

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a General Council held on Wednesday 7th December 2016 at 7.30pm in the Town Hall
(Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Committee)**

Present: Cllr Connolly – Chairman

Cllrs Adams, Price, Paton, Anstey, Lewendon, Wilson, Hale, Earth, Perkins & Bailey

In attendance: Mrs H Richards, Town Clerk
Cllr Heron, Hampshire CC
Cllr Sevier, New Forest DC

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Fulford & Cllr Bellows, New Forest DC

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest

No declarations made.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2016 and report any matters arising

Cllr Anstey proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Price and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 2nd November 2016 be signed as a true record. All in favour.

Matters Arising

Minute 8 – Street Sweeping - Cllr Perkins reported that he was still pursuing this issue with Cllr Bellows. Cllr Heron noted this and that a large amount of leaves were currently in the main car park.

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

No report received.

6. To receive a report from the Town Mayor

- 3/11 Meeting with Mike French, Salvation Army (youth meeting to be held on 14th December)
- 4/11 Cottage Hospital visit – changes in the way the group of 5 hospitals operative – no palliative care in Fordingbridge (now provided at Romsey)
- 05/11 Infant & Junior Schools Judge Guy competitions
- 07/11 Youth Meeting cancelled – format of meetings changing
- 08/11 Buffet at Abbeyfield House – companions/visitors needed
- 11/11 Armistice Service
- 13/11 Remembrance Service & Parade
- 14/11 Quadrant meeting

7. To receive a report from the County Councillor

Cllr Heron gave praise for the Christmas Event on 2nd December.

He then advised the meeting that focus for the New Year was to look at the bigger picture of devolution and what this will mean for all tiers of local government. Following the report commissioned by the District Councils in Hampshire it was clear that 3 tier working is preferred with advantages over 1 or 2 tier working; larger areas grouped together could result in rural areas having a little voice.

A review of the structure of 3 tier working is however required. All authorities need to be less territorial and consider who can best provide services for best value for residents not authorities. Recent consultations raise questions over working as a unitary and recognisable benefits and it is unclear if residents support this practice in other areas.

Cllr Heron advised that Adult Social Services and Children's Support would take most of the funding available as statutory services.

Members raised concern that there is not a clear picture at present over how any changes will impact on Parish & Town Councils and questions over funding should services be transferred. Councils will have to decide whether they want to provide non-statutory services and how these can be funded.

Cllr Wilson raised an issue with household/non-household (DIY) waste and how the scheme operates – is this consistent and what controls are in place. Receipts should be issued for payments for non-household.

Cllr Heron confirmed that a charge would shortly be introduced for waste from non-residents at Hampshire CC centres.

Cllr Anstey raised concern over the positioning of a new parking meter in the car park – this was placed in a parking space and was unmarked (concern regarding vehicles driving into it).

8. To receive a report from the District Councillors

Cllr Sevier reported that previous Planning issues at Tinkers Cross Farm have been resolved as the occupier is moving.

Cllr Sevier also advised that Cllr Heron had been working to reinstate the Hampshire CC/New Forest DC partnership working relating to transport and highways.

Members raised concern over the proposed road closure near to Falconwood Close on Station Road with HGVs being diverted via Damerham from north of the works via A354 and Cranborne to travel to Fordingbridge.

9. To receive the following Committee meeting Minutes and any recommendations to General Council contained therein:

- Extra-ordinary General Purposes Committee – 2nd November 2016
- Planning Committee – 9th November 2016
- Amenities Budget Meeting -16th November 2016
- General Purposes Budget Meeting – 16th November 2016
- Finance & Policy Committee – 30th November 2016

All minutes received there were no recommendations to General Council.

10. To report on any Health & Safety issues

Cllr Anstey & The clerk reported that the legionella risk assessment had been carried out at the Pavilion, Memorial Bungalow, Kiosk and Town Hall – written report awaited however verbal report indicates that only minor monitoring procedures need to be put in place at the Pavilion. These procedures should be included in the Groundsman's Job Description.

Cllr Adams queried why the option for demolition of the pavilion and provision of portable changing facilities was being suggested as Members have not discussed this option. The Clerk explained that various options and costings were being sought for members to consider.

8.25pm Cllr Anstey left the meeting.

Cllr Earth raised concern over continued dog fouling around the areas/paths surrounding the schools. Clerk to write to New Forest DC requesting more signs and also issue a press release.

