

Buckingham Town Council

Town Council Office, Buckingham Centre, Verney Close, Buckingham, MK18 1JP 01280 816426

office@buckingham-tc.gov.uk

Town Clerk: Claire Molyneux



Wednesday, 24 September 2025

Councillors

You are summoned to a meeting of the Town Centre & Events Committee of Buckingham Town Council to be held on Monday 29th September 2025 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

Please note that the meeting will be preceded by a Public Session in accordance with Standing Orders 3.e, 3.f, and 3.g. which will last for a maximum of 15 minutes. A member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes. Members of the public can attend the meeting in person. If you would like to address the meeting virtually, please email committeeclerk@buckingham-tc.gov.uk or call 01280 816426 for details.

The meeting can be watched live on the Town Council's YouTube channel here: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC89BUTwVpiAOEIdSlfcZC9Q/

Claire Molyneux Town Clerk

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

Members are asked to receive apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of interest

To receive declarations of any personal or prejudicial interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 Sections 26-34 & Schedule 4.

3. Minutes

To agree the minutes of the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting held on 21st July 2025.

Copy previously circulated

4. Budget

To receive and note the latest budget figures.

Appendix A



Neukirchen-Vluyn, Germany





Twinned with Mouvaux, France;

Members are reminded when making decisions that the Public Sector Equality Duty 2010 requires Members to have due regard to the need to: Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act, advance equality of opportunity between people who share a characteristic and those who don't, and to foster good relations between people who share a characteristic and those who don't. All Committee documents can be found on the Buckingham Town Council's website. Alternatively, the Clerk can send you a copy of any minutes, reports, or other information. To do this, send a request using the contact details set out above.

www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk Town Clerk: Claire Molyneux

5. Updates from representatives on outside bodies

To receive any relevant updates from Councillors.

6.	New	route	for	Buxp	lore	app
----	-----	-------	-----	------	------	-----

To consider the request to add a Great Fire of Buckingham route to the app.

Appendix B

7. Youth Council Update

To receive a report from the Town Clerk.

TCE/67/25

8. Forthcoming events

8.1 Christmas lights switch-on – to receive a report from the Deputy Town Clerk. TCE/68/25

8.2 Small business Saturday – to receive a report from the Business and Community Engagement Officer.

8.3 Remembrance Sunday – to receive a verbal report.

8.4 Charter Fair – to receive a verbal report.

8.5 Local Democracy Event – to receive a report from the Estates Administrator. TCE/70/25

9. Calendar of events

To receive the current calendar of events.

Appendix C

10. Proposal from Mr. Lionel Weston

To receive a report from the Town Clerk.

TCE/71/25

11. Proposed calendar of events 2026-2027

To receive the proposed calendar of events for 2026-2027.

Appendix D

12. Event reviews

12.2

12.1 Fringe Week – to receive a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

Skate Park – to receive a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

TCE/73/25

TCE/72/25

12.3 Bandjam – to receive a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

TCE/74/25

12.4 Dog Show – to receive a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

TCE/75/25

12.5 Artwork Unveiling – To receive a report from the Events

TCE/76/25

13. Action listCoordinator.

To receive action reports and updates.

Appendix E

14. Best Kept Village 2025

To receive a report from the Estates Administrator.

TCE/77/25
Appendix F

15. Buckingham in Bloom

To receive a report from the Estates Administrator.

TCE/78/25

16. Bite Club

To receive a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

TCE/79/25

17. Climate Emergency Action Plan

To note there are no Town Centre and Events Committee updates to the plan.

18. News releases

Email: office@buckingham-tc.gov.uk

3 of 37

www.buckingham-tc.gov.uk

19. Chair's announcements - for information only

20. Date of the next meeting: Monday 17th November 2025

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.

Town Clerk: Claire Molyneux

21. Confidential update

To receive a verbal report from the Town Clerk.

To Committee Members:

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. Poppe

Cllr. R. Stuchbury Chair

Email: office@buckingham-tc.gov.uk

Buckingham Town Council

Page 1

Appendix A

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 30/09/2025

Month No: 6

Committee Report

		Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	Transfer to/from EMR	Explanation
TOWN	CENTRE & EVENTS							
<u>301</u>	Town Centre & Events INCOME							
1028	Lace Hill events income	0	850	850				
1062	Community Fair table income	0	230	230				
1066	Comedy night income	0	1,000	1,000				
1069	Charter fairs income	9,111	9,050	(61)				Income based on RPI final figures, unavailable at precept
1091	Events Sponsorship Income	250	100	(150)				More income than anticipated
1092	Events Stall Income	499	1,150	652				
1093	Dog Show Income	286	300	14				
1094	Skate Park Income	0	25	25				
1104	Remembrance Contributions	0	1,250	1,250				
<u>301 -</u>	Town Centre & Events EXPENDITURE							
3997	NI TC&E	3,177	8,055	4,878		4,878		
3998	Pensions ERS TC&E	5,556	19,102	13,546		13,546		
3999	Salaries TC&E	30,717	100,729	70,013		70,013		
4042	Events equipment	408	1,500	1,092	0	1,092		
4094	Youth project	4,140	6,180	2,040		2,040		
4104	Town in Bloom	6,115	9,900	3,785	5,222	(1,437)	1437	Overspend covered by EMR
4107	Pride of Place	100	65	(35)	83	(118)	118	Overspend covered by EMR
4115	River rinse	396	464	68		68		
4128	Small Events	121	375	254		254		
4166	Lace Hill events	319	1,640	1,321		1,321		
4201	Christmas lights	2,253	14,000	11,747		11,747		
4202	Firework display	724	7,500	6,776	520	6,256		
4203	Community fair	0	310	310		310		
4205	Christmas parade	0	6,100	6,100		6,100		
4207	Remembrance parade	2,715	3,150	435		435		
4208	Spring Fair	0	300	300		300		
4211	Band Jam	6,032	5,253	(779)		(779)	779	Overspend covered by EMR
4212	Christmas lights switch on	240	3,364	3,124		3,124		
4213	Dog show	670	900	230		230		
4220	Buckingham Live	5,641	6,100	459		459		
4241	Comedy Night expenditure	0	1,500	1,500		1,500		
4243	Charter Fairs	0	5,500	5,500		5,500		
4245	Street Food Fair	330	2,400	2,070		2,070		
4260	Twinning	100	100	0		0		

