

E/6/25

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 16th February 2026 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham.

Present:

Cllr. T. Allen	
Cllr. F. Davies	Town Mayor
Cllr. L. Draper	Chair
Cllr. J. Harvey	
Cllr. H. Haydock	
Cllr. R. Newall	
Cllr. Ruth Newell	Vice Chair
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue	
Cllr. R. Poppe	
Cllr. A. Schaefer	
Cllr. R. Stuchbury	

Also present:

Mr. L. Phillips	Estates Manager
Ms. C. Molyneux	Town Clerk
Ms. N. Stockill	Estate Administrator

Absent: Cllr. S. Singh and Cllr. A. Mahi

Cllr. Draper was absent at the start of the meeting so Cllr. Ruth Newell took the Chair.

533/25 Apologies for Absence

Members received apologies for absence from Cllrs. Singh and Mahi and Cllrs. Stuchbury and Draper for lateness.

534/25 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

535/25 Minutes

Minute 410/25 – Cllr. Haydock proposed, Cllr. Davies seconded, and Members unanimously **AGREED** the following amendment to Minute 410/25:

“Cllr. Haydock reported that the Climate Café is seeking to hire or purchase air quality monitors.”

Members **AGREED** the amended minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 24th November 2026.

Cllr. R. Newall entered the chamber at this point in the agenda

536/25 – Budgets

Members received and noted the latest figures.

537/25 – Penstock Tender

Cllr. Harvey proposed, Cllr. Schaefer seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED:**

1.1. To recommend to Full Council that Bidder C be appointed to complete the *Reinstatement of Eroded Banks at the Penstock, Bourton Park*, having achieved the

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highest overall tender score. The project to be funded from the 2026/27 budget code 252/4601 – Repairs and Maintenance, Bourton Park. **ACTION: ESTATES MANAGER**

538/25 – Tingewick Road Cemetery Update

Cllr. Davies proposed, Cllr. O'Donoghue seconded and Members unanimously

AGREED:

1.1. To note the purchase of the equipment detailed within the report at a cost of £10,000. **ACTION: ESTATES MANAGER**

Members were informed that some groundworks remain outstanding. A mains water connection had originally been proposed to supply a fire hydrant; however, as there are currently no buildings on site, a hydrant is not required at this stage. Water will instead be supplied from the Radclive end of the site, with contractors scheduled to complete the connection during the summer period.

A maintenance period is in place and the contractor will return to site as required. The Estates Manager reported that over the Christmas period an abandoned vehicle was left on site, causing damage to the entrance gates. Further vandalism resulted in damage to hedging, trees, signage, the EV charger and fencing. The total cost of repairs is estimated at £5,000–£6,000.

The Greenspaces Team has replaced the damaged trees despite challenging saturated ground conditions. Mobile CCTV cameras have been redeployed to the site and one-tonne sacks of gravel positioned in front of the gates as a deterrent.

Members were informed that the police have arrested the individual responsible. The Town Clerk advised that a conditional caution has been issued and a letter of apology received.

Members asked that their thanks be conveyed to the neighbourhood policing team for their swift action. **ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

Surface water is currently flowing across the field and discharging into the drain. Discussions are ongoing with the scheme designers to resolve the matter and a further update will be provided in due course.

It is anticipated that the cemetery will be brought into use for burials in late summer.

Cllr. Stuchbury entered the Chamber at this point in the agenda.

539/25 – Derek Isham Allotments Update

Members were advised that there is currently a waiting list of 17 individuals for allotment plots. Promotion is being undertaken through the Council newsletter to encourage interest in joining the Committee.

The site will not open until late summer 2026, when the water connection has been completed.

There are 25 full plots, which will be divided in half to increase overall capacity.

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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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540/25 – Brackley Road Cemetery Handbook Updates

Cllr. Harvey proposed, Cllr. Davies seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED:**

1.1. To approve the amendments to the Brackley Road Cemetery Handbook as set out in the report. **ACTION: ESTATES MANAGER**

541/25 – Chandos Park Street Lights

Members noted the report and that the Town Clerk has approved the expenditure to enable the repairs to be carried out as soon as possible.

542/25 – Lace Hill Fees

Cllr. Davies proposed, Cllr. O’Donoghue seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED:**

1.1. To increase all room hire rates by 50p per hour and continue to offer ‘10 for the price of 9’ as a long-term booking incentive.

1.2. To note that pitch fees will rise in line with RPI, in accordance with the hire agreement with Buckingham United. **ACTION: LACE HILL COORDINATOR**

543/25 – Action Report

Members received the report and noted the updated information.

Cllr. Draper entered the Chamber at this point in the agenda and it was resolved that Cllr. Newell would continue to Chair the meeting.

Public Seating

The Town Clerk informed Members that The Buckingham Society is exploring the provision of an additional bench in Cornwalls Meadow.

No Idling Zone

Cllr. Davies expressed a wish for the Committee to revisit the issue of a No Idling Zone and to explore the possibility of meeting with the Climate Café/Mothers Can Group.

Cllr. Haydock reported that discussions had taken place with the Community Board.

544/25 – News Releases

There were none.

545/25 – Chair’s Announcements (for information only)

There were none.

546/25 – Date of Next Meeting

Monday 13th April 2026.

The meeting closed at 19:34.

Chair

Date