

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Council meeting held on Wednesday 1st August 2018 at 7.30pm in the Town Hall

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

Present: Cllr Anstey – Chairman
Cllrs Adams, Earth, Fulford, Hale, Lewendon, Mouland, Paton, Wilson and White

In Attendance: Mrs R Edwards, Asst Town Clerk
Cllr Heron (HCC)
Cllr Sevier (NFDC)
A Representative from The Salisbury Journal

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Connolly.

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 4th July 2018 and to report on any matters arising.

Cllr Lewendon pointed out an error in Minute 14 – the ‘Mind the Gap’ program he recommended on iPlayer was a radio program to be listened to, rather than a television program to be watched.

Cllr Lewendon proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Wilson and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 4th July 2018 be signed as a true record, with the exception in minute 14 above. All in favour.

Cllr Anstey reminded members that there should be no discussion of items under matters arising but that if they required further discussion they should be an agenda item.

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

No members of the public present.

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

The clerk read out the following crime reports for June and July.

	June	July
Anti-Social Behaviour	8	4
Violence against person	1	2
Dwelling Burglary	0	1
Other Burglary	3	1
Damage	2	2
Theft	2	9
Theft from Vehicles	2	0
Suspicious Incidents	9	5

6. To receive a report from the Town Mayor

Cllr Anstey has been in his new role as mayor for three months now. He thanked all Councillors for the tens of hours they had spent reviewing the local plan. Mayor Anstey thanked the office staff for all their work and also those councillors who have taken a lead on various issues. He is grateful for their support. Thanks also went to the Fordingbridge Events Committee for organising the festival in July.

Mayor Anstey mentioned that representatives from Metis Homes had met with some councillors with regard to the public consultation due to be held in September. He said that neither the full council nor the public were needed at this preliminary meeting but that it was important to be transparent about smaller meetings.

Finally, he thanked Katy Griffin from the Salisbury Journal for her reporting of the Council meetings.

7. To receive a report from the County Councillor

Cllr Heron reported on the new Community Engagement fund. The County Council has approved a £0.5M fund to promote engagement with Town and Parish Councils. Cllr Heron will email some slides to the town clerk about the fund, what it is and how to access it. He recommended getting involved to help relieve the pressure on the County Council. More community interactions will be undertaken at a community level, for example helping people to stay in their own homes by doing small jobs for them such as changing lightbulbs, perhaps by training up and DBS-checking a groundsman to support struggling people. However, this has to be Town and Parish Council driven and it is their responsibility to approach the County Council with initiatives. The report will be available in early September and more information will be available then.

8. To receive a report from the District Councillors

Cllr Sevier had nothing to report.

Cllrs Heron and Sevier left the meeting.

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

- Planning Committee – 11th July 2018 – received Cllr Fulford
- General Purposes Committee – 18th July 2018 – received Cllr Wilson
- Amenities Committee – 18th July 2018 – received Cllr Anstey
- Finance & Policy Committee – 25th July 2018 – received Cllr Adams

10. To agree a response to the HCC Transportation Consultation

Cllr Lewendon reported on the HCC Consultation on proposals to change street lighting, supported passenger transport services and the concessionary travel scheme.

Cllr Lewendon recommended that Fordingbridge Town Council responded to say that street lights could be turned off in residential areas only, between the hours of 1am and 5am. All in favour.

Cllr Lewendon reported that there is little supported passenger transport in Fordingbridge.

Cllr Lewendon reported that the HCC is gathering views on the introduction of a 50p charge for single journeys made using an Older Person's Concessionary Bus Pass on public bus services, subject to a change in the law by Parliament. He reminded members that the main bus route, the X3, goes through three counties – Dorset, Hampshire and Wiltshire. Also,

Fordingbridge is a tourist area with many visitors who may not understand the need to pay for a bus service that may still be free with an Older Person's Concessionary Bus Pass elsewhere in the country. He also had concerns that a charge may discourage older people from leaving their homes. Cllr Lewendon recommended that Fordingbridge Town Council responded to say that no charge should be introduced. All in favour.

Action: Cllr Lewendon to complete survey online on behalf of the Fordingbridge Town Council.

11. To agree Membership to the Staff & Remuneration Committee

Cllr Anstey proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Lewendon and therefore **RESOLVED:** The Committee composition shall comprise of FOUR Councillors, the Chariman and Vice Chairman of the Council, all as voting members. Three members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. All in favour.

12. To report on any Health & Safety issues

Cllr Wilson asked about the fence at Allenwater Drive that she'd previously reported as being unsafe. The Clerk is awaiting quotes for repair. There were no further health and safety issues to report.

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

Cllr Adams – visited the Summer Playscheme at Fordingbridge Junior School today where he learnt how to make chocolate bread. He was very impressed with the playscheme and recommended that other councillors visit.

Cllr Paton – attended the skate park meeting on 31st July.

Cllr White – has been very involved in the Fordingbridge Festival which he said was a credit to the town.

Cllr Fulford – attended

- a Planning Meeting at Ringwood Town Council
- two meetings about the Neighbourhood Plan
- a meeting with Metis Homes.

She recommended having a procedure for feeding back information from smaller meetings to the rest of the Council.

14. To note any items of correspondence

The Asst Clerk passed on thanks from the United Reform Church for the support of the Town Council in placing the additional pyramidal floral display on their forecourt.

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

Nothing further to report.

16. To note the date of the next General Council meeting as Wednesday 5th September 2018

The meeting closed at 8.06pm