



BUCKINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES, CORNWALLS MEADOW,
BUCKINGHAM. MK18 1RP

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Town Clerk: Mr. C. P. Wayman



Councillors

You are summoned to a meeting of the Town Centre & Events Committee of Buckingham Town Council will be held on **Monday 2nd February 2015** in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham at 7.00pm.

Mr. C.P. Wayman
Town Clerk

Please note that the Town Centre & Events Committee meeting will be preceded by Public Question time 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 Councillors.
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 of the Meeting held on Monday 8th December 2014 ratified at Full Council on 19th January 2015. (TCE/05/14) **Copy previously circulated**
4. **Action List** **Appendix A**
To receive action reports and updates
5. **Budget** **Appendix B**
To receive the latest budget figures
6. **Christmas Lights**
To receive a verbal report from the Events Co-ordinator
7. **Planters & Hanging Baskets**
To receive a verbal report from the Events Co-ordinator
8. **Forthcoming Events**
 - 8.1 To receive a verbal update from Cllr. T Bloomfield on the Pancake Race
 - 8.2 To receive verbal updates from the Events Co-ordinator as follows –
Food Fair – 28th February
Fringe Week – 13th – 21st June
9. **Event Reviews**
To receive a verbal report from the Events Co-ordinator on the 1st February Comedy Night

Buckingham



Twinned with Mouvaux, France



10. **Play Around the Parishes**
To receive and note the dates for this year's play around the parishes

Thursday 30th July
Thursday 13th August
Thursday 27th August
11. **Christmas Parade**
To receive the minutes of the Christmas Parade Wash up meeting **Appendix C**
12. **Access**
To receive a verbal update from Cllr. Strain-Clark
13. **Ownership of Events** **Appendix D**
To receive the updated list
14. **Visitor Information Centre** **Appendix E**
To receive the latest visitor and accommodation statistics
15. **Twinning** **Appendix F**
To receive the minutes of a meeting held 7/1/2015
16. **Correspondence**
17. **News Releases**
18. **Chairman's Items**
19. **Date of the next meeting:** Monday 23rd March 2015

To:

Cllr. T. Bloomfield
Cllr. H. Cadd
Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins
Cllr. D. Isham
Cllr. A. Mahi - Chairman
Cllr. H. Mordue

Cllr. Ms. Newell
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue - Town Mayor
Cllr. M. Smith
Cllr. Mrs. C. Strain-Clark
Cllr. R. Stuchbury - Vice Chairman

Events - Action list

Appendix A

Subject	Action to be taken		Response/ Agenda no.
	Date	Action	
Memory Book	14/10/13	Prices and quantities to be agreed	Ongoing
	02/12/13	Mayor writing the Foreword for the book	Ongoing
Meeting 21/05/12			
Disabled Access to Public events		Incorporate relevant parts into Event Management plan	Ongoing Cllr Strain - Clark to assist with assessment of venues for disabled access
		Continue to look at access requirements for the less able	Ongoing Cllr Strain-Clark
Meeting 25/03/13			
Magna Carta Walk		To obtain more information from Mr Hewitt regarding the Magna Carta Walk	Letter received from Mr Hewitt
	20/05/13	Agreed to support Event, Mayor, Town Crier to be involved. Arrange publicity	Ongoing - 2015
Public Entertainment License		Find out if temporary license could be obtained as Council do not have a Performing Rights License	Ongoing
			Deputy Town Clerk to provide verbal update
Meeting 03/02/14			
Hanging Baskets		Ask Preston Bisset Nursery if they would enter a 3 year agreement for hanging baskets	Ongoing
	848/13 62/14		AM, AB, CR visited Preston Bisset on 28/2.
Meeting 14/07/14			
Flags		To obtain costs for replacement St George's Flags as well as Union Flags and EU flags	Events Co-ordinator
			£500 received from Destination Buckingham
			Flags Ordered

	Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% of Budget
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PARTNERSHIPS505 AYLESBURY VALE SHORTFALL

4219	BUCKINGHAM FRINGE	5,011	8,727	12,451	3,724	80	3,644	70.7 %
5001	TIC GRANT	25,000	25,000	25,000	0		0	100.0 %
5003	VALE OF AYLESBURY PLAN	15,787	3,374	2,500	-874		-874	135.0 %
AYLESBURY VALE SHORTFALL :- Expenditure		45,798	37,101	39,951	2,850	80	2,770	93.1 %
1065	BUCKINGHAM FRINGE INCOME	3,189	3,763	10,000	-6,238			37.6 %
1068	COUNCIL TAX TOP UP GRANT	50,692	0	0	0			0.0 %
AYLESBURY VALE SHORTFALL :- Income		53,882	3,763	10,000	-6,238			37.6 %
Net Expenditure over Income		-8,084	33,339	29,951	-3,388			

