

Minutes of a meeting of **The Full Council** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 18th July 2022, following the Informal meeting of the Full Council at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

Present:

Cllr. R. Ahmed	
Cllr. M. Cole JP	
Cllr. F. Davies	
Cllr. M. Gateley	Town Mayor/Chair
Cllr. J. Harvey	
Cllr. S. Hetherington	
Cllr. A. Mahi	
Cllr. H. Mordue	
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue	
Cllr. A. Osibogun	
Cllr. A. Ralph	
Cllr. R. Stuchbury	
Cllr. M. Try	
Cllr. W. Whyte	
Cllr. R. Willett	

Also present:

Mr. P. Hodson	Town Clerk
Ms. C. Molyneux	Deputy Town Clerk
Ms. P. Cahill	Committee Clerk

No members of the public attended and so there was no public session.

Cllr. Gateley proposed bringing item 11 forward. Members **Agreed**.

166/22 Apologies for absence

Members received apologies from Cllr. Schaefer.

167/22 Declarations of interest

Cllr. Stuchbury is a member of the Buckinghamshire Northern Area Planning Committee.

168/22 Proposed development - Bloor Homes

Members received and discussed proposed plans from Mr. David Joseph, Senior Planning Director, Bloor Homes and Mr. Mike O'Connell, retained consultant.

Members agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow the guests to speak.

David Joseph explained that they were treating the meeting as introductory, they were not making proposals; the main purpose of attendance is to introduce themselves. Members were shown the land map of Manor Farm on the east side of town. This is owned by a local family and consists of 25 acres of land. Assuming that 18 acres are developed this will be approximately 250 houses. No plans have yet been produced. Bloor Homes would like to hear local views on a 'without prejudice' basis. It was noted that there has been a recent commission for a solar farm to the north east of the land; this is the same landowner.

Cllr. Cole explained that the Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan excludes this type of development but that the process of renewing the plan is currently taking place. He informed the guests that the main objective is for affordable homes and S106 agreements

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that benefit the community. Cllr. Harvey requested the consideration of sustainable housing: solar panels, electric vehicle points, grey water, good broadband connection and the potential for a caravan site to attract visitors. Cllrs. Hetherington, Whyte and Gateley declared a potential conflict of interest as members of the Buckingham and Gawcott Charitable Trust. Cllr. Whyte pointed out that 250 homes is a low threshold for infrastructure such as schools and healthcare. Cllr. O'Donoghue asked if they would consider a greenway for cycling. Mr. O'Connell recognised that the points made are common for new developments and that they are considering solutions and the improvement of access to facilities. Cllr. Davies informed the guests that the current proposed new development on Osier Way has made no provision for increased places for schools. Local primary schools are currently full and there is a waiting list at the secondary school. Children from Buckingham are travelling to other towns to access their secondary education. The doctors' surgery in Buckingham has more patients per GP than the national average. Mr. Joseph said that the information was helpful and that these issues will be considered.

Members reinstated Standing Orders.

Members **Agreed** to bring forward agenda item 15 to enable Cllr. Whyte to contribute.

169/22 Old Gaol Corner

Members received correspondence from the Old Gaol and considered whether to advocate on behalf of the proposed approach.

Cllr. Whyte informed members that he had ceased being a Trustee of the Old Gaol in the Spring. Regarding the damage to the south corner of the building, he has discussed this with Buckinghamshire Council but there is currently no solution. He feels that it would be helpful if the Town Council can support finding a solution; financial support for a feasibility study will be sought from the Community Board. Members discussed the possibility of a temporary metal plate, the previous device, which was hit more often by drivers, traffic lights to slow traffic and encouraging more drivers to use the bypass. Cllr. Whyte explained that although there appeared to be simple solutions, damage to the building can still be sustained if, for example, a metal plate is hit by a vehicle. Cllr. Gateley proposed offering moral support for finding a solution. Cllr. Willett seconded. Members **Agreed** unanimously.

170/22 Minutes

Members agreed as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council meeting held on 30th May 2022.

