

Minutes of a meeting of the **Town Centre and Events Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on **Monday 9th July 2012** in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr. T. Bloomfield - Vice Chairman
Cllr. H. Cadd
Cllr. P. Hirons
Cllr. A. Mahi
Cllr. H. Mordue
Cllr. Ms. Newell - Town Mayor
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue
Cllr. M. Smith
Cllr. R. Stuchbury - Chairman
Also attending Mrs. A. Brubaker Events Assistant
Mrs. K. McElligott

180/12 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins and Cllr. D. Isham.

181/12 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

182/12 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings held on Monday 21st May 2012 ratified at Full Council on 25th June 2012 were received and accepted.

183/12 Action List

183.1 (436/11) Licensing has been in touch with the trader; if they wish to attend an event they must ask. A request was in fact received the previous Friday asking permission to attend at the Torch relay. This line can therefore be deleted.

183.2 (62/12) MK Dons Big Day; the date has now been fixed (match against Swindon); this item to be put on the next agenda for an update from Cllr. Smith.

183.3 (54/12) May Day 2013 will be a school day. Cllr. Newell to liaise with Buckingham Primary School over the possibility of their attendance.

184/12 Markets

184.1 Report

Cllr. Bloomfield reported that there were no problems, and no arrears of rent; the Saturday market was fine, but more regulars on Tuesday would be good, as four of the stalls were casuals leading to occasional gaps.

184.2 To receive and discuss a letter from Tesco PLC head office.

Cllr. Bloomfield reported that there had been no Tesco lorry problems since the letter had been received.

185/12 May Day (budget 301/4216)

Members agreed that a Morris team be booked as soon as possible and that the event would be discussed again at the October meeting (see also 183.3, above).

ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT/OCTOBER AGENDA

186/12 Jubilee Weekend (budget code 304/4239)

186.1 The Events Assistant reported that the Church's Big Lunch had sold all 300 places. The bouncy castles had been delayed by bad weather elsewhere. The beacon had also gone well; the Twinning Association barbecue had sold out and Sean Allen of Bandjam had provided two bands.

Concern was expressed at the inadequate supervision of the bouncy castles, and it was agreed that if they were hired again, the order would specify adequate supervision and staffing, as the Events Assistant had had to help with packing them up. A credit on the rental resulting from the late arrival would have been put against the Fringe booking, but that event was cancelled because of the weather, and it had been carried over to a future occasion.

Cllr. Mordue left to chair another meeting.

The Chairman expressed the Committee's thanks to the staff for their work for the beacon, and to the Church for laying on the Big Lunch. Letters would be sent.

ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT

186.2 (840.2.1/11) Queens Portrait; acknowledgement from BCC.
Noted.

186.3 (840.2.2/11) Memory Book; update from the Events Assistant
Items were still being received periodically, though there was enough material to go ahead with. A quote for publication had been received but was too high for the budget.

It was decided to not set a closing date for entries until the autumn and to seek alternative quotes which would be brought to the next meeting, when quantities and price could also be agreed. As the book was of memories of Coronation Day, production for 2013 was appropriate.

ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT

187/12 Fringe Week

It was agreed that many events had seen a good attendance, especially the Oxford Fiddle Group, and the Assistant was asked to book them again for next year. The Comedy Night had been less successful than others (it coincided with Fathers Day) and the Jazz Night disappointing. The BandJam at the White Hart had been excellent. Feedback from the Blues Brothers had been positive and they would be pleased to return for another event. Cllr. Bloomfield was thanked for his help on the night.

The Events Assistant and Deputy Town Clerk were thanked for the amount of work they had put in, and Cllr. Mahi for his help with the Blues Brothers night.

ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT

188/12 Olympic Torch Relay

Members discussed the day's event. Cllr. Smith noted that there had only been three torchbearers despite up to five being advised, and that 17 coaches had arrived though only 10 were booked; that the road closure should have been put on earlier; and that parts of the route had been very thin on marshalls. He had also noted two Councillors spectating and felt they should have volunteered to help. The discipline exerted by the teaching staff on the London Road was praised. A lady had fainted near Gandertons and normal phone calls were impossible; it was thought that the network was busy with the amount of police traffic. There were no designated first aid points. Not all marshalls were conversant with the town or even their own whereabouts, which made redirection difficult.

Cllr. Stuchbury had received a complaint from a lady who had overstayed her parking time and been ticketed. If where and how long could be established, a letter would be sent to BCC.

The Mayor was disappointed that there had been no formal role for her as representative of the town, as had happened in other places. A letter would be sent to Mr. Barham as the local representative of LOCOG.

ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT

189/12 Youth Project

Cllr O'Donoghue gave a verbal report. The young people had worked well together, although communication with and between the two schools was atrocious. The drama was high quality; it may be possible to incorporate some of the schools' musical talent next year. The urns made for the drama were now displayed in the Library. It was suggested that the event could be incorporated in the Fringe and advertised in the Fringe brochure and Newsletter. Letters of thanks would be sent to the schools.

ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT

190/12 Buckingham in Bloom competition (301/4107)

The closing date had been extended to Sunday 15th July and judging would take place the week commencing 16th July. 11 entries had been received to date, well spread about the town. Cllr. Bloomfield had offered to donate rosettes and ribbons. When the judges (Cllrs. Newell, Bloomfield, Cadd and Mrs. Collins) had made their decision, a photo shoot would be arranged with the *Advertiser*.

ACTION CLLRS. NEWELL, BLOOMFIELD, CADD AND MRS COLLINS & EVENTS ASSISTANT

191/12 AddAction

Report on the multi-agency meeting held on Tuesday 3rd July 2012.

