

**E/06/23**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Environment Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Cornwall's Meadow, Buckingham.

**Present:** Cllr. F. Davies Chair  
Cllr. L. Draper  
Cllr. M Gateley  
Cllr. J. Harvey  
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue  
Cllr. A. Ralph  
Cllr. R. Stuchbury

**Also present:** Mr. L. Phillips Estates Manager  
Ms. C. Molyneux Town Clerk  
Ms. P. Cahill Committee Clerk  
Cllr. H. Mordue  
Member of public

**Absent:** Cllr. R. Ahmed  
Cllr. A. Schaefer  
Cllr. R. Willett

**Public session**

A Member of public attended on behalf of Buckingham Twinning Association which has been running a Boules festival in the Cattle Market for several years to celebrate Bastille Day. Setting up and clearing away takes quite some time and it would be great to have a permanent Boules Court in Buckingham, perhaps in Chandos Park. A standard court is 4m x 15m and will need to be contained and have a gravel/sand/crushed shell base.

The Chair explained that as this is not an agenda item, it cannot be discussed specifically at this meeting.

The Town Clerk noted that Chandos Park does flood so that location may not work; they will make contact to discuss this further and a report can be brought to a future Environment Committee meeting.

**ACTION TOWN CLERK**

The Member of public and Cllr. H. Mordue left the meeting at 7:07pm.

**746/23 Apologies for Absence**

Members received apologies for absence from Cllr. Schaefer and Cllr. Willett.

**747/23 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**748/23 Minutes**

Members agreed the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

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*PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY 2010/CRIME AND DISORDER ACT, 1988: the decisions made during the course of the meeting were duly considered and it was decided that there were no resulting direct or indirect implications in respect of crime and disorder, or equalities considerations, other than those stated in the minutes.*

Initial .....

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### **749/23 Budgets**

Members received the latest figures and noted that these are not the final end of year figures as payments are still being processed.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the consideration of s106 money is the remit of the Planning Committee and Full Council and stressed that the s106 car park money was not lost by Buckingham Town Council. If relevant the Town Clerk will undertake a discussion with the Chair of this Committee.

The Town Clerk apologised: the second cemetery lodge income (258) should be cemetery lodge expenditure.

### **750/23 Lost Property Policy review**

Members received a report from the Estates Administrator.

It is recommended that Members note this report and agree to review the policy in three years and then triennially

Cllr. Gateley informed Members that hearing aids found can be taken to Specsavers and should not be destroyed.

Cllr. Harvey Proposed, Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation.

### **751/23 Happy to Talk Bench**

Members received a report from the Estates Administrator.

It is recommended that Members note the report and instruct officers to approach Buckinghamshire Council regarding the bench at the below location (opposite Heartland's Park on Cornwall's Meadow riverside walk).

Members agreed that this is a good location. Cllr. Harvey asked if a second bench could be located in Chandos Park.

The Town Clerk confirmed that we will speak to Buckinghamshire Council and look at an additional bench and plaque. A report will be brought to a future meeting.

**ACTION ESTATES MANAGER**

Cllr. Harvey Proposed, Cllr. O'Donoghue Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation.

### **752/23 Interactive trail – request from Buckinghamshire Council**

Members received a report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

1.1. Members agree to give Buckinghamshire Council permission to use Bourton and Chandos Park as a trail location for their public health Love Exploring app.

1.2. Members agree to support promotion of the app through the town, including a limited number of posters and banners.

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Initial .....

Cllr. O’Donoghue Proposed, Cllr. Harvey Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

**753/23 Climate Emergency Action Plan**

Members received and noted updates to the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

**754/23 Action report**

Members received the report and note the updated information.

619/23 Cllr. Gateley requested that the action list is updated to show that the motion was for ‘no idle’ zones.

Cllr. Stuchbury is in discussion with Buckinghamshire Council and Villiers Hotel regarding the Town Council taking ownership of the benches previously located outside the Old Town Hall.

**755/23 Brackley Road Cemetery**

755/23.1 Handbook annual update - Members received a report from the Estates Manager.

It is recommended that Members agree the following amendments to the Brackley Road Cemetery Handbook.

Section no.	Addition or Change	Reason/details/Notes
3.1	That the pre-purchase of burial plots is currently suspended	Amended for clarity
3.1.2.	Re-purchase of un-used burial plots	If the owner of a Deed of Grant (Exclusive Right of Burial) decides that they do not wish to use an unused burial plot the Town Council may (but is not obliged to) re-purchase the burial plot from the owner
3.7	Change latest winter burial time from 3:00 to 2:30pm	Latest burial time in winter needs to be 2:30pm - so back fill can be completed safely in daylight
4.1	Size of memorial base and level of foundation slab	Update and clarify memorial requirements
4.7	Temporary Markers are allowed for up to a year not 6 months	For clarity and to allow for longer as memorials can take longer to obtain
App. C	Updated Fees	Updated fees agreed at Oct 2023 meeting

Cllr. Harvey Proposed, Cllr. Gateley Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation.

755/23.2 Commonwealth War Graves Commission Tours – to receive a report from the Estates Administrator.

It is recommended that Members note the report and agree for the office to work with Mr Champman and The CWGC to initiate a programme of tours at Brackley Rd Cemetery.

Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed, Cllr. Harvey Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** the recommendation.

755/23.3 Memorial Safety Inspections Ext1 – Members received and noted a report from the Estates Administrator.

**756/23 News releases**

There were none.

**757/23 Chair’s announcements**

The Chair drew Members attention to the email forwarded by the Town Clerk regarding the Great Ouse pollution incident.

**758/23 Date of next meeting:** Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

**COMMITTEE IN PRIVATE SESSION**

**Exclusion of public and press**

**RECOMMENDED** In terms of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters and it is, therefore, **RECOMMENDED** that pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded. Members unanimously **AGREED**.

**759/23 Railway Walk**

Members received a verbal update from the Town Clerk.  
The Chair thanked the Town Clerk and Members for their work on this.

Meeting closed at 8:08pm.

Chair ..... Date .....