5 of 37	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	Transfer to/from EMR	Explanation	Appendix A
302 Street markets INCOME								
1005 Street markets	9,109	17,500	8,391					
1006 Flea market	4,511	5,100	590					
302 Street markets EXPENDITURE	,-	,						
4017 Subscriptions	0	450	450		450			
4225 Rates	1,672	2,000	328		328			
4234 Market Entertainment	0	1,000	1,000		1,000			
4235 Market infrastructure & Promotion	0	1,000	1,000		1,000			
303 Special events INCOME								
1020 Food fair income	0	820	820					
1083 Fringe income	170	437	267					
303 Special events EXPENDITURE								
4169 Skate Park Event	1,917	2,000	83		83			
4221 Fringe	2,323	2,150	(173)	130	(303)	303	Overspend covered by EMR	
4242 Food fair	0	610	610		610			
4244 Flags	257	610	353	0	353			
4273 One-off events	0	500	500		500			
4278 Celebrate Buckingham Day	2,652	2,000	(652)	420	(652)	652	Overspend covered by EMR	
4283 Small Business Promotion	0	1,200	1,200		1,200			
305 Tourist Information Centre INCOME								
1084 TIC income	5,077	9,000	3,923					
305 Tourist Information Centre EXPENDITURE								
4253 TIC tickets & produce	5,279	6,250	971		971			
4255 Heritage app expenditure	0	300	300		300			
4274 Tourism website	162	440	278		278			
306 Accessibility EXPENDITURE								
4254 Accessibility Costs	0	2,250	2,250		2,250			
Grand Totals:- Income	29,011	46,812	17,801					
Expenditure	84,015	227,247	143,232	5,954	137,277			
Net Income over Expenditure								
·	(55,004)	(180,435)	(125,431)					

6 of 37

16/07/2025 Buckingham Town Council Appendix A

Page 1

13:46

Earmarked Reserves

	Account	Opening Balance	Net Transfers	Closing Balance
325	EMR YOUTH COUNCIL	2,015.00		2,015.00
330	EMR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS	2,171.00		2,171.00
331	EMR TOWN IN BLOOM	1,000.00	1437.00	437.00
332	EMR CHARTER FAIRS	5,141.00		5,141.00
334	EMR TOURISM LEAFLETS	883.00		883.00
348	EMR SCULPTURE TRAIL	800.00	100.00	900.00
352	EMR ACCESSIBILITY	2,513.00		2,513.00
361	EMR EVENTS RESERVE	0.00	2800.00	2800.00

Proposal to add an additional route, to the Buxplore App telling the story of the Great Fire of Buckingham

Introduction

The Buxplore App (https://buxplore.web.app/) is a resource which belongs to the Town Council. It was originally developed using Heritage Lottery Funding, It currently includes a number of routes which enable users to explore different aspects of our town using a mobile phone. This proposal seeks the approval of the Council for an additional route to be added to the app.

The App was developed for the Council by Mark Vanstone, of Technovisual (based in School lane, Buckingham).

Proposal

As part of the Buckingham Ablaze commemorations in March 2025, we ran very popular guided walking tours which told the story of the fire.

The proposal is to create a new route for the Buxplore App, based on the guided walking tours, which will enable users to learn about this significant event in Buckingham's history.

Using information from the guided walking tour, Mark Vanstone will complete the work to assemble pictures and text, together with the GPS location of each point of interest on the route, into the Buxplore database to create the new route.

The work will be paid for by funds which were given by the WI as a contribution to the Buckingham Ablaze activities that were in the end, not used at the time.

Benefits and Legacy

This project will ensure an ongoing impact from Buckingham Ablaze, providing a legacy for the future. It will enhance the Buxplore offer, and create additional interest in the App. These benefits will be achieved at no cost to the Council.

Contact Officer: Claire Molyneux, Town Clerk

Youth Council

1. Recommendations

1.1. It is recommended that Members agree to conduct a scientific and independent youth survey to establish what the young people of the town want, and if a youth council has significant enough support amongst young people to justify the substantial investment required.

2. Background

- 2.1. This report resulted from Members agreeing to take part in discussions regarding the establishment of a Youth Council (48/25).
- 2.2. A meeting took place on 23rd July 2025 with the Youth Participation Manager (YPM) at Buckinghamshire Council Children's Services and the Community Youth Coordinator, Children's Services Directorate. Cllr. O'Donoghue, the Committee Clerk and the Business and Community Engagement Officer attended.
- 2.3. The above meeting highlighted the considerations for BTC when looking at establishing a Youth Council. These include recruitment, officer time, parental consent, responsibilities, co-ordination, projects, budgets, demographics, and key priorities.
- 2.4. The (YPM) estimated 30 hours initial officer time to set up, up to 10 hours per week if sessions are run effectively, plus 3 hours per meeting (x2 officers) and an additional 6 hours per week during the recruitment process. She recognises that a considerable number of hours of officer time would be required.

3. Research

3.1. Youth councils were the subject of a 2023 postgraduate thesis¹. It concluded the following:

"Larger councils are more likely to have the resources to support the set-up of a youth council. However, before embarking on such a journey, councils should consider the following: -

Have young people requested a youth council?

¹ An examination of youth councils as a tool for engaging with young people in a representative democracy, J. Shirley (2023)

- Will council appoint a relevantly-trained adult to support the youth council?
- Will the youth councillors be chosen by young people in the community e.g. elections?
- Will council allocate a budget to the youth council?
- Will council delegate authority to the youth council?
- Are all seats on the council filled?

If the answer is "no" to any of the above questions then research has shown that the venture is less likely to succeed."

In addition, the report concluded that youth council guidance should-

"Stress the importance of carefully considering council's capacity for managing a youth council, taking into account resources such as budget, staff time, and appropriate adult support. Guidance on the setup and facilitation of youth councils needs to be updated and should stress the importance of carefully considering whether council has the capacity for a youth council, and especially whether the young people want a youth council. Ideally, youth councils should be initiated by young people with the local council taking a facilitative role. The updated guidance should be more realistic in setting the expectations of councils and identifying the pitfalls with suggested courses of action."