PARTNERSHIPS :- Expenditure		45,798	37,101	39,951	2,850	80	2,770	93.1 %
Income		53,882	3,763	10,000	-6,238			37.6 %
Net Expenditure over Income		-8,084	33,339	29,951	-3,388			

Month No : 10

Committee Report

	Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% of Budget
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EARMARKED RESERVES

	Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% of Budget	
901	<u>EARMARKED RESERVES</u>							
9006	NAG	148	69	598	529	529	11.6 %	
9009	CAPITAL RESERVE	0	0	110,000	110,000	110,000	0.0 %	
9010	FLOOD RELIEF	-100	0	100	100	100	0.0 %	
9011	WAR MEMORIAL	9,610	750	1,681	931	931	44.6 %	
9012	CHRISTMAS LIGHTS	1,100	0	4,675	4,675	4,675	0.0 %	
9015	CHARTER FAIRS	0	30	11,170	11,140	11,140	0.3 %	
9018	REPAIR OF FOOTPATHS	0	28,035	31,000	2,965	2,965	100.0 %	
9019	MEMORIAL TESTING	363	2,663	5,537	2,875	2,875	48.1 %	
9025	PLAY AREA REPLACEMENT	0	0	2,621	2,621	2,621	0.0 %	
9026	TRIM TRAIL	0	4,810	4,810	0	0	100.0 %	
9027	GREEN BUCKINGHAM GROUP	0	0	226	226	226	0.0 %	
9029	CIRCULAR WALK MAINT	82	9,418	14,665	5,247	5,247	64.2 %	
9030	TOURISM LEAFLETS	510	0	3,402	3,402	3,402	0.0 %	
9031	YOUTH MUSIC EVENT	0	0	1,200	1,200	1,200	0.0 %	
9032	BUCK NEIGHBOURHOOD DEV	0	2,150	20,750	18,600	18,600	10.4 %	
9033	DESTINATION BUCKINGHAM	6,297	3,985	8,800	4,815	4,815	45.3 %	
9034	RIVER AND POND MAINTENANCE	4,000	0	5,000	5,000	5,000	0.0 %	
9035	PARKS DEVELOPMENT	7,730	14,315	35,389	21,074	21,074	40.5 %	
9036	ELECTION COSTS	0	0	2,500	2,500	2,500	0.0 %	
	EARMARKED RESERVES :- Expenditure	29,740	66,224	264,124	197,900	2,965	194,935	26.2 %
1070	DESTINATION BUCKINGHAM	10,000	10,000	0	10,000			0.0 %
	EARMARKED RESERVES :- Income	10,000	10,000	0	10,000			
	Net Expenditure over Income	19,740	56,224	264,124	207,900			
	EARMARKED RESERVES :- Expenditure	29,740	66,224	264,124	197,900	2,965	194,935	26.2 %
	Income	10,000	10,000	0	10,000			0.0 %
	Net Expenditure over Income	19,740	56,224	264,124	207,900			

	Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% of Budget	
<u>TOWN CENTRE & EVENTS</u>								
301	<u>TOWN CENTRE & EVENTS</u>							
4078	0	0	400	400		400	0.0 %	
4079	250	43	250	207		207	17.2 %	
4094	1,227	1,908	5,178	3,270	280	2,990	42.3 %	
4104	5,663	5,113	6,000	887		887	85.2 %	
4107	303	244	250	6		6	97.6 %	
4115	267	-34	533	567		567	-6.4 %	
4201	9,364	8,746	10,000	1,254		1,254	87.5 %	
4202	3,411	3,761	5,089	1,328	200	1,128	77.8 %	
4203	773	272	500	228		228	54.5 %	
4205	3,009	2,998	3,000	2		2	99.9 %	
4209	114	290	200	-90	850	-940	569.9 %	
4210	41	0	75	75	26	49	34.6 %	
4211	3,149	3,128	3,000	-128		-128	104.3 %	
4212	318	410	300	-110		-110	136.6 %	
4215	500	0	600	600		600	0.0 %	
4216	39	42	60	18		18	69.5 %	
4220	3,698	3,639	3,700	61		61	98.4 %	
4228	250	300	770	470		470	39.0 %	
4232	0	0	200	200		200	0.0 %	
4241	4,443	3,453	6,710	3,257		3,257	51.5 %	
4243	2,544	354	1,800	1,446		1,446	19.7 %	
	TOWN CENTRE & EVENTS :- Expenditure	39,363	34,667	48,615	13,948	1,356	12,592	74.1 %
1013	HANGING BASKETS	467	400	500	-100			80.0 %
1021	BARRIERS AND SIGNS	0	0	400	-400			0.0 %
1062	COMMUNITY FAIR - TABLE	270	240	300	-60			80.0 %
1063	TRAFFIC ORDERS RECHARGED	0	98	350	-252			28.1 %
1066	COMEDY NIGHT INCOME	3,980	1,810	5,400	-3,591			33.5 %
1069	CHARTER FAIR INCOME	5,794	5,967	6,000	-33			99.5 %
	TOWN CENTRE & EVENTS :- Income	10,511	8,515	12,950	-4,435			65.8 %
	Net Expenditure over Income	28,853	26,152	35,665	9,513			
302	<u>STREET MARKET</u>							
4017	SUBSCRIPTIONS	318	0	325	325		325	0.0 %
4225	RATES	3,557	3,627	4,300	673		673	84.3 %
4226	SUPERVISORS	3,820	3,425	3,200	-225		-225	107.0 %
4235	MARKET INFRASTRUCTURE &	986	4,165	6,217	2,052	293	1,759	71.7 %
	STREET MARKET :- Expenditure	8,681	11,217	14,042	2,825	293	2,533	82.0 %

Month No : 10

Committee Report

		Actual Last Year	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% of Budget
1005	STREET MARKET	22,699	13,997	21,000	-7,003			66.7 %
1006	FLEA MARKET	4,734	3,259	5,000	-1,741			65.2 %
1007	CONTINENTAL MARKET	300	213	750	-537			28.4 %
	STREET MARKET :- Income	27,733	17,469	26,750	-9,281			65.3 %
	Net Expenditure over Income	-19,052	-6,252	-12,708	-6,456			
<u>303</u>	<u>SPECIAL EVENTS</u>							
4240	JUBILEE MEMORY BOOK	0	0	1,600	1,600		1,600	0.0 %
4242	FOOD FAIR	0	0	1,935	1,935	21	1,914	1.1 %
4260	TWINNING	0	854	2,854	2,000		2,000	29.9 %
4264	BUS TRANSPORT	2,585	0	0	0		0	0.0 %
	SPECIAL EVENTS :- Expenditure	2,585	854	6,389	5,535	21	5,514	13.7 %
1020	FOOD FAIR INCOME	735	0	450	-450			0.0 %
	SPECIAL EVENTS :- Income	735	0	450	-450			0.0 %
	Net Expenditure over Income	1,850	854	5,939	5,085			
	TOWN CENTRE & EVENTS :- Expenditure	50,629	46,738	69,046	22,308	1,669	20,639	70.1 %
	Income	38,979	25,984	40,150	-14,166			64.7 %
	Net Expenditure over Income	11,651	20,754	28,896	8,142			

Notes of a review meeting for the Christmas Parade 2014

Held in the Buckingham Town Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, at 11am on Thursday 15th January 2015

Present :	Cllr. A. Mahi,	Chairman, Town Centre & Events Committee
	Cllr. R. Stuchbury	Vice Chairman, Town Centre & Events Committee
	Cllr. M. Smith	Buckingham Town Council
	Cllr. H. Mordue	Chairman, Christmas Parade Committee
	Mr. P. Fealey	Christmas Parade Committee
	Mr. L. Weston	Christmas Parade Committee
	Mr. E. Fletcher	Christmas Parade Committee
	Mr. C. Robson	Deputy Town Clerk, Buckingham Town Council
	Ms. A. Brubaker	Events Co-ordinator, Buckingham Town Council
	Mrs. K. McElligott	Assistant to the Town Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

2. Communication

AM felt that there had been a lack of communication between the Parade Committee and the Town Council; the date and time of the marshals' meeting had been received very late and secondhand; the list of participants had been supplied on request by the RBL only on the Friday afternoon. The number was needed to estimate the space for re-formation at the turnround.

Not all the marshals attended the meeting, and some did not turn up on the day. There were no reserve marshals, and the one directed to Nelson Street disappeared and his place had to be taken by AM. The Town Clerk conducted a briefing meeting on the Saturday morning; it was considered at the meeting that the Saturday one was too late to take in the Event Management Plan, and that a single meeting might be better, or possibly two identical meetings to accommodate marshals with other commitments.

PF indicated that almost all the marshals had email addresses so the maps (Committee) and Event Management Plan (BTC, agreed by the Safety Advisory Group) could be circulated electronically.

Staff of the Library had commented that the parade entrants were not kept informed about the reason for the initial delay (caused by a broken shaft on the cart); this was OK for them, in their van, but the children became restless. Some information should have been relayed on the delay and likely new start time. It was pointed out that the marshals unable to hear the announcements over the PA had no idea what was happening and the reason. AC pointed out that the times to close and open the roads were fixed, so there was no problem. If the cart had not been repairable, HM had intended to move off without it at 11am; in the event it was fixed by 11.05 (Parade had been due to start at 10.45). However marshals needed to know in order to answer queries from the spectators.

Agreed:

- 2.1 The contact numbers circulated on the map should be checked for accuracy; MS had received an older incorrect version.
- 2.2 It might be as well, in view of the increased number of entrants, that the assembly time for judging be brought forward 15 minutes to permit moving off at the agreed time.
- 2.3 The Black Diamonds dance troupe would be asked to perform in the Bull Ring to entertain spectators in advance of the Parade arriving; their pausing the parade to perform routines caused hold-ups and gaps. Should they not wish to do this, Janey Betts would be approached, perhaps to bring the children's Zumba group.
- 2.4 The people from Circus Unlimited who normally entertain spectators had joined the Parade this year - ? unclear briefing on their role.

3. Event Management Plan

This was circulated to those marshals who attended the Saturday morning briefing. Many long-term marshals regarded it as unnecessary, and said that all they needed was the map, not realising that the EMP is agreed by the Safety Advisory Group, without whose approval the event cannot go ahead. Should any incident occur because a marshal had not followed the EMP, Town Council staff would be liable as BTC arranges the Road Closure Order, and if serious court action could follow, as well as preventing future Parades and any other BTC events requiring a Road Closure. Marshalls are not certificated, as Town Council staff are, and may not vary the road closure or direct traffic, both actions having been observed on the day.

If there are to be unusual items in the Parade, such as the War Horse, BTC need to be made aware in good time so that the EMP can be amended/adapted.

The Parade had divided into 2 sections with a large gap; the War Horse had been held in the Cattle Pen area of the High street, while the cart went round the Cattle Pen island four times before the rest of the Parade caught up. The horse had become restless with the numbers of people crowding round, causing concern; it had been very difficult to prevent spectators getting too close. Eventually its rider had dismounted to help the other handler hold it. It should perhaps have been walked up the Moreton Road away from the crowd. There was no clear definition of 'suitable restraint' in the EMP section dealing with animals. AB noted that if any other type of animals were to attend, passports (movement orders) would have to be arranged (a copy to be sent to BTC).

Agreed:

- 3.1 Unusual entries, including animals, to be advised as early as possible to BTC, and appropriate paperwork generated.
- 3.2 The EMP to be circulated to all marshals 1-2 weeks before the event by email so that they had enough time to read it properly, as well as the Committee's map.
- 3.3 Clear separation between spectators and parade, possibly more barriers required.
- 3.4 Minimise delays – no large gaps in parade.

4. Road Closure

AM said that so far as he was concerned, the Road Closure covered the whole road; other pointed out that it was useful to have the barrier further in to allow vehicles to come off the London Road to be told where to go (eg Brookfield Lane to drop participants) and given room to turn. The manager of the new Sainsbury's had agreed that, as his staff were not normally permitted to park on-site (they park in Chandos Road), it would be allowed on this occasion and access to the car park otherwise closed. Having the barriers beyond his exit meant that cars were turning in the car park.

There had been a problem with lorries bringing tarmac to the Fir Cottage development, even though the site manager had acknowledged that he was aware of the Parade, but in the event they were clear in good time. A lorry bring hay bales for Parade use had also been allowed access, due to the weight of the bales, and a care worker for Chandos Court.

Agreed:

- 4.1 To seek the opinion of the SAG as to the positioning of the barrier at the London Road end of Chandos Road.
- 4.2 BTC staff to meet with Sainsbury's regional manager re use of the car park.
- 4.3 Committee to emphasise to participants that access was via Brookfield Lane only.
- 4.4 BTC to consider windscreen permits for care workers and other necessary vehicles as is done for Charter Fair access.

5. Marshals

Marshals have to be briefed on their duties, and limitations, know where they are to be sited, and collect a hi-vis waistcoat. The Town Clerk needs to be present as the RCO is the Town Council's order (it was not possible for the Town Clerk to attend the marshal's meeting at the RLS due to the late notice and his having another commitment). The

Saturday briefing held was not ideal as some of the Committee's marshals and Town Council staff were busy elsewhere from early on.

PF had discussed with AB where the crucial marshalling points were and allocated experienced marshals.

Clearing the crossing point at the Old Gaol after the Parade had reformed and was about to set off had been difficult – allocate marshals for this?

There was also discussion about separating the walkers from the floats at re-formation. The suggestion that the market stalls be moved down to Waitrose for the day, and Market Hill used for the walkers, met with some opposition.

PF: Brookfield Lane had been one-way with exit via the bell-mouth on Chandos Road; this would be changed to two way working on Brookfield Lane with no vehicle exit on to Chandos Road for 2015. A marshal would be needed to enforce this.

HM: writes to University every year to ensure the use of Station Road car park.

Agreed:

- 5.1 A meeting between BTC and the Committee to discuss placement of marshals, especially weaker ones or less reliable ones with stronger or BTC staff; a reserve list to cover those who failed to attend to be considered.
- 5.2 The Town Clerk to attend the Committee's briefing (or briefings if necessary).
- 5.3 The Committee to give fair notice of the date and time of the briefing(s) to BTC.
- 5.4 Marshals to sign that that they had read, understood, and would abide by the clauses of the EMP.
- 5.5 Marshals who failed to respect the legal requirements would be asked not to attend.
- 5.6 The Committee would draw up the map with placements, contact numbers, and the times of closing and re-opening the roads and circulate to potential marshals with the EMP.
- 5.7 Consider a barrier across Moreton Road below the bend and diverting the walkers into the road between the goods access on the bend and the Kings Head. Marshal needed for this area, and Parade supervisor to feed walking groups into returning Parade.
- 5.8 Marshalling for Brookfield Lane/RLS car park area. Barrier at Chandos Road bell-mouth.

6. War Horse

Dealt with earlier in the meeting.

7. Insurance Documents

PF has these.

8. Signage

BTC has conducted a review of available signage, siting, and extras required. It was unfortunate that BTC staff had not had sufficient time to distribute all the barriers necessary before 10.30 when they had to leave and man the closure.

Using cones instead of sand-buckets to mark Parade positions had saved a lot of time.

8.1 Barriers & signs to be distributed on the Friday to cut down the work on Saturday morning.

8.2 Use cones for Parade order again.

9. Income and Expenditure Accounts for 2014 Parade

PF: not quite finalised; will circulate to BTC (as requested) as soon as available.

10. Other matters discussed

10.1 AM/AB would like to attend Committee meetings: the next is 7.30pm on 26th February at PF home.

10.2 Concern was expressed about the drone flying around the Parade; it was thought to be University students, possibly related to their internal news service. It was, however, illegal to fly drones within 500m of people, even if the owner held a licence. A drone that failed could cause considerable injury.

Actions: **HM** to contact University; **AB** to add phrase banning drones to EMP, and **HM** to note in publicity for 2015 Parade (theme to be announced shortly).

It was agreed by all that, despite the initial problem with the cart, it had been a successful Parade, and much appreciated – a true community event.

Meeting closed at 12.30.

EVENTS 2015

Event		Lead Cllr	Deputy
February			
Tues 17th	Pancake Race	Terry Bloomfield	
Sat 28th	Food Fair	Robin Stuchbury	Andy Mahi
March			
April			
Sun 19th	Spring Fair	Ruth Newell	
May			
Thurs 1st	May Pole Dancing	Ruth Newell	Paul Hiron
Sun 24th	Music In The Market	Robin Stuchbury	Andy Mahi/Terry Bloomfield
June			
Sat 13th	Fringe Week		
Sun 14th	Fringe Week		
Mon 15th	Fringe Week		
Tues 16th	Fringe Week		Please note that we will not be putting on events every day of the Fringe week, as other organisations like to get involved.
Weds 17th	Fringe Week		
Thurs 18th	Fringe Week		
Fri 19th	Fringe Week		
Sat 20th	Fringe Week		
July			
Sun 12th	Dog Event		
TBC	Buckingham In Bloom Competition	Terry Bloomfield	
August			

