

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the Finance and Policy Committee held on Wednesday
25th March 2015 at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, Fordingbridge
(Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Committee)

Present:

Cllr Connolly – Chairman

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

In Attendance:

Mrs H Richards – Town Clerk

Mrs M Coatham – Finance Officer

17 Members of the Public

The Chairman addressed the Members of the Public present and ascertained that the matter they wished to raise concerned the Travellers at Marl Lane. He advised that this was not a Finance and Policy matter and should be raised at a Planning Committee meeting. The Chairman then outlined the current situation and activity since the return of the Travellers to their site on Tuesday 17th March 2015 – 28 day provision for the owners to occupy the site before enforcement action can be taken.

The Chairman then read out the following statement from New Forest District Council Planning Office issued earlier that day.

“New Forest District Council has today served a temporary stop notice on the site in Marl Lane. It prevents any further materials being brought onto the site or any further works on the site itself to consolidate the material which is already there. It has been displayed on the site and sent to the site owners postal address. If there is any further work on the site in breach of this temporary stop notice we have a course of action agreed with our legal advisors which we will be able to action at short notice. We will continue to monitor the situation and we are preparing the longer term approach to getting the site restored to its former condition”.

The Chairman also advised that any breaches of the stop notice should be reported using the telephone number provided (number given out) and an out of hours service would be available.

Comments were then invited and received from Members of the Public as follows:

Cllr Paton entered the meeting

- Propose that the Town Council compulsory purchase the land.

The Chairman advised that in order for a compulsory purchase, the Council would have to demonstrate a purpose for the use of the land. Discussion took place regarding potential use of the land (promote wellbeing) & how this could be funded by contributions from the community. The chairman agreed that as there were more than 10 residents in attendance, the Council would consider the proposal and any potential for taking it forward.

- Rights of Way & Access from Marl Lane/Puddleslosh

The Right of Way is owned by Forres Sandle Manor School and research is ongoing to establish the access rights of landowners from both Marl and Puddleslosh Lane.

- Footpath 78B

No development on the footpath closure – Article 4 directive still in place which prevents the fence being moved.

Members of the Public then left the meeting.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr G Wilson

2. To receive any Declarations of Absence

Cllr Adams declared an interest in Agenda item 5 – Monies Collected and Payment of Accounts but remained in the room to speak

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 25th February 2015 and report on any matters arising.

Cllr Adams proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Price and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th February 2015 be signed as a true record.

No matters arising

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

No members of the public present.

5. To receive details of Monies Collected and Payment of Accounts

Cllr Adams declared an interest but remained in the room. The Finance Officer reported on the accounts for March and these were signed by the Chairman. The Budgets indicated that there will be an overall underspend at the end of the year.

Members discussed the provision of funds for works required at the Town Hall to comply with Disabled Access regulations. The Finance Officer explained that this would not show as a provision in the accounts and the quotes previously obtained for the works, were purely to give an indication of costs involved. It was **AGREED** that this would be put on the agenda for the next Finance and Policy Committee meeting in April.

The Finance Officer reported that quotes had recently be sought for the following:

- Internet provision to Town Hall (hardwire/sockets into main hall) – General Purposes May
- Quotes for Enhancement to Play Area Recreation Ground – Amenities May

6. To receive any Finance and Policy matters referred from sub-committees

General Purposes Committee

- Town Hall Hire Agreement

Cllr Adams proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Price and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the revised Town Hall Hire Agreement be accepted – all in favour

- Town Hall Hire Charges

Cllr Price proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Lewendon and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the following Town Hall Hire charges from 1st April 2015 be accepted. All in favour.

HIRING CHARGES FOR TOWN HALL w.e.f. 1st April 2015.

For multiple bookings of 8 or more, a 10% discount applies.

All single bookings must be paid in advance

Bookings include all heating and kitchen facilities.

MAIN HALL

8.00 - 1.00 p.m.	Morning	£36
1.00 - 6.00 p.m.	Afternoon	£36
	Full day	£62
6.00 - 11.00 p.m.	Evening	£41
Commercial rate		£125
Badminton Clubs VAT)		£26.00 a session (use of hall only, no
Art Clubs		£41 a day

Additional Charges:

Hire of projector £10 per session

Use of Premises Licence £10 per session (to allow sale of alcohol)

Use of PRS (Music Licence) £20 per session (live music) or £6 per session (film shows)

Setting up (& clearing) including chairs, tables, staging or Art Club stands £20 per hire

COUNCIL CHAMBER

Maximum number allowed 35

Full day	£37
Half day	£22
Evening	£22
Commercial Rate	£80

- Burial Charges Stuckton Road Cemetery

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

RESOLVED: that the following Burial Charges from 1st April 2015 be accepted. All in favour.

BURIAL GROUND CHARGES
as from 1st April 2015

	*Resident	Non Resident
<u>Interment</u>		
Interment of ashes	£135	£270
Interment of body	£270	£540
Children under 16	no charge	

Purchase of Exclusive Rights of Burial

Grave Space	£300	£600
Cremation Plot	£150	£300

Memorials

Memorial Grave	£140	£280
Memorial Cremation	£ 70	£140
Additional inscription	£ 30	£ 30

*At the discretion of the Town Clerk, *Resident* to include former residents if moved out of parish for medical or other residential care. Residents of Godshill and Sandheath Parishes are to be included within the Residents category for charging purposes.

Amenities Committee

- Recreation Ground Hire Rates

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

RESOLVED: that the Burial Ground Hire Rates be accepted from 1st April 2015. All in favour.

Recreation Ground Hire charges w.e.f. 1st April 2015.

(prices include VAT where applicable)

Per session:

Football & Rugby Clubs	£47.00
Juniors	£24.00
Training	£25.00
Whippet Track	£34.00 (day) £18 (evening)
Cricket	£46.00

Tournaments £110 daily rate, £55 half day.

Camping & Caravans – Up to 20 pitches, £100 per day/night. 20 or more £100 per day/night + £5 per pitch. (Price inclusive of use of the pavilion & showers).

Commercial use of the Recreation Ground - £220 per day.

Other events hire costs to be determined by the Finance & Policy Committee.

7. To consider the following ~Grant Applications**Forest Forge Theatre Company**

Following discussion, Members agreed that this company provided a service to the community not available from others and should be supported.

Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Hale and therefore **RESOLVED:** that a grant of £200.00 would be made. All in favour

Avon Valley Dementia Pals

Members discussed this request and agreed that the Government encourage groups such as this and it provided a worthwhile service. Cllr Fulford proposed and Cllr Paton seconded and it was therefore **RESOLVED:** that a grant of £250.00 would be made. All in favour.

8. To receive any items of correspondence

No items of correspondence received.

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

Nothing to report from the Clerk.

The Finance Officer reported that quotes had been sought for the refurbishment of the Paddling Pool and it is vital that this is progressed as soon as possible in order for the pool to be operational this summer.

The Chairman advised members that Mr Ian Newman would be guest speaker at the Annual Town Assembly on the 22nd April 2015.

The Chairman also reminded members that nomination papers should be delivered to the Town Hall by Friday 3rd April 2015, for delivery to New Forest District Council.

10. To note the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 29th April 2015.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm