FULL COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of **The Full Council** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 21st September 2026 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

Present:	Cllr. F. Davies	Town Mayor
	Cllr. T. Allen	
	Cllr. J. Harvey	
	Cllr. H. Haydock	
	Cllr. A. Mahi	
	Cllr. H. Mordue	
	Cllr. J. Mordue	
	Cllr. Ruth Newell	
	Cllr. L. O'Donoghue	
	Cllr. R. Poppe	
	Cllr. S. Singh	
	Cllr. R. Stuchbury	
	Cllr. M. Try	
Also present:	Ms. C. Molyneux	Town Clerk
	Mrs. A. Benoy	Committee Administrator
	Ms. S. McMurtrie	Town Plan Officer
	Ms. Rebecca Birch	Gallagher Developments
	Mr. Tim Burden	Turley Planning
Absent:	Cllr. R. Ahmed	Deputy Mayor
	Cllr. R. Newall	
	Cllr. A. Schaefer	
	Cllr. L. Draper	

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

221/26 Apologies for absence

Members approved apologies from Cllr. Newall, reason number 7, Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, Seconded by Cllr. J. Mordue.
Members approved apologies from Cllr. Schaefer, reason number 7, Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, Seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue.
Members approved apologies from Cllr. Ahmed, reason number 6, Proposed by Cllr. J. Mordue, Seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue.
Members approved apologies from Cllr. Draper, reason number 6, Proposed by Cllr. Stuchbury, Seconded by Cllr. Mahi.

222/26 Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Try and Cllr. Mahi declared an Interest in the Community Centre and so will not be commenting on Cllr. Harvey's Motion in Item 14.
Cllr. Stuchbury noted that, as a member of the Central and North Buckinghamshire Planning Committee, he will not be commenting on the presentation from Gallagher Developments.

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223/26 Gallagher Developments

Members received a presentation from Gallagher Developments regarding Radclive Farm: Land South of the new Cemetery & Allotments. The presentation stated the following:

- The site is 15 hectares and not subject to any planning designations or constraints. It is located immediately west of the emerging development of Buckingham neighbourhood Plan Allocation HP3 and wider Buckinghamshire Local Plan draft allocation.
- The development provides an opportunity to connect with adjoining NP/eLP allocation and offers an immediate opportunity to help meet Buckingham's housing and infrastructure needs.
- The Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping submission PL/26/06618/EIASO is lodged with Buckinghamshire Council and awaiting a response.
- The proposal is for a residential development of up to 300 new homes with a variety of house types to reflect the identified need. 40% (120 homes) will be affordable housing with vehicular access from Radclive Road. Improvements for pedestrian and cycle infrastructure will be made with connections to the existing Public Rights of Way.
- The development will include public open space, including a children's play area and Sustainable Drainage Systems. The developer is keen to have discussions over the S106 contribution with the Town Council.
- 800 addresses have been sent pre application letters inviting comments, with 24 responses so far.
- The developer is going to meet Gawcott Parish Council in a few weeks' time and comments from the pre-applications consultation and EIA Scoping will also be considered.
- An outline planning application is expected to be submitted to Buckinghamshire Council during 2026.

Members' questions and comments included the following:

- Where will sewage go? Gallagher Developments confirmed they had had discussions with the water authority who confirmed that Sewage treatment work is due in late 2020s to upgrade the current provision. It is not known where Gawcott sewage goes at the moment.
- Further development will impact Buckingham with increased traffic.
- Biodiversity: what does this mean in practice? Gallagher Developments confirmed that it is now a legal requirement to demonstrate a 10% uplift on what is there at the moment.
- How will children cross the road to the leisure area? A traffic island is currently planned but a proper crossing with signals will be put in if the Council deem it necessary after a traffic audit. The developer is aware that the road is narrow and leads to an industrial estate, but they will put in place whatever is the standard requirement.
- A pre application request was submitted and the planning officer came on site in April, but there has been no contact since.
- The affordable housing is scattered through the development and will be unidentifiable.
- The housing mix has not yet been specified. This will be led by the Shire Council and what is required.

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- Gallagher have not yet had detailed discussions with fellow developers re the planned connectivity.
- Gallagher stated that they are not legally obliged to follow Buckingham Town's design code.

7.28 pm Ms. Birch and Mr. Burden left the meeting.

224/26 Minutes
Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed, Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded and Members **AGREED** the minutes of the Full Council meeting on 6th July 2026.
Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed, Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded and Members **AGREED** the minutes of the ASM held on 11th May 2026.

225/26 Interim minutes
Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed, Cllr. O Donoghue Seconded and Members **AGREED** the minutes of the Interim Council meeting on 17th August 2026.

