



Buckingham Town Council

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Town Clerk: Claire Molyneux

TOWN CENTRE &
EVENTS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 26 August 2026

Councillors

You are summoned to an extraordinary meeting of the Town Centre & Events Committee of Buckingham Town Council to be held on Tuesday 1st September 2026 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham, MK18 1RP.

Please note that the meeting will be preceded by a Public Session in accordance with Standing Orders 3.e, 3.f, and 3.g, which will last for a maximum of 15 minutes. A member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes. Members of the public can attend the meeting in person. If you would like to address the meeting virtually, please email committeeclerk@buckingham-tc.gov.uk or call 01280 816426 for details.

The meeting can be watched live on the Town Council's YouTube channel here:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC89BUTwVpjAOEIdSlfcZC9Q/>

Claire Molyneux
Town Clerk

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

Members are asked to approve or not approve apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of interest

To receive declarations of any personal or prejudicial interest under consideration on this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 Sections 26-34 & Schedule 4.

3. Christmas Events Programme

To receive a report from the Town Clerk

[TCE/28/26](#)

4. Date of the next meeting: Monday 5th October 2026



Twinned with Mouvaux, France;

Neukirchen-Vluyn, Germany



Valmadrera, Italy



Members are reminded when making decisions that the Public Sector Equality Duty 2010 requires Members to have due regard to the need to: Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act, advance equality of opportunity between people who share a characteristic and those who don't, and to foster good relations between people who share a characteristic and those who don't. All Committee documents can be found on the Buckingham Town Council's website. Alternatively, the Clerk can send you a copy of any minutes, reports, or other information. To do this, send a request using the contact details set out above.

To Committee Members:

Cllr. R. Ahmed	Vice Chair
Cllr. T. Allen	
Cllr. F. Davies	Town Mayor
Cllr. L. Draper	
Cllr. J. Harvey	

Cllr. A. Mahi	
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue	
Cllr. R. Poppe	
Cllr. R. Stuchbury	Chair

Buckingham Town Council
Town Centre and Events Committee
Tuesday 1st September 2026

Christmas Events Programme

Contact Officer: Town Clerk

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that Members agree the following:

- 1.1. To note the decision of the Parade Committee not to proceed with the 2026 Christmas Parade and to thank the Parade Committee and the volunteer marshals who have worked on the Parade over the past 40 years.
- 1.2. To agree that, as all Town Council staff already work at the Christmas Parade, there is no capacity to consider taking over the event at this stage.
- 1.3. To commit to spending the Christmas Parade budget on the Christmas events programme as detailed in Section 2 - Recommended Budget.
- 1.4. To agree to establish a town-wide consultation on the 2027 Christmas events programme. Alongside residents, the consultation will engage the town's businesses, to explore how the programme can better serve their needs. It will also canvas community groups, to establish what type of events they would most enjoy.
- 1.5. To establish a working group to explore all options and suggestions, and report back to this Committee in good time to plan the 2027 Christmas events programme.

2. Recommended Budget

- 2.1. The budget for the 2026 parade is £6,344. Options for using this are being explored, but it is late in the year and many premium activities are already booked up. It is therefore recommended that the Town Clerk be tasked to spend approximately £3,000 this Christmas, on the following indicative basis:
 - £1,000 on additional activities at the Christmas Lights Switch-On.
 - £1,200 towards Small Business Saturday and associated Christmas business promotion.
 - £800 on the Christmas Community Fair and other smaller Christmas activities.

- 2.2. This committee recommends to Full Council that any unspent funds (estimated to be around £3,344) be earmarked for Christmas next year and that there be no reductions to the 2027 Christmas events budget.

3. Background

- 3.1. Buckingham's Christmas Parade has been delivered through a partnership between the Town Council and the Parade Committee. The Committee has taken the decision not to proceed with the Parade in 2026. The Council respects that decision and wishes to record its thanks to the Committee, and to the volunteer marshals, for four decades of commitment to the town.
- 3.2. This year's change also presents a genuine opportunity to look afresh at how Buckingham celebrates Christmas in future years. Members are asked to agree a town-wide consultation, working with residents, businesses and community groups, to understand what they would most value from a future Christmas events programme.
- 3.3. A working group will be established to take this consultation forward, explore the full range of options and bring recommendations back to this Committee in good time to plan the 2027 programme. This is a positive opportunity to build a Christmas programme for Buckingham that reflects the wishes and needs of the community.