Contact Officer: Zo Taylor, Deputy Town Clerk

Christmas Lights Switch On

1. Recommendations

1.1. It is recommended that Members note this report.

2. Background

2.1. This report is being discussed due to the possibility of there being scaffolding on a building at the time the lights are being installed.

3. Options

- 3.1 The company installing the lights, WGS, have been informed that there may be scaffolding on one building and that another shop owner has expressed a wish not to have lights over their property. The Deputy Town Clerk will discuss this with the shop owner again prior to the installation.
- 3.2WGS have indicated that they can work around the scaffolding and the shop owner and, although it may leave some gaps in the lighting, this is something that they have experience of managing.

Contact Officer: Ana Smith, Business and Community Engagement Officer

Small Business Saturday

1. Recommendations

1.1. Members are asked to note that meetings with businesses have been organised to plan this year's Small Business Saturday and to increase networking opportunities. Activities will be funded from Budget 303/4283.

2. Background

- 2.1. A meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 24th September at 5:30pm with 8–9 local retail business owners to discuss initiatives for this year's small business Saturday.
- 2.2. Small Business Saturday encourages the people of Buckingham to shop locally and support the local economy.
- 2.3. While hospitality and service sectors will also be involved, the initial focus is on retail.
- 2.4. Proposed activities include a children's treasure/window hunt, as well as prize draws, loyalty cards and other incentives for adults.
- 2.5. Shops will be encouraged to host interactive events or in-store demonstrations.
- 2.6. A social media campaign will be planned to highlight local business owners.
- 2.7. An update will be bought to the next meeting.

Contact Officer: Nina Stockill, Estates Administrator

Local Democracy Event 2025

1. Recommendations

1.1. It is recommended that Members note the report.

2. Background

- 2.1. Buckingham Town Council's Local Democracy event is a vibrant annual celebration dedicated to fostering a deeper understanding of local governance within schools. It provides a unique platform for pupils to engage with elected members, and local subject matter experts, to learn about the vital role of democracy at local level.
- **2.2.** This year's Local Democracy Week will be hosted by The Buckingham School on Thursday 20th November from 11:00am to 1:00pm. All arrangements have been made in consultation with both senior schools to enable pupil participation in this year's Local Democracy Week. To accommodate a wider range of year groups, the event has been rescheduled from October to November.
- **2.3.** As in previous years, we hope to include approximately 25 students from The Royal Latin School and 25 students from The Buckingham School to engage in a lively question and answer session with local Councillors, officers, and community representatives. The schools have also been invited to submit questions in advance on topics they are curious about, helping to shape the discussion. They've provided an early indication that this year's event will focus on the theme of local democracy in our community.
- 2.4. Invitations will be issued to representatives from the appropriate responsible authorities including, but not limited to, TVP and our new MP Callum Anderson.

Events Calendar 2025 - 2026

2025 Event	Month	Day	Notes
Holocaust Memorial Day	Jan	Monday 27th	
Feb half term 17th - 21st Pancake Races	Feb	Thursday 20th	green outside St. Peter & St. Paul's Church, starting at 11am
Food Fair	Feb	Saturday 22nd	green outside of. I eter & of. I dars ondron, starting at Train
Shrove Tuesday 4th March		,	
Annual Town Meeting	March	Thursday 6th	
Great Fire Of Buckingham 10th - 16th March			
Best Kept Village	March	Saturday 1st March to Wednesday 30	Judging 1st June to mid July
Common Wealth Day Flag Good Endings Fair	March March	Monday 10th Saturday 29th	
Easter Event at LHSCC	April	Sunday 6th April	was Sunday 30th March
Easter school holidays 7th - 21st April	-	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
St Georges Day Flag	April	Wednesday 28th	Normally 23rd moved due to clash with Easter
Spring Green Fair	April	Sunday 27th	
May Day Buckingham In Bloom	May	Thursday 1st	
VE Day	May May	Monday 5th May to Monday 7th July Thursday 8th	
Buckingham Live	May	Sunday 25th	
May half term 26th - 30th	,		
Pride Flag	June	Sunday 1st	
Mayor Making	June	Friday 6th June	
Buckingham Literary Festival 6th ,11th, 13th -	June		
15th , 26th June Celebrate Buckingham	June	Saturday 21st June	
Kings Official Birthday	June	Saturday 21st June	
Armed Forces Day Flag	June	Saturday 28th June	
Buckingham Summer Festival 12th - 19th July			
British Grand Prix 3rd - 6th July			
Fringe Week	July	Monday 21st - 27th	
Fringe: Oxford Fiddle Group Fringe: Art in the Market	July July	Tuesday 22nd Thursday 24th	
Fringe: School Disco	July	Friday 25th	
Fringe: Street Food Fair	July	Saturday 26th	
Fringe: Family Fun Day	July	Sunday 27th	
Fringe: additional Fringe Events	July	TBC	
End of school term summer holidays 24th July - 29th			
Summer Basketball Buckingham Play Days	July/Aug July/Aug		6 dates in July/Aug TBC 3 dates in July/Aug TBC
Churches Holiday Club unkown Aug?	July/Aug		3 dates in July/Aug 1 bc
Skatepark Jam	July/Aug		1 date in July/Aug TBC
Extra Summer Youth Projects TBC	July/Aug		July/Aug TBC
Bandjam	Aug	Sunday 24th	
Merchant Navy Day	Sept	Wednesday 3rd	
Autumn term starts Sept 4th Dog Show	Sept	Saturday 6th	
Launch Mayor's Christmas Card Competition	Sept	TBC	
River Rinse	Sept	Sunday 21st	
River Rinse	Oct	Sunday 5th	
Local Democracy Week	Oct	TBC	
Charter Fair	Oct	Saturday 18th	
Charter Fair Halloween Disco LHSCC	Oct Oct	Saturday 25th Friday 31st	
Oct half term 27th - 31st			
Bonfire & Fireworks	Nov	Saturday 1st	
Remembrance Parade	Nov	Sunday 9th	
Remembrance Flag	Nov	Sunday 9th	
Kings "real" Birthday	Nov	Friday 14th	
Winter Fair LHSCC Christmas Lights Switch On	Nov Nov	Sunday 16th Thursday 27th	
Small Business Saturday	Dec	Saturday 6th	
Winter Bulb Planting	Dec	ТВС	
Community Fair	Dec	Saturday 13th TBC	
Christams Parade	Dec	Saturday 13th TBC	
End of school term 19th Dec - 5th Jan 2026 - Event			
Holocaust Memorial Day	Jan	Tuesday 27th	
Feb half term 16th - 20th			
Pancake Races	Feb	Tuseday 17th	moved to Thurs 19th due to lunches at church
Shrove Tuesday 17th Feb			
Food Fair	Feb	Saturday 28th	
Good Endings Fair TBC	March	TBC Monday 0th	
Common Wealth Day Flag Annual Town Meeting	March March	Monday 9th TBC	
Easter Event LHSCC	March	Sunday 29th	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		i	

