

Minutes of a meeting of **The Full Council** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

**Present:** Cllr. M. Cole JP  
Cllr. F. Davies  
Cllr. L. Draper  
Cllr. M. Gateley  
Cllr. J. Harvey  
Cllr. A. Mahi  
Cllr. H. Mordue  
Cllr. J. Mordue  
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue  
Cllr. A. Ralph  
Cllr. A. Schaefer      Town Mayor  
Cllr. R. Stuchbury  
Cllr. M. Try  
Cllr. R. Willett

**Also present:** Ms. C. Molyneux      Town Clerk  
Ms. P. Cahill      Committee Clerk

**Absent:** Cllr. R. Ahmed  
Cllr. G. Collins  
Cllr. A. Osibogun

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

**678/23      Apologies for absence**

Members received apologies from Cllr. Ahmed and Cllr. Collins.

**679/23      Declarations of interest**

Cllr. H. Mordue declared an interest in agenda item 10 but reserved the right to speak.

**680/23      Minutes**

Members agreed as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

**681/23      Planning Committee**

Members received the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**682/23      Town Centre and Events Committee**

Members received the minutes of the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

**683/23      Environment Committee**

Members received the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

**684/23 Resources Committee**

Members received the minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**685/23 Recommendations of the Resources Committee.**

Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed, Cllr. Mahi Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the following recommendations of the Resources Committee:

That Buckingham Town Council **AGREE**:

- The unchanged Financial Regulations
- The amended Risk Assessment
- The Investment Strategy and Annual Strategy
- The unchanged Media Policy
- The Internal Controls review

**686/23 Committee meeting calendar update**

Cllr. Davies Proposed, Cllr. Willett Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** a change to the schedule of meetings for November and December 2024.

**687/23 Motion: Cllr. Cole re. 22/02689/ADP land at Osier Way**

“That this Council is increasingly concerned that its comments as a statutory planning consultee are no longer being taken fully into account when the LPA determines planning applications.

This Council objected to sections of the Osier Way 121-dwelling Phase I reserved matters application, based on valid material planning reasons, at its Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February meeting. These were delivered to the LPA by midday on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February, but the Delegated Officer’s Report was signed off the same day, largely ignoring objections regarding matters such as drainage, flood risk, design style, waste strategy, tree planting and footpaths, objections which had also been raised by other Buckinghamshire Council officers.

These major amendments to it were the subject of a call-in request from a Buckinghamshire Council ward member, but it was overruled. It was decided not only by the relevant service director and area committee chairman, as the Constitution prescribes, but also by the vice-chairman.

It is noted that no planning notices were posted for these major amendments, giving the public no opportunity to comment on them.

This Council does not believe that the planning officer responsible had time to diligently consider our reasoned objections, yet she recommended approval within a few hours.

It does not believe that Buckingham Town Council has been treated with the consideration due to a statutory consultee over this important major development, which does not bode well for the other Osier Way phases, which will eventually provide 420 homes.

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It calls on the LPA to better respect the Town & Parish Charter, which Buckinghamshire Council drew up and undertook to adopt a 'Statement of Community Involvement' regarding consultation with town and parish councils on planning issues ... enabling them to represent the view of the communities they represent."

Cllr. Cole reminded Members that 11 of the conditions attached to this development have yet to be approved; the condition regarding surface water drainage states that the development shall not begin until a SuDS scheme for the site has been submitted and approved. Despite this development began on Phase 1 at the end of 2023. Cllr. Draper Seconded the Motion.

Members raised the following points:

- The speed of the decision.
- Draining and sewage.
- This is a reserved matters application and Anglian Water have accepted that there are no issues with surface water or foul water drainage.
- This is a major amendment to the plan.

Cllr. Cole requested a recorded vote on this Motion:

For: Cllr. O'Donoghue, Cllr. Cole, Cllr. Gateley, Cllr. Willett, Cllr. Davies, Cllr. Harvey, Cllr. Draper, Cllr. Ralph, Cllr. Try, Cllr. Mahi, Cllr. Stuchbury and Cllr. Schaefer.

Against: Cllr. J. Mordue

Abstentions: Cllr. H. Mordue

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

### **688/23 Community Board boundaries**

Cllr. Harvey Proposed a response to the Community Board boundary survey:

That Community Board boundaries should be coterminous with the ward boundaries and the population represented by the Community Boards should be equitable across the County. Cllr. Stuchbury Seconded. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

Members **AGREED** that the Town Clerk will respond to number 3 only in the survey with the above agreed response. **ACTION TOWN CLERK**

### **689/23 New cemetery and road name**

Members received a report from the Town Clerk.

It is recommended that Members agree a name for the new cemetery and the road that will lead to it.

Cllr. Harvey Proposed naming the new cemetery Tingewick Road Cemetery. Cllr. H. Mordue Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

Cllr. Harvey Proposed Cemetery Road as the name of the small road that leads to the cemetery. Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded. A vote was taken, and the result was:

## **BTC/07/23**

For: 12

Against: 2

Abstentions: 2

## **690/23 New road names**

Members received a report from the Planning Clerk.

