

**R/05/25**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Resources Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026 in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham at 7pm.

|                      |                     |                 |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Present:</b>      | Cllr. F. Davies     | Town Mayor      |
|                      | Cllr. J. Harvey     |                 |
|                      | Cllr. H. Haydock    |                 |
|                      | Cllr. H. Mordue     | Vice Chair      |
|                      | Cllr. J. Mordue     |                 |
|                      | Cllr. Ruth Newell   |                 |
|                      | Cllr. L. O'Donoghue | Chair           |
|                      | Cllr. A. Schaefer   |                 |
| Cllr. R. Stuchbury   |                     |                 |
| <b>Also present:</b> | Ms. C. Molyneux     | Town Clerk      |
|                      | Ms. P. Cahill       | Committee Clerk |
| <b>Absent:</b>       | Cllr. A. Mahi       |                 |
|                      | Cllr. M. Try        |                 |

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

**477/25 Apologies for absence**

Members received apologies from Cllr. Mahi and Cllr. Try.

**478/25 Declarations of interest**

Cllr. O'Donoghue – Youth Club.

Cllr. J. Mordue – Summer Festival and Citizens Advice.

Cllr. Haydock – Citizens Advice.

**479/25 Minutes of last meeting**

Members agreed the minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

**480/25 Four Year Grants**

Members received a report from the Finance Officer.

Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed that discussion of this item is moved into the confidential session for discussion. Cllr. Davies Seconded. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: 2  
Against: 7  
Abstentions: 0

- 1.1 It is recommended that the following four year grants are awarded for 2026/30. These grants will be subject to a 3.5% increase per year in line with our grants policy.

12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

*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.....

| ORGANISATION                    | 2026          | 2027          | 2028          | 2029          | TOTAL        |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Buckingham Summer Festival      | 2000          | 2070          | 2142          | 2217          | <b>8429</b>  |
| Stowe Aqua Club                 | 2507          | 2594          | 2685          | 2780          | <b>10566</b> |
| Buckingham Canal Society        | 3750          | 3881          | 4017          | 4158          | <b>15806</b> |
| Chandos Bowls Club              | 1000          | 1035          | 1071          | 1108          | <b>4214</b>  |
| Citizens Advice Buckinghamshire | 6000          | 6210          | 6427          | 6652          | <b>25289</b> |
| Buckingham Old Gaol             | 5500          | 5692          | 5892          | 6098          | <b>23182</b> |
| Buckingham Youth Club           | 6000          | 6210          | 6427          | 6652          | <b>25289</b> |
| <b>ANNUAL TOTAL</b>             | <b>£26757</b> | <b>£27692</b> | <b>£28661</b> | <b>£29665</b> |              |

Members thanked the Finance Officer for her work, discussed each application and agreed the four year grants.

480/25.1 Buckingham Summer Festival  
Cllr. J. Mordue left the meeting.

Points raised:

- There is money in their reserves.
- In favour of supporting the event with a reduced amount.
- It is a good addition to the cultural life of Buckingham.
- Unsure of the number of Buckingham residents who benefit.

Cllr. H. Mordue Proposed a grant of £2000 as requested. Cllr. Ruth Newell Seconded. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: 2  
Against: 5  
Abstentions: 1

Cllr. Davies Proposed a grant of £1500. Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: 7  
Against: 0  
Abstentions: 1

**Buckingham Summer Festival four year grant AGREED: £1500**

Cllr. J. Mordue returned to the meeting.

480/25.2 Stowe Sub Aqua Club

Points raised:

- They contribute to two environmental events in the town.
- Offer opportunities for young people.
- Not based in Buckingham.

- What is their current membership – will young people in Buckingham benefit?

Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed that the requested grant of £2507 is awarded and he requested a recorded vote. Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: Cllr. O'Donoghue and Cllr. Stuchbury.  
Against: Cllr. Davies, Cllr. Harvey, Cllr. Haydock, Cllr. H. Mordue, Cllr. J. Mordue, Cllr. Ruth Newell and Cllr. Schaefer.  
Abstentions: 0

Cllr. H. Mordue Proposed a grant of £1000. Cllr. Harvey Seconded. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: Cllr. O'Donoghue, Cllr. Stuchbury, Cllr. Davies, Cllr. Harvey, Cllr. Haydock, Cllr. H. Mordue, Cllr. J. Mordue, Cllr. Ruth Newell and Cllr. Schaefer.  
Against: 0  
Abstentions: 0

**Stowe Sub Aqua Club four year grant AGREED: £1000**

480/25.3 Buckingham Canal Society

Points raised:

- Investment in the Canal Society may have a positive future impact.
- Supportive of the Canal Society but not the full amount.
- A lot of work takes place outside the town boundary.
- Some confusion with the figures presented.

Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed a grant of £3750. Cllr. J. Mordue Seconded.

Cllr. Schaefer Proposed a grant of £2000. Cllr. Davies Seconded.

The Town Clerk asked if Members would like to request further information before voting. Members agreed that they are happy to vote and do not require further information.

Cllr. Stuchbury withdrew his Proposal in support of Cllr. Schaefer's.

A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: 8  
Against: 0  
Abstentions: 1

**Buckingham Canal Society four year grant AGREED: £2000**

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480/25.4 Chandos Park Bowls Club  
Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed a grant of £1000 as requested, Cllr. Davies  
Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

**Chandos Park Bowls Club four year grant AGREED: £1000**

480/25.5 Citizens Advice Buckinghamshire  
Cllr. J. Mordue and Cllr. Haydock left the meeting.

