

**Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday, 17th July
2013 at 8.15 pm in the Town Hall**

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Cllrs Lewendon & Perkins
Miss D Vine, Asst Town Clerk

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Cllrs Connolly & Price. Cllr Wilson advised that Cllr Robbins had reluctantly tendered her resignation from Council for personal reasons.

2. To receive any declarations of interest

None received

3. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th May 2013 and report on any matters arising

It was proposed by Cllr (A) Wilson and seconded by Cllr E Hale that the Minutes held on the 15th May 2013 be signed as a true record. All in favour, Carried.

HCC New Forest Community Routes consultation

The completed route map had been forwarded to the NPA and an update was awaited.

4. To receive any matters raised by members of the public

No public present

5. To report on matters concerning St Mary's Closed Churchyard and Stuckton Road Cemetery

The first Quaker burial had taken place in June in the new designated section and favourable feedback had been received in respect of the new location.

6. To report on any matters relating to the Town Hall

Town Hall re-decoration

Cllr (G) Wilson advised that the new soakaway had been completed and that external re-decoration was reaching completion. Cllr Perkins commented, from the floor, that he felt some areas where the paintwork joined the brickwork required better preparation before painting had taken place and asked if the contractors could look at these areas again before the scaffolding was removed. The Asst Clerk to request this.

Town Hall Fans

It was noted that the two fans in the hall were extremely noisy and it was AGREED to obtain quotes to have them serviced and if necessary replaced.

Replacement White goods for the kitchen & water boiler

As agreed at the last meeting (15.05.13), Cllr Adams had obtained a quotation from Tampen & Tampen in respect of a front loading dishwasher and also had obtained a quote for a static water boiler to be situated in the kitchen. Cllr (G) Wilson advised that whilst there had been agreement to obtain a quotation for the dishwasher, for which the Fordingbridge Entertainments Society had indicated a donation of up to

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£1,000 would be made, there had been no agreement for a water boiler and as there was no budget set aside for this a recommendation would be required from the Committee to Finance & Policy Committee to release additional monies.

Cllr Hale queried the need for a water boiler as there are two urns which are used for events and have the benefit of being portable and could be used in the hall or in the Council Chamber. Cllr Adams considered there were health and safety issues with regard to the urn which could tip over if not secured and there would be no risk from a plumbed in water boiler.

The quoted cost of the dishwasher is £1,528.00 and the water boiler, £624.00.

After further discussion it was AGREED to make a recommendation to Finance & Policy for the additional monies for the purchase of a water boiler.

7. To report on any matters concerning footpaths

Cllr (G) Wilson reported that enquiries regarding grant funding had been made and although it appeared that grant money could be applied for, the application required confirmation from the DAC that the path would be classed as a Permissive footpath as it crosses Church Land, agreement on future maintenance costs and the Faculty being granted. One of the criteria to be included in the Faculty application is correspondence from Fordingbridge Town Council confirming that it will meet all the costs. The Council is not in a position to be able to underwrite the cost on the basis that grant funding may be forthcoming, and the PCC has therefore been written to advising of the above and asking if they have any further suggestions. A response is awaited.

8. To report on any matters concerning Highways

Cllr (G) Wilson reported that the beacon on the crossing outside the Co-op had been damaged by a van. This had been reported to Highways who have advised that their electrical division will need to carry out the repair as there are exposed wires.

9. To report on any matters concerning Allotments

Cllr (G) Wilson reported that the annual judging of the Allotments had taken place on the 12th July by Roy Mccrudden, one of the Councillors at Alderholt, accompanied the Assistant Clerk. Notices to Quit had been served on two plots which were not being worked. The Allotment Officers suggested that a small questionnaire should be given to all potential allotment holders to see what knowledge they have of gardening and growing to avoid people taking on more that they could perhaps cope with. It was AGREED this would be a good idea and to ask the Allotment Officers to Submit what questions they would like to ask. The date for the Annual Meeting has been provisionally suggested as Thursday 3rd October 2013.

10. To note any items of correspondence

Nothing to report

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

Nothing to report

12. To note the date of the next meeting as 18th September 2013

The meeting ended at 08.40 pm

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