171/22 Annual Statutory Meeting

Members agreed as a correct record the minutes of the Annual Statutory Meeting held on 30th May 2022.

172/22 Extra Ordinary Full Council

Members agreed as a correct record the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Full Council held on 20th June 2022.

173/22 Interim Full Council

Members agreed as a correct record the minutes of the Interim Council meeting held on 27th June 2022.

174/22 Planning Committee

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PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY 2010/CRIME AND DISORDER ACT, 1988: the decisions made during the course of the meeting were duly considered and it was decided that there were no resulting direct or indirect implications in respect of crime and disorder, or equalities considerations, other than those stated in the minutes.

Initial.....

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Members received the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 6th June 2022 and 27th June 2022.

175/22 Town Centre and Events Committee

Members received the minutes of the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting held on 13th June 2022. Cllr. Stuchbury informed members that the Oxford Fiddle Group have cancelled their planned performance tomorrow due to the extreme heat. The Town Clerk explained that there was a complication on the Public Protection Order regarding alcohol use in the town which meant that the deadline could not be met.

176/22 Environment Committee

Members received the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 20th June 2022.

177/22 Equality, Community Diversity, and Inclusion Working Group

Members received and noted the minutes of the Equality, Community Diversity, and Inclusion Working Group meeting held on 28th June 2022.

178/22 Staffing update

Members confirmed the appointment of Ms. Claire Molyneux as Town Clerk from 25th July 2022, on the recommendation of the Recruitment Panel. The Town Clerk informed members that the Interim Deputy Town Clerk will be Mrs. Louise Stubbs and this role will begin on 25th July.

179/22 Handover of passwords

The Deputy Town Clerk handed to the Mayor a sealed envelope with password and login details. This can only be opened by the Chair and the Chair of Resources in extreme circumstances.

180/22 Linden Village update

Members received and discussed a written report from the Town Clerk. The new owner of the land is not known. The Town Clerk explained that Buckinghamshire Council will continue responsibility for the green spaces. Cllr. Stuchbury proposed that an update is put on a future Environment Committee agenda. Cllr. Try seconded. Members unanimously **Agreed**.

Cllr. Whyte left the meeting at 19:51.

181/22 Members received and questioned reports from Buckinghamshire Council Councillors

Cllr. Stuchbury

Buckinghamshire Fire Authority: following his request consideration of the environment is now included as part of their financial planning.

EHCP assessments – The Oxfordshire Trust put a bid in for additional money to speed up the process, but no response has been received.

The Swan Practice – discussed responses which will be going into the public domain.

Went to Cabinet and questioned the Member about consultation on the possible work to A421. The response received was that he didn't anticipate talking to parishes until 2023.

Cllr. Stuchbury will have an answer on Wednesday about the consultation with parishes on the Buckinghamshire Local Plan and the dropped kerb at Buckingham Secondary School.

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Cllr. Mordue

Potential banking hub in Buckingham: the link now works, and we need to encourage people to fill in the form.

All conditions have now been met for the Medical Centre on Lace Hill and hopefully the building will start in September.

Cllr. Osibogun

Raised concern regarding the relationship between Buckingham Town Council and the Shire Council. It is important that councillors should work together as councillors of the town, and he recommended that an update meeting should be held. He feels that it is important to reinstate these meetings so that urgent matters can be properly addressed.

Cllr Willett asked when the Bart Bus is coming back to Buckingham. Cllr. Stuchbury explained that it is stationed in another part of the County and is being used effectively. Cllr. O'Donoghue believes that it is not stationed in Buckingham as there was nowhere for it to be stored.

Cllr. Harvey asked if members of the Community Board could be invited to the Committee meetings. Cllr. Mordue declared an interest and informed members that some Community Board members do not represent Buckingham town. He also explained that the Bart Bus was stopped in Buckingham due to a lack of volunteer drivers. Cllr. Willett wondered if there was a reason for this, perhaps a lack of publicity?

