

TCE/01/23

Minutes of a meeting of the **Town Centre and Events Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 3rd June 2024 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber at Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham

Present: Cllr. R. Ahmed
Cllr. F. Davies Vice Chair
Cllr. L. Draper
Cllr. J Harvey
Cllr. A. Mahi
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue
Cllr. R. Stuchbury Chair

Also attending: Ms. L. Stubbs Deputy Town Clerk
Ms. S. Hoareau Town Centre & External Facilities Manager
Ms. P. Cahill Committee Clerk

Absent: Cllr. A. Schaefer
Cllr. R. Willett
Two members of public

Public session

Two members of the public attended the meeting to inform Members of Fire of Buckingham plans.

51/24 Election of Vice Chair

Proposed by Cllr. O'Donoghue, Seconded by Cllr. Davies and unanimously **AGREED** to elect Cllr. Stuchbury as Chair of the Town Centre and Events Committee for 2024-2025.

52/24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Schaefer.

53/24 Election of Vice Chair

Proposed by Cllr. O'Donoghue, Seconded by Cllr. Ahmed and unanimously **AGREED** to elect Cllr. Davies as Vice Chair of the Town Centre and Events Committee for 2024-2025.

54/24 Declarations of interest

There were none.

55/24 Minutes

Members agreed the minutes of the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting held on 8th April 2024.

56/24 Terms of Reference

Members noted the amended Terms of Reference for the Town Centre & Events Committee, as agreed by Full Council.

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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.....

57/24 Budget

Members received and noted the latest budget figures.

58/24 Updates from representatives on outside bodies

There were no updates.

59/24 Fire of Buckingham 1725

Members received a report from the Deputy Town Clerk and a letter from Mr. Lionel Weston.

- 1.1 It is recommended members agree that the Council support the organising group of the Great Fire of Buckingham 1725 – 2025 event by giving advice and supporting them to liaise with external road closure contractors.
- 1.2 It is recommended that members agree that, if appropriate, the Clerk will write a letter of support for use by the organising group to support any grant applications.

The Chair Proposed that Standing Orders be suspended to allow the members of public to speak. Cllr. Mahi Seconded. Members unanimously **AGREED**.

Cllr. Draper arrived 7:06pm

Mr. Weston provided Members with the most up-to-date programme and explained the aims of the organisers:

- To achieve a fitting commemoration to a significant period in Buckingham's history.
- To make it an inclusive event with as many young people as possible contributing.
- To leave a legacy that will be ongoing.
- To raise funds – this is not the purpose of the event, but any funds raised will go to the Fire Fighters' Charity.

Mr. Weston described some of the events planned:

- The Rotary Club and Men in Sheds will create a scale model of the town at the time.
- Mr. E. Grimsdale is writing anecdotal and factual scenarios which will become verbatim theatre.
- Many people still live in Buckingham who have ancestors who were affected by the fire and hopefully have stories to tell that can be included.
- The organisers would like to hold a big laser show but this will be costly and a nice-to-have.

The organisers would like to request help from the Town Council with the road closure.

Members were very supportive of the planned events and thanked the organisers for presenting the information at the meeting.

The members of public left the meeting at 7:23pm

Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed reinstating Standing Orders, Cllr. Mahi Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

Members unanimously **AGREED** the report recommendations.

Cllr. Mahi Proposed that this item is put to Full Council. Cllr. Harvey Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

Members discussed alerting parish councils and the Community Board. Cllr. O'Donoghue Proposed that the event organisers are asked initially if they would like the Town Council to do this before making contact. Cllr. Davies Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

60/24 Update on D-Day

Members received and noted a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

It is recommended that members note that the Town Council will mark the D-Day anniversary with a flag raising ceremony at 11am at the Flagpole outside the Community Centre on Thursday 6th June 2024. The town centre will also be decorated, and a D-Day display put together.

The Town Crier will raise a cry and the Mayor will attend the flag raising ceremony.

61/24 Fringe Week update

Members received a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

It is recommended that Members agree to sell this year's Oxford Fiddle Group tickets for £7.50 (incl. VAT).

The Deputy Town Clerk informed Members that the booklet goes to print tomorrow. There are quite a lot of new events this year including a drag night, Disco Bingo and a large communal art project: more than 500 discs have been distributed to schools and care homes; each disc will be decorated by one person, and the discs will be displayed to show diversity in the town through art. Spare discs will be taken to Celebrate Buckingham Day and Councillors may also take part.