Cllr. Cole informed Members that the Street Planning Officer should have requested names from Gawcott Parish Council, not Buckingham Town Council. He Proposed that this is deferred to a future meeting. Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**. Members **AGREED** that the Town Clerk will talk to the Gawcott Parish Clerk.

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

## **691/23 Asset Register**

Members received a report from the Finance Officer.

It is recommended that Members note and agree changes made to the Asset Register during the financial year 2023/2024.

Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation.

## **692/23 To receive and question reports from Buckinghamshire Council Councillors**

Cllr. Stuchbury:

Report sent to all Councillors regarding an amendment to the budget that was not agreed. The report that will go to April's Cabinet meeting explains why we don't get contributions to primary care and what can be done about this.

SEN children excluded from schools - will be questioning the response from Cabinet.

Concerned as Adult Social Care is the most vulnerable budget within the local authority.

Cllr. H. Mordue:

Funding has been much reduced, so we have to make the best of what we have to facilitate parishes and help them to find other sources of funding.

Boundaries – sits on the Standards Board and there is a sub-committee which looks at boundaries including parishes looking to have changes made.

Attended a meeting at Silverstone Circuit which looks at noise level and keeps the villages updated. They looked at the lighting on the new industrial estate and found that the light did not stray onto the A43 and villages.

There are now 55 crews attending to road surfacing in Buckinghamshire.

Attended an Ouse Drainage Board meeting.

Cllr. Davies suggested that the lighting gantry over the entry to Silverstone Circuit is causing the light pollution. Cllr. H. Mordue will discuss this with Cllr. Davies.

Cllr. Harvey suggested that we need public transport from Buckingham to Silverstone. Cllr. H. Mordue agreed that, although there is one bus, this is not a regular service.

Cllr. Willett noted that recent posts on social media raised concerns regarding SEN transport provision. Cllr. H. Mordue explained that transport is subsidised. Cllr. Stuchbury suggested that a question could be raised at the Transport Infrastructure Select Committee at the end of the month.

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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.....

**BTC/07/23**

Cllr. Schaefer:

Attended their first HASC Committee.

Has attended Parish Council meetings.

Is looking forward to a trip around Leckhamstead on Friday morning to look at the natural flood alleviation scheme.

**693/23 Reports from representatives on outside bodies**

No reports.

**694/23 Climate Emergency Action Plan**

Members received updates to the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

**695/23 Action list**

Members reviewed and discussed the Action Report.

Cllr. Cole updated Members on 395 (consultation on future development): the Buckingham Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group have noted the changes to the national planning framework.

**696/23 Mayoral engagements**

Members received a list of events attended by the Mayor.

Functions the Mayor has attended:

13/12/2023	Buckingham Cadets St John's Ambulance awards evening
14/12/2023	Pontio meeting
14/12/2023	Opening of Buckingham banking hub
16/12/2023	Christmas parade
17/12/2023	Opening Florence Nightingale fundraising 'Santa Bash'
26/01/2024	Holocaust Memorial Day event
27/01/2024	Guest at Buckingham Rugby Club's Members' Dinner to receive donation to mayor's charities
07/02/2024	Guest speaker at U3A Buckingham German Group
15/02/2024	Buckingham Pancake Races
15/02/2024	Official opening of Buckingham skate park
17/02/2024	Prize giving at Buckingham Twinning Association quiz night
24/02/2024	Judging of baking competition at Food Fair
06/03/2024	Prize giving of Buckingham Food Fair Best Dish competition

**697/23 Chair's announcements**

No announcements.

**698/23 Date of the next meetings:**

Interim Council: Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024

Annual Statutory Meeting: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Full Council: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**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

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Initial.....

**BTC/07/23**

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. Cllr. Schaefer Proposed, Cllr. Stuchbury Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

**699/23 Devolved Services**

Members received a report from the Town Clerk.

Cllr. Harvey Proposed Option B, Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: Cllr. Schaefer, Cllr. O'Donoghue, Cllr. Cole. Cllr. Gateley, Cllr. Willett, Cllr. Davies, Cllr. J. Mordue, Cllr. Harvey, Cllr. Draper, Cllr. Ralph, Cllr. Mahi and Cllr. Stuchbury.

Against: Cllr. Try

Abstention: Cllr. H. Mordue

**700/23 Insurance renewal**

Recommendation from Resources: to agree the report recommendation and renew the insurance policy with Zurich Insurance.

Cllr. Gateley Proposed, Cllr. Davies Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation.

**701/23 Internal Auditor report**

Recommendation from Resources: to agree the report recommendation.

It is recommended that provider number 1, IAC, should carry out the Council's internal audit function for the three-year period beginning April 2024.

Cllr. Harvey Proposed, Cllr. Willett Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation.

**702/23 New cemetery technical and design work**

Members received a report from the Town Clerk.

Cllr. Davies Proposed, Cllr. Harvey Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation.

Meeting closed at 9pm

Signed ..... Date .....