

Minutes of an **Interim Council Meeting** of Buckingham Town Council held at 7pm on Monday 14th October 2024 in the Council Chamber, Cornwalls Meadow, Buckingham.

Present:

Cllr. R. Ahmed	
Cllr. M. Cole JP	
Cllr. F. Davies	Vice Chair
Cllr. L. Draper	
Cllr. M. Gateley	
Cllr. J. Harvey	
Cllr. A. Mahi	
Cllr. H. Mordue	
Cllr. J. Mordue	
Cllr. L. O'Donoghue	
Cllr. A. Osibogun	
Cllr. A. Ralph	
Cllr. A. Schaefer	Town Mayor/Chair
Cllr. R. Stuchbury	

Also present:

Ms. C. Molyneux	Town Clerk
Ms. P. Cahill	Committee Clerk
Cllr. P. Hardcastle	Maids Moreton Parish Council
Mrs. K. McElligott	Planning Clerk
Mrs. C. Cumming	Buckingham Society

Absent:

Cllr. G. Collins
Cllr. M. Try

Public session

Cllr. Hardcastle, Vice-Chair of Maids Moreton Parish Council, spoke to the Council about the application from David Wilson Homes for a Variation of Planning Condition 13. The applicant wants to eliminate the first paragraph; this has a link to Condition 1 which states that no work should start until wastewater capacity is checked. They would like to remove this; they want to start building which would mean that Anglian Water would then be legally required to accommodate their sewage. Maids Moreton Parish Council object strongly to this and have put in a firm objection. Anglian Water have been transparent – they do not have capacity and need to go to Ofwat to get their strategic plan approved. A copy of the objection has been sent to the Chair of the Planning Committee.

Cllr. Hardcastle confirmed that he believes Foscott Parish Meeting are also making an objection.

310/24 Apologies for absence

Members received apologies for absence from Cllr. Try.

311/24 Declarations of interest

There were none.

312/24 Co-option of Town Councillor

Members received a report from the Compliance and Projects Manager.

IM/02/24

It is recommended that Members agree the process for co-option as detailed in section 3 of the report.

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

313/24 Motion: Cllr. Harvey

"This Council requests that the Shire Council suspends parking charges on Remembrance Sunday to facilitate those attending to park easily, as in previous years. We hope that the Shire Council will do this to honour the fallen."

Cllr. Harvey has submitted a petition to the Shire Council requesting that parking is free on Remembrance Sunday across the whole County. He was informed today that the Full Shire Council will not sit until the end of November which will be too late. Cllr. Gateley said that it should still be submitted to the Full Shire Council to establish the principle of free parking on Remembrance Sunday.

Cllr. Osibogun Seconded the Motion.

Cllr. Harvey requested a recorded vote. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: Cllr. Ahmed, Cllr. Cole, Cllr. Davies, Cllr. Draper, Cllr. Gateley, Cllr. Harvey, Cllr. Mahi, Cllr. H. Mordue, Cllr. J. Mordue, Cllr. O'Donoghue, Cllr. Osibogun, Cllr. Ralph, Cllr. Schaefer and Cllr. Stuchbury.

Against: 0

Abstention: 0

ACTION TOWN CLERK

314/24 Motion: Cllr. Stuchbury

It has become apparent after the recent flooding events, and the concerns expressed by constituents at the Town Centre and Events Committee meeting, that there are significant issues with highways and flooding within Buckingham. The Town Council is the representative voice for constituents and the proposed Motion aims to raise their concerns.

It is Proposed that this Town Council seeks an urgent meeting with Buckinghamshire Council Highways Team at senior level, to discuss both long-term and short-term strategies for addressing highway maintenance and flooding, in line with current legislation ([Land Drainage Act 1991](#)).

Buckingham Town Council also calls for improved planning, in line with current legislation ([casework article](#)), regarding infrastructure and drainage, including sewage, before development is undertaken and seeks a meeting with Buckinghamshire Council Planning Team.

Cllr. Draper Seconded the Motion.

Members raised the following points:

- Buckinghamshire Council are currently running a consultation, a flooding survey to help the Council to understand how the recent flooding has impacted the local community.
- Not all flooding is a result of poor drainage.
- Riverbank flooding is an Environment Agency issue.

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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.....

IM/02/24

- Some flooding is an Anglian Water issue.
- Buckinghamshire Council’s responsibility is to help to mitigate the situation by creating culverts, clearing drains, and providing sandbags.
- Western Avenue flooding is caused by water not soaking into the drains.
- In Adams Close a family had sewage going into their house from the flooding.
- Residents of Meadway described water rising up two courses of bricks then it quickly went away. This suggests a blockage.
- In Nelson Street the area technician told a resident that the culvert under the street had collapsed.
- The Town Council cannot just wait and see what happens next time – we must act now on behalf of the residents.
- Buckinghamshire Council is responsible for the drains.
- It would be helpful for Buckingham Town Council to have a representative on the Buckingham and River Ouzel Internal Drainage Board.
- The area of water behind Meadway is the responsibility of the riparian owner - one owner is Buckinghamshire Council.
- A resident of Mitre Street was informed, more than a year ago, that the drain has collapsed – this is a Highways drain.

Cllr. Stuchbury requested a recorded vote. A vote was taken, and the result was:

For: Cllr. Ahmed, Cllr. Cole, Cllr. Davies, Cllr. Draper, Cllr. Gateley, Cllr. Harvey, Cllr. Mahi, Cllr. J. Mordue, Cllr. O’Donoghue, Cllr. Ralph, Cllr. Schaefer and Cllr. Stuchbury.

Against: 0

Abstention: Cllr. A. Osibogun and Cllr. H. Mordue.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

315/24 New cemetery

Members discussed who should be invited to the Cemetery “Breaking Ground photograph” which will take place at 11am on Tuesday, 22nd October 2024.

Cllr. Stuchbury Proposed, Cllr. O’Donoghue Seconded and Members unanimously **AGREED** to invite all Councillors who were part of the Town Council from the start of the project.

ACTION TOWN CLERK

316/24 Chair’s announcements

If Councillors are available to assist with the road closure on Friday for the Charter Fair, please let the office know.

317/24 Date of next meetings:

Full Council: Monday 4th November 2024

Interim Council: Monday 2nd December 2024

Meeting closed at 7:50pm

Signed Date