The Chair thanked the office staff for their work on putting this together.

Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendations.

62/24 Skate Park update

Members received a report from the Town Centre and External Facilities Manager.

- 1.1 It is recommended that Members note the date for the Buckingham Skate Park event, Saturday 17th August.
- 1.2 It is recommended that Members agree to hire King Ramps to supplement the Skate Park event with professional skate performances and coaching, at a cost of £750.

- 1.3 It is recommended that, if the event budget allows, the prize package offered through Canvas Spaces, is upgraded at a cost of £200.

The Town Centre and External Facilities Manager informed Members that the event will take place between 12 noon and 4pm and will be hosted by Canvas Spaces. They are experienced event hosts and have worked with King Ramps in the past.

Cllr. Draper Proposed that we write a letter to Buckinghamshire Council to request that the park hire fee is waived. Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded.

Cllr. Davies Proposed an amendment to replace waived: that as this is a collaborative event and Town Council staff will be working, we trust that the park fee should be considered part of the contribution from Buckinghamshire Council. Cllr. Draper accepted the amendment and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

ACTION TOWN CENTRE AND EXTERNAL FACILITIES MANAGER

Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendations.

63/24 Summer Youth activities update

Members received a report from the Town Centre and External Facilities Manager.

It is recommended that members agree to trial the Street Dance sessions this year, at a cost of £960 through U Do It Dance Foundation.

Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendations.

64/24 Celebrate Buckingham Day

Members noted a report from the Administrator and the Town Centre and External Facilities Manager.

65/24 Calendar of events

Members received and noted the current calendar of events.

Cllr. Harvey noted an error: Disco Bingo is on Friday 26th July, not Saturday 26th.

ACTION COMMITTEE CLERK

66/24 Comedy Night venue

Members received a report from the Administrator and Deputy Town Clerk.

- 1.1 It is recommended that Members agree to use Tanlaw Mill for this year's Fringe Week Comedy Night.

- 1.2 It is recommended that members consider the Mount Pleasant Campus for the Fringe Week Comedy Night 2025.

The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that they had raised parking/signage issues with the University. A further car park will be opened for the evening and signage will be in place. Cllr. Davies Proposed, Cllr. Draper Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

67/24 Street Food Fair update

Members received a report from the Town Centre & External Facilities Manager.

- 1.1 It is recommended that Members agree to delay the planned 2024 Street Food Fair event.
- 1.2 It is recommended that Members agree to collaborate with Bite Club to host the first Buckingham Street Food Event next year during Fringe Week 2025, on Saturday 26th July at Embleton Way Scout Hut and Community Centre.

Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendations.

68/24 Event reviews

68/24.1 Market Entertainment – Members noted the report.

68/24.2 Spring Green Fair – Members noted the report.
Some stallholders cancelled due to the poor weather, but the event went ahead with the remaining stallholders and was successful.

The Chair thanked the Estates Administrator and staff for their work.

68/24.3 May Day
It is recommended that Bourton Meadow School, or other local schools, continue to host the event in future years.

Cllr. Harvey asked if the school host for the event should be rotated. Members **AGREED** that Officers will discuss this with schools.

ACTION TOWN CENTRE AND EXTERNAL FACILITIES MANAGER

68/24.4 Buckingham Live (verbal)
The Deputy Mayor opened the event. Cllr. Davies commented on the excellent event, commending the organisation of bands and music throughout the town during the weekend.

Members feel that this was a huge success and a great venue: there was plenty of room for children to play safely and people had easy access to facilities. The disability entrance worked well, making the venue accessible for everyone.

Members unanimously **AGREED** that we send two letters of thanks: to Suzy and her team and to the Football Club. **ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

There will be a full report on the next agenda.

Members thanked the Officers for their work.

69/24 Action list

Members received and noted action reports and updates.

70/24 Climate Emergency Action Plan

Members received and noted updates to the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

71/24 News releases

72/24 Chair's items

The Chair requested that thanks to the Deputy Town Clerk are recorded for their work with the Town Centre and Events Committee.

73/24 Date of the next meeting: Monday 22nd July 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 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. Members unanimously **AGREED**.

74/24 Fireside Theatre

Members **AGREED** a request from Buckinghamshire Culture.

Meeting closed at 8:28pm

Signed Date