Contact Officer: Town Clerk

Proposal from Mr Weston

1. Recommendations

1.1. It is recommended that Members agree to keep the Celebrate Buckingham event in-house but request further information from Mr Weston on the detail of his proposed stand-alone event in support of Cancer Research UK.

2. Background

2.1. This report is being discussed because the following correspondence was received from Mr Weston

"Dear Robin and Claire,

My apologies for writing directly to you but I wanted to pass something by you as Chairman of the BC Events committee. I have copied in Claire for information.

Firstly, I wanted to ask whether you might consider a differently organised "Celebrate Buckingham " day next year? I assume the proposed date will be Saturday June 20th?

Secondly, if you are not comfortable with my ideas then I would like to ask for the TC blessing/backing to organize the similar day, as a separate event, in Bourton Park on behalf of the Cancer Research UK Buckingham Action Group, in conjunction with the local food bank organisations please? When you read my suggestions you will realise the significance of the "joint venture" foodstuffs

For the Celebrate Buckingham Day combine this with a common theme for all the groups with an outcome of providing local food banks with 2,026 yards of appropriate, in-date tinned and canned foodstuffs.

Use the usual event space as a car park, depository centre for cans and food/drink outlets.

Local groups and organisations challenged to provide (40 metres?) a certain length of cans in line round the circular route throughout the park (the part the TC is responsible for?)

Around the route music/ entertainment/ games/ refreshments so that families can "walk the line" and enjoy the whole experience.

Opportunities for donations to the Mayor's Charities?

I am very willing to organize these unfamiliar aspects......the TC to organize entry, safety, carparking and contacting the list of local charities, groups and organisations?

Lots more to expand on but this is the summary version!

As mentioned previously, if this is not something you would like to try may I have permission to organise a separate day(date to be decided) for CRUK?"

Proposed Events Calendar 2026-2027

2026 Event	Month	Day & Date
lanuary		
January Bank Holiday (New Year's Day)	January	Thursday 1st
Holocaust Memorial Day	January	Tuesday 27th
February	January	racoday 27 th
Winter Olympic Games	February	Wednesday 4th – Sunday 22nd
February Half Term	February	Monday 16th – Friday 20th
Pancake Races	February	Thursday 19 th
Shrove Tuesday	February	Tuesday 17th
Food Fair	February	Saturday 28 th
March		
Commonwealth Day Flag	March	Monday 9th
Easter Event LHSCC	March	Sunday 29th
Annual Town Meeting	March	Thursday 26th
Best Kept Village	March	TBC
Easter School Holiday	March - April	Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April
April		
Bank Holiday (Good Friday)	April	Friday 3rd
Bank Holiday (Easter Monday)	April	Monday 6th
Green & Crafts	April	Sunday 12th
St George's Day Flag (no event)	April	Thursday 23rd
May Day	Mari	Eriday 1 at
May Day Bank Holiday (Early May)	May May	Friday 1st Monday 4th
Buckingham in Bloom	May May	Monday 4th May – Monday 6th July
Buckingham Live	May May	Sunday 24th
Bank Holiday (Spring)	May	Monday 25th
May Half Term	 May	Monday 25th – Friday 29th
June	, ray	Tronady Zoth Triady Zoth
Pride Flag	June	Monday 1st
Mayor Making	June	Friday 5th
FIFA World Cup	June - July	Thursday 11th June – Sunday 19th July
Buckingham Literary Festival	June?	TBC
Celebrate Buckingham	June	Saturday 20th
Armed Forces Day Flag	June	Saturday 27th
July		
Buckingham Summer Festival	July	TBC
British Grand Prix	July	Thursday 2nd – Sunday 5th
Summer School Holiday	July - August	Thursday 23rd July – Monday 31st August
Fringe Week	July	Sunday 19th – Sunday 26th
Fringe Week: Family Fun Day	July	Sunday 19th
Fringe Week: Oxford Fiddle Group	July	Tuesday 21st
Fringe Week: Art in the Market	July	Friday 24th
Fringe Week: Comedy Night	July	Friday 24th
Fringe Week: Street Food Fair	July	Saturday 25th
Fringe Week: Additional Events	July	TBC
Basketball Sessions	July/August	TBC
Buckingham Play Days	July/August TBC	TBC TBC
Churches Holiday Club Extra Summer Youth Projects		TBC
August	July/August	IDC
Skatepark Jam	August	Sunday 16th August
BandJam	August	Sunday 10th August
Bank Holiday (Summer)	August	Monday 31st
September	, luguot	Tionady Oroc
Merchant Navy Day	September	Thursday 3rd
Autumn Term Begins	September	Wednesday 2nd
Dog Show	September	Saturday 5th
National Heritage Days	September	TBC
Buckingham History Festival	September	TBC
Launch Mayor's Christmas Card Competition	September	September
River Rinse	September	Sunday 20th
October		
River Rinse	October	Sunday 4th

