



AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 10 JUNE 2021, IN THE QUARRENDON AND MEADOWCROFT COMMUNITY CENTRE, 147 MEADOWCROFT, AYLESBURY, AT 7.00 pm

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7.00 pm.

In the Chair: Cllr Anders Christiansen (Town Mayor)

Present:

M. Azam	S. Bateman	M. Baldwin
T. Dixon	T. Hunter-Watts	N. Hussain
T. Hussain	C. Hendren	R. Khan
P. Koya	R. King	S. Lambert
R. Lloyd	S. Morgan	A. Morgan
N. Mehta	W. Raja	A. Sherwell
D. Summers	D. Thompson	G. Wadhwa
M. Willis	M. Winn	

Officers: Mr Keith Gray (Town Clerk)
Mr Mark Broughton (Deputy Town Clerk)

Three members of the public

The Town Mayor opened the meeting at 7 p.m. and welcomed all present.

1 APOLOGIES

To receive and accept apologies of absence from Town Councillors.

RESOLVED: To accept apologies from Cllr S Chapple (family commitment), Cllr W Raja (prior commitment) and Cllr S Lambert (work commitments).

2. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor notified members that Lt Col. John Williams (Retired) MBE TD had passed away. The Mayor thanked him for his work that he did on behalf of the Armed Service's for our town, in particular our Uniformed Youth and for his support of the Town Council, and he had sent his condolences to the family.

3. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Leader drew attention to the Councillor Training event at the Jonathan Page Play Centre to be held on Saturday 19th June and encouraged especially

new members to attend. He also urged members to complete and return their Councillor Profile forms to Sue Carpenter in the office. The Leader had recently attended an Active Travel Scheme meeting at Bucks Council where Aylesbury had been selected and would be taken forward, including improved cycle routes on the A413. The Leader advised all members that HS2 information is regularly uploaded to the ATC website and it contained a broad spectrum of data for residents. Finally, the Leader announced that long-serving ATC Town Hall caretaker Tony Miller had recently retired and he thanked him for his service and wished him well for the future.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any pecuniary or non-pecuniary declarations of interest
Cllr Sherwell declared a personal interest in Item 10, as a director of Aylesbury FC.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED: To agree as a correct record the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 20 May 2021 (Pages 5-9).

6. MATTERS ARISING ON THE MINUTES

To receive a report from the Clerk on additional matters not on the agenda, if applicable. The Town Clerk raised no matters.

7. COMMITTEE MINUTES AND CHAIRMEN'S REPORTS

To take Minutes "as read" and to note/accept Minutes accordingly

i) Planning & Licensing Committee - Cllr M Willis

a) To receive any important updates from the Chairman following the meeting held on 7 June 2021

ii) Policy Committee - Cllr R Lloyd

a) To note the next meeting will be held on 21 July 2021.

iii) Direct Services - Cllr W Raja

a) To receive any important updates from the Chairman following the meeting held on 9 June 2021

iv) Communities Committee - Cllr T Dixon

a) To receive any important updates from the Chairman following the meeting held on 8 June 2021

v) Grants Committee - Cllr Mrs S Morgan

a) To note the next meeting will be held on 23 June 2021

vi) Finance Committee - Cllr A Christensen

a) To note the next meeting will be held on 16 June 2021.

8. FINANCIAL

- a) To accept the Cost Centre Budget Monitoring Report to Month 1 (April 2021) (Pages 10-25)
- b) Cash Books for Month 1 (April 2021) (Pages 26-32)

Councillors are asked to send any questions to officers and/or Cllr Christensen, Chairman of the Finance Committee before the meeting so that any necessary information may be gathered.

Members noted the above two reports.

- c) To receive and approve 1) the Final Update Internal Audit Report for 2020/21 and 2) the Internal Audit Governance Report 2020/21, Sections 1 and 2 (Pages 33-38)

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Willis, seconded by Cllr Baldwin and on being put to the vote carried unanimously that the Final Update Internal Audit Report for 2020/21 and the Internal Audit Governance Report 2020/21, Sections 1 and 2 (Pages 33-38) be duly approved and signed by the Chairman and the Clerk.

