

## **FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at 8.30pm on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018 in the Town Hall** (Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Council)

**Present:** Cllr Earth (Chair)  
Cllrs Adams, Anstey, Fulford & Hale

**In Attendance:** Mrs R Edwards (Asst Town Clerk)  
Mrs M Coatham (Finance Officer )

#### **1. To elect a chairman**

Cllr Adams proposed and Cllr Hale seconded that Cllr Earth be elected as chairman. All in favour.

#### **2. To elect a vice chairman**

Cllr Hale proposed and Cllr Adams seconded that Cllr Wilson be elected as vice chairman. All in favour.

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

Apologies were received from Cllrs Connolly and Wilson and Ruth Crocker, Footpath Officer

#### **4. To receive Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were made.

#### **5. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018 and report on any matters arising**

Cllr Hale proposed and Cllr Anstey seconded and it was therefore **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018 be signed as a true record. All in favour.

#### **Matters Arising**

Minute no. 10 – Cllr Fulford reported that the planters on Church Street have been replanted with flowers rather than the grass that was there previously. Cllr Fulford asked if there was any conclusion on the ownership of the land as the problem still hadn't been resolved – will the planters be removed or are they allowed to stay?

**Action: Asst Clerk to follow up.**

#### **6. To confirm the Minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 and report on any matters arising**

Cllr Hale proposed and Cllr Fulford seconded and it was therefore **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 be signed as a true record. All in favour.

Matters Arising – Cllr Fulford noted that the main issue is how the new footpath will join the next part of the land. Cllr Fulford often walks these paths and will keep members informed.

**7. To receive any matters raised by Members of the Public**

No Members of the Public were present.

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

Nothing to report.

**9. To report on any matters relating to the Town Hall**

No work is currently being done on the Town Hall roof. The Councillors asked that SheerinBettle be chased up regarding the work. Cllr Adams was concerned that rotten wood is being left in place when it should be removed or treated.

**Action: Clerk to contact SheerinBettle.**

It was decided to hang the Union Flag outside the Town Hall in honour of the upcoming Royal Wedding.

**10. To consider the request from Fordingbridge Art Club to install a picture hanging system in the Town Hall**

Fordingbridge Art Club have asked permission to install a modern hanging system which involves a small metal rail being screwed to the top of the wooden panelling. Specially designed hooks fit into this rail and the paintings are suspended from these. The metal rails would be left in place, and the hooks and lines would be kept by the club

Cllrs expressed concerns over the potential weight hanging from the dado rail at the top of the wooden panelling and whether the wood would be in good enough condition to support the extra weight. They also queried whether other groups such as the Camera Club normally paid to hire the boards.

Cllrs asked if the old art boards will be got rid of as a result of this hanging system, thus freeing up space in the shed.

Cllr Adams proposed and Cllr Hale seconded and it was RESOLVED to accept the proposal with the following conditions

1. Some of the old wooden boards would be disposed of from the shed
2. Any damage to the wood panelling would be made good.

**Action: Asst Clerk to speak to Camera Club about the proposed system and their use of the boards.**

**11. To report on any matters relating to the Information Office**

Nothing to report.

**12. To report on any matter relating to Footpaths**

- **Stile repairs**

The lengthsman has been asked by Hampshire County Council to repair two stiles – one on footpath no. 7 and the other on footpath 8b. Also to inspect footpath 8a and undertake any work as required. HCC pay for 25% of the lengthsman's time and will recompense for any materials needed upon receiving

copy receipts for purchases. Cllr Fulford encouraged Councillors to walk the footpaths.

**13. To report on any matters concerning Highways**

Nothing to report.

**14. To report on any matters concerning the Allotments**

- **Allotment Meeting**

Cllr Earth reported that the allotment AGM was held on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Plots have been inspected and unworked plots letters sent. The Groundsman has started work on levelling the area to be used as a community space. Tree stumps will be used as seats. The barbeque on 7<sup>th</sup> May has unfortunately had to be cancelled. The new noticeboard has been put up and there will be a table on which spare produce could be put. The next newsletter is due out in early June which will be emailed to plot holders. Councillors asked to receive the allotment newsletter.

***Action: Asst Clerk to ask for allotment newsletters to be emailed to Councillors.***

- **To consider the replacement of the boundary fence**

The allotment fence has been damaged by vans reversing into it. A quote has been received from Anton Agricultural Contracting for £1235 + VAT to replace the fence. It was decided to seek a second quote and to ask the Finance and Policy Committee for additional funding towards a replacement allotment fence.

***Action: Clerk to get a second quote for fence replacement and to refer to F&P Committee for approval.***

**16. To receive any items of correspondence**

There were no items of correspondence

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

Nothing further to report.

**18. To note the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

The meeting closed at 9.29pm