

Minutes of an **Interim Council Meeting** of Buckingham Town Council held at 7pm.  
on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2015** in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

Present: Cllr. Ms. J. Bates  
Cllr. T. Bloomfield  
Cllr. M. Cole  
Cllr. Mrs. G. Collins  
Cllr. P. Collins  
Cllr. J. Harvey  
Cllr. P. Hirons Deputy Mayor  
Cllr. A. Mahi Mayor  
Cllr. Ms. R. Newell  
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue  
Cllr. J. Quayle  
Cllr. M. Smith  
Cllr. Mrs. C. Strain-Clark  
Cllr. M. Try

Also Present: Mr C. Wayman Town Clerk  
Mrs. C. Bolton Committee Clerk  
Invited Guests: Mr. A. Birch Hallam  
Mr. P. Boileau Hallam

#### **265/15 Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Isham, Mordue and Stuchbury.

#### **266/15 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.  
Cllr Bloomfield declared a prejudicial interest in item 7, Community Centre roof.

*Members **AGREED** to suspend standing orders to allow the invited guests to speak*

#### **267/15 Hallam**

To receive representatives to give a presentation on Site G and H.  
Mr Birch spoke to inform Members of the latest situation with Hallam's application. The formal planning application was submitted to AVDC to which the Town Council had commented opposed the application. Mr Birch stated that Hallam had since addressed a number of the comments in writing, some matters had been dealt with as part of the planning process and a further technical note had been submitted to AVDC in support of the application. In summary the proposed site was for 400 dwellings, (not 450 as originally proposed), a buffer strip of shrubbery and landscaping was proposed adjacent to Tingewick Rd to protect the view to the Church, 48% of the site would be green infrastructure (gardens, parkland). Hallam intended to commit to 35% affordable housing, connectivity to Railway walk was also confirmed (subject to AVDC's approval). Three LEAPS (local equipment area of play) had been included in the site plans with the intention to upgrade one to a NEAP (neighbourhood equipment area of play). It was also Hallam's intention to involve the Town Council far more in S106 discussions for the benefit of the town. No objections had been received from formal consultees though Buckinghamshire County Highways department had yet to comment. Mr Birch felt that the proposals respected the strategies of the neighbourhood plan.

Mr Boileau spoke with regard to the site flood risk, drainage, highways and transport. The developers had been in discussion with County Highways since 2011. Three points of access were proposed, two onto Tingewick Rd and one priority junction to the north, a new roundabout on the A421. With the site being less than 1km to the town centre it was intended to encourage people to use public transport, walk or cycle into the town – comprehensive proposals were with County highways.

A flood risk assessment had been prepared; the site lies in flood zone 1 – a low risk area. Consideration had been made for both storm water drainage and flooding. Drainage was being addressed with Anglian Water as some considerable changes to infrastructure would be required.

In closing Mr Boileau addressed Mr Walker in the public gallery and said that he felt confident that Mr Walker's concern about site access points could be addressed by moving them 50/60 metres.

Members made comment/asked the following questions with replies in italics:

Please ensure a pedestrian crossing at the town centre end of the site, it was not currently possible to get to the town without crossing Tingewick Rd.

*We are waiting to hear from AVDC and County Highways, but yes in principle that is possible.*

Due to the concentrated proposals for development on Tingewick Rd and surrounding areas it would surely make sense for Transport for Buckingham and all interested developers to get together and discuss ways of integrating their proposals.

*We would be happy to be involved in such meetings, and do consider other growth areas as part of the transport assessment submitted.*

It is highly likely that most of the children living on the proposed sites would be driven to schools in the town, and unlikely cars would use the bypass and would travel down Bath Lane, Mitre St or Hunter St. What has been done or can be done to mitigate those problems?

Would you consider a 20mph speed limit on the development?

*Although we agree with your comments we have no authority to implement traffic flow changes – that has to come from County Highways. Bath St flows are overall very low and will remain below the capacity of the road even once the development is complete. We can look at traffic re-routing but don't expect any major changes.*

Public transport – it is extremely difficult for buses to negotiate Cannon's corner at present how will buses get to the site?

*County Highways will be looking for a contribution and it is likely that monies will be pooled with other developers to provide appropriate bus services for all.*

Mr Birch and Boileau were thanked for their presentation.

Members **AGREED** to reinstate Standing Orders

## 268/15 Buckingham Neighbourhood Plan

To discuss and agree promotional material for the Referendum on September 17th (leaflets and/or a banner are suggested)

The Town Clerk reported he had worked on a press release to advertise the referendum, and suggested a mailshot to all householders and banners to publicise the event.

Members discussed how to promote the referendum and whether the Buckingham Society could help.

Members **AGREED** to delegate authority to the Mayor and Chair of the Planning Committee for expenditure in line with appropriate publicity.

**269/15 Public Toilets**

To discuss and agree whether to take on the Shop mobility building and the way forward

The Town Clerk reported on a recent telephone call from AVDC regarding the proposal for the Town Council to take on and develop the shop mobility site and include public toilets. An approximate cost to run shop mobility was £12,000 per annum. The Town Clerk would be meeting with Healthmatic shortly to look at prospective drawings.

Members were full supportive of the proposal and **AGREED** the Town Clerk proceed with proposals immediately.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**270/15 Red Cross Centre**

To receive and discuss a report from the Town Clerk

The Town Clerk reported the possibility of another party's interest in the site. He would be meeting with officers from the County Council at the end of the week to discuss the potential for the Town Council to take over the building. The Town Clerk had been to look inside the existing layout and although some extensive re-modelling may be required it could be possible to accommodate the office, chamber and rental space in the building.

Members thanked the Town Clerk for his report and **AGREED** that he push forward with the project and report back as soon as possible.

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

**271/15 Community Centre**

To discuss a report and agree a price to repair the roof

Members **AGREED** the recommendation.

**272/15 Town Action Commission**

To appoint a chair and two deputies of the commission

Councillor Smith proposed Councillor Harvey as Chair and Councillors Quayle and O'Donoghue as Vice Chairs.

**AGREED**

**273/15 Chair's Announcements**

The Mayor informed Members for information that the Deputy Town Clerk had resigned and the recruiting process was underway, with a plan to appoint a replacement in early September.

**274/15 Dates of next meetings**

Full Council	Monday 17th August 2015
Interim Council	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2015

Meeting closed at 8pm

**Signed** ..... **Date** .....