Cllr. O'Donoghue explained that the organisation involved the Police, Youth Service and Youth Workers, and its aim was to occupy young people to prevent bad behaviour and drug or alcohol abuse arising from boredom. An event organised at Easter had not been very successful as it had not been advertised. Much damage had been done to Chandos Park by vehicles due to the wet conditions.

Action had been generated by some trouble in the park last year, and meetings had been held since the autumn. There were no agendas or notes for these meetings and different agencies attended, some from south of the county where different conditions applied; the last meeting was attended by the Oasis Partnership, which was aimed at an older agegroup; Trading Standards had sent apologies. Members felt that Trading Standards would be better employed enforcing age limits at shops selling alcohol, and that the Community Police and NAGs were more suitable participants. Cllr. Smith expressed his intention of attending the next meeting, on behalf of the NAG.

An events programme for the summer had been outlined at the meeting and the Events Assistant had since received a leaflet indicating activities in Chandos Park, a barbecue with music in Cornwalls Meadow car park, youth night at 13 High Street and others. Permissions had not been requested for any of these venues, and some seemed inappropriate for the target agegroup. She had pointed out that, unless ground conditions improved, the activities planned for Chandos Park would not be possible, and the Town Council would require risk assessment and management plans. No-one seemed to have considered asking the young people what they would like laid on for the holidays.

Members felt continued attendance at the meetings was useful.

192/12 Harvest Fayre

Cllr. Newell reported that a date of Sunday 30th September had been set for the event, to take place in the Cattle Pens. Surplus produce grown locally would be available, and other exhibitors beside Transition Towns such as beekeepers and the Conservation Groups would be invited. A vintage apple press had been sourced. Some entertainment would be booked, and a sort of matchmaking service had been proposed to introduce people who were waiting for an allotment to residents with a garden they could no longer cope with. Applicant gardeners could be vetted by Transition Towns.

If the event was a success, it was hoped that Transition Towns would take on the entire organisation next year.

There would be an update at the August meeting.

ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT/AUGUST AGENDA

At the Chairman's suggestion item 15 was deferred to later in the meeting in case Cllr. Mordue returned.

193/12 Traders Association

To receive for information the minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2012
Members noted that the traders were looking to extend the free parking period to two hours. There has been a noticeable increase in trade since the machines have been out of order (since 29th May); comparison revenue figures have been requested. Cllr. Stuchbury reported that the cost of the solar-powered ticket machine proposed for the Swan Pool was £30,000.

Proposed by Cllr. Smith, seconded by Cllr. Stuchbury, and **RECOMMENDED** that this Council support the Buckingham Traders Association in its effort to secure two hours free parking in Buckingham.

It was agreed that the recommendation be taken to the Interim Council and, if ratified, immediately communicated to AVDC and the Traders Association.

194/12 Banners

Members discussed the multiplicity of banners tied to railings, which were detrimental to the appearance of the town centre.

It was decided that banners would only be accepted for organisations based in, or events occurring within, the town, and limited to one week, on the Old Cattle Pens and Old Gaol railings. The policy followed by the office in this matter would be added to the next agenda.

ACTION AUGUST AGENDA

195/12 Forthcoming Events

- 26th August Band Jam
- 16th Sept. River Rinse
- 7th October River Rinse
- 12th October Local Democracy Week event
- 13th October Charter Fair
- 20th October Charter Fair
- 3rd November Bonfire & Fireworks
- 11th November Remembrance Parade
- 24th November Christmas Lights Switch-on
- 15th December Christmas Parade & Community Fair

16th Feb 2013 MK Dons Big Day

Members asked that the dates of the Harvest Fayre and the FairTrade anniversary event (15th September), 10.00 – 12.00 at the Old Gaol, be added to the list.

A date in mid-March was yet to be settled for the Food and Drink event in the Community Centre. It would be aimed to have stall fees cover the hall hire so the event would be cost neutral.

196/12 Youth Council - minutes of the meeting held on 15th June 2012.
Noted.

Item 15 was taken next.

197/12 Christmas Parade

It appeared that there was some confusion over who was to supply marshalls; Cllr. Stuchbury would circulate the email to the rest of the Committee. Requests to contact the office and arrange a meeting date had been ignored; the Events Assistant would suggest two dates and email them to the Parade Committee, Cllrs. Stuchbury, Smith and Mordue to select a preferred date.

The agenda for the meeting should contain the Road Closure & marshalls, the budget, including revenue, expenditure and input/sponsorship in kind, the number and siting of warning signs and how soon they should be placed.

198/12 News releases

The usual releases about upcoming events would be sent out.

199/12 Chairman's Items

199.1 The Chairman mooted the taking of the mace to the forthcoming Antiques Roadshow event at Stowe. This would be useful promotion of the town, and the placing of the mace on show in the Old Gaol could be advertised. The Mayor disagreed: such matters were for Full Council to agree, not a Committee, and Interim fell after the filming day. Members also pointed out that the programme would be cut to suit the time slot, and any promotion could be lost.

199.2 Any Member of the Committee could propose items for the agenda: these should be submitted to the Chairman and the office.

199.3 The Mayor thanked all Members for supporting the FairTrade initiative; she had leaflets and stickers for anyone who wanted one.

199.4 Mr. Grimsdale had drawn the Chairman's attention to the Buckingham Pie; a raised pork pie made by Mr. Town whose shop was where the hairdresser is now, next to the Chantry Chapel; famous for supplying such pies to the 1851 Great exhibition. The information would be circulated.

ACTION EVENTS ASSISTANT

200/12 Date of the next meeting:

Tuesday 28th August 2012

Meeting closed at 8.55pm

Signed Date
Chairman