

TCE/01/25

Minutes of a meeting of the **Town Centre and Events Committee** of Buckingham Town Council, held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber at Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham

**Present:**

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Cllr. R. Ahmed      |            |
| Cllr. T. Allen      |            |
| Cllr. F. Davies     | Town Mayor |
| Cllr. L. Draper     |            |
| Cllr. J Harvey      |            |
| Cllr. A. Mahi       | Vice Chair |
| Cllr. L. O'Donoghue |            |
| Cllr. R. Stuchbury  | Chair      |

**Also attending:**

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Ms. Z. Taylor        | Deputy Town Clerk |
| Ms. C. Molyneux      | Town Clerk        |
| Ms. P. Cahill        | Committee Clerk   |
| One member of public |                   |

#### **Public session**

One member of public attended but did not speak.

#### **42/25 Election of Chair**

Cllr. Davies Proposed Cllr. Stuchbury as Chair; Seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue. There being no other nominations, Members unanimously **AGREED** to elect Cllr. Stuchbury as Chair of the Town Centre and Events Committee for 2025-2026.

#### **43/25 Apologies for Absence**

There were none.

#### **44/25 Election of Vice Chair**

Cllr. Davies Proposed Cllr. Mahi as Vice Chair; Seconded by Cllr. Draper. There being no other nominations, Members unanimously **AGREED** to elect Cllr. Mahi as Vice Chair of the Town Centre and Events Committee for 2025-2026.

#### **45/25 Declarations of interest**

There were none.

#### **46/25 Minutes**

Members agreed the minutes of the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

#### **47/25 Budget**

Members received and noted the latest budget figures.

#### **48/25 Youth Council**

Members received a report from the Committee Clerk.

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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.....

- 1.1 It is recommended that Members decide if they would like to take part in discussions regarding establishing a Youth Council and who will lead this.

Cllr. O'Donoghue Proposed herself as the lead. Cllr. Ahmed and Cllr. Draper would also like to be involved. Cllr. Davies Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

#### **49/25 Old Gaol contract**

Members received a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

- 1.1 It is recommended that Members agree the Memorandum of Agreement.

The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that there have been no major changes to the Agreement; she clarified that the person in the TIC helps the Old Gaol staff member as necessary at the beginning and end of the day.

Cllr. Davies Proposed, Cllr. Mahi Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation.  
**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

#### **50/25 Christmas Tree**

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

- 1.1 It is recommended that Members agree to a 3-year contract with Company B at the cost of £2850 annually.

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

#### **51/25 Bonfire and fireworks – DJ**

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

- 1.1 It is recommended that Members agree and note the report.

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

Cllr. Harvey requested that it is considered that music is not played during the fireworks display. Members raised some concerns about this change; it may be considered at a future meeting.

#### **52/25 Buckingham in Bloom**

Members received a report from the Estates Administrator.

- 1.1 It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report.

- 1.2 It is recommended that Members form a panel of Councillors to act as judges for the competition.

Members noted the report and agreed that Cllr. Davies, Cllr. Allen, Cllr. Draper and Cllr. Ahmed will act as judges.

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Initial.....

### **53/25 Free Parking**

Members received a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

The Deputy Town Clerk has confirmed that she has negotiated a 'not for profit charge' for the parking day. A figure will be confirmed next week.

Members thanked the Deputy Town Clerk for her work on this.

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

The Deputy Town Clerk explained that Winslow's free hour of parking is linked to an historic agreement and cannot apply to parking in Buckingham.

Cllr. Harvey Proposed that a report is brought to the next, or a future meeting, to look at our options and what the cost of something similar to Winslow's agreement might be for Buckingham. Cllr. Davies stressed that we should not raise people's expectations that there is an option for an hour's free parking in Buckingham. Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded. Members unanimously **AGREED**. **ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

### **54/25 Remembrance Sunday**

Members received a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

- 1.1 It is recommended that Councillors agree to use Company A for Remembrance Parade.

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

### **55/25 Street Collections**

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

Cllr. Davies thanked the Deputy Town Clerk for her work on this.

### **56/25 Event reviews**

56/25.1 Spring Green fair - Members received a report from the Estates Administrator.

- 1.1 It is recommended that Members consider changing the annual Spring Green Fair into a 'Green & Crafty' event to better match how the community is engaging with local events.

Members raised the following points:

- Green and Crafts rather than Green and Crafty.
- Keep the event in the town centre where there will be better footfall and accessibility.
- Sunday is a good day as many young people play sports on Saturdays.
- Maybe consider half term rather than the Easter holidays.

The Town reminded Members that this recommendation is to consider changing the event; details can be discussed at a future meeting.

Cllr. O'Donoghue Proposed, Cllr. Mahi Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

56/25.2 Easter Bazaar - Members received and noted a report from the Town Centre & External Services Manager.

56/25.3 May Day - Members received and noted a report from the Town Centre & External Services Manager.

Cllr. Allen noted the positive effect on the local economy as many people visited the town centre following the event.

Members noted an error at 3.1: it was Lace Hill Manor Care Home that attended the event.

Members thanked the Town Centre and External Services Manager for her work.

56/25.4 Good Endings - Members received a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

1.1 It is recommended that Members agree Option 4.1.

Members raised the following points:

- Concerns about moving the fair to Lace Hill as footfall may be lost; it is better to keep it in the town centre.
- Cllr. Harvey Proposed an amendment: 'health and wellbeing for the golden years'. There was no Seconded.
- The Fair should be open to all ages.
- It should be about 'a good life', not just 'good endings'.

Cllr. Davies Proposed agreeing Option 4.1 with an amendment: remove 'Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre' from the recommendation. Cllr. Mahi Seconded. Members unanimously **AGREED** the amendment.

Cllr. Allen asked that we also look at the free options available to residents that offer wellbeing, for example the chatty café, free lunches at the church, the knit and natter group, the Buckingham Canal Society, and the rambling group – perhaps consider an afternoon walk following the Fair.

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

## 57/25 Action list

Members receive action reports and updates.

Cllr. Stuchbury suggested that this Committee considers the Arts and Leisure section of the Neighbourhood Plan when it has been agreed.

PSPO - Members received a report from the Compliance and Projects Manager.

- 1.1 It is recommended that Members support the Buckinghamshire Council Community Safety Manager's recommendation to expire the PSPO for Buckingham Town Centre in its entirety.

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

#### **58/25 BandJam**

Members received and noted a report from the Deputy Town Clerk and thanked her and the Chair for their work on this.

Cllr. Harvey asked why the cost of musicians is not included. The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that she will be approaching sponsors. The Town Clerk explained that the event will generate income and some of this will go to the bands.

#### **59/25 Calendar of Events**

Members received and noted the current Calendar of Events.

The Town Clerk suggested that Members contact the Deputy Town Clerk if they are interested in leading an event.

The Mayor noted that Buckingham Live was an excellent event and thanked the Deputy Town Clerk, the Green Spaces Team, and the Buckingham Live Team.

#### **60/25 News releases**

Cllr. Harvey Proposed a press release showing the events that have already taken place this year and the future events planned. Cllr. Draper Seconded and Members **AGREED**.

**ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK**

#### **61/25 Chair's announcements – for information only**

The next event is Celebrate Buckingham Day.

**62/25 Date of the next meeting:** Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025

Meeting closed at 8:42pm

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