parking charge regime, suggested that current problems were a combination of a number of issues, and wondered if the proposal might adversely affect the morning trade. He produced figures that evidenced a decline in car park use after 3.00pm to nearly half that (7.9%) of the peak-time use (14.5%) between 10.00am and 11.00am, and noted that market days (Tuesday and Saturday) produced the highest usage (closely followed by Friday).	
2.7	SH added that these were nevertheless all sensible points and he was happy to take the <i>Free from Three</i> suggestion back to his manager and Cabinet Member. He outlined the steps necessary to affect such changes (should they be agreed), and acknowledged the urgency to have matters resolved in time for Christmas. He anticipated being able to respond to MS (who would cascade to DBG members) by the end of September.	SH
2.8	JJ and SH were thanked for attending, and left the meeting.	
3	Note of 12 May meeting	
2.1	The draft Note was approved.	
3	Financial Position	
3.1	MS confirmed that current DBG funds stood at £11,544.60 of which £9,782.45 was allocated to specific projects. The disposable balance was therefore £3,289.91.	
3.2	CW confirmed that no funding for 2015/16 had been received from AVDC. MS would therefore write to Teresa Lane to enquire if (and/or when) it might be anticipated, as clearly DBG could not plan long-term (or even survive) without it.	MS
4	Residents & Business Leaflet	
4.1	MS regretted that he had yet to complete analysis of completed survey leaflets, responses via www.buckinghamuk.info , and via email, but anticipated that he and JR would have an analysis for consideration at the next meeting.	MS & JR
5	Enhancing entry to the town	
5.1	Shopping area from Cornwalls Meadow car park – NM had been in touch with Heron Signs, who had produced some mock-up designs. These would require extensive steel-work, and were not particularly attractive, and thoughts turned to increasing the number of benches and introducing more planters, to make the area more attractive.	
5.2	Ideas would be worked-up by NM and RE, for consideration at the next meeting.	NM & RE

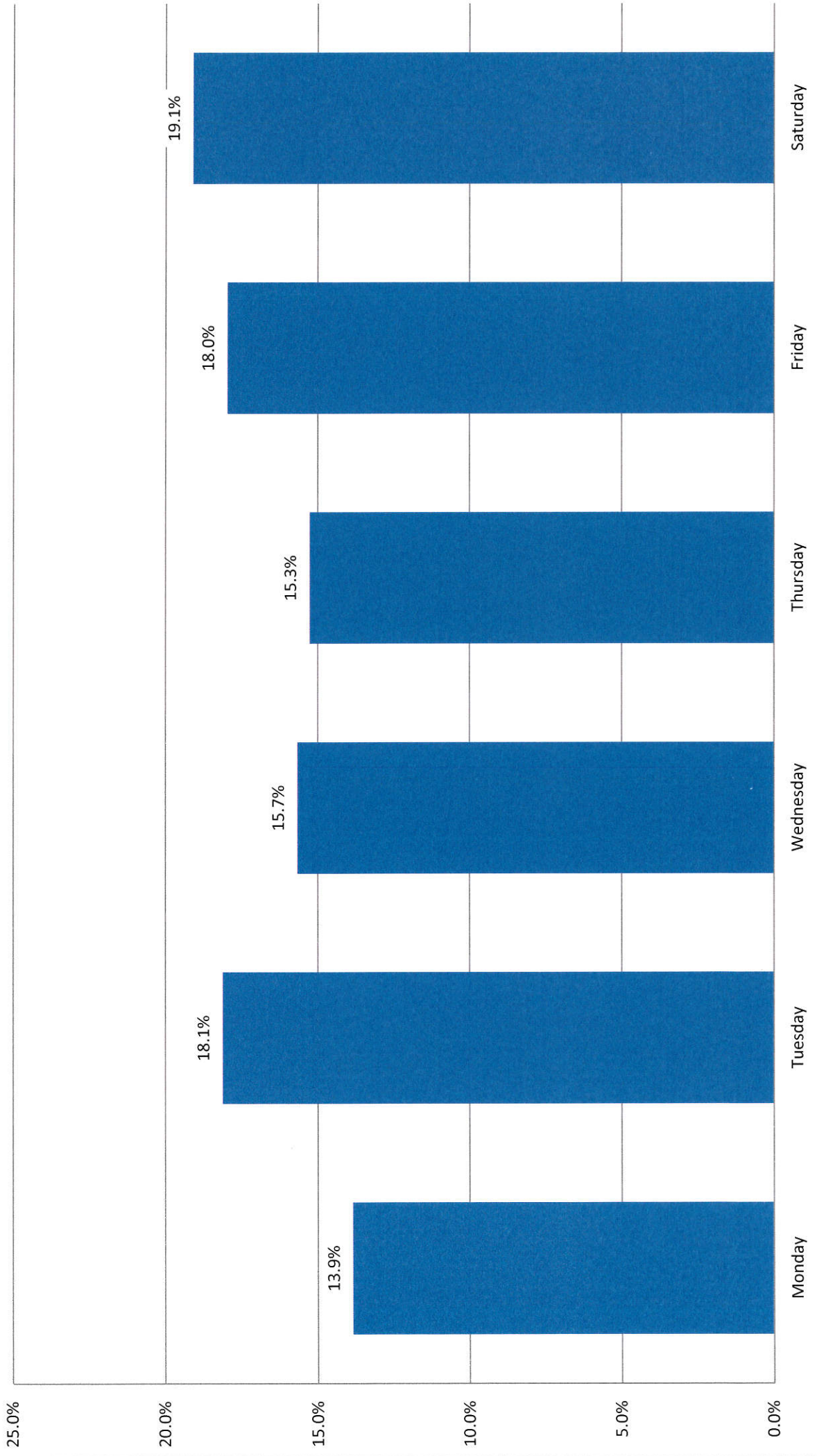
6	Town centre enhancement	
6.1	Signage reduction and pavement repairs – MS had met with Freya Morris (AVDC Historical Buildings Officer) on 10 July, and was awaiting a list of proposals and costs. He understood that the English Heritage grant was available until the end of the year, and AVDC commissioning of the works from TfB was awaited.	
6.2	MS added that the English Heritage funding would not cover the full cost of all proposed works, and the earmarked DBG funding would not cover all of the shortfall. Depending on the scale of work to fully complete the project (which could not be ascertained until the list was received from AVDC, which he would expedite) it may be necessary to seek additional funding – perhaps from BTC.	MS
6.2	Lamp post banners - CW had yet to receive a response to his enquiry to BCC about consent to install these, and would further expedite matters.	CW
6.3	Totem/monolith signs – MS said that, as previously reported, <i>Greenbarnes</i> had been unable to assist. He was currently awaiting a further response from <i>Shelley Signs</i> , and would also contact <i>All Points West</i> who were producing similar signs in Aylesbury at a cost of between £3,500.00 and £5,000.00 each.	MS
7	Heritage Weekend (12/13 September)	
7.1	RE said that Ed Grimsdale would be leading his Heritage Walk “the Three Avenues of Buckingham” on the Saturday, and Radclive Gardens would be open on the Sunday, with owner Jeremy Howarth giving a talk. Caroline Cumming was exploring access to the Masonic Lodge, and he had spoken to Alistair Alcock at the University and was awaiting a response.	
7.2	He had yet to contact The Mitre and/or Mitre Cottage, or Stowe School.	RE
7.3	HC had also been in touch with the University, and was also awaiting a response.	HC
7.4	NM had been in contact with Silverstone, and mentioned their recent grant towards a Heritage Centre that could attract up to 400,000 visitors per annum. This might be worth further exploration, as might looking into conference facilities via the University. He would explore further.	NM
7.5	JR had been in touch with Kellie Scott at The National Trust, Stowe; and he and MS would be meeting her on 10 August.	
7.6	JM suggested co-ordinating Buckingham Society, Old Gaol and other events into a single page article (or even a cover wrap) in <i>The Buckingham & Winslow Advertiser</i> , and it was agreed that DBG might fund a quarter page advertisement if necessary. She and EW would enquire further.	JM & EW
8	Tourism Data	
8.1	Following a meeting with Lyndsey Purdie, AVDC Senior Communications & Marketing Manager) on 21 July, some interesting information had come to light. Clivedon House was the most visited National Trust attraction in England during 2013/14 out of all those charging an entry fee, and Hughendon Manor, Waddeston Manor and Stowe Landscape gardens regularly drew large crowds. Day-trip numbers in Buckinghamshire totalled 10.1m, each spending an average of £25.80; and there were 1.1m overnight trips, each spending an average of £129.00.	
8.2	In response to a subsequent enquiry by Cllr Robin Stuchbury, Lyndsey advised that for Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes in 2011 there were 1.38m staying visitor trips realising a total spend of £238m; day visitor trips totalled 14.43m (total spend £724m); and tourism accounted to a gross value addition of £450m to the economy.	