9. LOCALISM AGENDA

To discuss, consider and agree that the Town Council continues the dialogue with Buckinghamshire Council for the transfer of assets and services to the Town Council. List of the potential assets and services (pages 39-40) and comparative data for other Bucks town and parish councils who have taken on such services (page 41).

The Leader outlined the work done so far in advancing the localism agenda and highlighted the scope of inter-authority working between the Town Council and the unitary council. He referred to two documents which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting indicating, firstly, the Council's expression of interest in taking on a range of services and assets and secondly data illustrating those services which other Bucks town councils had taken on compared to Aylesbury Town Council. The Leader reminded members that the Town Council had taken on services at lower cost than previously delivered by the former Bucks County Council/Aylesbury Vale DC, for example the Jonathan Page Play Centre and the grounds maintenance Service Level Agreement. He noted that sports pitches in the town were lacking and hiring fees were significantly higher in Aylesbury than in Wycombe, for example.

Opening the matter for debate, councillors drew attention to a wide variety of factors such as the historic context pre AVDC, the need to look closely at costs before any progress on selecting assets and services for transfer, and to examine sports pitches availability generally.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Sherwell, seconded by Cllr Koya and on being put to the vote with 17 For, 0 Against and 2 Abstentions, agreed that the Town Council continues the dialogue with Buckinghamshire Council for the transfer of assets and services to the Town Council.

[Cllr Sherwell left the meeting at 7.31 pm]

10. COMMUNITY HUB/STADIUM FOR AYLESBURY

To consider and agree that Cllr Lloyd and the Town Clerk continue to pursue the proposal, by the Town Council, that a community hub/stadium be built for the town.

That they continue to liaise with the Ernest Cook Trust, HS2 and all relevant partners and stakeholders to identify suitable land and space for this project. The Leader introduced this item and referred to the prior motion to Council in 2019. A new community facility could be transformative, and discussions had been held in relation to a possible site at Fairford Leys with the Ernest Cooke Trust and HS2. Stakeholders were on board and the next step would be to commission a feasibility study which would also indicate a likely financial cost for the project.

Members were receptive to the project in principle, subject to having full financial information and the Town Clerk reminded members that Council would make the final decision. A member asked about which sports might be accommodated within the project but at this stage the level of detail had not been specifically looked into, though the Leader indicated that perhaps a modestly graded football stadium with an accompanying indoor facility may be a good aspiration but that ultimately a public consultation exercise would need to be held.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Lloyd, seconded by Cllr A Morgan and on being out to the vote carried unanimously that the Leader and the Town Clerk continue to pursue the proposal, by the Town Council, that a community hub/stadium be built for the town and also that they continue to liaise with the Ernest Cook Trust, HS2 and all relevant partners and stakeholders to identify suitable land and space for this project.

[Cllr Sherwell rejoined the meeting at 7.41 pm]

11. TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION

To consider and agree that the Town Council continue to be represented at the Town Centre Steering Group by the Town Clerk on all matters relating to the regeneration of Market Square and Kingsbury.

The Town Council is updated and consulted on matters relating to the design and have supported the proposed changes and designs. Work progresses on the plans for the work to start. Following three stages of stakeholder engagement, the design is at an advanced stage in preparation for submission to planning.

The Leader reminded members that information on the proposed designs had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Steering Group has an officer-led governance model and the Town Clerk represents the Town Council on this Group. The appropriate cabinet member at Bucks Council has executive authority for decision-making.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Bateman, seconded by Cllr Baldwin and on being put to the vote carried unanimously that the Town Council continue to be represented at the Town Centre Steering Group by the Town Clerk on all matters relating to the regeneration of Market Square and Kingsbury.

12. DEVOLVED SERVICES

To consider and agree that the Town Council continues to be part of the Devolved Services Partnership Agreement with Buckinghamshire Council in maintaining land and carrying out various services for residents on land owned by the Unitary Council.