Charter Fair	October	Saturday 17th
Charter Fair	October	Saturday 24th
October Half Term	October	Monday 26th – Friday 30th
Halloween Disco LHSCC	October	Friday 30th
Bonfire & Fireworks	October/November	Saturday 31 st October
November		
Remembrance Parade	November	Sunday 8th
Remembrance Flag	November	Sunday 8th
King's "Real" Birthday	November	Saturday 14th
Winter Fair LHSCC	November	Sunday 15th
Local Democracy	November	TBC (Thursday 19th?)
Christmas Lights Switch On	November	Thursday 26th
December		
Small Business Saturday	December	Saturday 5th
Community Fair	December	TBC
Christmas Parade	December	TBC
Bank Holiday (Christmas Day)	December	Friday 25th
Bank Holiday (Boxing Day/Substitute Day)	December	Monday 28th
2027 Event	Month	Day & Date
January		
Bank Holiday (New Year's Day)	January	Friday 1st
Holocaust Memorial Day	January	Wednesday 27th
February		
Shrove Tuesday	February	Tuesday 9th
February Half Term	February	Monday 15th – Friday 19th
Pancake Races	February	TBC
Food Fair	February	Saturday 27th
March		
Commonwealth Day Flag	March	Monday 8th
Bank Holiday (Good Friday)	March	Friday 26th
Easter Event LHSCC	March	TBC
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	March <i>March</i>	TBC Monday 29th

Contact Officer: Zo Taylor, Deputy Town Clerk

Fringe Week 25 Review

1. Recommendations

- 1.1. It is recommended that Members note the report.
- 1.2. It is recommended that Members agree to participate in Fringe Week in 2026.

2. Background

2.1. Residents of Buckingham enjoyed over a week long series of special events, organised by BTC and various local organisations, businesses, and groups during this year's Fringe Week.

3. Event Reviews

3.1. Basketball

The first session of free Basketball coaching with Coach Jenner took place on Monday 21st July which saw a good number of participants. Further sessions took place after Fringe Week.

3.2. Oxford Fiddle Group

The popular Oxford Fiddle Group returned to The Radcliffe Centre on Tuesday 22nd July with another excellent show. As usual they performed a variety of English, Irish, and American tunes.

3.3. Crafts at the Chanty Chapel

The National Trust team at Buckingham Chantry Chapel hosted free craft activities on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday morning. These were very popular.

3.4. Art in the Market

Art in the Market took place on the afternoon of Thursday 24th July. Families and children, young and old, enjoyed an afternoon of arts and crafts in the sunshine. Activities included bookmark and keyring making, drawing and painting. The entirely free event was extremely well attended throughout the whole afternoon.

3.5. Street Food Fair

This event was in collaboration with the Bite Club, held at Embleton Scout Hall. There was live music and food traders. It was a hugely successful event, very well attended with a festival vibe and families picnicking and enjoying the sunshine throughout the afternoon.

3.6. Family Fun Day

Sunday 27th July saw the annual Family Fun Day at Lace Hill Sports & Community Centre. Families with children turned up to enjoy an afternoon featuring an array of free activities including Zorb balls, inflatables, traditional games, badminton, table tennis, beat the keeper, a number of performances and DJ.

3.7. Buckingham Play Days

The MK Play Association also hosted our Buckingham Play Days sessions in Chandos Park for children up to 12 years old. The weather was fine and these were extremely popular and well received by the community.

4. Comedy Night and School's Out Disco

Due to escalating costs, it was decided that the Comedy Night would not take place. The School's Out Disco to replace this event unfortunately had to be cancelled due to poor ticket sales.

Contact Officer: Zo Taylor, Deputy Town Clerk

Bridge Street Skatepark Jam

1. Recommendations

1.1. It is recommended that Members agree to book Team Rubicon for the 2026 event.

2. Background

- 2.1. This free skatepark event took place on Saturday 16th August from 11am until 3pm. The event was hosted by Team Rubicon.
- 2.2. The event was aimed at anyone aged 8 and upwards for skateboarders, BMX riders and scooter enthusiasts.
- 2.3. On the day, Team Rubicon provided the PA, background music, demonstrations, workshops and organised friendly competitions with prizes.

3. Event Review

- 3.1. Feedback from the children and parents was very positive. They loved the event and thanked BTC and Team Rubicon for organising it.
- 3.2. Over 200 children and adults turned up to participate or just watch and enjoy the atmosphere. The ramps were fully utilised in a safe manner.
- 3.3. There was one minor accident where a child was winded. This was dealt with by ALR.
- 3.4. Team Rubicon proved very professional to work with, they support many other local councils and understand the requirements and provisions needed as well as Safety Advisory Group paperwork. Therefore, I would like to book Team Rubicon for the 2026 event.

4. Budget

4.1. The budget expenditure code is 4169/303 Skate Park event £2,000.

4.2. Budget Expenditure Update:

ITEM	COST
First Aid	£120
Team Rubicon	£1600
Bucks Park Fee	£124
TOTAL	£1844

4.3. Mark's Ices donated 10% of his income for the event to the Mayor's Charities. It was decided that due to low interest on previous occasions, it was decided that a food vendor was not necessary.

5. Event Photographs



Contact Officer: Zo Taylor, Deputy Town Clerk

BandJam'25 event review

1. Recommendations

- 1.1. It is recommended that Members note this report.
- 1.2. It is recommended that Members consider researching an alternative venue for 2026 BandJam.

2. Background

- 2.1. Bandjam'25 took over Market Square in town on Sunday 24th August, from 1pm to 10pm. This was the first BandJam organised by BTC with no collaboration/event partner.
- 2.2. BandJam is held in the Market Square and includes a road closure.

3. Event Review

- 3.1. In advance of the event officers followed usual procedures to notify the safety advisory group, as well as local businesses and residents about the road closures and no parking requirements in place for the event.
- 3.2. Local pubs were informed about the no-glass policy and requested to ensure that drinks were not taken off their premises. Additionally, local shops selling alcohol received a hand-delivered letter requesting that they kindly remove bottles from their shelves to help enforce the policy. Council Officers worked hard to enforce this as effectively as possible throughout the event.
- 3.3. Bandjam'25 was opened by the Town Crier, Patrick Laws and Mayor of Buckingham, Cllr. Fran Davies.
- 3.4. The event was well attended, the Bank Holiday weekend festivities drew a diverse crowd with families, local care home residents and BandJam regulars all enjoying the live music.
- 3.5. The event ran safely and smoothly thanks to our paid security team, although the popularity of the event means that consideration needs to be given to ensure that this continues to operate safely for all staff, participants and attendees. There was one First Aid incident which was dealt with by staff and the ALR First Aiders. In an addition there was an incident where a member of staff received a minor injury caused by an intoxicated member of the public.

