



AYLESBURY
TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Communities Committee held on
Wednesday 14 December 2022, in the Council Chamber, Aylesbury Town Hall,
5 Church Street, Aylesbury HP20 2QP at 7pm**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7pm.

In the Chair: Cllr Tim Dixon

Present: Cllr S Bateman Cllr T Hunter-Watts
Cllr D Summers Cllr M Willis

Officers: Ruth Mayhew (Senior Communities and Events Officer, Committee Clerk),
Siobhan Collins (Events Officer)

1. Apologies for absence

To receive and accept apologies of absence from Town Councillors.

Resolved: To accept apologies from Cllr A Christensen (prior commitment), Cllr P Koya (illness), Cllr N Mehta (illness - substituted by Cllr T Hunter-Watts), G Wadhwa (illness)

2. Declarations of interest

No declarations of interest were raised.

3. Minutes

Resolved: The committee unanimously agreed to accept and sign the minutes of 27 September, 2022 as a true record.

7:01 Cllr D Summers joined the meeting

4. Matters arising

The Senior Communities and Events Officer updated councillors on the following:

The planned redevelopment works in Market Square and Kingsbury, by Buckinghamshire Council, have been delayed. This means the 2023 St George's Day Historical Fayre and Parade can take place in the desired format, of daytime

activities taking place at Discover Bucks Museum and a large parade of Scouts and uniformed youth into and around Market Square.

Following concerns of anti-social behaviour at Parklife Weekend, officers have discussed and confirmed with Thames Valley Police that a Dispersal Order will be implemented across the park for the duration of the event, which will enable trained security and police to evict persons from the park, if deemed necessary.

The Chairman suspended the Standing Orders at 7:04pm to allow questions from the public and any reports from the councillors.

There being no members of the public present or reports from councillors, The Chairman resumed the Standing Orders at 7:04pm

5. Heritage Open Days

The committee reviewed and discussed the event evaluation supplied. The lack of take up from local businesses was acknowledged, despite officer's work to engage with, and support local businesses with the national campaign. Cllr Bateman suggested approaching the Blue Leanie and will assist with this in '23.

No additional questions or concerns were raised.

6. Festival of Light

The committee reviewed and discussed the event evaluation supplied by the event organiser. Observations were made on the costs involved in relation to the number of attendees and how this on-going event is funded primarily from grants and if this can be sustained.

No additional questions or concerns were raised.

7. Youth Town Council

Senior Communities and Events Officer provided a verbal report, with information provided by the Communities Officer, about the work of the Youth Town Council, including - which schools are part of YTC; new terms, commitment agreement and interview process, which is leading to an increase of members; £219 raised for Bucks Mind; YTC will be supporting the annual Mayors charity going forward; YTC attendance at a number of community, charity and civic events.

Cllr Dixon reported on the objectives he proposed to the YTC, as Mayor, at a recent meeting, with the desire to increase engagement from YTC which aims to identify gaps in services available to young people in the town.

No questions or concerns were raised.

8. St George's Day event

Councillors reviewed and agreed the proposed budget and event format, stating that it was good value for money.

No questions or concerns were raised.

9. Coronation of King Charles III

Councillors discussed options for the format of an event to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III on 6/7 May '23.

Cllr Dixon proposed and Cllr Summers seconded, to provide a two day entertainment roadshow, which will follow the same format of previous roadshows.

Resolved: The committee unanimously agreed to the above proposal.

Cllr Dixon requested that all councillors be encouraged to attend the independent parties within their wards, as they are a wonderful opportunity to engage with residents. Officers to ensure the confirmed locations are circulated in a timely manner.

10. Revision of Walking Play Date

Councillors discussed the proposed revised dates for the Walking Plays to 14/15 October, due to the original date being on the same weekend as Eurovision (held in UK) and the weekend following the coronation.

Cllr Hunter-Watts proposed and Cllr Bateman seconded, to hold the Walking Play on 14 and 15 October, '23.

Resolved: The committee unanimously agreed to the above proposal.

11. Headline act for Live in the Park 2023

Councillors received details of five potential acts to headline Live in the Park '23 from officers. Councillors didn't provide any further suggestions. Discussion took place to the merits of each of the bands proposed. The councillors present provided their top two choices, to create an ordered short list.

Cllr Willis proposed and Cllr Bateman seconded, for officers to approach, in the agreed order, the three agreed bands to check their availability and costs, then to book accordingly. Officers to complete the line-up with a variety and balance of appropriate local artists to appeal to the event's diverse audience.

Resolved: Councillors present unanimously agreed to the above proposal.

12. WhizzFizzFest 2023

Councillors discussed at length the proposal supplied by Buckinghamshire Council, which sees a change in the event format and requests partnership working with Aylesbury Town Council and two other towns, to deliver one of three events, which will be part of multiple elements of the new cross-county format.

A number of questions and concerns were raised including budget allocated, event branding and perception, impact on other events, along with staffing and volunteer implications.

Cllr Bateman proposed and Cllr Willis seconded, for officers to contact Buckinghamshire Council requesting further information and clarification on the points raised by councillors present, due to concerns over the content of the proposal submitted. Officers to report to the Chairman and Town Clerk on how to proceed following the response.

Resolved: Councillors present unanimously agreed to the above proposal.

13. Budget

The committee reviewed the current budgetary position to October 2022 (month 7). Councillors did not raise any concerns.

14. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 7 February 2023 at 7pm.

15. Reserved items

Cllr Hunter-Watts proposed and Cllr Summers seconded, to pass a motion that under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (section 2) (and as extended by section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information.

Resolved: The committee unanimously agreed to the above proposal.

16. Aylesbury Town Matters printing

Councillors reviewed the quotes received for printing the magazine in '23.

Cllr Willis proposed and Cllr Dixon seconded, to accept the quote provided by Pelican Print.

Resolved: The committee unanimously agreed to the above proposal.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8:27pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Chairman