8.3	AVDC invested £63,200.00 per year in tourism, all of which was spent on the Aylesbury Visitor Information Centre; and staff commitment for tourism was 1 staff member on one day per week.	
9	Civic Day feedback	
9.1	RE reported a successful day, despite inclement weather. There had been a good turn-out of people, including our MP; and everyone joined in with the singing of "Pride", led by <i>The Glee Club</i> .	
9.2	He suggested making the event bigger in 2016, and suggested that perhaps the Mayor-making ceremony could be performed on the day, rather than during the Mayor's reception in May. He would explore this further with CW.	RE & CW
10	Other Ideas (including from previous meeting)	
10.1	Handheld Tours – CW had been in discussion with a multi-media company, HH Tours, about a mobile app for historic town walks. Existing walks were available to view, and they were seeking to add Buckingham to their collection.	
10.2	MS said that despite locally available maps being available at The Old gaol, he would try and find costs in readiness for the next meeting.	MS
10.3	Teddy Bear Hunt – due to time constraints, it was agreed to defer this until the next meeting.	JM
10.4	Poetry Festival – RE had suggested this at a previous meeting and agreed to work up a few ideas for the next meeting.	RE
10.5	Trader of the Year – Buckingham Society was considering sponsorship of such an event. More information would be provided in due course.	RE
10.6	Buckingham Big Day Out – perhaps combining several events.	
10.7	Use Silverstone! – NM suggested selling the town's services and facilities to them.	NM
10.8	Town Centre Manager – EW said that a fellow trader had suggested employing a part-time Town Centre Manager, at a cost of between £3,000.00 and £5,000.00 per annum, to work-up and progress ideas (including those from DBG).	EW
11	Next Meeting	
11.1	It was agreed to meet again in the Town Council Chamber on Tuesday 1 September 2015, from 1200 hrs.	ALL