- 3.6. Martyn's Law, managing a large crowd in a small area, particularly when some attendees may have consumed too much alcohol, children playing with the event running adjacent to a busy road, hard ground and the potential for glass breakages, the uneven nature of the ground with numerous kerbs and trip hazards, the lack of seating and no public toilet access must all be considered to ensure that this growing event can continue to flourish and operate safely.
- 3.7. This year's lineup featured Noah's Cape, Blagwagon, The Bellas, The Dilemma, The Recollections, Chasing Tides, Pick n Mix, The Jurors. The headline act was Razorz and the compere was Caz Tricks and Vanessa Horton from Stony Stratford Community Radio. The bands offered an eclectic mix of music from Folk through to Indie and Rock.
- 3.8. The stage, sound and lighting were provided and operated by Square in the Air. Feedback was excellent from the bands and attendees. They have been provisionally booked for next year's event.

4. Budget

4.1. The budget for this event was £5253 code 301/4211.

4.2. Cost breakdown:

ITEM	COST
First Aid	£500
Security	£972
PPL & PRS Music	£240
License	
Road closure	Not yet received
Bucks Recycling bins	£320
Drumkit hire	£320
Compere and bands	£1280
Square In The Air	£2400
TOTAL	£6032 plus the cost of the TTRO

- 4.3. The overspend was due to the late withdrawal of the collaborator due to the hiring of a drumkit and the improved stage sound and lighting.
- 4.4. The food vendor Go Greek paid £35 for pitch hire and Mark's Ices made a 10% donation to the Mayor's Charities.
- 4.5. The Mayor held a raffle to raise funds for the Mayor's Charities.

5. Environmental Impact

- 5.1. The main environmental impact from Bandjam is the use of generators. Electric feeder pillars are also used where possible, and this reduces the impact.
- 5.2. Most acts and vendors were local so limiting the environmental impact.
- 5.3. Recycling bins were available and fully utilised.

6. Options

- 6.1. The venue for BandJam remains the same, acknowledging that not all risks can be managed effectively.
- **6.2.** BandJam is moved out of the town centre to a larger, safer venue.

Contact Officer: Zo Taylor, Deputy Town Clerk

Dog Show '25 Review

1. Recommendations

1.1. It is recommended that Members note the report.

2. Background

- 2.1. Buckingham's Dog Show was held on Saturday 6th September at Bourton Park Paddock. The event was officially opened by the Mayor with over 120 enthusiastic furry contestants in attendance.
- 2.2. The day was a resounding success, drawing in a crowd of over 250 residents. Feedback from attendees has been overwhelmingly positive.
- 2.3. A busy registration process ran from 11am to 12pm, overseen by Cllr. Lisa O'Donoghue, Cllr. Jon Harvey and former Councillor Terry Bloomfield.
- 2.4. The arena looked delightful surrounded by haybales generously donated by Manor Farm to ensure the comfort of spectators.
- 2.5. Judging was no easy task for Kimberly Cox, dog trainer, and Sophie Beacon of Woofs and Washes.
- 2.6. The event was expertly compered by Cllr. Try who kept the crowd informed and entertained throughout the event.
- 2.7. All participants received certificates of participation, along with generous goodie bags from R&J Pet Supplies.
- 2.8. Additionally, those placing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd received extra gifts donated by BTC and our generous sponsors.
- 2.9. This year's competition featured eight fun categories, with each winner competing for the coveted Best in Show title. This was won by beautiful Mabel.
- 2.10. The categories and their sponsors were as follows:
 - Cutest Puppy sponsored by Pegasus Pet Store.
 - Fabulous Fella sponsored by Pegasus Pet Store.

- Gorgeous Gal sponsored by MJB Auto Repairs.
- Best Rescue sponsored by Buckingham Podiatry.
- Golden Oldie sponsored by Hill's Canine Hydrotherapy.
- Waggiest Tail sponsored by Haybridge Vet and Physio.
- Junior Handler sponsored by Pegasus Pet Store.
- Judge's pick (added on the day) sponsored by R&J Pet Supplies.
- Best in Show sponsored by National Trust.
- 2.11. Alongside the show, children enjoyed a colouring competition with ten winning a lovely craft bag.
- 2.12. There were four food stalls present: Mark's Ices ice cream van, Stanley's Treats, Gusti Dall Italia and L&J Snacks.
- 2.13. There were nine dog themed trade stalls present, including R&J Pet Supplies, Walk and Wild, Medical Detection Dogs, LCA Pet Supplies, Guide Dogs MK, Pets as Therapy, LA Dog Pool, Zero and Co, and JoJo's Pet Grooming Services.

3. Feedback received from Kimberley Cox:

3.1....the event was very well organised – probably the most organised show so far. I thoroughly enjoyed being part of it and would be delighted to be part of it next year.

4. Budget

- 4.1. The budget for this year's Dog Show was £900, code 301/4123.
- 4.2. Event cost breakdown:

ITEM	COST
Toilet hire	£270
First Aid	£175
Water	£20
Banner	£80

Prizes	£132
TOTAL	£677

- 4.3. This year there was no need to purchase any soil to level out the ground. We also didn't spend any money on crafts or certificate paper as were able to use left over supplies from previous events.
- 4.4. The income budget for this year's event is £300, code 301/1093
- 4.5. Draft income breakdown:

ITEM	TOTAL EX VAT
Trader pitch fees	£125
Food vendor pitch fee	£105
Show class entry fee	£205
Sponsorship	£300
	£735

In addition Mark's Ices, as he has done in the past, donated 10% of his takings to the Mayor's Charities. This was £40.

5. Information

5.1. Both main sponsors were committed until 2025. Kimberley Cox has confirmed that she would like to extend this agreement and Sophie Beacon has indicated that she would like to continue.

