

**TCE/02/24**

Minutes of a meeting of the **Town Centre and Events Committee** of Buckingham Town Council held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber at Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham

**Present:**

Cllr. R. Ahmed	
Cllr. F. Davies	Vice Chair
Cllr. L. Draper	
Cllr. J Harvey	
Cllr. A. Mahi	
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue	
Cllr. A. Schaefer	Town Mayor
Cllr. R. Stuchbury	Chair

**Also attending:**

Mr. S Beech	Compliance and Projects Manager
Ms. S. Hoareau	Town Centre & External Services Manager
Ms. P. Cahill	Committee Clerk

**Absent:** Cllr. R. Willett

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

#### **171/24 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Willett.

#### **172/24 Declarations of interest**

There were none.

#### **173/24 Minutes**

Members agreed the minutes of the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024.

#### **174/24 Review of training needs**

Members noted that relevant courses and training opportunities are circulated to Members throughout the year and that any requests for training may be made to the Town Clerk.

Cllr. Draper arrived at 7:04pm.

Cllr. Harvey Proposed that we recommend to Full Council that a small group reviews the training policy and, as part of this, possibly include having Councillors' training needs identified.

The Compliance and Projects Manager advised that the Training Policy is owned by the Resources Committee and was last updated in November 2022; the agenda item is to remind Members that training opportunities are circulated to all Councillors.

Members **AGREED** that the Town Centre and Events Committee expressed a desire that the Resources Committee consider reviewing the Training Policy before the May 2025 elections.

**175/24 Budget**

Members received and noted the latest budget figures.

Members noted the explanatory sheet and thanked the Finance Officer.

Members thanked the Market Manager and the Tourist Information Centre for their excellent work.

**176/24 Forthcoming events**

176/24.1 Local Democracy Week

Members received a report from the Estates Administrator.

It is recommended that Members note the report and agree who should be invited to Chair the event.

Cllr. Harvey Proposed inviting the MP or the Mayor to chair the event. Cllr. Draper Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

**ACTION ESTATES ADMINISTRATOR**

176/24.2 River Rinses

Members received and noted a report from the Estates Administrator.

176/24.3 BandJam

Members received a verbal update and noted a report from the Town Centre & External Services Manager.

Members **AGREED** that a payment to the BandJam organiser to cover upfront expenses may be made prior to the event.

Members thanked the organisers and the Officer for organising this and **AGREED** to a post event press release.

Cllr. Davies noted that Verdetto Lounge should be included when sending letters prior to the event (report 3.3).

**ACTION TOWN CENTRE & EXTERNAL SERVICES MANAGER**

176/24.4 Dog Show

Members received a verbal update and noted a report from the Town Centre & External Services Manager.

Members thanked Officers and **AGREED** that the required budget changes can be made.

## 177/24 Calendar of Events

Members noted amendments and updates to the current calendar of events.

## 178/24 Event reviews

### 178/24.1 Celebrate Buckingham

Members received a verbal update and noted a report from the Town Centre & External Services Manager.

### 178/24.2 Buckingham Live

Members received a verbal update and a report from the Town Centre & External Services Manager.

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Town Council continue supporting Buckingham Live, as it provides a platform for local talent and gives residents an opportunity to come together and experience enjoyable events that they might otherwise miss the chance to experience.
- 1.2 It is recommended that Members agree to holding Buckingham Live at the Football Club in 2025.
- 1.3 It is recommended that a review of the memo of understanding for Buckingham Live be updated and reviewed by Committee before next year's event.

Members thanked the Town Centre & External Facilities Manager for their work.

Cllr. Davies informed Members that she had received concerns, prior to the event, regarding accessibility issues at the venue but was unaware of any reports on the day. A large mobility scooter was available for free hire on the day.

Members suggested that the underspend for the event could be moved to the Dog Show. The Town Centre & External Facilities Manager requested that the underspend is used to purchase new gazebos which will benefit all events. Proposed by Cllr. Ahmed, Seconded by Cllr. Davies and Members unanimously **AGREED**.

Cllr. Harvey noted that toilet facilities at that end of the park would be beneficial. Cllr. Stuchbury suggested that this may be considered from s106 funding.

Members raised the following points:

- Difficulties for families to attend an event before noon as many participate in Saturday morning clubs.
- There were more people there from the start.
- There were some issues caused by food traders parking across disabled spaces.

- The venue provided a nice, safe space for families; this meant that people stayed longer.

The Town Centre & External Facilities Manager advised that at the follow up meeting, car parking issues were discussed, and plans are being made to improve this. The Football Club are happy to host the event again; Buckingham Live would be happy with the same venue.

Members expressed their thanks to organisers and Officers and unanimously **AGREED** the recommendations.

178/24.3 Buckingham In Bloom  
Members received and noted a report from the Estates Administrator.

The Larder Café have invited judges and winners to attend a small ceremony.

Members thanked judges and Officers for their time.

**179/24 Access**

Members considered sharing and publicising a letter from Colostomy UK with local businesses and others, as appropriate.

Members were supportive, and unanimously **AGREED** that a review of Buckingham Town Council's accessible toilet facilities is undertaken and referred to the Environment Committee for discussion, prior to sharing and publicising the letter.

**ACTION ESTATES MANAGER**

**180/24 Action list**

Members received action reports and updates.

Cllr. Draper expressed disappointment that Buckinghamshire Council have refused to waive the fee for the skatepark event.

Cllr. Schaefer informed Members that safety railings have now been installed behind the skate park.

**181/24 Updates from representatives on outside bodies**

Members noted that the car park hours and price increases have been approved by Buckinghamshire Council. Cllr. Harvey had requested data from Buckinghamshire Council on Buckingham car parks but was told that no data specific to Buckingham car parks was available.

The Bucks Home Choice Allocation will have an impact on Buckingham residents. The Compliance and Projects Manager confirmed that this is already under consideration as part of the draft Neighbourhood Plan work.

**182/24 News releases**

Future press release: Access - Stoma facilities.

**183/24 Chair's items**

The Chair thanked Members for their contributions in the meeting.

**184/24 Date of the next meeting:** Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Meeting closed at 8:34pm

Signed ..... Date .....

DRAFT