

BUCKFASTLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Town Council Meeting** held in the Council Chamber on **Wednesday 10th October 2007 at 7.30 pm.**

Present: Councillors:- P.Clarke, A. Armstrong, C. Millman, C. Mitchell, S. Mitchell, D. Rudgley and the Town Clerk.

Also in attendance Cllr. S. Barker

Press: Did not attend

Part 1. (Open to the Public)

07/102. **Questions raised by the Public:** One member of the public for grant presentation.

07/103. **New Town Councillor Enrolment:**
The Chairman welcomed Cllr. D. Rudgley to the Town Council.

07/104. **Questions raised by the Public:** None.

07/105. **Grant Awards Presentation:**
A Section 137 award was presented by the Mayor of Buckfastleigh to the following recipient:-

a) Buckfastleigh & District Society – £250.00

07/106. **Police Report:** 12.09.07 – 10.10.07 PC A. Hooper reported a 40% decrease in crime figures for Buckfastleigh according to a recent public meeting and 23% for the whole area. PC Hooper also confirmed that there had been a good response to the Partners in Community Together (PACT) survey with a total of 389 properties surveyed on the doorstep and replies received. The results of this survey are as follows:-

48.5% of the people surveyed feel safe in Buckfastleigh.
16% traffic related issues e.g. parking problems and speeding
12% alcohol
3% violence
5% vehicle crime
8% criminal damage
11.5% lack of facilities
2.5% burglaries
6% drugs
18% anti-social behaviour
2.5% other
15.5% no concerns

PC Hooper explained that a further survey will be carried out at a later date to

re-assess if the above issues remain the same or have changed. Particular note was made concerning the indiscriminate parking problems in Jordan Street which are causing obstructions to passing traffic.

07/107. **Apologies:** P. Hedges, D. Joint, D. Merkel & M. Tolchard.

07/108. **Declarations of Interest:** None

07/109. **Items requiring Urgent Attention :** None

07/110. To approve as a correct record and sign the minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the 12th September, 2007. Approved and signed.

07/111. To receive the minutes of the Highways & Planning Committee meetings held on the 3rd October 2007 .

07/112. To receive the minutes of the Finance Committee held on the 19th September 2007. Enclosed.

To resolve the following recommendations from Minute Nos: 07/56 2007/08 Budget Adjustments and 07/57 IT Access for the Town Clerk.
All Members in favour.

07/113. **Resolution that Finance Committee Meetings are held every fourth Wednesday of each month and not to be held on the fifth Wednesday where there are five Wednesdays in one month with effect from October 2007.**

Motion carried with effect from October 2007 by all Members.

07/114. **Representation on the Buckfastleigh Town Plan ‘Bugs’ Group by the Town Council – request for two new representatives:**

Following discussion it was agreed that D. Rudgley & A. Armstrong represent the Town Council at this group.

07/115. **Chairman’s Announcements:**

The Chairman advised Members that the Caretaker who is due to retire in June 2008 would like to continue for an indefinite period, but give 6 months notice to allow the Town Clerk the opportunity to employ two new part-time caretakers. Noted.

07/116. **Clerk’s Announcements:** None

07/117. **Correspondence:**

Teignbridge Strategic Partnership – Building Bridges workshop on 18.10.07.
Noted.

07/118. **Reports from other meetings attended by Members:**

P. Clarke had attended a Teignbridge Strategic Partnership meeting, but would discuss this further once the notes of this meeting had been received.

A. Armstrong advised that she had attended a Teignbridge Association of

Local Councils meeting which had proved to be very useful. The Police gave a presentation about the Neighbourhood Improvement Plan and advised that Devon & Cornwall have the lowest level of crime in the UK.

Issues such as affordable housing, Community Land Trust advice, travellers sites and planning were also discussed.

P. Clarke & A. Armstrong had also attended the Police Liaison Authority Meeting held in the Primary School on the 8th October 2007. The Police representatives explained that they are concentrating on neighbourhood policing, but are responsible for a 300 sq. mile area. The Police also have a dedicated crime investigation team and victim care team.

A Community Action Day will take place on 1st November, 2007 which has been organised by the Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership. This will involve the Police, the Fire Service, Teign Housing and Teignbridge District Council going door to door giving out information on crime prevention, fire safety, etc. Other services from the District Council Cleansing Department will also be there to provide such services as rubbish collection, graffiti removal etc. Police also advised more officers will be on duty from Halloween to Bonfire Night as this is usually a busy period.

07/119. Reports from working parties attended by Members: None.

07/120. Items requiring Urgent Attention: None