

## **FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015 at 8.25pm** **(Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Committee)**

#### **Present:**

Cllr (G) Wilson – Chairman

Cllrs Price, Adams, (A) Wilson, Hale, Earth, Price & Connolly

#### **In attendance:**

Helen Richards, Town Clerk

Ruth Croker, Footpath Officer

Cllr Anstey

#### **1. To accept apologies for absence**

No apologies for absence.

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

No declarations made.

#### **3. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014 and report on any matters arising.**

Cllr (A) Wilson proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Hale and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014 be signed as a true record.

No Matters Arising

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

No matters received.

#### **5. To report on matters relating to St Marys Closed Churchyard and Stuckton Road Cemetery**

No update regarding St Mary's Maintenance

Town Clerk to attend Cemetery Management Training on 28<sup>th</sup> January.

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

- Redecoration – Works to commence shortly on redecoration of Toilets, Entrance Hall and pillars in Main Hall
- Town Hall Hire Agreement – Members discussed the revised Agreement prepared by the Assistant Town Clerk using best practice and model agreements - Concern raised over furniture movement and placing within hall, Insurance cover (provision by Hirers) and advance payment should be requirement. Town Clerk and Assistant Clerk to further review.

#### **7. To report on any matters concerning Footpaths**

The Footpath Officer reported that the closure of Footpath 78b at Puddleslosh Lane had been extended by the Secretary of State. Following the imposition of the Article

4 Directive on the land, Planning Permission is required to move the fence adjacent to this right of way.

Members considered a request received from Hyde Parish Council seeking funding for works required to a footpath at Stuckton/Hyde (total cost approx. £13,000, funding requests to NFNPA and HCC). Adjacent stream eroding bank and path – walkers now walking through the Congregational Church Cemetery. Members AGREED to await outcome of other funding requests before making any recommendation.

The Footpath Officer then reported on an issue on the footpath from Falconwood Close. This is not on the definitive map as a public right of way and would need legal agreement. NFDC have responsibility for this path – currently damage to culvert running under path involving partial collapse. Gardens in adjacent properties in Downwood Close flooded and Forres Sandle Manor School also affected. NFDC currently investigating repairs or replacement of culvert.

Health Walks starting on 5<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am from the Library – led by New Forest Ranger.

Footpath Cutting Lists distributed by Countryside Team – all agreed by Ringwood & Fordingbridge Footpath Society.

**8. To report on any matters relating to Highways**

Beacon Lights on pedestrian crossings now replaced (lower). The lighting programme is due to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 and outstanding defects should be reported as soon as possible.

**9. To report on any matters concerning Allotments**

Nothing to report on allotments

**10. To report on matters concerning the Information Office**

Broken window in Door responsibility of Town Council – Clerk to action repair  
Parking Clock Sales – Busy period over Christmas & New Year managed successfully with additional cover.

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

Operation Resilience – Essential flood prevention works commencing on A338 at Burgate on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January.

Hampshire Highways – Project to replace paving at entrance to Riverside Place with Tarmac – Conservation Officer agreement awaited.

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

Nothing to report.

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

Meeting closed at 9.00pm