

**Minutes of the Meeting of Bury St Edmunds Town Council,
held at the Guildhall, Bury St Edmunds, on Wednesday 22 February 2023 at 7pm**

Present: Cllrs Thompson (Town Mayor), Augustine, Bouché, Chung, Everitt, Higgins, Hind, Iannelli-Popham, Murray, Rayner, Sayer, Stamp and Whittingham.

Also present: Greg Luton (Town Clerk), Jacqueline Howells (Responsible Financial Officer/Assistant Town Clerk), Julie Sturgeon (Allotment and Administrative Officer), PCSO Mark Ellis, plus representatives from the Bury St Edmunds Round Table, Bury in Bloom, the British Legion, together with two members of public.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Waterman and Rout.
Cllrs Parker and Turner were absent, but no apologies were received.

2. To receive declarations of interest and additions to registers

All District Councillors declared: *'That I may vote differently at District or County Council level from that recorded at this meeting'*. Cllrs Augustine, Chung, Everitt, Hind, Rayner, Stamp and Thompson declared a local non-pecuniary interest as District Councillors.
Cllrs Chung, Sayer and Whittingham declared that they are members of the Bury in Bloom committee.

3. To consider written applications by a member for dispensation, from the restrictions in section 31(4) of the Localism Act 2011 and specify the period for which any dispensation has effect

None.

4. To confirm, adopt and sign the minutes of the 25 January 2023 meeting of the Council
Resolution Record No. **BSETC/84/22/Feb/23:**

That the Minutes of the meeting of 25 January 2023 be agreed and signed, as an accurate record.

5. To confirm, adopt and sign the Private & Confidential minutes of the 25 January 2023 meeting of the Council

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/85/22/Feb/23:**

That the Private and Confidential Minutes of the meeting of 25 January 2023 be agreed and signed, as an accurate record.

6. Public Forum

David Irvine presented details regarding the proposed Coronation Crown project being developed by Bury in Bloom. Representatives from the Round Table and the British Legion attended the meeting and requested that they be permitted to speak on their respective projects later in the meeting.

The Mayor proposed that agenda Item 10 be brought forward to Item 7.

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/86/22/Feb/23:**

That agenda Item 10 – to discuss a funding request by the Bury St Edmunds Round Table to undertake Coronation activities in May 2023 – be moved to agenda Item 7.

7. To consider a funding request by the Bury St Edmunds Round Table to undertake Coronation activities in May 2023 for the benefit of local residents

Representatives from Bury St Edmunds Round Table advised Councillors that due to time factors, cost restraints and shortage of volunteers, they would not be able to organise an event for the Coronation in May 2023 on a scale as first proposed. The Round Table had not had sufficient time to present a detailed budget for the proposed event, however they acknowledged that it is important for Bury St Edmunds to hold a public event befitting this historic Coronation event.

The Town Clerk advised that the Town Council has a budget line for Community projects which could be used to help local organisations organise events. Councillors agreed that it was important for Bury St Edmunds to have a public event to celebrate the Coronation but expressed concerns about the short notice in agreeing to support the Round Table with funding particularly as they had not provided a detailed budget or outline plans.

The Round Table then proposed that they organise a public picnic event in the Abbey Gardens on Sunday 7th May. The plans would need to be finalised, but they were confident that an event could be arranged. The Mayor put forward a proposal that up to £20,000 be awarded as grant funding to the Bury St Edmunds Round Table to organise a free public event in Abbey Gardens on Sunday 7th May 2023. In addition to this, he proposed that local community groups with an existing management committee and constitution be invited to apply for Grant Funding of up to £2,000 in order to organise Coronation events in their local community, using the Town Council Grant policy criteria

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/87/22/Feb/23:**

RESOLVED that under the Power of the Local Government Act 1972, s.145 up to £40,000 be provided for local Coronation events in the town. Community groups who can meet a revised Grant policy criteria would be eligible to apply for grant up to £2,000.

Included in this overall sum the Round Table could be awarded up to £20,000 if they can provide a fully costed proposal by 10th March.

Due to the short period available for applications the Clerk was awarded delegated powers to authorise payment of applications that met the criteria.

8. To note the Clerk's report

The Town Clerk reported that Local Elections will be taking place on 4th May 2023 and the pre-election period will commence on 22nd March 2023. Details regarding pre-election procedures will be circulated when they are received. Financial Year-end is approaching which will mean that officers will be busy preparing accounts for the end of year audit. The problem with muntjac deer on the allotments is still an issue and three specialist companies are working with the Town Clerk in order to come up with a possible solution.

9. To note the Responsible Financial Officer's report

The RFO presented the financial report which was noted.

10. To note the PCSO's verbal report

PCSO Mark Ellis confirmed that the town remains quiet, although five dispersal orders have been issued in the McDonalds/Brentgovel area of the town centre. He reiterated that any specific items should be reported to the Town Clerk for onward passing to the PCSOs.

11. To consider Grant application from Bury in Bloom for 'Coronation Crown' floral display project

Representatives from Bury in Bloom put forward proposals for a 'Coronation Crown' floral display to be erected in Crown Street to celebrate the Kings Coronation in May. The temporary display would be in place until autumn when the structure will be moved and re-used again in the future.

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/88/22/Feb/23:**

RESOLVED that under the Power of the Local Government Act 1972, s144 Bury in Bloom be awarded grant funding of £5480.00 to create a 'Coronation Crown' floral display to celebrate the King's Coronation in May 2023.

12. To approve the payments list for January 2023

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/89/22/Feb/23:**

RESOLVED that the payments list for January 2023 be APPROVED

13. To receive the report and adopt the recommendations of the following Planning, Licensing and Finance committee meetings:

13.1 25 January 2023

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/90/22/Feb/23:**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning, Licensing and Finance meeting of 25 January 2023 be **ADOPTED** and signed.

13.2 08 February 2023

Resolution Record No. **BSETC/91/22/Feb/23:**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning, Licensing and Finance meeting of 22 February 2023 be **ADOPTED** and signed.

14. Date of next meeting

Date of next meeting: **Wednesday 22 March 2023.**

The meeting ended at 8.15 pm.

Signed: _____ Dated _____