

TCE/01/26

Minutes of a meeting of the **Town Centre and Events Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber at Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham

**Present:**

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

**Also attending:**

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Ms C. Molyneux | Town Clerk        |
| Ms. Z. Taylor  | Deputy Town Clerk |
| Ms. P. Cahill  | Events Officer    |
| Mrs. A. Benoy  | Committee Clerk   |

**Absent:** Cllr. L. Draper

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

#### 46/26 Election of Chair

Cllr. O' Donoghue Proposed Cllr. Stuchbury to be Chair, Seconded by Cllr. Davies. There being no other nominations, Members unanimously **AGREED** to elect Cllr. Stuchbury as Chair of the Town Centre and Events Committee for 2026-2027.

Thanks were given to Cllr. Stuchbury for chairing the committee for the past year.

#### 47/26 Apologies for Absence

Members approved apologies from Cllr. Draper, reason number 6, Proposed by Cllr. Davies, Seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue.

#### 48/26 Election of Vice Chair

Cllr. Harvey Proposed Cllr. Ahmed to be Vice Chair, Seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury. There being no other nominations, Members unanimously **AGREED** to elect Cllr. Ahmed as Vice Chair of the Town Centre and Events Committee for 2026-2027.

Thanks were given to Cllr. Mahi for his service as Vice Chair over the past year and for his many years of commitment to the Town Centre and Events Committee.

#### 49/26 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

## 50/26 Minutes

Members agreed the minutes of the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

## 51/26 Budget

Members received and noted the latest budget figures.

## 52/26 Forthcoming events

52/26.1 Members received a report on Celebrate Buckingham Day from the Events Officer.

1.1. It is recommended Members note the report.

Cllr. Harvey pointed out that this clashes with the literary festival and it was suggested the date be moved in 2027 to avoid a clash, perhaps to the weekend before.

**ACTION: EVENTS OFFICER**

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

52/26.2 Members received a report on Armed Forces Day from the Events Officer.

1.1. It is recommended Members note the report.

Thanks were given to the Events Officer for organising this. It was agreed that the Events Officer will contact all Councillors to ask if they know any veterans who wish to attend and take part.

**ACTION: EVENTS OFFICER**

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

52/26.3 Members received a report on Fringe Week from the Events Officer.

1.1 It is recommended that Members agree to move Fringe Week forward a week to coincide with the school summer holidays.

Members raised the following points:

- The school holidays start mid-week in 2027, and Fringe Week would therefore take place the following week (26<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> July 2027).
- The whole week needs to be available for pupils at both state and private schools.

Thanks were given to the Events Officer for organising the event.

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

**ACTION: EVENTS OFFICER**

### **53/26 Event Safety**

Members received a report on Event Safety from the Town Clerk.

- 1.1. It is recommended that Members note the forthcoming Martyn's Law.
- 1.2. It is recommended that an outside consultant is commissioned to review relevant events to ensure that BTC are compliant with our legal responsibilities.

The Town Clerk explained that event organisers and premises managers are to be made far more responsible for protecting their premises and considering the potential for a terrorist attack following recent attacks in Manchester and Liverpool. Much training has been undertaken on generic events by officers, but specialist advice and help is needed. She confirmed that there is no additional funding to assist councils in covering any costs that arise. A report will be brought to the next Committee meeting.

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

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

Members thanked the Town Clerk for the report.

### **54/26 Youth Council Survey**

Members received a report on the Youth Council Survey from the Business and Community Engagement Officer.

- 1.1.1 Note the findings of the Youth Engagement Survey, particularly the very low level of interest (16%) in a traditional Youth Council.
- 1.1.2 Support the development of a more flexible and informal youth engagement approach, rather than a fixed Youth Council.
- 1.1.3 Approve the exploration of event-based and drop-in youth voice initiatives, integrated into existing Town Centre and Events programming.
- 1.1.4 Encourage the implementation of pilot engagement activities to test alternative approaches and gather further feedback

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

**ACTION: BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICER**

Members expressed thanks to the Business and Community Engagement Officer for the report.

### **55/26 Calendar of events**

Members received the current calendar of events.

## **56/26 Event Reviews**

56/26.1 Members received a review of the Green and Crafts event from the Events Officer.

1.1 It is recommended that Members agree Option 4.1.

The Events Officer explained that families who did attend enjoyed the event but noted that Sundays were more difficult due to commitments and the increased cost of car parking. It was felt that many more people would benefit if the event were moved to a weekday in the school holidays.

Cllr. Ahmed Proposed, Cllr. Davies Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation. **ACTION: EVENTS OFFICER**

Members thanked the Events Officer for her work.

56/26.2 Members received and noted a review of the May Day event from the Events Officer which was attended by three local schools and the Mayor.

Members thanked officers who organised and ran the event.

56/26.3 Members received a review of the Buckingham Live event from the Events Officer.

1.1 It is recommended that Buckingham Town Council continue to sponsor the Buckingham Live annual event.

Members were very enthusiastic about this well attended and popular event and noted thanks to officers, the Football Club and Suzy from Buckingham Live.

Cllr. Davies Proposed, Cllr. Allen Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation and to write a letter of thanks to the football club and to Suzy at Buckingham Live. **ACTION: EVENTS OFFICER**

## **57/26 Action List**

Members received the action reports and updates.

## **58/26 Climate Emergency Action Plan**

Members noted that there are no updates to the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

## **59/26 Updates from representatives on outside bodies**

There were none.

## **60/26 News releases**

The Deputy Town Clerk confirmed that pre and post event press releases are standard practice.

Cllr. Stuchbury and Cllr. Davies informed Members that praise had been received from two separate Councils regarding the high quality and eye-catching social media content from Buckingham Town Council. Members thanked the Business and Community Engagement Officer for her excellent work.

**61/26 Chair's announcements – for information only**

No announcements.

**62/26 Date of the next meeting:** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026.

The meeting closed at 8.02pm

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