That the Town Council continues to be the “Cluster Lead” for this work, carrying out services for the following parish councils: Aston Clinton, Weston Turville, Bierton with Broughton, Coldharbour, Dinton with Ford & Upton and Stoke Mandeville.

The Leader highlighted the benefits to the Town Council of being the “Cluster Lead” and urged members to continue to support this approach.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Dixon, seconded by Cllr Willis and on being put to the vote carried unanimously that the Town Council continues to be part of the Devolved Services Partnership Agreement with Buckinghamshire Council in maintaining land and carrying out various services for residents on land owned by the Unitary Council and that the Town Council continues to be the “Cluster Lead” for this work, carrying out services for the following parish councils: Aston Clinton, Weston Turville, Bierton with Broughton, Coldharbour, Dinton with Ford & Upton and Stoke Mandeville.

13. CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES QUESTION TIME

Planning and Licensing - No questions

Policy - No questions

Communities Committee

Cllr S Morgan drew attention to the fact that the Town Council was 20 years old this year and asked whether there were any celebrations planned to mark this momentous occasion. Cllr Dixon confirmed in response that to mark the 20-year milestone, a market stall event would be held on 31 July and he encouraged as many members as possible to make themselves available to attend the stall throughout the day from 9 am to 2 pm.

Direct Services - No questions

Grants - No questions

Finance - No questions

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the next meeting will be held on Thursday 8 July 2021 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP

There being no further business of the Council, the Town Mayor closed the meeting at 7.48 pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Appendix A

AYLESBURY TOWN COUNCIL **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS 2021/2022**

Policy – 11 Members

	(Leader, Chairman & Vice-Chairman of Committees)
Richard Lloyd	Leader of the Council
Mark Willis	Chairman of Planning & Licensing Committee
Anders Christensen	Mayor & Chairman of Finance Committee
Tim Dixon	Chairman of Communities Committee
Waheed Raja	Chairman of Direct Services Committee
Susan Morgan	Chairman of Grants Committee
	Vice-Chairman of Finance Committee
	Vice-Chairman of Direct Services Committee
	Vice-Chairman of Grants Committee
	Vice-Chairman of Communities Committee
	Vice-Chairman of Planning & Licensing Committee

Finance – 7 Members

Anders Christensen (CH)	Richard Lloyd	Phanindar Koya
Alan Sherwell	Nidhi Mehta	Tim Dixon
Roger King		

Planning & Licensing – 9 Members

Mark Willis (CH)	Tom Hunter-Watts	Chris Hendren
Tim Dixon	Alan Sherwell	Mohammed Azam
Denise Summers	Gurinder Wadhwa	David Thompson

Direct Services – 9 Members

Waheed Raja (CH)	Steven Lambert	Niknam Hussain
Chris Hendren	Mohammed Azam	Ashley Morgan
Mark Winn	Richard Lloyd	Roger King

Communities – 9 Members

Tim Dixon CH)	Sherilyn Bateman	Nidhi Mehta
Ashley Morgan	Gurinder Wadhwa	Phanindar Koya
Denise Summers	Mark Willis	David Thompson

Grants – 7 Members

Susan Morgan (CH)	Mary Baldwin	Raj Khan
Tuffail Hussain	Mark Willis	Sherilyn Bateman
Sue Chapple		

Substitutes can be arranged for all committee meetings, except the Policy Committee.

Outside Bodies

- Aylesbury Community Board Alan Sherwell
- Aylesbury Garden Town Board Richard Lloyd & Town Clerk
- William Harding Charity Sherilyn Bateman
- Town Centre Partnership Sherilyn Bateman
- Freight Strategy Group Mark Willis
- Elizabeth Eman Charity Nidhi Mehta
- Aylesbury Multicultural Centre Denise Summers
- Town Twinning Committee Gurinder Wadhwa & Chris Hendren
- Arla Tom Hunter-Watts
- Armed Forces Champion Denise Summers