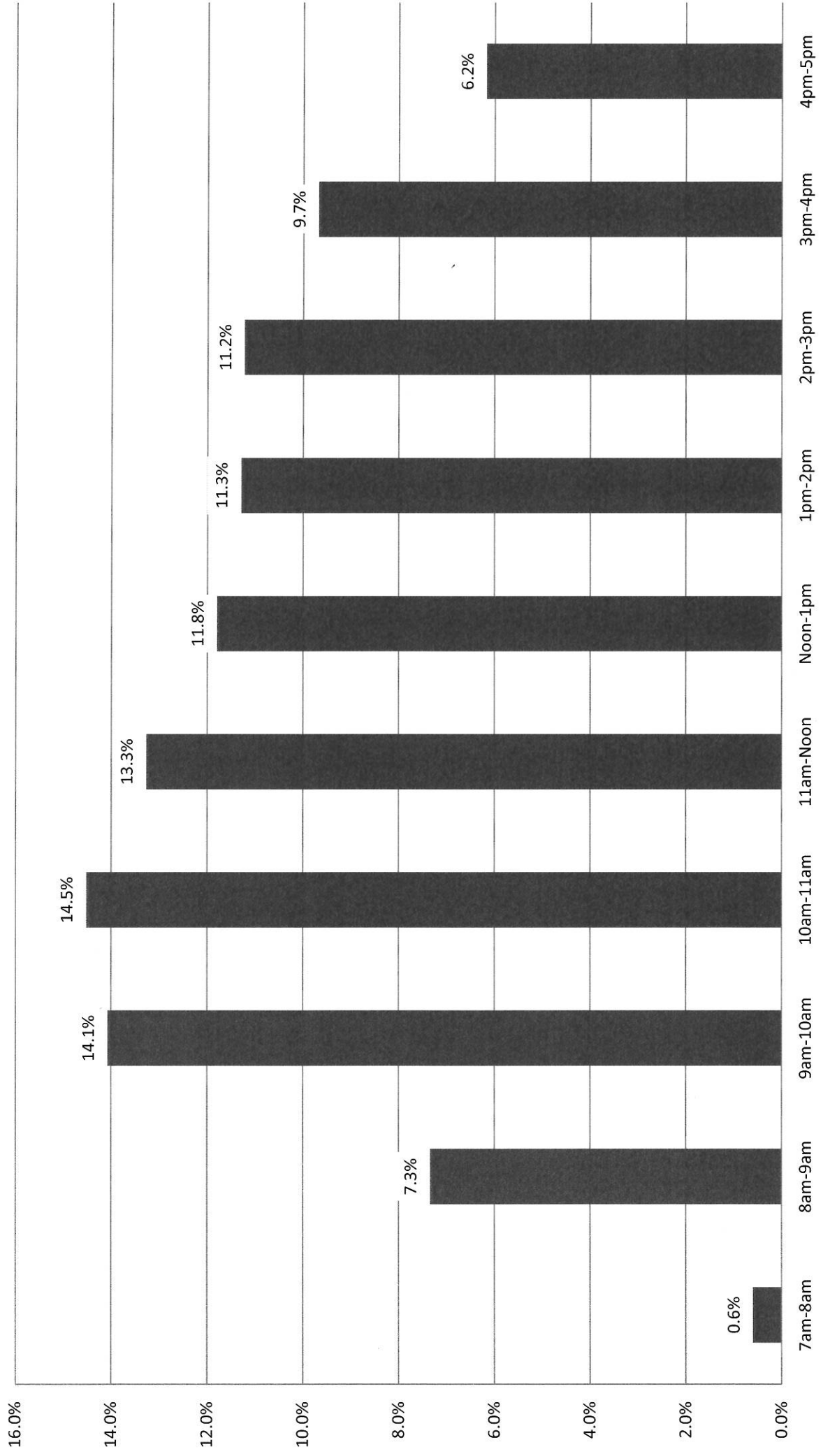
Cornwalls Meadow car park - Parking trend by day



Cornwalls Meadow car park - Parking trend by day



Cornwalls Meadow car park - Parking trend by arrival time



31st July 2015

Buckingham Town Council

The Buckingham Centre

Verney Close

Buckingham

MK18 1JP

For the attention of the Town Clerk – Mr C.P. Wayman

Dear Mr Wayman,

Speed control on A413 Moreton Road

Thank you for your detailed response in regard to residents' concerns about speed control on the Moreton Road between Buckingham Town Centre and Maids Moreton. The display of a '**Think! 30**' sign is to be welcomed, but on a stretch of road over a mile long an additional single sign is unlikely to make much of a difference other than where it is displayed.

An example of effective traffic management and speed control can be seen on the London Road from the town centre leading to the Tesco roundabout which has the benefit of traffic islands, conventional 30 mph signs, a fixed Vehicle Activation sign and a speed camera.

In view of budget constraints it would be unreasonable to expect this level of improvement on the Moreton Road, but I re-iterate my point to John Bercow on the 23rd July that it would be a significant improvement to display conventional speed limit signs in prominent positions on the route to and from the town centre and Maids Moreton village:



Permanent Vehicle Activation signs (such as have been installed on the A413 in Padbury and Winslow) would also help to improve driver awareness of the speed limit, and on behalf of residents, road users and pedestrians who use the Moreton Road, I request that an application to the LAF for a VAS be tabled for discussion at the next Full Council meeting.

The council are aware of the significant ongoing development on the A413 which will lead to an increase in traffic volume likely to make the current situation worse. As residents we are not only concerned with safety but with significant increases in noise level, which is acceptable if motorists drive within the limit.