Points raised:

- The Town Clerk explained that the grant is specifically for the Buckingham office drop-in service.
- Members would like to know the impact of the grant on extended opening hours and use.

Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed a grant of £6000 as requested. Cllr. Schaefer  
Seconded. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: 6  
Against: 0  
Abstentions: 1

The Town Clerk informed Members that she will ensure that the annual  
report from Citizens Advice Buckinghamshire is checked for details of usage  
of the extended drop-in service in Buckingham. **ACTION TOWN CLERK**

**Citizens Advice Buckinghamshire four year grant AGREED: £6000**

Cllr. J. Mordue and Cllr. Haydock returned to the meeting.

480/25.6 The Old Gaol  
Cllr. Davies Proposed a grant of £5500 as requested. Cllr. Stuchbury  
Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

**The Old Gaol four year grant AGREED: £5500**

480/25.6 Buckingham Youth Club

Cllr. O'Donoghue left the meeting and Cllr. H. Mordue took over as Chair.

Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed a grant of £6000 as requested. Cllr. Davies  
Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

**Buckingham Youth Club four year grant AGREED: £6000**

Cllr. O'Donoghue returned to the meeting and resumed as Chair.

There was one ineligible application that did not meet criteria.

12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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The agreed total for four year grants is **£23000**.

**ACTION FINANCE OFFICER**

#### **481/25 Budgets**

Members received and agreed the budget reports:

481/25.1 Detailed Income and Expenditure report and summary of budget variances.

The Town Clerk confirmed:

- 4603 – the water bill covers three toilets, three sinks and the Shopmobility sink.
- 205 – Grounds maintenance expenditure - not all bills are in, and the figure is as expected at this time of year; the money will be spent.
- 248 – Depot expenditure – this is for the fire alarm and to make the stairs fire safe. If it is not spent, the Town Clerk will suggest that this goes into an EMR for next year. A fire risk assessment is being undertaken.
- Where it is known in advance that a recommendation to Full Council will be made for an EMR, this is noted on the advance budget planning.

481/25.2 Purchase Ledger from December 2025.  
Cllr. Haydock requested that we look more carefully at what is spent on Amazon rather than locally. The Town Clerk reminds staff regularly about this, but it is not always possible to source something locally.

#### **482/25 Internal audit report**

Members received the internal audit report.

Cllr. Davies congratulated the Town Clerk and Assistant RFO for an excellent report and thanked them for their work.

#### **483/25 Rialtas**

Members received a report from the Finance Officer.

1.1 It is recommended that Buckingham Town Council switch to a Rialtas Web based accounts package for the cost of £1246.00 (excl. VAT) per annum.

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

#### **484/25 Staffing structure**

Members noted the new staffing structure. The Town Clerk will circulate this to all Councillors.

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

#### **485/25 2026-2027 Budget and Precept**

Members received a report from the Town Clerk.

1.1 It is recommended that Members agree to send the attached budget to the precept meeting.

12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed that the recommendation is agreed. Cllr. Ruth Newell Seconded.

The Town Clerk explained that the largest increase is the £45,000 for essential penstock repairs. Members clarified that they would like the reduced grant figure taken into account for the precept. The recommendation to take £14,000 from the General Reserve stands.

Cllr. Schaefer Proposed that the amended figure was agreed. Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded. Cllr. Stuchbury requested a recorded vote. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: Cllr. O'Donoghue, Cllr. Stuchbury, Cllr. Davies, Cllr. Harvey, Cllr. Haydock, Cllr. H. Mordue, Cllr. J. Mordue, Cllr. Ruth Newell and Cllr. Schaefer.

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

Members thanked the Town Clerk.

#### **486/25 Policies**

Members reviewed the Abandoned Trolley policy.

Cllr. Harvey Proposed that the charge for trolley retrieval is increased from £25 to £30. Cllr. Stuchbury Seconded. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: 3

Against: 9

Abstentions: 0

The unchanged policy was unanimously **AGREED**.

Cllr. Harvey left meeting at 8:32pm

#### **487/25 Updates from representatives on outside bodies**

Members received verbal updates from Councillors:

Cllr. Stuchbury informed Members that Buckinghamshire Council's precept is likely to be 4.99%.

Cllr. Harvey returned to the meeting at 8:34pm.

#### **488/25 Action Report**

Members reviewed and noted the Action Report.

#### **489/25 Chair's announcements – for information only**

No announcements.

**490/25 Date of next meeting: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026**

12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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**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**.

**491/25 Debtors list**

Members received the current list of debtors over 3 months old.  
Cllr. Schaefer noted the reduced number of debtors and thanked officers for this.

**492/25 Payment endorsements**

Members noted payment endorsement sheets 22 to 24.  
The Town Clerk explained that our Financial Regulations state that we publish the payment endorsement sheets. These will be difficult to redact. The Internal Auditor suggested that the Financial Regulations are amended to reflect our practice. Members will be invited to consider this recommendation at a later point.

**ACTION COMPLIANCE AND PROJECTS MANAGER**

**493/25 Grants**

Members noted the unredacted grants information.

Meeting closed at: 8:45pm

Signed .....

Date .....

12<sup>th</sup> January 2026

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