6. Event Photograph



Image 1: Best In Show 1st Place Winner - Dog Mabel and her Junior Handlers Adrian & Julian

Contact Officer: Events Coordinator

Artwork Unveiling & Art in the Market - Event Report

1. Recommendation

1.1. It is recommended that Members note the report.

2. Background

- 2.1. This report is being discussed because it was agreed to hold a standalone low-cost unveiling of a piece of commissioned Artwork for the Town Centre (minute 172/25).
- 2.2. The North Bucks Community Board awarded Buckingham Town Council a grant towards town centre regeneration. Members agreed to use part of the grant towards a piece of artwork that encapsulated the essence of Buckingham. Artist Lee Vernon sculpted the artwork.
- 2.3. There were 2 parts to this event. The Artwork Unveiling located at the Council Chamber was the primary part, between 12:00-12:30. Followed by Art in the Market located at the Cattle Pens, between 12:45-16:00, which offered free arts & crafts for children and adults. Including: A variety of colouring in sheets suited for all ages, decorating and painting rocks, and colouring in wooden figures.
- 2.4. An Artwork Selfie Competition was run alongside the event. A winner and runner-up for the best photograph in front of the new artwork were chosen. They were awarded small prizes and certificates. The winner was presented with a novelty eraser, a jar of sweets and a certificate. The runner-up was awarded with 2 small bags of sweets and chocolate, as well as a certificate. Please see the table in Section 4, for the budget breakdown of the competition expenditure.

3. Event Review

3.1. The Event was held on Wednesday 27th August 2025, between 12:00-13:00. The original timings were set to be 12:00-16:00, but the Art in the Market part was curtailed due to adverse weather conditions.

- 3.2. The unveiling commenced at 12:00 by the Town Crier, followed by a speech from Mayor of Buckingham Cllr Fran Davies. The unveiling lasted approximately 15 minutes, but many people stayed on afterwards.
- 3.3. The unveiling was attended by members of the public, Councillors, some members of BTC Staff and Artist Lee Vernon.
- 3.4. Since the installation, we have received a plethora of comments praising the artwork. The general public seems to have had a very positive reaction and people love the sculpture. People have stated that they think the artwork is tasteful, suits its surroundings and reflects Buckingham well.
- 3.5. Unfortunately, due to poor weather conditions, Art in the Market was cut short at around 13:00. The unfavourable weather meant that footfall in the town was low and there were no attendees. The high winds and oncoming rain also meant that the event set-up became challenging.

4. Budget

4.1 The event cost £81.37, using funding from the Small Events Budget. Please see below for a breakdown of expenditure:

Budget		
Small Events Budget		
Budget Code	301/412	8
Total Budget	£375 (Total Small Events Budget	
Expenditure	Estimate Cost	Actual Cost
Red Ribbon		£6.03
Postage		£4.16
Plus VAT		
Amazon Crayons		£19.99
Plus VAT		119.99
Amazon		
Felt Tips		£13.49
Plus VAT		113.43
Amazon		
Tarpaulin		£23.20
Plus VAT		
Paragon		
Artwork Selfie Competition - Winner Prize		
Macaroon Eraser		£2.00
Jar of Sweets		£8.00
Waitrose		
(Taken From Petty Cash)		
Artwork Selfie Competition - Runner-Up Prize		
Cadbury Giant Buttons		£1.75
Candy Kittens		£2.75
Waitrose		
(Taken From Petty Cash)		
Total Cost		£81.37

- 4.2 The tarpaulin was used to cover the artwork before the unveiling. The ribbon for the mayor to cut. The felt tips and crayons were for the Art in the Market arts & crafts. All materials sourced will be used again for future events. Nothing was single use or disposed of.
- 4.3 We tried to source the ribbon locally, but could not find any, hence the Amazon purchase. As this was an impromptu event, that was not originally on the 2025 Events Calendar, we were restricted for time, so paid for packaging on this occasion to ensure the ribbon arrived on time for the event.
- 4.4 The items from Waitrose were bought as prizes for the winner and runnerup of the Artwork Selfie Competition. A £15 budget was allocated to the prizes. £14.50 was spent in total.

5. Environmental Impact

5.1 The artwork was sculpted out of steel. Therefore, considering the material used and the upkeep of general maintenance, the artwork is predicted to have a long lifespan. Minimal upkeep such as maintaining corrosion and environmental exposure will be required, which can be carried out by Green Spaces.

6. Event Photograph



Image 1: Mayor of Buckingham Cllr Fran Davies, Town Crier Patrick Laws and Artist Lee Vernon in front of the unveiled artwork.

No:	Minute No.	Action	Action Required	Action Owner	Update	Deadline
1	884/19 183/23 398/24 18/11/24 48/25 2/6/25	Youth Council	be able to plan for the best approach for 2022.	Deputy Town Clerk Deputy Town Clerk		On agenda
2	869/20	Strategy	Members received a written report from the Town Clerk and unanimously AGREED for Council staff to provide a detailed plan for creating a culture and arts strategy. It was AGREED that a working group be set up, consisting of councillors and partners, at the appropriate time.		With BNDP - In progress	Ongoing
3	174/25 21/7/25	Free parking days	Press release explaining why we were unable to secure free parking - this should be published at the end of September.	Deputy Town Clerk	Press release agreed for end of Sept	
4	176/25 21/7/25	Buckingham Society	Gift the swan to The Buckingham Society with the understanding that they take full responsibility of it and it is acknowledged that Buckingham Town Council made the donation.	Deputy Town Clerk	Discussion completed awaits collection	
5	182/25 21/7/25		Write to service user. Shopmobility Terms and Conditions to be reviewed.	Deputy Town Clerk Town Clerk	Service user has received letter and meeting. T&C review underway - for next meeting	

Contact Officer: Nina Stockill, Estates Administrator

Best Kept Village Competition (BKVC) 2025 Review

1. Recommendations

1.1. It is recommended that Members approve Buckingham's continued participation in the Best Kept Village Competition in 2026.

2. Background

- 2.1. The competition is divided into six classes based on settlement size.

