

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20th September 2017 in the Town Hall (Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Council)

Present:

Cllr Wilson – Vice chairman
Cllrs Anstey, Adams & Hale

In Attendance:

Mrs H Richards, Town Clerk
Cllrs Paton, Price & Lewendon

Melanie Gill, Turks FC

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Earth, White & Connolly & Ruth Croker,
Footpaths Officer

2. To receive Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

3. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2017 and report on any matters arising

Cllr Hale proposed and Cllr Adams seconded and it was therefore **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2017 be signed as a true record. All in favour.

There were no Matters Arising.

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

- No items raised.

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

Nothing to report.

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

- Pest Control – The Clerk reported on a letter received from a local residents regarding pest control, however the problems had seemingly eased since the removal of a large oak tree in a neighbouring property - Clerk to continue to monitor and respond to neighbour..

7. To consider the report by Sheering Bettle Architecture and fee proposal relating to works to the Town Hall

The Clerk advised that following receipt of the report of findings regarding the ingress of water into the clock tower, members had met and discussed this with the Principal Designer. A further fee proposal had been received (& distributed to

Members) for the next stage of the project; to detail options for resolving the leaks and including liaison with the Local Authority officers.

Cllr Adams raised concern regarding the accuracy of the information regarding the rebates of the clock faces and undertook to discuss with the clock engineers.

Cllr Hale proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Wilson and therefore **RESOLVED** to recommend to the Finance & Policy Committee to accept the Fee Proposal received from Sheerin Bettle Associates for Stage 2 of the project. (Estimated time 25 hours at £80/hour)

8. To report on any matters relating to the Information Office

The Clerk reported that a request had been received from the Landlord for payment of half of the annual insurance premium relating to the Information Office in the sum of £244.20 – this would be paid and reported to Finance & Policy Committee on 27th September 2017.

9. To consider the purchase of new IT Hardware for use at the Town Hall and Information Office

The Clerk advised that it was proving difficult for Information Office staff to carry out some tasks for the Town Council due to the availability of computer access, particularly when both members are present in the Information Office. Likewise it would be useful if access was available to 3 computers at the Town Hall. It was suggested that a new laptop is purchased for use at the Town Hall and the existing laptop could be used at the Information Office. The sharing of information between the offices should also be considered to enable Information Officers time to be better utilised.

Members agreed for the Clerk to obtain quotes for laptops for consideration.

10. To report on any matter relating to Footpaths

The Clerk advised that correspondence had been received from a local resident requesting that maintenance (vegetation cutting) is carried out on footpath 78A (off Marl Lane). Cllr Wilson undertook to check the condition of the path and report back to the Clerk for consideration as a Lengthsman task.

11. To report on any matters concerning Highways

The Clerk reported that a complaint had been received regarding A-frames blocking footways in the Town Centre and also illegal parking on pavements – the complaint had been forwarded to both Hampshire Highways and NFDC Parking – NFDC have responded to the complainant.

The recent response submitted to NFDC for Traffic Management Schemes had included proposals to replace the paving at the pedestrian crossings and also the provision of “20 is plenty” signs and other traffic calming measures in the Town Centre.

12. To report on any matters concerning the Allotments

In the absence of the Chair, there was no report of the Allotment Committee meeting on 6th September. The Clerk advised that the Table Top Sale planned for the 8th September had been cancelled due to lack of up-take for tables.

Cllr Wilson reported that a request had been made for $\frac{1}{4}$ plots – this could be where $\frac{1}{2}$ plots are not being fully worked but the tenant does not wish to give up completely – item to be discussed at next committee meeting.

The Clerk advised members that the allotment AGM would be held on Thursday 5th October in the Town Hall.

13. To receive any items of correspondence

No items of correspondence received

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

The Clerk had nothing further to report.

15. To note the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 15th November 2017

The clerk reminded Members that this would be a Budget meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.03pm