

TCE/07/24

Minutes of a meeting of the **Town Centre and Events Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 31st March 2025 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber at Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham

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

Also attending: Ms. C. Molyneux Town Clerk
Ms. S. Hoareau Town Centre and External Services Manager
Ms. P. Cahill Committee Clerk
Two members of public

Absent: Cllr. R. Ahmed
Cllr. T. Allen

Public session

The President and a member of Buckingham Rotary attended and explained the work that they have been undertaking and future plans:

- Local groups raised £10,000 using Rotary resources during the past year.
- Forty primary school children (ten from each local school) will be taken to Whipsnade Zoo.
- Two students, one from The Royal Latin and one from Buckingham School, will be attending a four day young leaders' course.
- There were instrumental in building the town model with local schoolchildren for Buckingham Ablaze.
- Funding for the Summer Club.
- Co-ordinating craft activities in Buckingham Library.
- Easter Egg Trail.
- Offering assistance to families to help children be 'Reception ready' when they start school.
- There are pipeline projects for SEN children within the local community, including a monthly club.

Buckingham Rotary would like the opportunity to work further with Buckingham Town Council, perhaps on a community event, and help to raise awareness of their work and possibly attract new members.

Cllr. Stuchbury thanked them for attending and explained that, following the election, we can agenda an item and invite them to attend.

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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.....

Cllr. Draper arrived at 7:13pm.

650/24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from the Deputy Town Clerk, Cllr. Ahmed and Cllr. Allen.

651/24 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

652/24 Minutes

Members noted that the minutes of the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting held on 10th February 2025 will be presented at the next meeting.

653/24 Budget

Members received and noted the latest budget figures.

Members noted that there are a number of items with more than expected income and thanked officers and the Market Manager for their work.

654/24 Hanging baskets and planters

Members received a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

- 1.1. It is recommended that Members accept the quote from Company F to supply our summer and winter Hanging Baskets for 2025.

Cllr. Draper questioned whether one quote was from a 'chain'. Members discussed the options and agreed that supporting local businesses is a priority. It was recognised that a 'chain' also offers jobs to local people and can meet the Town Council criteria of being within twenty miles of Buckingham.

Cllr. Schaefer Proposed accepting the recommendation, Cllr. Mahi Seconded. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: 3
Against: 3
Abstentions: 1

The Chair had the casting vote and voted against the recommendation. He Proposed an amendment:

To accept the quote from the firm that is closest to Buckingham. Cllr. Davies Seconded. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: 6
Against: 0
Abstentions: 1

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

- 1.2. It is recommended that Members agree to recommend to Full Council to accept the quote from Company E to supply our summer and winter Planters for 2025, 2026 and 2027.

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

The Town Clerk explained that the Procurement Policy will be considered and set by the new Council.
ACTION COMPLIANCE AND PROJECTS MANAGER

- 1.3. It is recommended that Members delegate to the Clerk to make the required arrangements to allocate additional funds from the appropriate contingency.

Cllr. Davies suggested that it may be better to consider similar future decisions in a confidential section; this will ensure that Members have all of the information.

The Town Clerk said that we need to be careful - the public are entitled to hear how decisions are made about spending money; it is not always appropriate to discuss everything in confidential.
ACTION COMPLIANCE AND PROJECTS MANAGER

655/24 First Aid Provider

Members received a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

It is recommended that Members agree to use Company A to provide First Aid cover for events during 2025.

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

656/24 Fireworks

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

It is recommended that Members agree to use Company A to host a 10 minute display at this year's event.

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

657/24 Forthcoming events

Backingham Live

Members received a verbal update from the Town Centre and External Services Manager.

The event will take place on 25th May 2025 at Buckingham Football Club. All safety event paperwork has been submitted; security, first aid and accessible viewing area matting have already been organised. The plan is to move the food vans from the parking area unless the weather is poor.

Cllr. Harvey asked that we send our best wishes to Mr. Pete Thirlby.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

Members noted that last year's event was very successful in the new venue.

658/24 Spring Green Fair

Members received and noted a report from the Estates Administrator.

659/24 Buckingham Play Days and Summer Youth Activities

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

- 1.1. It is recommended that Members agree to use Company A to host our Play Days this year.
- 1.2. It is recommended that Members agree to use Coach Jenner to host our annual Basketball sessions this year.

Cllr. O'Donoghue Proposed, Cllr. Draper Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendations.

660/24 Easter Town Trail

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

It is recommended that Members agree the report, to support the Easter Town Trail and work with the Buckingham Rotary Club.

Cllr. Davies Proposed, Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation.

Cllr. Harvey asked that we approach the Rotary for an article for the Autumn Newsletter. The Town Clerk reminded him that this would be a request for CSSC.

ACTION ESTATES ADMINISTRATOR

661/24 Event reviews

661/24.1 Good Endings Fair

Members received a verbal update from the Town Clerk.

This was a good event, with positive feedback from visitors and stallholders. The WI provided refreshments which were extremely popular. Cllr. Harvey Proposed that the Fair is held every two years. The Town Clerk confirmed that a report will be written on the event. **ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

661/24.2 Pancake Race

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

661/24.3 Food Fair

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

Members thanked officer and Members for their work.

661/24.4 Skate Park

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

It is recommended that members agree to use Company A to host this year's Skatepark event.

Cllr. O'Donoghue Proposed, Cllr. Draper Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation.

Cllr. Harvey asked if we could ask the provider to consider how they can encourage girls as well as boys to take part in the event. The Town Clerk confirmed that we can approach the provider with this suggestion.

ACTION TOWN CENTRE & EXTERNAL SERVICES MANAGER

662/24 Date of the next meeting: Monday 2nd June 2025

The meeting closed at 8:08pm

Signed Date