182/22 Action list

Members reviewed and discussed the Action Report.

Cllr. Cole referred to the action regarding a two-part approach to all large new developments. Members are aware of the massive problems over Osier Way and Moreton Road Phase 3 with no health provisions or community hub provisions. The [Buckinghamshire Council's Town & Parish Charter](#) states that Buckinghamshire Council will promote the best interests of the town and yet they are doing the exact opposite. There is a need to fight for Section 106 agreements and the lack of infrastructure. Cllr. Mordue explained that a Section 106 is a contractual agreement between the developer and the planning authority and is specific about what money is used for; this means that we cannot just specify 'healthcare'.

Cllr. Osibogun cautioned against the language of fight; we need to be cooperative with our Shire Council. He recognises the importance of Town and Shire Councillors being updated on the challenges of the Town Council as a whole.

Cllr. Harvey pointed out that from 1st July the Health Service underwent a major reorganisation, and that Buckingham is now in the Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and West Berkshire area. He will circulate a document to members but suggested that a representative from the Integrated Care System could be invited to attend a meeting to brief members on the changes and the impact on our town.

Cllr. Gateley proposed writing to the new Integrated Care System and copying in the Health and Social Care Select Committee to express current concerns. Cllr. Mahi seconded.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

Cllr. Harvey asked what is happening about the new skatepark; it has already been paid for and the young people have been waiting a long time. Cllr. Stuchbury has written regularly to the Cabinet Member who is still awaiting a report from the Environment

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Agency. Cllr. Osibogun informed members that he will investigate what is holding up the Environment Agency.

183/22 Updates from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Members received verbal updates from Councillors.

Cllr. Willett reported on the Buckingham Youth Centre. Recent successful events included a Ukrainian night and a barbeque. He reported the income and expenditure and will email the minutes and figures to all councillors.

Cllr. Ralph reported that Cllr. Hardcastle has suggested that parishes have common problems when liaising with Buckinghamshire Council and is in the process of putting together a concise report on the key issues, including lack of health funding in S106 funds, removal of public comments on planning applications and lack of consultation on the A421. Cllr. Cole referred to the 498 documents for Walnut Drive and informed members that all of these had been removed and it is now going to Judicial Review. Cllr. Hardcastle has been informed that these documents are irretrievable.

184/22 Mayoral engagements

Members received a list of events attended by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Functions the Mayor has attended:

02.06.22 Celebrate Buckingham Day
02.06.22 Jubilee Beacon Lighting
03.06.22 Music in the Market
05.06.22 Jubilee Civic Service
06.06.22 Raising of Pride Rainbow flag
09.06.22 Southeast Reserve Forces Briefing RAF Benson
10.06.22 Mayor-making
05.07.22 Thornton College event
14.07.22 Buckingham Society Lecture and Garden Party

Functions the Deputy Mayor has attended:

185/22 Chair's announcements

The Town Council was represented at Don Burgess' funeral.

Cllr. Mordue spoke about his recent friendship agreement visit to a town on the shore of Lake Como and presented a book to the Town Council. The Mayor of the town and a small party will be visiting Buckingham on 16-18th November.

Cllr. Gateley attended the West End Bowls Club and suggested that councillors may like to visit/attend a session. If councillors are interested then she will arrange this.

Cllr. Gateley presented the Town Clerk with a gift and expressed thanks for all that he has done for the town during some very difficult times. She wished him well in his new role.

186/22 Date of the next meeting:

Interim Council: Monday 19th September 2022

Full Council: Monday 10th October 2022

COMMITTEE IN PRIVATE SESSION

Exclusion of Public and Press

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

187/22 Neighbourhood Development Support Plan revision

Recommendation from the Planning Committee (Minute 127/22): To accept the terms offered by Homer O'Neil Consultants to advance work on the refresh of the Buckingham Neighbourhood Development Plan using ear-marked reserve fund and a grant from Locality.

Members unanimously **AGREED**

Meeting closed at 20:57pm

Signed

Date

DRAFT