

IM/01/22

Minutes of an **Interim Council Meeting** of Buckingham Town Council held at 7pm on Monday 27th June 2022 in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

Present: Cllr. M. Cole JP
 Cllr. F. Davies
 Cllr. J. Harvey
 Cllr. S. Hetherington
 Cllr. A. Mahi
 Cllr. L. O'Donoghue
 Cllr. A. Ralph
 Cllr. A. Schaefer Chair
 Cllr. R. Stuchbury
 Cllr. M. Try
 Cllr. W. Whyte

Via Zoom: Cllr. R. Ahmed
 Cllr. A. Osibogun
 Cllr. H. Mordue

Also present: Mr. P. Hodson Town Clerk
 Ms. C. Molyneaux Deputy Town Clerk
 Ms. P. Cahill Committee Clerk
 Mrs. L. Stubbs Communications Clerk

Cllr. Schaefer chaired the meeting in the absence of Cllr. Gateley.

Public session

A member of public, a resident of Linden Village, attended and spoke on the land sale. He expressed concern about a potential buyer applying for planning permission on the section of land adjacent to March Edge. Two previous applications to build on this land have been refused.

104/22 Apologies for absence

Members received apologies from Cllr. Collins, Cllr. Gateley and Cllr. Willett.

105/22 Declarations of interest

Cllr. Mahi lives opposite the land adjacent to March Edge.
 Cllrs. O'Donoghue and Schaefer live in Linden Village.

106/22 Support for Ukrainian refugees

Members received and noted the Terms of Reference.
 Members received and discussed a report from the Communications Clerk.
 The Communications Clerk informed councillors that the Community Group began in March and have received a high level of support from the Town Council. The group is now delivering good projects, for example a question-and-answer session last week with a translator present. £1,000 has been received in local donations; the group does not have a bank account and have requested that Buckingham Town Council set up a panel and hold the funds.

IM/01/22

Cllr. Stuchbury thanked the Communications Clerk for her hard work and commitment and proposed to agree the recommendation. Cllr. O'Donoghue seconded. Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendations:

- 1.1. The Council will hold community funds raised for the support of Ukrainian refugees now living in Buckingham & Villages under an earmarked reserve for this purpose.
- 1.2. The Council provide administrative support for the formation of a panel, as outlined in section 3 and 4 of this report, to distribute funds raised to support refugees.

COMMITTEE IN PRIVATE SESSION

Exclusion of Public and Press

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**

107/22 Land for sale

Members received and discussed a report from the Town Clerk.

Members noted that the following plot of land has been advertised "for sale" by auction and considered whether the Council wishes to bid to purchase the site:

Land and Roadways On The South Side Of Stratford Road, Buckingham,
Buckinghamshire, MK18 7HX
Site area approximately 91,459 sq. m
Guide Price £5,000

The Town Clerk informed councillors that, despite the land being removed from the Rightmove site, it is still for sale. Professional advice has been received and it appears that the land has no value.

The Town Clerk highlighted two tarmacked areas leading to garages that would become the responsibility of the buyer; an additional £5,000 in ear marked reserves is recommended to cover this liability.

Recommendation 1.1: It is recommended that the Council takes Option 11.2 and seeks to buy the land described as "Land and Roadways on The South Side of Stratford Road, Buckingham, Buckinghamshire, MK18 7HX" outlined below, for a maximum price of £7,500. The funds to be provided from the Council's general reserve.

Recommendation 1.2: It is recommended that the Council allocates an ear-marked reserve of £20,000 for initial works and maintenance of trees and green spaces on the land should the Council be successful in buying the land.

Cllr. Try **PROPOSED** increasing the bidding amount to £15,000 with the fees additional to this. Cllr. Mahi **SECONDED**. The Town Clerk suggested raising the ear-marked reserve

IM/01/22

to £25,000. Cllr. Ralph **PROPOSED** amending the ear-marked reserve to £25,000. Cllr. Davies **SECONDED**.

Members voted on the amendment to recommendation 1.1 and **AGREED** unanimously.

Members voted on recommendation 1.1 and **AGREED** unanimously.

Members voted on the amendment to recommendation 1.2 and **AGREED** unanimously.

Members voted on recommendation 1.2 and **AGREED** unanimously.

Cllr. Cole expressed thanks to the Town Clerk and the officers involved in this extensive piece of work, completed in just 7 days.

The Town Clerk and Councillors agreed that a press release will be carefully considered for the successful or unsuccessful bid. **ACTION TOWN CLERK**

108/22 Chair's announcements

There were none.

109/22 Date of next meetings:

Full Council: Monday 18th July 2022

Interim Council: Monday 19th September 2022

Meeting closed at 8:06pm

Signed

Date