



**AYLESBURY**  
TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Council Meeting called for Thursday 12 October 2023,  
in the Council Chamber, Aylesbury Town Hall, 5 Church Street, Aylesbury,  
HP20 2QP at 7pm**

**Present**

**In the Chair:** In the absence of the Town Mayor, it was agreed that the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Alan Sherwell, chair the meeting

**Councillors**

M. Azam	M. Baldwin	S. Bateman	S. Chapple
T. Dixon	T. Hussain	R. Khan	R. King
R. Lloyd	N. Mehta	W. Raja	D. Thompson <sup>8</sup>

**Officers:** Keith Gray, JP (Town Clerk)  
Judith Priest (Deputy Town Clerk)

No Members of the public in attendance

The Deputy Mayor called the meeting to order at 7pm.

**1. Apologies of Absence**

Cllr S Lambert - (Mayoral engagement), Cllr A Christensen (family commitment), Cllr C Hendren (illness), Cllr T Hunter-Watts (family commitment), Cllr P Koya (prior commitment), Cllr A Morgan (prior commitment), Cllr S Morgan (prior commitment), Cllr D Summers (Armed Forces Ambassador engagement), Cllr G Wadhwa (illness), Cllr M Willis (work commitment), Cllr M Winn (illness)

**Resolved:** To unanimously agree that the above apologies be received and accepted.

**2. Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor's engagements for the month of September were issued to councillors in advance of the meeting. These included visits to Lindengate, Armed Forces Cadets, Mayor of High Wycombe Service and many more.

The Deputy Town Mayor added that the Mayor's charity Youth Concern is in line for a grant from Heart of Bucks and encouraged members to vote for them as they are the Mayor's charity via the Heart of Bucks website.

### **3. Leader's Announcements**

The Leader, Cllr Lloyd, thanked Mrs B Lasoye for her service and work at the council, as she is moving on to pastures new.

Cllr Willis is holding a Race Night in aid of Diabetes UK on 4 November and the Leader encourages Members of the Council to attend.

Cllr Lloyd will be attending the Parish Liaison meeting on 25 October 2023 which follows the BC Highways Stakeholder Conference on the same day. He will be submitting question in advance about Devolved Services contract renewal and the Buckinghamshire Playing Pitch Strategy.

On 6 November the Garden Town Oversight Board will be meeting which the Leader will be attending

Cllr Lloyd was asked by several members of the council as well as statements on social media to provide information in relation to Buckingham Town Council's plans for a new cemetery provision within their Parish and how this was different to Aylesbury Town Council's current plans for the Tring Road Cemetery extension

At present the new provision, for Buckingham Town Council, is still under consultation and subject to successful purchase of the land:

- Buckingham Town Council are proposing to spend £1.25m on the new provision that will provide 746 new burial plots.
- Aylesbury Town Council's new provision at Tring Road will provide 2097 new burial plots at a fraction of the cost, as Aylesbury Town Council already own the land, have planning permission for it and have the ancillary services such as car parking already in place.
- The area of Buckingham Town Council is approximately 50% rural and therefore the council has significantly more scope to address the need within their Parish than Aylesbury which has no rural element.
- Aylesbury has been surrounded with new Parishes and will have a number of further new, significant, housing developments built on its boundaries over the coming decades putting pressure on all services. At present no new cemeteries provision is planned for any of these developments.
- The Tring Road cemetery extension has been planned since 1934 when the Council at the time recognised that that provision would be required. This plan will realise nearly 3 times the number of burial plots that Buckingham Town Council are proposing.

### **4. Declarations of Interest & Requests for Dispensation**

To declare and note any personal or prejudicial interests, and to declare and note any pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests or requests for dispensation.

No declarations made and no dispensations requested.

## 5. Minutes

**Resolved:** To unanimously agree as a correct record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 14 September 2023.

## 6. Matters arising on the Minutes

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

## 7. Committee Minutes and Chairmen's Reports

**Resolved:** Unanimously agreed, to take Minutes "as read" and to note/accept Minutes listed below.

- i) **Planning & Licensing Committee - Cllr M Willis**
  - a) To receive the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11 September 2023.
  - b) To receive the draft minutes of the meeting held on Monday 25 September 2023.
  - c) To receive any important updates from the meeting held on Monday 9 October 2023.
- ii) **Policy Committee - Cllr R Lloyd**
  - a) To note that the next meeting will take place on Wednesday 25 October 2023.
- iii) **Direct Services - Cllr W Raja**
  - a) To receive draft minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13 September 2023.
- iv) **Communities Committee - Cllr T Dixon**
  - a) To receive draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26 September 2023.

Cllr T Dixon thanked officer B Lasoye for her work and dedication and service to the council and wished her all the best for the future.
- v) **Grants Committee - Cllr S Morgan**
  - a) To note that the next meeting will take place on Wednesday 18 October 2023.
- vi) **Finance Committee - Cllr A Christensen**
  - a) To receive draft minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27 September 2023.

## 8. Financial

- a) To accept the Cost Centre Budget Monitoring Report to Month 5 (August 2023)
- b) Cash Books for Month 5 (August 2023)

No questions were asked, and comments made regarding the financial report councillors received in advance of the meeting.

**Resolved:** The council unanimously accept the Cost Centre Budget Monitoring Reports August 2023 (month 5) and Cash Books for August 2023 (month 5).

## 9. Outside Bodies Report

To receive verbal reports from Outside Body representatives.

### **Cllr S Bateman, William Harding Trust**

Queens Park Arts Centre made a bid for a grant, to update the centre and link the two buildings, which the Trust has agreed.

Councillors are encouraged to advise organisations and residents of the grant opportunities with the trust.

The trust gives grants for coach trips to community groups.

No further reports from Outside Body representatives were received.

## 10. Committees Question Time

- i) **Planning & Licensing Committee**  
No questions

- ii) **Policy Committee** - Cllr R Lloyd  
No questions

- iii) **Direct Services** - Cllr W Raja  
Cllr R Lloyd commended the outdoor maintenance team on the work carried out during the recent months especially with the adverse weather conditions.

Cllr R Khan and Cllr M Baldwin thanked Cllr Raja and Lloyd for their engagement and work relating to the additional work requirements and responsibilities of the Direct Services Committee during the last few months.

- iv) **Communities Committee** - Cllr T Dixon  
Cllr Baldwin asked if all arrangements are in place for the Christmas Lights. The Town Clerk confirmed that all arrangements are in place and installation will start week commencing 16 October.

- v) **Grants Committee** - Cllr S Bateman  
No questions

- vi) **Finance Committee** - Cllr A Sherwell  
No questions

**11. External Audit**

To receive the External Auditor's Report 2022-23 and note that there are no further matters for consideration.

Councillors thanked officers for their work and for ensuring that the audit passed.

**Resolved:** The council unanimously accepted the external auditor's report for 2022-23 and had no further comments or questions.

**12. Date Of Next Meeting**

To note the next meeting of the Council, will be held on Thursday 14 December 2023 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP.

To note that the Mayor's Remembrance Service will take place on Thursday 9 November 2023 at 7:30pm at St Mary's Church, Aylesbury.

*The meeting closed at 7:21pm*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Mayor