Improvements to the infrastructure including road surface, crossings and footpath are essential although dependent on the third phase of development going ahead. Confirmation of improvements to the road surface of Addington Road in this financial year is encouraging, but will have limited benefit in reducing vehicle speed and traffic noise.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'GK', written in a cursive style.

Graham Knight

11 Holton Road

Buckingham

MK18 1PQ

Tel. No. 01280 814208

cc: Rt. Hon. John Bercow MP

NALC SURVEY QUESTIONS AND SELECTED ANSWERS

Please select your top 5 highest priority policy areas within the following Planning, licensing, development & housing sub-section

In order of choice:

- New Homes Bonus – mandatory parish share of receipts
- Consultation of parish councils on Section 106 Agreements
- Planning – Interim Protection From Development
- Cross-Border Planning Applications – consultation of neighbouring parishes
- Electronic Communications Networks – power to run on behalf of community

Not chosen:

- Section 106 Agreements – Enforcement in parished areas
- Licensing – parish councils being statutory consultees
- Local Licensing – inclusion of alcohol licensing in parish devolution

Please select your top 5 highest priority policy areas within the following transport, vehicles and highways sub-section

In order of choice:

- 20 mph Speed Limit Enforcements – in all parished areas
- Satellite Navigation Systems – avoidance of inappropriate routing
- Traffic Commissioners – parishes becoming statutory consultees
- Ambulance Response Times – avoidance of slower rural response rate
- Vehicle Operators' Licencing – parishes becoming statutory consultees

Not chosen:

- HGV Licences – parishes becoming statutory consultees
- Red Diesel – regulatory exception for parishes managing open spaces

Please select your top 4 highest priority policy areas within the following environment and sustainability sub-section

In order of choice:

- Sale of Generated Electricity – legal parish power to sell to Grid
- Local Nature Partnerships – increased statutory funding for them
- Responding To Wind Farm Applications – need for statutory guidance

- Waste Incineration – legal avoidance of urban location
- Canal and River Trust – statutory parish inclusion in governance of

Not Chosen:

- Alternatives To Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Waste Projects
- Household Waste – legal parity with commercial premises

Please select your top 4 highest priority policy areas within the following Community facilities sub-section

- Statutory Provision of Public Toilets – primarily by principal councils
- Village Halls – increase of number of events in parish run premises
- Churchyards – statutory provision for parishes to manage / maintain
- Asset Transfer – legal redress to return pre 1974 town halls to parishes

Not Chosen:

- Village Green Registration – fairer application process by statute

Please select your top 4 highest priority policy areas within the following Governance and standards sub-section

- Representation on Successor Regional Bodies – statutory LEPs seats
- By-elections – parish exemption from payment of costs
- Local standards committees – co-optees to have voting rights
- Standing For Elections – simplification of nomination process

Not Chosen:

- By-election Timescales – more efficient by election timescales needed
- Elected Councillors – statutory definition change to reflect having stood
- Parish Meetings – legal amendment to meeting start times
- Access to Electoral Register – right for meeting Chairman to access

Please select your top 4 highest priority policy areas within the following Democracy and training sub-section

- General Role In Regional Tier – statutory role for parishes
- By-elections – parish exemption from payment of costs
- Councillors' Notification Under DPA, 1998 - councillor inclusion
- Training And Re-imbusement – attendance right without loss of pay

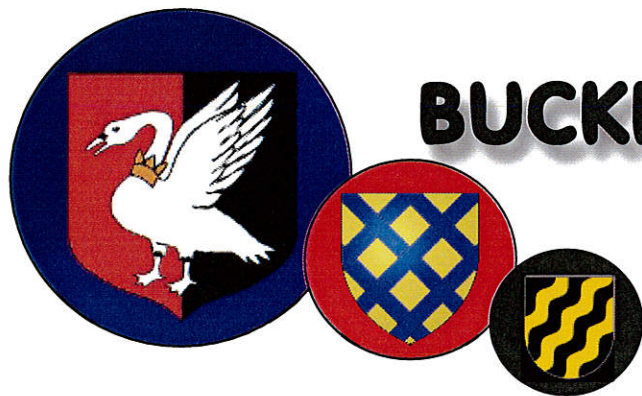
Not Chosen:

- Post Election Processes – legal flexibility to function by election date
- Government Publications – continuation of hard copy production
- 14 Day Casual Vacancy Rule - new 6 week period to find candidates

Please add any further short comments on how you think the National Association should try to progress a Parish Councils' Bill in 2016.

Clarity on status of Neighbourhood Plans

Town and Parish Council's seem to have a very low annual allowance compared to their colleagues on District and County Council's, yet we all attend meetings, we are all reps on other groups, we partner other organisations and attend events and a large part of our time is spent reading paperwork. A Town Cllr's allowance is around £480, after tax this reduces down to over £300, this is supposed to reflect our time spent throughout a year as a Councillor, yet it doesn't. On District the basic allowance is nearly £6k and they can file expenses such as fuel on top of that! On County they provided iPad's to their Cllr's even though they give allowances of £10k. Say no more.



BUCKINGHAM TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Summer 2015

Chers membres,

As I write this we are fast approaching the longest day of the year and, with that, enjoying the great British summer. Let's hope the weather will stay clement for our Annual Boules Day tournament on 14th July!

It's been a very full few months with visits and exchanges both with Mouvaux and Neukirchen-Vluyn. It does show that the link is getting stronger between the towns. At this stage I need to thank all the people who have welcomed foreign visitors - it really is appreciated and we couldn't do it without your help and kindness. Merci! I do hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and, if you have some time to spare, please come and join us for our twinning meetings on 1st July and 2nd September. We always have a little glass of wine to offer!

