Buckingham Town Council

Town Crier (Volunteer) – role responsibilities

About the role

The Town Crier is a voluntary role, acting as an official ceremonial ambassador for Buckingham. The role involves attending civic events, making public announcements, promoting local heritage and representing the Town Council at community occasions.

Do you enjoy meeting people, getting involved in the local community and being part of Buckingham's events and celebrations? We are looking for someone enthusiastic, friendly and confident to take on this traditional role and help celebrate important occasions, announce local events and represent our town with pride.

Main responsibilities

The role will include:

- Attending approximately eight Buckingham Town Council events each year, in addition to four daytime flag-raising ceremonies (10am). Events will include evenings, weekends and daytime commitments, so flexibility is required.
- Writing and delivering short, appropriate cries for the occasions attended.
- Helping promote Buckingham, its history and community.
- Representing the town with enthusiasm, dignity and pride.

There may also be opportunities to attend other community events throughout the year, subject to invitations and availability. A calendar of events will be provided at the beginning of each year.

What are we looking for?

We would like someone who:

- Has a genuine interest in Buckingham and its community.
- Enjoys meeting people and is comfortable speaking in public.
- Can project their voice clearly so announcements can be heard.
- Has, or is willing to develop, a good knowledge of Buckingham and its history.
- Can bring enthusiasm, personality and dignity to the role.
- Is happy to work with the Town Council to prepare announcements.
- Can commit to attending events at the various times outlined above.

Previous experience, specialist qualifications or a performing background are not necessary.

Uniform and equipment

The Council will provide the traditional Town Crier uniform and equipment, including a robe, tricorn hat and bell. These remain the property of Buckingham Town Council, which will arrange dry cleaning when required.

The traditional cry

Town Criers traditionally begin announcements with **"**Oyez, Oyez, Oyez!" and finish with "God Save the King!" The successful applicant will be expected to follow this tradition when delivering official cries on behalf of the Council.

All announcements must be appropriate for the occasion, non-political, non-religious and in keeping with the spirit of the role.

Appointment and expectations

The appointment will initially be for one year, with the opportunity for the Council to review the arrangement and offer a longer-term appointment. A named Council contact will provide support and help coordinate activities.

As a representative of Buckingham Town Council, the Town Crier is expected to:

- Treat everyone with courtesy and respect and remain politically impartial.
- Use the Town Crier title and uniform only for agreed activities.
- Behave in a way that reflects positively on Buckingham and the Council.
- Declare any interests or connections that could affect their ability to undertake the role impartially.

Any relationship with a Buckingham Town Councillor or Council employee must be declared as part of the application. This will not automatically prevent an appointment.

The Council reserves the right not to appoint where there are reasonable grounds to consider an applicant unsuitable for this public-facing role. An appointment may also be reviewed or ended if agreed commitments are repeatedly not met, serious conduct standards are breached or the title or uniform is misused.

Who can apply?

Everyone is welcome! Applicants must be aged 18 or over. You do not need to live in Buckingham, but should have a genuine interest in the town and its community.

We want our Town Crier to reflect the diversity and spirit of Buckingham.

Interested?

If you think you could be Buckingham's next Town Crier, we would love to hear from you!