Sun 30th	BandJam	Robin Stuchbury	Andy Mahi/Terry Bloomfield
September			
Sun 13th	River Rinse		
October			
Sun 4th	River Rinse		
Fri 16th	Charter Fair	Robin Stuchbury	Andy Mahi
Fri 23rd	Charter Fair	Robin Stuchbury	Andy Mahi
TBC	Local Democracy Week	Lisa O'Donoghue	
Sat 31st	Best Dressed Guy Competition		
Sat 31st	Bonfire & Fireworks	Andy Mahi	
November			
Sat 28th	Christmas Light Switch On		
December			
Sat 12th	Christmas Parade	Howard Mordue	
Sat 12th	Community Fair	Rob Lehmann	Terry Bloomfield

BUCKINGHAM ASSOCIATION
Minutes of meeting held Wednesday 7 January 2015

Present: Stéphanie Scrase (Chairman), Cllr Paul Hiron, Janet May, Howard Mordue (Treasurer), Jane Mordue (Secretary), John Murray, Cllr Ruth Newell, Sue Watkins (German liaison) and member Gerry Loftus

1. **Apologies for absence** Cllr Terry Bloomfield, Derek Carpenter, Cllr Christine Strain Clark
Stephanie wished 'Bonne Année' to everyone.
2. **Minutes** of the meeting held Wednesday 5 November 2014 were agreed and signed.
3. **Matters arising**
- 3.1 **Great Horwood Silver Band Concert 11 October** made £367.30. Stephanie to tell Beryl Lack.
Action: Stéphanie Scrase
4. **Young people**
- 4.1 **German Exchange** between the Silverstone University Technical College and Julius-Stursberg Gymnasium, Neukirchen-Vluyn, organised by Melanie Scudamore (UTC), Stephanie von Both (Royal Latin School) and Christian Berges (Julius-Stursberg Gymnasium) had taken place at the end of November 2014. Sue Watkins reported that 9 UTC and 7 RLS students went to Germany. A return exchange would happen in the first week of February. Members were delighted to hear this progress and it was hoped to obtain a comment for 'Club Voice' – see item 9, below.
- 4.2 **French Visit** by College in Mouvaux (Nora Amirat and Helene) to Royal Latin School (Linda Emary) and Akeley Wood School (contact?), on 19 May 2015.
Jane Mordue reported on a meeting with Annie Millecamps and the 2 French teachers plus their new Headmaster, on the weekend of Mouvaux's Christmas market. The new head was keen to support such exchanges. Stephanie reported that Nora was being wonderfully proactive. She is bringing two classes and RLS can only accommodate one. Following many approaches to and a lengthy silence from Buckingham School, she succeeded in finding another local school to visit, Akeley Wood. As well as teachers, the party will comprise 53 French youngsters aged between 14 and 16. They will be in school during the morning until 1330 hrs (including lunch?) and after a tour of Buckingham may well head off to the shops in Milton Keynes.
5. **News and general updates: Buckingham, Mouvaux, Neukirchen-Vluyn**
- 5.1 Mouvaux's proposals discussed with Buckingham at planning meeting December 2014
Stephanie noted that the new twinning association for Mouvaux was still awaited.
The proposals from Mouvaux were welcomed by members and would be followed up.
Stephanie will translate Annie's list, for wider circulation.
Events proposed included:
By the twinning:
 - Small group visit to the Flandres area
 - Youth debate – theme, 'how different countries help prepare youngsters for entry to the world of work'
 - Sports group exchanges?
 - Walkers
 - Fetes des lumières
 By the Mairie:
 - Salon des artistes 10-19 April 2015
 - Mouvaux Christmas Market 4-6 December 2015
6. **Events**
Buckingham/Mouvaux/Neukirchen Vluyn organisers' names given in brackets
- 6.1 **Review**
- 6.1.1 BAFA Art Exhibition 15-16 November – a success with one major artwork sold. Photo to be circulated.
Action: Jane Mordue
- 6.1.2 AGM Tues 18 November 2014 + Film – Me, myself and Mum – went well but small attendance.
Howard had since responded to the two queries re the accounts:
 - a) no sum noted re 'newsletters' – this was now included (£82).
 - b) no interest shown – this was included in the total but not split out as not very big, £2.30.
 The amended and signed accounts were tabled and were available for members. Mike Kirby was thanked

for his help in independently verifying the accounts.