 Buckingham competes in the *Michaelis Cup* category, which is open to towns with populations over 3,000.
- 2.2. As part of the entry process, the Town Council submitted a comprehensive set of maps highlighting key locations such as parks, cemeteries, noticeboards, and other community assets. The entry fee was £25. Judging criteria focused primarily—but not exclusively—on areas under the Town Council's influence.
- 2.3. Judging took place between 1st June and 14th July 2025. Members of the Greenspaces Team observed judges visiting the town in early June.
- 2.4. Assessment categories included floral displays, open spaces such as parks and play areas, cemeteries, and general presentation. A strong emphasis was also placed on visible community involvement.

3. Competition Review

- 3.1. Buckingham came forth and received a score of 184 out of a possible 200 points, a slight decrease from last year's score of 190. The winner of the Michaelis Cup for 2025 was Stony Stratford.
- 3.2. The judging panel was particularly impressed with Bourton Park, which received high praise.
- 3.3. Buckingham performed especially well in the following areas:
 - Brackley Road Cemetery
 - Town Council parks and greenspaces
 - Community centres (Lace Hill and Buckingham Community Centre)
 - Community engagement

3.4. The category identified for the most improvement was shops and pubs, where the town lost 5 points. However, it is worth noting that a larger number of local businesses made visible efforts to improve their premises and contribute positively to the town's appearance. These efforts have also been recognised through the Buckingham in Bloom competition. It is anticipated that further building on these initiatives will enhance next year's BKVC submission.

4. Enclosures

Enclosed with this report are:

• A copy of the 2025 Judges' Score Sheet.

	BBKV 2025 BU	ICKINGHAM	Score	Possible Marks
1	Cemetery/graveyard (separate or attached to a place of worship)	Well maintained.	20	20
2	Green, playing field, children's play area, outdoor recreation facilities, designated nature conservation area	Lots of leisure activities available. Bourton Park wonderful. Lovely planting, very peaceful place to visit.	35	35
3	Floral displays, hanging baskets, tubs, planters, flower beds etc	All very good.	14	15
4	Community facilities (Village Hall, Community Centre, Church Hall)	Community Centre very good.	20	20
5	General environmental features (hedges, verges, ditches, pond, stream, pump etc.)	Generally well kept, a few nettles, but not as good as last year.	15	20
6	Shops and Pubs	Not much effort.	15	20
7	Bus stops, bus shelters, public seating, dog bins, notice boards, information signs	Needed some weed killing.	18	20
8	War memorial (Please include a photograph if the memorial is inside a locked building)	Needed some attention. A little uncared for.	18	20
9	Quality of Competition entry - up to date and detailed map with features highlighted	Town Centre maps not easy to read, not all road names shown.	9	10
10	Evidence of community engagement,eg website, newsletter, magazine, posters, general community involvement in the Competition)	Website excellent, Didn't see any BBKV post	ers 20	20

Buckingham Town Council Town Centre & Events Committee Monday 29 September 2026

Contact Officer: Nina Stockill, Estates Administrator

Buckingham in Bloom 2025

1. Recommendations

1.1. It is recommended that members note the report and consider recommendations for next year's competition.

2. Background

- 2.1. This year's Buckingham in Bloom competition was launched to coincide with the Best Kept Village judging. Buckingham in Bloom is all about celebrating the beauty, creativity, and community spirit in Buckingham and there were four fabulous categories: Best Kept Front Garden, Best Hanging Baskets/Containers and Best Community Garden. As well as local business categories for large and small businesses within the parish.
- 2.2. Judging commenced in early 5th July 2025, with a panel of esteemed Buckingham Town Councillors on the lookout for diverse plant varieties, eyecatching designs, and gardens that attract delightful insects and wildlife. They also considered garden maintenance, sustainable planting schemes, clever use of space, and originality.
- 2.3. The competition saw an total of 15 entries across all categories. Most entries and winners were repeat participants. Almost all entrants used the Town Council's online entry form, highlighting the convenience and accessibility of the digital submission process.
- 2.4. Prizes for first place in the residential categories will be a £30 gardening voucher and second place will be £20. All business winners will receive an engraved wooden shield and presentation certificate.
- 2.5. Winners were presented with their certificates and vouchers at a prize giving ceremony hosted by local business winner Larder café.

3. Budget

The combined budget for Buckingham in Bloom is £305, this amount is an amalgamation of the following budget lines:

Budget	
Pride of Place 301/4107	£60
Town in Bloom 391/4104	£35

Spring Green Fair Budget 301	
4208	£210
Total Budgets	£305

Equipment	Debits
Award shield	£48
Gardening Vouchers	£130
Total	£178

4. Recommendations for Next Year

- 4.1. To enhance the Buckingham in Bloom competition next year and further foster community engagement, the following suggestions are proposed:
- 4.2. Expand promotional efforts to reach new participants, including targeted outreach to schools, community groups, and local businesses.
- 4.3. Simplify the online entry process further and ensure it is accessible to all community members, including those less familiar with technology.

Contact Officer: Zo Taylor, Deputy Town Clerk

Bite Club

1. Recommendations

1.1. It is recommended that Members consider the proposal put forward by Bite Club and agree to explore and budget for 2-3 dates for the 2026-2027 financial year.

2. Background

- 2.1. Within Fringe Week this year BTC collaborated with Bite Club and held a Street Food Fair at Embelton Scout Hut. This event was a resounding success, well attended and received.
- 2.2. BTC involvement was as follows:
 - 2.2.1. prepare and submit all the safety paperwork
 - 2.2.2. book and pay for scout hut £220
 - 2.2.3. book and pay for additional bins £230
 - 2.2.4. one member of staff on the day
 - 2.2.5. BTC also advertised this event as part of our Fringe Week offering
- 2.3. Bite Club booked and managed all of the food traders, arranged a TENS license and provided Silverstone Brewery. They also provided the entertainment and additional advertising.

3. Outcome

- 3.1. In light of the success of this event, BTC have had discussions with the owner of Bite Club regarding potential opportunities in the future to work alongside Bite Club. Within those discussions we talked about the possibility of a similar event at Lace Hill Sports and Community Centre, and of course the overheads would be much lower.
- 3.2. BTC have received an email from Bite Club with the following proposal:

[&]quot;I am due to start planning my events for 2026 and wanted to get your thoughts on a regular Buckingham event to go alongside my others. I would like to organise a few summer (potentially monthly) events from Embleton Way and given we done the first one together, would like to work with you again on this."