

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday, 18th July 2012 at 9.15 pm in the Town Hall

PRESENT:

Cllr. G. Wilson (Chairman)
Cllrs. Adams, Connolly, Hale, Shering & (A) Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllr P Anstey
Ms K Mason, Town Clerk

1. To receive apologies for absence

There were apologies from Cllr Price.

2. To receive any declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2012 and report any matters arising

It was proposed by Cllr (A) Wilson and seconded by Cllr Hale that the minutes of the meeting held on the 16th May 2012 be signed as a true record. All in favour, Carried.

There were no matters arising.

4. To receive any matters raised by Members of the Public

No members of the public present.

5. To discuss changes to Committee Terms of Reference

It was proposed by Cllr Connolly and seconded by Cllr Hale that the Committee take care and control of the Memorial Bungalow and this be put forward as a recommendation to the next Finance & Policy Committee. All in favour, Carried.

6. To report on Matters concerning St Mary's Closed Churchyard and Stuckton Road Cemetery

Cllr (G) Wilson advised members that some new graves in Stuckton Road Cemetery were flouting the regulations concerning grave adornments. These are limited to a gravestone and single flower urn. Some graves were using wooden trellis to demarcate the edges of the grave and placing wire cages to prevent rabbits eating floral tributes. The Chairman and Clerk to assess the problem and report back to the next meeting.

Standing Orders were suspended.

7. To report on matters relating to Council buildings

Refurbishment of Council Chamber – the carpet and curtain quotes are still being sought.

The Chairman asked Cllr Anstey about the purchase of a loft ladder to access the clock tower. Cllr Anstey suggested that loft ladder companies look at the position of the proposed loft ladder in situ to recommend the safest ladder. The Clerk to arrange.

It was requested that the Cleaner regularly clean the outside of the Town Hall (ground floor level).

It was AGREED to go ahead with the flooring quote of £494.21 to re-varnish the Main Hall floor.

Memorial Bungalow – The Clerk advised that the first quote for repair of the chimney and loft timbers was more than double the budget of £500 set aside for maintenance of the bungalow. It was AGREED to request and increase of budget from Finance & Policy Committee at the next meeting on 25th July.

8. To report on any matters concerning Footpaths

Proposal to upgrade the footpath by St Marys Church for pedestrians – the Clerk advised that a letter had been sent to St Mary's PCC who had acknowledged it and advised that the proposal would have to be sent to Salisbury Diocese for consideration by their Estates Dept.

Footpath between Godshill & Fordingbridge: update on progress – HCC are still to carry out the feasibility study. The Clerk to chase.

9. To report any matters concerning Highways

Nothing to report.

10. To report any matters concerning Allotments

No matters to report.

11. To note any items of correspondence

Memorial stone information – a request had been made to include a deceased person on a headstone who was not buried in the grave (the deceased son of the occupant). Members AGREED this could take place.

Obelisk – A letter has been sent from the Fordingbridge Society to Cllr Edward Heron asking to transfer ownership of the obelisk from HCC to Fordingbridge Town Council. Ownership of the monument has not yet been established. Members of the Committee requested that this be discussed by General Council at the next meeting.

12. To receive a report from the Clerk or any other relevant business

Nothing to report.

13. To note the date of the next meeting as the 19th September 2012.

The meeting ended at 9.55 pm