

TCE/06/25

Minutes of a meeting of the **Town Centre and Events Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 30th March 2026 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber at Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham

Present:

Cllr. R. Ahmed	
Cllr. F. Davies	Town Mayor
Cllr. L. Draper	
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue	
Cllr. R. Poppe	
Cllr. R. Stuchbury	Chair

Also attending:

Ms. Z. Taylor	Deputy Town Clerk
Ms. P. Cahill	Committee Clerk
Mr Lionel Weston	

Absent: Cllrs. Mahi, Allen and Harvey

A Minutes silence was held in recognition of the death of Mr. Robert Lehmann, a Town Councillor from 1991 – 2015 and Mayor 1999-2001. He chaired the Finance, Administration & Personnel Committee for much of his period of service, and was made an Honorary Freeman in 2016.

Public session

Topic: Community Event – 23 May 2026 (day before Town Council event)

Mr Weston introduced the planned community event taking place at the football club on 23 May 2026 and confirmed there is no expected impact on the Town Council's event the following day.

Event Purpose:

To collect and donate 7,000 food cans to local food banks:

Community Involvement:

- Residents invited to participate by placing cans in a continuous line from Bridge Street, through Heartlands Park to Stratford Road.

Logistics & Permissions:

- No anticipated impact on Town Council land.
- Organisers are following appropriate approval channels.

Activities:

- Involvement of multiple local groups.
- Approximately 3 hours of entertainment and games, themed around cans (e.g., "Can Man" superhero concept).

Charities Involved:

- Rotary
- Cancer Research UK
- Financial donations will support both organisations.

Weather Contingency:

- No full wet-weather plan due to risk of cans becoming unusable if labels are damaged.

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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.....

○ In case of rain, cans will instead be collected at Embleton Way Scout Hut.
Members thanked Mr Weston for attending the public session and he left the Chamber.

631/25 Apologies for absence

Members received apologies from Cllrs. Harvey, Allen and Mahi

632/25 Declarations of interest

There were none.

633/25 Minutes

Members **AGREED** the minutes of the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting held on 9th February 2026.

634/25 Budget

Members noted the latest budget figures.

635/25 Updates from representatives on outside bodies

Councillor Davies reported that she had recently spoken with the Acting Vice-Chancellor of Buckingham University, who expressed an interest in strengthening collaboration between the university and the town.

636/25 Rotary Club Easter Hunt

Members noted that Buckingham Town Council is supporting the Rotary Club's annual Easter Letter Hunt again.

637/25 Holocaust Memorial Stone relocation

Members discussed the report and noted that the Holocaust Memorial event has only been cancelled once in the past. It was suggested that it would be more appropriate to adopt a "wait and see" approach before making any decision regarding relocating the memorial stone to an alternative location.

It was proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Ahmed and unanimously **AGREED** to note the report and agree to monitor the situation . **ACTION ESTATES ADMIN**

638/25 Careers Fair

Members discussed the report from the Business and Community Officer. Proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Ahmed and unanimously **AGREED** to note the report and pass on the Committee's thanks to the Office.

ACTION BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY OFFICER

639/25 Armed Forces Day

Members received a report from the Events Officer. Proposed by Cllr O'Donoghue, seconded by Cllr Ahmed and unanimously **AGREED** that the Events Officer may explore options and plan a small additional event to follow the flag raising.

ACTION EVENTS OFFICER

640/25 Bite Club

Members received a report from the Events Officer outlining proposals for partnership with Bite Club. It was noted that Buckingham Town Council would fund bins and venue

hire up to a maximum of £1,500, with all other costs to be covered by Bite Club. Sponsorship would include Buckingham Town Council branding, with no requirement for Town Council staffing. It was further noted that this arrangement could cover up to five events across the year.

Members also noted that last year's event, which was initiated by the Mayor, and hosted by Bite Club, was successful.

Proposed by Cllr O'Donoghue, seconded by Cllr Davies and unanimously **AGREED** to sponsor five Bite Club events and to approve the Agreement between Buckingham Town Council and Bite Club.

ACTION EVENTS OFFICER

641/25 Forthcoming events

May Day – Proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Ahmed and unanimously **AGREED** to note a report from the Events Officer.

Buckingham Live – Proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr O'Donoghue and unanimously **AGREED** that Buckingham Town Council continue supporting Buckingham Live.

Fringe Week - Proposed by Cllr Davies, seconded by Cllr Ahmed, and unanimously **AGREED** that a contribution, within budget, could be made towards some collaborative events.

ACTION EVENTS OFFICER

The Events Officer added that a number of additional collaborative events are being arranged in conjunction with the Town Council's events programme, including partnerships with the local climate group, the National Trust, and Buckingham Flower Farm.

Cllr Draper asked if the town's tree and butterfly could be incorporated into Fringe Week, even if only through a press release or a treasure hunt. The Events Officer noted that there is a nature trail through Bourton Park which could easily incorporate these two species into the trail.

Proposed by Cllr Draper, seconded by Ahmed and unanimously **AGREED** to write to Sir David Attenborough informing him about Fringe Week.

ACTION EVENTS OFFICER

642/25 Calendar of events

Members received the current calendar of events.

643/25 Event reviews

Easter Fair – Members received a verbal update on the Easter event. It was noted that future events could be extended to better reflect the level of preparation involved.

Members expressed their thanks to the Lace Hill Community Centre Coordinator.

Proposed by Cllr Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr Davies and unanimously **AGREED** to write to the face painter who attended the event to thank her son for helping to tidy up.

ACTION EVENTS OFFICER

Pancake Races – Members noted a report from the Office Administrator.

Members expressed their thanks to the Office Administrator for their work.

Cllr Davies remarked that the walking race was very difficult to judge and suggested that preregistration for races might be beneficial. This would allow organisers to decide whether a few heats are needed, as some races finished very quickly and the event closed sooner than expected.

Food Fair – Members noted a report from the Events Officer.
Members discussed the report and considered the potential of opening the event at an earlier time. The method of collecting funds for the Mayor’s Charity was also raised.

Cllr Davies requested that a card payment option be available at future events.
Proposed by Cllr Stuchbury, seconded by Cllr Ahmed, and unanimously agreed that a recommendation be made to the Resources Committee to review electronic payments to be taken at events for the Mayor’s Charity, with a view to proceeding including of any additional charges.

ACTION DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

644/25 Action list

To receive action reports and updates.

645/25 Climate Emergency Action Plan

Members noted that there are no relevant updates.

646/25 News releases

647/25 Chair’s announcements – for information only

648/25 Date of the next meeting: Monday 1st June 2026

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.

649/58 Confidential matter

Members received a report from the Town Clerk.

Proposed by Cllr Draper, seconded by Cllr Davies, and unanimously **AGREED** to issue a permanent ban to a prospective Market Trader.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

Meeting closed at 20.35pm

Signed Date