6.1.3 Christmas Market in Mouvaux, Fri 5-Sun 8 December

Stephanie Scrase thanked the team, John Murray, Janet May, Howard and Jane Mordue. She also thanked Margaret White for her advice in organising the shopping and baking. She was very grateful to all those who provided cakes. The team reported on a successful and enjoyable weekend. Howard reported that a profit of £215 had been made. This was largely due to taking only one car, thanks to Stephanie and Reine having transported goods earlier. Contacts had been made by Howard with the local Lions Club who may be interested in the Winslow (which has some Buckingham members) Lions' Beer Festival and by Jane with the local Rotary Club which has several keen 'petrol heads' like Buckingham's Rotary Club!

Stephanie has begun purchases for this coming year and all offers of help with the stall would be appreciated! She would organise a de-brief meeting.

Action: Stéphanie

6.1.4 Christmas parade Buckingham, and Charity Fair Sat 13 December

Stephanie reported on a very enjoyable event with gorgeous weather, attended by Sandrine Ducret, deputy mayor of Mouvaux, her daughter and her husband, together with Annie Millecamps and two lively young musicians who were delighted to receive a certificate of commendation for their float. Henry Scrase was thanked for organising the flat back truck and for rushing to fetch a replacement generator on the morning, kindly supplied free of charge by Paragon.

Sandrine had helped present the prizes and was 'promoted' to Mayor of Mouvaux by the commentator. Stephanie had kindly offered lunch which was followed by the planning meeting.

Howard, as chair of the parade committee, asked whether anyone had seen a drone – which they had. This was illegal and he would follow this up.

The Christmas stall in the Community Centre would be re-considered for 2015 – this year, the float and visitors had kept us busy!

6.2 **Future Events - see also Mouvaux Buckingham programme above (doc 2)**

6.2.1 Planning meeting for Neukirchen-Vluyn/Buckingham links 2015

Following discussions with Franjo Terhart and Guenther Fischer at the Christmas market in Mouvaux, an invitation would be issued for them plus Christian to come to Buckingham, with the date of Saturday 7 February. Noted that Christian would be in Buckingham 1st week of February for the German exchange.

Action: Sue Watkins

6.2.2 Coffee & Croissants & Kugelhof at The Old Gaol, February 2015

Stephanie reported on a kind invitation from the Town Council to provide refreshments at the Town's annual Food Fair on 28 February. Members felt we should certainly hold our own event at the Old Gaol as this worked best for bringing our members together and attracting new members. We should offer to help at the Food Fair if no other group wished to take it on. Stephanie would book the Old Gaol for Saturday 7 February, buy the provisions (Fair Trade coffee etc) and also contact Amanda Brubaker at the Town Council.

Action: Stéphanie

Committee members agreed to help to serve coffees. Membership cards would be issued at the event as a 'draw'! Howard would prepare. + Raffle?

6.2.3 Small group visit from Neukirchen-Vluyn, Ascension weekend, Thurs 14 to Sunday 17 May 2015 – noted.

6.2.4 Film night programme 2015?

These had not been very well attended in recent months although those who did had really enjoyed the films. Noted that the Film Place was showing more French films these days. The aim of the twinning film nights was to offer something back to members for their membership fees in addition to the newsletter. It was agreed to move instead to holding a drinks party for members at Stephanies' home once a year.

Action: Stéphanie

6.2.5 The ever popular Bastille Day Boules competition would be organised again on Tuesday 14 July 2015.

7. **Finance Report** Howard Mordue reported the bank balance: £2,386.37.

8. **Membership report** Terry Bloomfield had reported 70 members so far. Agreed to blind copy circulation.

9. **Communications**

Newsletter: Ron Gleeson would be asked to prepare a newsletter in due course.

Club Voice: agreed that we need a stand-in for Margaret's excellent input. Ruth Newell to approach her journalist student daughter.

Action: Ruth Newell

Website: Geoffrey Shaw was keeping the site up to date but requested more information re the schools exchange. Agreed it would be excellent if we could obtain 'vox pops' from students on exchanges.

10. **Any Other Business** - none

11. **Date of next meeting** Wednesday 4 March 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

9/01/15 jm