226/26 Planning Committee
Cllr. Mordue Proposed, Cllr. Davies Seconded and Members **AGREED** to receive the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 15th June 2026 and 13th July 2026.

227/26 Town Centre and Events Committee
Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed and Members **AGREED** to receive the minutes of the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting held on 1st June 2026.
Cllr. Stuchbury thanked all those involved in the summer events.

228/26 Environment Committee
Cllr. Haydock Proposed and Members **AGREED** to receive the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 8th June 2026.

229/26 Resources Committee
Cllr. O'Donoghue Proposed and Members **AGREED** to receive the minutes of the Resources Committee meeting held on 22nd June 2026.

230/26 To receive and question reports from Buckinghamshire Council Councillors
Cllr. Stuchbury:
Cllr. Schaefer and Cllr. Stuchbury took a motion to Buckinghamshire Council seeking collaboration over the water transport project which will provide a linear means to prevent flooding. They will further present this at a select committee.
The Fire Authority has secured a training centre at Westcott. This will reduce costs by providing internal training and may generate income from external crews coming to train.
It has been agreed to implement the longstanding plan to spend £8 million on Wickham Fire Station and bring it up to standard.
Buckinghamshire Council have considered the new Governmental changes required to the planning process which may present challenges to planning committees going forward.
Cllr. Stuchbury asked a question about the exploitation of young people in Buckinghamshire and the Shire Council will be providing a training and briefing session to local Members on this issue.
Cllr. Mahi mentioned that Buckinghamshire Council have not put the correct parking times on the board in the car park outside Waitrose in Buckingham and users have been paying

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for parking after 7.00pm. Will they be refunded? Cllr. Stuchbury asked Cllr. Mahi to write to him about this and he would take it forward.

7.36pm Ms. S. McMurtrie left the chamber.

231/26 Reports from representatives on outside bodies

Members noted the updates listed below:

231/26.1. The Swan Practice has advised that the Lace Hill Medical Centre Forum no longer exists. Cllr Stuchbury: they had been consulting with the HASC and NHS England, which meant they were in a position to get the funding eventually through Bucks.

231/26.2. The Upper Ouse Water Management Board has advised that they have absorbed the River Ouzel Internal Drainage Board and that we are unable to nominate a representative as we are not a levy paying authority. However, Cllr. Haydock has been given a position on the Buckingham and River Ouzel Advisory Committee.

231/26.3 To note that Cllr. Allen has resigned as representative to Flood Action 4 Buckingham and to ask members to consider if they would like to stand for the position at the next meeting.

232/26 Financial Regulations

232/26.1 Members received a report from the Compliance and Projects Manager.

Members are recommended to agree to amend the Financial Regulations to add new Financial Regulation 13.9:

Fundraising by the Mayor for the Mayor's chosen charity or charities may include creating and operating an online fundraising page. Any such activity is wholly the responsibility of the Mayor and must be conducted in accordance with the terms and conditions of the platform used. Only platforms that remit donations directly to the chosen charity's bank account may be used, so that at no point do the funds form part of the funds of the council. For transparency, the Mayor will make available to the council, on request, all information relating to the online fundraising.

Cllr. Ruth Newell Proposed, Cllr. Stuchbury Seconded, and Members **AGREED** the recommendation.

ACTION: COMPLIANCE & PROJECTS MANAGER

233/26 Canal Society Request

Members noted the Canal Society's correspondence and decided to agree to its request that the template letter be sent to the MP.

Cllr. Harvey Proposed, Cllr. Ruth Newell Seconded and Members **AGREED** to send the template letter to the MP. **ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

234/26 Motion: Cllr. Harvey

Our Town Council has declared a Climate Emergency some years ago and we already have several policies and actions in place. 15 years ago, we agreed to put solar panels on the roof of the Community Centre to support the running of the centre as well as inspire townsfolk to consider adding such panels to their homes, businesses, and other properties they might own.

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Over the last 15 years, the effects of Climate Change have only increased and worsened. The film "National Emergency Briefing", recently screened in Buckingham as part of the Fringe, reaffirmed that we should all be taking action to prevent and mitigate the impacts of Climate Change.

It is now time to put the solar panels on the roof of the Community Centre!

This Town Council agrees, in principle, to use a portion of our reserves make this happen as soon as practicably possible, and the Town Clerk will be tasked to bring a report to a future meeting detailing a working strategy.

Cllr. Harvey spoke to the motion, explaining that in 2011 the Council agreed to put solar panels on the roof of this building and brackets have since been installed but it is time for further action to been taken. It is emblematic and shows that the Town Council supports alternative energy provision.

