

R/01/25

Minutes of a meeting of the **Resources Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 23rd June 2025 in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham at 7:05pm.

Present: Cllr. F. Davies Town Mayor
Cllr. J. Harvey
Cllr. H. Haydock
Cllr. A. Mahi
Cllr. R. Newell
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue
Cllr. A. Schaefer
Cllr. R. Stuchbury
Cllr. M. Try

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

Absent: Cllr. H. Mordue
Cllr. J. Mordue

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

106/25 Election of Chair

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

106/25 Apologies for absence

Members received apologies for absence from Cllr. H. Mordue and Cllr. J. Mordue.

107/25 Election of Vice Chair

Cllr. Davies Proposed Cllr. H. Mordue as Chair; Seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue. There being no other nominations, Members unanimously **AGREED** to elect Cllr. H. Mordue as Vice Chair of the Resources Committee for 2025-2026.

108/25 Declarations of interest

There were none.

109/25 Minutes of last meeting

Members agreed the minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on 28th April 2025.

110/25 Minutes of Communications Strategy Sub-Committee

Members received the minutes of the Communications Strategy Group meeting held on 5th June 2025.

Recommendation from the Communications Strategy Sub-Committee meeting held on 5th June 2025:

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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.

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That a report be prepared on the creation of a precept line and allocation of resources for pursuing the most appropriate Quality Award, to commence in April 2026.

Cllr. O'Donoghue Proposed, Cllr. Mahi Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.
ACTION COMPLIANCE AND PROJECTS MANAGER

111/25 Budgets

Members received and agreed the budget reports:

111/25.1 Detailed Income and Expenditure report and summary of budget variances.

111/25.2 Purchase Ledger from April and May 2025.
Cllr. Davies noted the expenditure on PAT testing and asked that we consider training someone in-house. The Town Clerk will look into this.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

112/25 Fund transfers

Members noted the following transfers:

16/05/2025 - £100,000 from current account to the CCLA.

21/05/2025 - £100,000 from current account to the CCLA.

23/05/2025 - £100,000 from current account to the CCLA.

06/06/2025 - £100,000 from current account to the CCLA.

113/25 Procurement policy and tender process

Members received a report from the Town Clerk.

1.1 It is recommended that Members review the Purchasing and Procurement Policy and recommend it to Full Council.

Members raised the following points:

- Why is the Climate Emergency Action Plan included in the opening paragraph?
- Is the information that Members will receive regarding criteria embedded in the policy?
- References to sustainability and low carbon supply chains welcome. How does this work in practice; to what extent is a more energy efficient piece of equipment purchased over 'best value'?
- Elected Members' knowledge should be included in the policy; they should have the opportunity to share this.
- Members do not have the necessary skill set to make comparisons in some instances.
- Anonymity gives Members the ability to make decisions based on facts; confidentiality is standard in local government as it provides a fair process.
- Should ethical purchasing be included?

The Town Clerk explained that Buckingham Town Council always has ambitions to purchase as locally as possible but that there are potential conflicts with the Procurement Act when looking at 'best value.' She has noted Members' request for more detailed information on the scoring process, but it would not be appropriate to embed this in the policy. When considering purchasing smaller pieces of equipment, common sense is used when looking at energy efficiency over 'best value.' For larger projects this gets more difficult, for example

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a higher percentage may need to be shown on competence to complete the work for some projects, whereas in other instances this may be less important, and a higher percentage is awarded to local companies. The percentage awarded on environmental factors must be built in at the tender stage.

Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed changing the second bullet point under awarding contracts to read:

- Consider quality, sustainability, innovation, ethics, and social value where appropriate.

Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

Members unanimously **AGREED** recommendation 1.1 with the above amendment.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

114/25 Committee Calendar 2026

Members reviewed the 2026 Committee calendar and recommended it to Full Council.

115/25 Updates from representatives on outside bodies relevant to this Committee

Cllr. Stuchbury requested that Members refer to the Fire Authority safety information.

116/25 Action Report

Members noted the Action Report.

117/25 Chair's announcements – for information only

No announcements.

118/25 Date of next meeting: Monday 1st September 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. Members unanimously **AGREED**. Members unanimously **AGREED**.

119/25 Debtors list

Members received the current list of debtors over 3 months old.

120/25 Payment endorsements

Members noted payment endorsement sheets 2 to 6.

The meeting closed at: 7:53pm

Signed Date

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