

**FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at 8.10pm on**  
**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015 in the Town Hall**

**(Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Committee)**

**Present:** Cllr P Earth - Chairman  
Cllrs (A) Wilson & Adams & Anstey

**In Attendance:** Miss D Vine, Asst Clerk

**1. To receive any apologies for absence**

Cllrs G Wilson, Connolly and Hale

**2. To receive any declarations of interest**

No declarations of interest received.

**3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 and report on any matters arising**

Cllr A Wilson proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Adams and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 be signed as a true record.

**Matters Arising**

Minute no. 7 – Memorial Bungalow Repairs – Quotations had been requested from three contractors, only two had submitted quotations which were considered by Members.

After discussion members requested that further quotations be obtained in respect of the replacement of windows, back door, barge boards and soffits in UPVC from specialist companies as a comparison/alternative to repairs quoted for. Clerk to request.

Clerk still to confirm whether the property benefits from a Gas Safe Certificate and carbon monoxide detector and whether the chimney has been swept under the Council's duty of care as landlord.

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

No matters raised by Members of the Public.

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

- Unauthorised grave surrounds – the Assistant Clerk reported that recently surrounds and stone infill had been erected on two graves. One had become the focus of a family dispute as the son had erected it against the wishes of the family. The Clerk had written to the holders of the Exclusive Rights of Burial to request that the surrounds be removed and will monitor the situation before taking further action.

**6. To report on any matter relating to the Town Hall**

- Council Chamber Gutters – Quotations had requested from three contractors but only two had responded. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Earth and seconded by Cllr Wilson and therefore AGREED to make a proposal at the Finance & Policy Meeting to be held on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015 to proceed with the quotation from Mike Castle subject to confirmation that scaffolding is included in the quotation. Asst Clerk to check.

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

- Disabled Ramp Replacement – Members considered a report prepared by Sue Plumb, Information Officer on suitable types and costings for a replacement ramp at the Information Office. Following discussion Cllr Adams proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Wilson and therefore AGREED to make a proposal at the Finance & Policy Meeting to be held on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015 to proceed with the purchase of the folding Portaramp at a cost of £240.00. This ramp can be used as required, is not heavy and has a non-slip surface and although longer has a lower gradient.

**8. To report on any matters concerning Footpaths**

- Footpath No. 97 – The Footpath's Officer had reported that HCC had verbally confirmed that they had funding to repair the damage caused by the badgers on the path south of St Mary's Church, but were still awaiting permission to carry out the work.
- Falconwood/Downwood Close – The culvert works had been completed but handrailing was still required before the area could be re-opened. It had been hoped to allow the area to dry out further but recent weather had not helped. NFDC were due to undertake a site visit during the next week. Cllr Wilson advised that the delay in re-opening the path was causing inconvenience to residents.

**9. To report on matters concerning Highways**

- Salisbury Road, Fordingbridge – Hampshire County Council's proposed resurfacing works have been postponed and re-scheduled as part of the 2016/17 planned maintenance programme.
- Speeding – Normandy Way/Station Road – Following a complaint concerning speeding in Normandy Way, the police deployed a data recorder for a week which confirmed that overall speeds recorded were below those which required direct speed enforcement but met the criteria for Community Speed Watch. A resident had also expressed concern at the speed of traffic on Station Road but did express an interest in Community Speedwatch, and had been advised of the Community Engagement Day due to be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> September where further information would be available.

**10. To report on any matters concerning allotments**

- AGM - The Chair confirmed that the AGM would be held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015 and a member of National Allotment & Leisure Garden Society would be giving a short talk on the benefits of joining.

**11. To note any items of correspondence**

The Asst Clerk advised that she had received a request from a resident relating to the broken covers on gas meters outside properties in Provost Street, as to whether the Council would be prepared to write to residents/owner to ask them to consider repair, as they looked unsightly and could be dangerous. These had been brought to the attention of the Clerk last month as it had been thought that vehicles mounting the pavement had been responsible for the damage, but it was now thought more likely that it was vandalism. Members considered the request, however did not consider it proper for the Council to make such a request and as gas meters were housed in the units it would be more appropriate for any such request to come from the utility company as it protects their equipment. Cllr Adams suggested that there may be a Management Company who could write to them.

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

Nothing to report & no other business

**13. To note the date of the next meeting as 18<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

The meeting closed at 8.55pm