Any ideas you may have will always be most welcome. You can contact me on my e.mail address which is stephanie@fourfrogs.co.uk

Have a wonderful summer!

Amicalement



Stephanie Scrase

Civic visit to Mouvaux September 2014

Combining a moving commemoration of the First World War with warm exchanges with friends in Mouvaux, September's visit marked a new high point in relations between our two towns. A moving open air service in the evening sunshine at the War Cemetery in Arras had been preceded by a visit



to old limestone tunnels under the town used for a surprise attack against the enemy. We tried to imagine what it had been like for the thousands of Allied troops waiting underground before breaking out into the town. Sadly the action had little impact on the course of the war but many soldiers lost their lives and are commemorated there. On the Sunday, a formal Anglo-French act of commemoration took place attended by senior military dignitaries and the Mayors of both towns. Pictured are the Mayor of Mouvaux, Mr Eric Durand (right) and the deputy Mayor, Mme Sandrine Ducret-Delsalle (left) with the Lord Lieutenant's Cadet, our chairman Stephanie Scrase, Mme Eric Durand and Jane Mordue, beside a

plaque unveiled to mark this inspiring occasion. Huge thanks are due to our French hosts and organisers, and especially Annie Millecamps, for the enormous amount of thought and organisation they put into ensuring a successful visit. It is hoped that Mouvaux will come to Buckingham in 2016 – now both sides have had a bit of a lie down and are ready to go for it all over again!

Jane Mordue

Christmas market in Mouvaux



Lots of fun, as ever, was had at the traditional Christmas market in Mouvaux in December 2014. If you would like to join the team for Christmas 2015, you'd be most welcome! The little ones were fascinated by the Reindeer antlers worn bravely by Jane Mordue. The older customers came to buy our home baked produce and to learn about the delights of a typical British Christmas. Particularly popular were the homemade Christmas cakes and mince pies. There was a fascination with Roses Lime Marmalade and the only thing left at the end was one packet of readymade Ambrosia custard. Everything else was cleared out and we could have sold lots more. Opposite us in the festively decorated Town

Hall were our friends from Neukirchen-Vluyn. There was much friendly rivalry and exchange of free samples – yes, that pair of antlers went home to Germany. A minor crisis – they had forgotten the famous Gluhwein – was averted when a later arrival brought it along. The three days went all the faster for a sip or three. Then there were all the other stalls with elegant goodies from Mouvaux as well as stands outside for local charities. Some new twinning links were begun – between the Rotary Clubs and the Lions Clubs. And we also had a very helpful meeting with the local secondary teachers and their new head, who were planning a visit with 50 students to Buckingham – which has just successfully happened in May. We returned home on the Sunday evening, tired but happy and having made a profit for BTA funds! I would like to thank my co-workers (!) Janet May, John Murray and my husband Howard. Thanks also to Stephanie Scrase for acting as buyer and delivery driver for so much of the produce! Biggest thanks of all go to all the home bakers – if you would like to produce some traditional English (or Welsh or Scottish!) Christmas goodies this Christmas for us to sell, please do get in touch.

Jane Mordue

Christmas Parade 2014

Buckingham's Christmas parade was the biggest yet with an appearance by the real 'War Horse'. So we were delighted to add to the jollity with a jazz duo, Antoine and David, from Mouvaux. They played all up and down the High Street in the bright winter sunshine, urged on by Mouvaux's deputy mayor, Sandrine Ducret-Delsalle. We were delighted to see them raising the flag for 'La France' and our warm friendship with Mouvaux. They were delighted to go home with a prize!

Stephanie Scrase



Buckingham artists sell paintings sold at Mouvaux's art exhibition!



Every year the artists of Buckingham and Mouvaux send works to exhibit at each other's annual art exhibitions.

This year, Buckingham Art for All (BAFA) sent the work of two artists, Brian Eldridge and Clare Tebboth to Mouvaux's Salon des Artistes in May. They were as ever well received and each of the painters sold one painting. Brian sold 'Guitar Color' and Clare sold 'Together'.

Pictured is the lucky purchaser of one of the pictures.

Stephanie Scrase

Visit from French students - Buckingham's new Mayor Q & A session with 50 French students



On Tuesday 19 May, over 50 students from Buckingham's twin town met the new Mayor, Cllr Andy Mahi (pictured). He handled their questions with aplomb, even speaking a word or two of French.

The youngsters had earlier met fellow students from The Royal Latin School and Akeley Wood School and were then off to Stratford-upon-Avon.

Stephanie Scrase, Chairman of Buckingham Twinning Association, which facilitated the visit, said 'We were delighted to welcome them and they were impressed to meet the Mayor!'

Jane Mordue

Visit from our German friends May 2015

Two guests and their son visited Buckingham from 14th to 17th May. While Dorothe and Thomas stayed with Margaret and Paul Gateley in Buckingham, their son Tobias stayed in Brackley with his school exchange partner and his family.

It was a first visit to our town for the parents, although they have travelled quite extensively in England before. The journey over was fairly lengthy with road works before they reached Antwerp and long queues at passport control at Calais. Consequently they missed their ferry and when they eventually arrived in England they were delayed on the M25 in the rush hour. They finally reached their hosts at about 9.00 and sat down to a very welcome meal. On Friday morning I joined them to show them round Buckingham.

After visiting the Old Gaol and the Parish Church, we walked down towards the university where I met a friend who asked whether we would like a guided tour. A young lady who does tours for prospective students led us round the buildings including the new medical school, which was very interesting.

After a very welcome cup of coffee we strolled back in to the town centre across Chandos Park. En route we met a couple of German friends who live in Buckingham. In the early afternoon we adjourned to Stephanie's house who had very kindly invited us along with Jane and Howard to tea and cake (Kaffee und Kuchen). After a very pleasant couple of hours and some delicious cake Dorothe and Thomas went back to their hosts for the rest of the day.



Nothing had been arranged for Saturday during the day as Dorothe had said before they came over they were quite happy to explore on their own. In fact they walked to Stowe and spent a pleasant day exploring the grounds.

On the Saturday evening I had booked a table at the Woolpack for our guests, their hosts, Steve and myself and Paul and Valerie Hiron. We had a very pleasant evening and a nice meal.

On the Sunday morning they left for home stopping for breakfast in Brackley with their son and his exchange family. The journey back was far better than the one coming.

We hope to see them again when we go to Neukirchen Vluyn for a gardens and castles trip in the middle of September this year. If any twinning members are interested in joining us on this trip please contact me on 01280 816266, sue@mkteddy.com

Sue Watkins

Forthcoming Events



Boules competition Tuesday 14 July 2015

Yes, it's that time of year again! Come and join us on Tuesday 14 July for another exciting and closely fought Boules competition. Pictured here are last year's winners Sheila Handley and Chantal Robinson with Master of Ceremonies Ron Gleeson and chairman Stephanie Scrase. Registration is from 7 p.m. and you need to come early to secure a place. The competition starts promptly at 7.30. There will be a scrumptious BBQ and plenty of liquid refreshment. Striped matelot shirts are obviously 'de rigueur' but all are welcome dressed how you like. Boules will be provided or you can bring your own.

Visit Flandres, 25, 26 & 27 September

- o Explore Flanders and visit its heritage and culture
 - o 3 day tour/2 nights or add an extra day – with your own itinerary
 - o 25,26 and 27 September
 - o 10 people maximum
 - o Stay with local host families and travel by car share
 - o Proposed itinerary
 1. Friday, arrive 6 p.m, relax with host family
 2. Saturday: tour of 'Flandres' area, lunch in a local 'estaminet' (inn) and evening buffet reception with all host families
 3. Sunday morning: a tour of old Lille and then return home
- Réponse souhaitée pour le 15 août svp. Organiser Annie Millecamps

'Castles and Gardens of the Rhine' Fri 11 to Sun 13 September 2015

A small group, fully guided, visit to Kloster Kamp Baroque Gardens; Schloss Moyland Castle and Art Museum, the beautiful moated Schloss Dyck (pictured) with English style landscaped gardens. Staying with host families. Organiser Gunther Fischer.



Vluyn's St Martins Market Sat 7 to Sun 8 November 2015

More selling opportunities! We will be joining all the twin towns in this traditional, early Christmas German market – come and join us!

Mouvoux Christmas Market

on a weekend to be confirmed, late November/early December 2015

Want to try selling custard powder to the French? We have been doing so for many years now and have built up a good market for English products, especially Christmas produce and decorations. Would you like to join the fun?

We need helpers to sell, chat and bake....! Stay with host families and travel by car share

We would welcome any suggestions or articles to be included in future newsletters. Please contact the editor Ronnie Gleeson, 39 Lime Avenue, Buckingham, MK18 7JJ - Telephone 01280 822397 - e.mail rongle@btinternet.com.

We do, however, reserve the right to amend or omit any items received. For more details of the above events and for full information on all the activities of the association please visit our website www.buckinghamtwinning.org.uk.

BUCKINGHAM ASSOCIATION
Minutes of meeting, Wednesday 6 May 2015

Present: Stéphanie Scrase (Chairman), Cllr Paul Hirons, Sue Watkins, Cllr Howard Mordue, and Jane Mordue.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Ruth Newell, Cllr Christine Strain-Clark, Cllr Terry Bloomfield
2. **Minutes** of the meeting held Wednesday 4 March 2015 were agreed and signed.
3. **Matters arising** - none
4. **Young people**
 - 4.1 **Visit by Collège in Mouvaux to Royal Latin School and Akeley Wood, Tues 19 May 2015**
(Linda Emary/Nora Amirat)
Stéphanie reported on her meeting with Nora and the Head of the Collège. 52 youngsters were expected and a packed programme had been arranged for them. They would meet with students from The Royal Latin School and Akeley Wood. Lunch would be in Chandos Park or if wet in the Church. Stéphanie to supply maps and the new Mayor to be asked to meet them. As short notice, Howard kindly offered to 'sub'. **Action: Stéphanie, Jane, Howard**
 - 4.1 **BTA Prize for Most Improved in a Modern Foreign Language, The Royal Latin School**
The Treasurer noted that he had paid the £20 to RLS (to be re-couped from BTA). Stéphanie confirmed that she had received an invitation from the School to present the prize. **Action: Howard, Stéphanie**
5. **News**
 - 5.1 **Mouvaux twinning association**
Stéphanie reported that the new association had been established and that Annie Millecamps had been elected its first chairman. The committee asked for their very best wishes to be sent to the new organisation. Secretary to draft a letter for Chairman. **Action: Jane, Stéphanie**
6. **Events**
 - 6.1 **Review**
 - 6.1.1 **Salon des Artistes 10-19 April 2015**
Stéphanie reported that this had been a great success. Two Buckingham artists had sent 3 pictures each and had sold 1 each. She had taken the paintings and the remaining ones would come back on the 19th with the school party. The cash would be repatriated too.
 - 6.2 **Future Events**
 - 6.2.1 **Small group visit from Neukirchen Vluyn 14-17 May**
Sue Watkins reported that one family (Pflugrad) was coming and she had arranged accommodation for the parents ; their son was staying with the family he had previously stayed with during the recent exchange. It was agreed that Stéphanie would kindly invite them for tea on the Friday afternoon, together with Sue Watkins, Jane and Howard Mordue. **Action: Stéphanie, Sue**
 - 6.2.2 **Bastille Day Boules competition, Buckingham, Tuesday 14 July 2015**
Initial preparations had been made, Howard reporting that AVDC had agreed to the event and providing sand. Stéphanie would now be able to attend and organise the BBQ. Jane reported that Berni and Helene would be there too (staying here, en route to a family wedding).
Sue to kindly organise bales as usual. **Action: Sue**
Stéphanie reported that a boules competition for children would be organised by (another) Stéphanie Lepelletier late afternoon. **Action: Stéphanie(s)**
Ron Gleeson had previously kindly agreed to act as MC for the main event and Stéphanie would liaise with him. Scorers would be needed too. **Action: Stéphanie, Ron Gleeson**
Jane would circulate the action list that Valerie used to use, for updating. Publicity should be sought through the Advertiser – Jane to ask Ruth. **Action: Jane, Ruth**
The Town Council would be asked if we can use their PA system. **Action: Howard**
 - 6.2.3 **Party for BTA members** – summer 2015 (date tbc) Still under discussion how best to 'reward' members.

