

## FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Annual General Council meeting held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015 in the Town Hall

(Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Committee)

#### **Present:**

Cllr Connolly – Chairman

Cllrs Adams, Price, Lewendon, Paton, Anstey, Fulford, (G) Wilson, (A) Wilson, Earth, Hale & Perkins

#### **In Attendance:**

Mrs H Richards, Town Clerk

Cllr R Bellows, New Forest DC

#### **1. To elect the Town Mayor for the forthcoming year**

Cllr (G) Wilson proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Anstey and therefore

**RESOLVED:** that Cllr Connolly be elected as Town Mayor for the forthcoming year. All present voted in favour.

#### **2. To elect the Deputy Mayor for the forthcoming year**

Cllr (G) Wilson proposed and it was seconded by Cllr (A) Wilson and therefore

**RESOLVED:** that Cllr Anstey be elected as Deputy Mayor for the forthcoming year. All present voted in favour.

*Cllr Paton entered the meeting.*

#### **3. To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr E Heron, Hampshire CC and Cllr A Sevier, New Forest DC.

#### **4. To receive any declarations of interest**

No declarations received.

#### **5. To receive any matters raised by members of the public**

No members of the public present.

#### **6. To confirm the Minutes of the General Council meeting held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 and report any matters arising.**

Cllr Lewendon proposed and Cllr Anstey seconded and it was therefore

**RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 be signed as a true record.

### MATTERS ARISING

Minute No 4 – Burgate School Transport – Cllr Connolly confirmed that the Town Council would write to David Stannard at New Forest District Council concerning the scheme implemented and future plans. Cllr Lewendon raised concern over the safety of pupils who have to cross the road as their bus drops off and picks up on the opposite side of the road – traffic island needed to increase safety.

Minute No.9 - Discussion regarding parking enforcement – only in car park and not on highways. Cllr Bellows to contact Mr Hurd at New Forest DC to request more enforcement. Discussion also took place regarding the new parking restrictions in Provost Street which are not being enforced (evening patrols required). Hazard now created. Cllr Connolly reminded members that the situation would be reviewed after 6 months and no changes could be made before then.

A request was made for the Clerk to clarify police attendance at Town Council meetings and generally within the town.

### **7. Review of delegation arrangements to committee, sub-committees, employees and other local authorities.**

Item deferred to Finance & Policy Committee on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

### **8. To elect membership of the following Committees**

- Amenities Committee (5 + Chairman & Vice Chairman)
- Finance & Policy Committee (Full Council)
- General Purposes (5 + Chairman & Vice Chairman)
- Planning Committee (Full Council)
- Staff & Remuneration (3 + Chairman & Vice Chairman)

Cllr Perkins proposed and Cllr Lewendon seconded and it was therefore **RESOLVED**: that Committee membership remain as previous membership with the addition of Cllr Lewendon to sit on the Staff & Remuneration Committee.

### **9. To confirm representatives of the following outside bodies and agree arrangements for reporting back :**

Avonway Executive	Cllr P. Earth
Citizens Advice Bureau	Cllr. G. Wilson
Burgate School Community Management	Cllr. R. Fulford
Footpath Officer	Ruth Croker
Fordingbridge Hospital Stakeholder Group	Cllr Lewendon
Fordingbridge Sports Club	Cllr. P Anstey
Fordingbridge Tourism Group	Cllr. M. Adams
Friends of Fordingbridge Hospital	Cllr A Wilson
FCAVG	Cllr E. Hale
HALC	Cllr. M Connolly & Cllr R Fulford
NFATPC	Cllr. M Connolly & Cllr R Fulford
N F Consultative Panel	Vacancy
NPA Quadrant meetings	Cllr M Connolly
Passenger Transport	Cllr A. Lewendon & Cllr D Price
Twinning Association	Cllr. G. Wilson
Victoria Rooms Committee	Cllr. E. Hale
Youth Action Group	Cllr. D. Paton & Cllr M Connolly

Disability sub-committee (now incorporated in General Purposes) –Cllr Fulford  
Cllr Fulford reported that a complaint had been received regarding disabled access to the kiosk and toilets at the Recreation Ground for wheelchair users – gravel on access path is too deep. Clerk to investigate

**10. Review of inventory of land and assets including buildings and office equipment.**

Cllr Anstey raised concern over wording of lease for sports club, onus on Town Council for repairs. Values given in inventory are replacement value and do not reflect increase or decrease in value over lifetime of asset.