Cllr. Stuchbury wondered how the council would explain that they were going to fund a charity who use a building that the Council maintains and then partially supply them with their electricity at a cost to the public purse. How could this be financially justified? Cllr. Harvey wondered if it may be possible, at a future date, to find out how much money is being made from the panels and turn the reduction into rent but it was clarified that this would not be possible under the current terms of the lease.

Cllr. Haydock wished to add an amendment, Seconded by Cllr. O'Donoghue, suggesting awaiting the outcome of the first meeting of the Climate Emergency Action Group which meets in a few days. The Action Group is going to be looking at the Carbon Footprint of the Town Council and work out where the biggest sources of emissions are so that remedial action can be proposed. There is the potential for a sum of money to be applied for, but this would have to be by the group that runs the community centre, not the Council itself.

The S106 working group may also recommend these panels be something to be considered.

Cllr. Ruth Newell Seconded Cllr. Harvey's Motion.

There was considerable discussion as to the wording of the amendment, whether it was to delay the decision until after the Climate Emergency Action Group had met and therefore not pass the motion now. There was also unease over using the reserves. Cllr. Harvey withdrew the motion before a vote was taken.

235/26 Claimed Bridleway between Tingewick Road and A421

235/26.1 Members received a report from the Town Clerk.

Members are recommended to agree to accept the decision of the Definitive Map Officer that – "the Claimed Bridgeway between Tingewick Road and A421, Parish of Buckingham should be shown in the Definitive Map and Statement as a Public Footpath".

The Town Clerk explained the background to this report. Buckinghamshire Council claim there is no evidence of equestrian activity, therefore a bridleway could not be established. The Town Clerk further queried why, in

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that case, a restricted byway had not been considered and was advised that the available evidence did not support it and "the only status that could properly be recorded on the balance of probabilities was public footpath". The Town Clerk takes a different view and believes that there is potential to pursue this argument through a formal objection. However, a formal objection has the potential to considerably delay (or jeopardise) the Railway Walk project which would deliver significant benefits to the Town. The BC Officer has suggested that a footpath be created and then cycle way status be added later as a possible solution. Therefore, the recommendation is to make no formal objection and to accept the decision.

Cllr. Mordue Proposed, Cllr. Newell Seconded, and Members **AGREED** the recommendation.

236/26 Climate Emergency Action Plan

Members noted that the working group, raised by Council to recommend updates to the plan, has started its work.

237/26 Outsourcing of Waste Collections

Members received a letter from Buckinghamshire Council outlining the reasons behind the decision to move providers.

238/26 Action list

Members reviewed the action list.

239/26 Mayoral engagements

Members received a list of events attended by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

Functions the Mayor has attended:
09/07/26 University of Buckingham Graduation
16/07/26 University of Buckingham Major Incident Simulation
19/07/26 Young Carers Family Fun Day
21/07/26 Oxford Fiddle Group
22/07/26 Buckingham Society Summer Talk
23/07/26 Fringe Week Quiz
24/07/26 Peoples Emergency Briefing
26/07/26 Lace Hill Family Fun Day
25/08/26 Pontio
26/08/26 Marie Curie Coffee Morning Clarendon House
30/08/26 Bandjam
03/09/26 Merchant Navy Day
05/09/26 Dog Show
09/09/26 UOB Debate Society - Lord Peter Lilley
14/09/26 BMKALC AGM
16/09/26 National Institute of Health and Care Research Thames Valley ARC Launch event
17/09/26 Buckingham Primary School OPAL Award (outdoor play and learning)
18/09/26 Cemetery and Allotments Opening
20/09/26 River Rinse

Functions the Deputy Mayor has attended:
02/07/26 Allotment Judging Contest

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05/07/26 Beaconsfield Mayor Making and Civic Service
07/07/26 Buckingham in Bloom judging
09/07/26 University of Buckingham Graduation
11/07/26 Buckingham Primary Family Fun Day
19/07/26 YC2 Sumer Party
23/07/26 Fringe Week Nature Quiz
24/07/26 People's Emergency Briefing
15/08/26 Clarendon House Summer Fête
05/09/26 Discover Buckingham visiting businesses and African Drumming workshop
09/09/26 University of Buckingham, Debate Union with Lord Peter Lilley followed by dinner
12/09/26 University of Buckingham, InterLync Open Morning

The Mayor added that on 16 September she had attended a seminar on the research taken into different healthcare needs and how mental health and social care could work well together.

240/26 Chair's Announcements – for information only

Sergeant Kutner has been the Neighbourhood Police Sergeant for 7 years and is being moved to a different role. The Mayor noted thanks to Sergeant Kutner for enabling the supportive way the Council and the Police have been able to work together.

241/26 Dates of next meetings:

Interim Council: Monday 19th October 2026
Full Council: Monday 9th November 2026

Meeting closed at 8.27pm

Signed …… Date ……

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