- 6.2.4 **'Castles and Gardens of the Rhine'** Fri 11 to Sun 13 September 2015
Several members expressed an interest and others would be canvassed. **Action: Sue**
- 6.2.5 **Harvest Festival in Neukirchen**, 19,20 September – no Buckingham representation at this event.
- 6.2.6 **Inter Twin Town Tennis Tournament**, Neukirchen-vluyn September 2015
Sue had been in contact with Buckingham Tennis Club but there were no takers for this event this year.
- 6.2.7 **Vluyn's St Martins Market** 7,8 November 2015
Interest was expressed in attending this market and members would be canvassed. It would be like an early Christmas market and should be great fun. Sue agreed to find out what's required. **Action: Sue**
- 6.2.8 **AGM and film** 24 November 2015
Stéphanie to book Sunley Lecture Theatre at the University. **Action: Stéphanie**
- 6.2.9 **Mouvoux Christmas market** 4-6 December 2015
Stéphanie reported that the date for this might be changed to a week earlier due to local elections.
- 6.2.10 **Buckingham Christmas Parade and Community Fair** Saturday 12 December 2015 – noted date.
- 6.2.11 **Lions Club Neukirchen Vluyn**
Howard reported that he had been asked by Franjo Terhart whether an informal link between the Lions Club in NV and any Lions in Buckingham, who are actually members of the Winslow Lions Club, was possible. Howard had followed this up and an informal link was indeed being explored, probably revolving around beer! Winslow holds an important Beer Festival annually, organised by the Lions. Accommodation would most likely be in hotels.
- 6.2.12 **Rotary in Mouvoux**
Jane reported that she had spoken to the Rotary Club in Mouvoux and a link between them and Buckingham might also be explored. **Action: Jane**
- 6.2.13 **Cycling**
Stephanie reported that Bernard Boudry was interested in organising a cycling event between Mouvoux and Buckingham. A new cycling club had recently been started in Buckingham so it was thought this was a good idea to follow up. **Action: Stephanie, Annie Millecamps**
7. **Finance Report**
Howard reported that there is currently £3257.87 in the account and that we broke even on the Coffee and Croissants event.
8. **Membership report**
Terry had reported that memberships were still coming in. Stéphanie to liaise with Terry re updated membership list. **Action: Stéphanie, Terry**
9. **Communications**
Newsletter: Stéphanie would liaise with Ron Gleeson about the next newsletter which would be helpful in advertising future events. **Action: Stéphanie, Ron Gleeson**
Club Voice: Jane would ask Ruth Newell to prepare a piece for the newspaper advertising the Boules Competition and future events. **Action: Jane, Ruth**
Website: Geoffrey Shaw continued to keep the website up to date.
10. **Any Other Business**
11. **Date of next meeting** Wednesday 1 July 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

Access For All

Minutes of Meeting held on 13th July 2015 at the Well Street Centre

In Attendance: Kelly Collins(part), Simon Garwood(temporary Chair), Bill Howkins, Cllr. Derrick Isham, Ian & Joelle Jones, Pat Knibbs, Clair Pudaruth, Una Robinson, John Russell, John Squires, Chris & Peter Strain-Clark1.
Apologies: Kay & Peter Bradley, Ed Grimsdale, Ruth Newell, and Cllr. Warren Whyte.

Welcome: Simon Garwood welcomed everyone. He was temporarily in the Chair due to the absence of Ed Grimsdale.

2/3. Minutes: These were agreed and there were no matters arising that were not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda.

4. Chairman's Report: The Chairman's notes were tabled and open for discussion.

Various attendees went over aspects of the problem of footpath access to Lace Hill. When the developers realised the ramp they had built was above the permitted gradient they removed it and went for steps rather than a longer but shallower ramp. It is believed that this is in breach of the law making the path inaccessible to wheelchairs and prams etc. Jon Harvey tried to petition AVDC but this was refused as they 'can't question their own decision'. The developers will provide a suitable path if money is found for it and this could come from for example S106 monies. Simon will contact Cllr. Warren Whyte to making this point and Ian will evoke the Equalities and Human Rights Act if no progress is made.