**11. Review of arrangements for insurance cover in respect of all insured risks.**

Discussed at Finance and Policy Committee meeting in February 2015 – cover updated to include hanging baskets (additional £53.00).

**12. Review of Council's membership of other bodies.**

Cllr Lewendon proposed and Cllr Adams seconded and it was therefore **RESOLVED**: that the existing memberships should be continued. These are:

- Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)
- Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC)
- New Forest Association of Local Councils (NFALC)

**13. Setting the dates, times and place of ordinary meetings of the Council for the year ahead**

The calendar of meetings has already been set until December 2015. New dates will be set later in the year

**14. To receive a report on any matters under Section 17 of the Crime & Disorder Act.**

No report.

**15. To receive a report from the Town Mayor**

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| 11/04/15 | - 80 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Congratulations to Cllr Adams. Cllr Adams has served on the Council for over 40 years. |
| 15/04/15 | - Meeting with Army Cadets – Forming Band and applying to Town Council for grant funding                           |
| 20/04/15 | - Meeting with Moto Guzzi Club – maybe last event in Fordingbridge but looking at options to continue              |
| 23/04/15 | - Twinning AGM with Cllr (G) Wilson  |

The Mayor then thanked Members for re-electing him to be Town Mayor. Over the following year he hopes to work on the Website improvement project; the Whitsbury Road Planning Application will shortly be submitted which will need careful consideration of all impacts on the community. The Mayor also advised Members that following recent meetings regarding the former Fordingbridge Club, unexpected delays had been encountered which prevents the redevelopment moving forward.

**16. To receive a report from the County Councillor**

Cllr Heron not present.

**17. To receive a report from the District Councillors**

Cllr Bellows reported on recent meetings and discussions with Burgate Fields Residents and that the matter would be discussed at a Transport meeting at New Forest DC. Burgate School are keen to communicate with the Town Council and

work with the community – problems arise from the school splitting their Committee into 2 committees, one for the community and the other for Governors and staff.

Cllr (A) Wilson reported that New Forest DC had been informed of Fly Tipping in Marl Lane, however no action had been taken. Cllr Bellows to contact Environmental Health.

**18. To receive the following Committee meeting minutes and any recommendations contained therein:**

- General Council – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 Accepted under Agenda Item 6
- Finance & Policy Committee – 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015 - Cllr Connolly
- Planning Committee – 6<sup>th</sup> May 2015 – Cllr Fulford

No recommendations for General Council.

**19. To report on any Health & Safety issues**

Cllr Anstey advised members that Health & Safety regulations and policies should not be used as a barrier to prevent things happening or for something not to be done. Using the advice from the safety reports provided by ROSPA, the Council should ensure that equipment and procedures are as safe as *necessary* and not as safe as *possible*. With regard to footpath safety, no specific Footpath Health and Safety legislation exists.

Cllr (A) Wilson reported that the fencing surrounding the re-development site at the former hospital results in pedestrians walking in the road.

**20. To receive reports from representatives on Outside Bodies and meetings attended.**

Cllr (G) Wilson

Allotment meeting – Table Top Sale 23/05/15 at the Town Hall

Cllr Hale

Report on Victoria Rooms AGM

Cllr Anstey

Reported on Party in the Park Charity Music event on 2/5/15 – very successful and well run with all litter removed £5000 raised.

Sports Club AGM 11/5/15 – Representatives from Rugby club to meet with Football Club to discuss the Football Club's development plan.

**21. To not any items of correspondence**

The Clerk reported that the following items of correspondence had been received:

Pete White – Thanks to Council for support for Party in the Park

Steve Lugg, HALC, Consultation regarding whether the Hampshire Branch (HALC) should remain affiliated with the National Association (NALC) – Town Clerk to distribute consultation documents to members.

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

The Clerk advised that one planter from outside of the Town Hall had been relocated to Fred's Place (adjacent to the Victoria Rooms) to enable the re-position of the finger post. The contract for the lengthsman scheme was currently out to tender with return date of 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015.

Cllr Lewendon – Requested update on moving of the bus stop at Burgate Cross

Cllr Paton – Advised that there was confusion at the Recreation Ground as no signs were in position advising visitors that the old toilet block is now closed and the location of the new toilets. Discuss at Amenities.

Cllr Fulford – Event in Ringwood on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June “Fanfare for Spring” at which many local Fordingbridge residents would take part.

Cllr Perkins – Inspected 2 vehicles with a view to purchase as replacement for Tata (A Lane). Both unsuitable

**23. To note the date of the next General Council meeting as Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015.**

The meeting closed at 8.45pm