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

Cllr Earth

Twinning Association – preparations are progressing for the 35th Anniversary next May including the feasibility of holding a country market over that weekend.

Cllr Hale reported attendance at a meeting of the Fordingbridge Trust for Conservation Volunteers – work is ongoing regarding Bishops Pond and requested that the lengthsman carries out some tree cutting works - Clerk to discuss with Assistant TC. Cllr Hale also reported that the Trust had provided a stall at the Christmas Event on 2nd December.

Cllr Perkins

Reported on attendance at Operation Resilience Community Event on 18th November. Items noted included:

- OS Mapping services available to Councils
- Emergency Grab Bags – Uncertain if available for distribution
- Regarding flooding – Grips need to be cleaned out, lengthsman task.

Cllr Connolly

Hampshire CC Broadband – Planning Permission needed to site Green broadband boxes (difficult to get permission) however permission has been given for existing structures (post boxes/benches/signs) to be replaced by green boxes – 800 to be replaced across Hampshire next year.

Cllr Lewendon queried local coverage for Freeview services – large range of numbers of channels available within short distance.

Resurfacing works to Footpath 78b (Marl Lane/Puddleslosh Lane) progressing.

12. To set the dates, times and place of ordinary meetings of the Council for the year ahead.

Members considered the draft calendar for the meetings next year.

Cllr Lewendon proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Price and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the Calendar of meetings for 2017 attached as Appendix A be approved.

All in favour

13. To receive any items of correspondence

The clerk reported on correspondence received regarding Hampshire Pride with regard to joining Hampshire CC in flying the Rainbow Flag for one week in February to mark Hampshire Pride. Members agreed – Town Clerk to respond.

Correspondence has also been received from Cllr Bellows regarding the sports hub meetings at Burgate School and advised that the school will contact the Town Council regarding this.

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

Cllr Adams sought clarification regarding the presentations on the 14th December for proposed housing sites in the local plan – exhibition at Burgate School at 3.30pm relating to the Whitsbury Road site (allocated in adopted plan) & presentation at Planning Committee at 7.30pm relating to the proposed site at St John's Farm.

General Council 07.12.16

The Clerk sought agreement for Christmas & New Year Closure of the Town Hall – members agreed the following:

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OFFICE HOURS 2016-17

**Tuesday 20th to Friday 23rd
open 8.30am – 12.30pm**

Monday 26th December until Monday 2nd January (inclusive) CLOSED

**Re-open Tuesday 3rd January 2017
8.30am – 12.30pm**

The Clerk reported on the successful Christmas Event on the 2nd December, a few issues had arisen and a wash up meeting involving stakeholders would be scheduled shortly. The Clerk advised that she would look into setting up an Event Committee and would also write to thank Elliotts who donated supplies to make the grotto tunnel. A thank you email had been sent to Cllr Heron who gave a grant of £500 towards the Christmas Event.

15. To note the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 4th January 2017

The meeting closed at 9.10pm



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Town Clerk – Mrs H Richards

Meeting Dates 2017

All meetings are held in the Town Hall at 7.30pm unless otherwise stated on the agenda.

January

4 General Council and F&P
11 Planning
18 Amenities & General Purposes
25 Finance & Policy

February

1 General Council
08 Planning
15 -
22 Finance & Policy

March

1 General Council
8 Planning
15 Amenities & General Purposes
22 -
29 Finance & Policy

April

5 General Council
12 Planning
19 **ANNUAL TOWN ASSEMBLY**
26 Finance & Policy

May

3 **ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING**
10 Planning
17 Amenities & General Purposes
24 -
31 Finance & Policy (Council Chamber)

June

7 General Council
14 Planning
21 -
28 Finance & Policy

July

5 General Council
12 Planning
19 Amenities & General Purposes
26 Finance & Policy

August

2 General Council
9 Planning
16 -
23 -
30 Finance & Policy

September

6 General Council
13 Planning
20 Amenities & General Purposes
27 Finance & Policy

October

4 General Council
11 Planning
18 -
25 Finance & Policy

November

1 General Council
8 Planning
15 Amenities & General Purposes
Budget meetings
22 -
29 Finance & Policy – **Budget meeting.**

December

6 General Council
13 Planning
20 -
27 -

Fordingbridge Town Council operate the following seven committees:
General Council, Planning, Amenities, General Purposes, Finance & Policy, Staff & Remuneration, & Transport