7. (Item brought forward) Kelly Collins – gave an update on the Opportunities Centre. She is the Service Manager for North Bucks and her Deputy is Jenny Hall. The resurfacing of the Car park will be completed soon. The arrangement of the bays will be changed to include 5 larger disabled accessible bays. Our concerns about the internal corridor doors will lead to magnets being installed to hold them open as we pass through them. These will release in case of fire. She is aware we will need a larger room and better layout of tables and chairs if our group continues to grow.

The Treasurer John Russell expressed concern over issues around the increasing cost of hiring the room. Kelly Collins was able to promise us that we could continue to pay the introductory rate of £10/hour. We are very thankful to Kelly.

Una Robinson took the opportunity to express continuing concern about the 'knobs' for opening the toilets. They are impossible to turn and one fell off while being tested.

5. Secretary's Report: This month Chris Strain-Clark has visited:

- The Filmplace (Ian Fairbairn Lecture Theatre). Talks are ongoing with the Estates Manager Colin Stocker about improved access for wheelchairs which is currently abominable. Two options were discussed - one a raised platform at the front and the other a raised platform at the rear. The latter appears preferable if finances are available and problem of staff trained to use 'evac chairs' is solved.

We were promised an improved disabled parking space in the University's Chandos Road car park to be included in the new set out.

- The Old Town Hall, the steep and cluttered access to the lift: The Managing Director of Villiers made an immediate improvement by removing one of the large refuse bins blocking the ramp. Ideally they should remove both. On re-inspection the clutter is returning and we are trying to find out who owns/is responsible for the alley.

Also they promised to provide a movable ramp for the main steps at the front door, and a bell/buzzer and sign at Villiers to direct wheelchair users to the level entrance through the bar. Clair reported that a sign is already in position.

The Charter Fair: This will be back in October. Kay Bradley suggests that the impact of Charter Fair on disabled people should be a priority for the Town Council, and I will bring it up the next Town Centre and Events committee. Problems include the blocking of dropped curbs, uncovered electrical cables and heavy lorries mounting and destroying kerbs and pavements. All past attempts to move the fair elsewhere have proved unsuccessful.

DisabledGo website: Chris has looked this up. You can search for accessible places to go eg restaurants/hotels/pubs in any area but there seem to be very few in the Aylesbury Vale area. Leighton Buzzard and MK clearly have Access Guides. Does Aylesbury Vale? Something to be followed up. We have a lot of information gathered by John Russell and Chris Strain-Clark so perhaps we should do our own.

Accessible Taxis: AVDC licensing is looking into the instances where a taxi company has been unable to provide an accessible taxi in Buckingham after 5.00pm. They were appalled.

Ed's Informative Signs: The signs were passed around and generated a vigorous discussion. In general they were thought to be too 'Swanny'. Instead they should highlight 'ACCESS4ALL' and feature the familiar 'Wheelchair' disabled sign everyone is familiar with or something like the 'Match Stick Men' used by the National Trust. The signs should be more positive than the 'Steps' sign. Perhaps 'Happy to Help' and picture of a 'Bell Push'. The Green writing fades into the background and could be difficult to see in a window on a sunny day.

Perhaps we should have a competition to come up with the best designs.

6. The Treasurer's Report: John reported that we have £1357.37p in our account and £33.32p in cash. We are going to need a small subscription and/or we should apply to Buckingham Town council for a small grant. John had enquired about using the Library quiet room or the mezzanine suite but the Library building is closed on Mondays. We could hire the Old Goal or Council Chamber for £5/hour but they are not really accessible.

8. Simon Garwood – He reported that the Safe Places scheme is not working as well in AVDC area as elsewhere. An AVDC Safety Officer and a PCSO are to go round and check up on premises and will give us feedback. Shops are reluctant to send staff on training courses but might put up a large sign to remind them.

Andrew Clark of Fair4All Community – concerned with all forms of public transport - is hoping Access4All would join up. We are very interested but need more information. There was a discussion of buses and taxis which still cause problems though some are beginning to improve.

Simon also reported that Dementia Friendly Communities was visiting Buckingham Library 10am – 4pm on Tuesday 21st July. This is being trialled in Stokenchurch, Great Missenden and Buckingham before roll out across the County.

10. Members Concerns: There is still a problem with grass cutting. AVDC, VAHT and BTC are not giving a uniformly good service and are hindered by cars parking on open grassy areas.

There is still a problem with HiMOs with far too many occupants and conducting business from the premises. AVDC has so far not acted but it is believed that Environmental Health will do something. Maybe Cllr. Mills could help.

Obstacles outside the King's Head are still causing problems. The yellow car has moved to where the skip was and been replaced by refrigerators which are still a problem.

There is the ongoing problem of A-boards though the new restaurant Vibin's removed theirs in response to a request.

The saga of the toilets continues. After a recap of the history the latest suggestion – to put them next to the Shopmobility unit – was outlined. There was a suggestion that we also needed toilets near the bus and coach stop as well as the car park.

Ian Jones told us about 'Bowling for the Visually Impaired' which takes place 10.30am – 12.30pm on Tuesdays, either indoors in Bletchley or if the weather is suitable outdoors at Bradwell. He will offer a lift if anyone is interested and he is going.

Next meeting Monday September 14th 2-3.30 pm Well Street Opps Centre