

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4th February 2015 in the Town Hall (Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Committee)

Present:

Cllr Connolly – Chairman
Cllrs Fulford, (A) Wilson, (G) Wilson, Earth, Hale, Anstey, Paton & Lewendon

In Attendance:

Mrs H Richards, Town Clerk
Cllrs Bellows & Sevier, New Forest District Council
1 Member of the Public

1. Apologies for Absence

There were apologies received from Cllrs Adams & Perkins & Cllr Heron (HCC)

2. Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest made.

3. To confirm the Minutes of the General Council Meeting held on Wednesday 7th January 2015 and to report on any matters arising.

It was proposed by Cllr Lewendon and seconded by Cllr Hale and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2015 be signed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Minute No 5: - Cllr Fulford raised concern over the Section 17 Crime & Disorder Act report for December and that there had been *no particular incidents to report*. Burglaries and criminal damage to business premises had occurred but were not reported. Concern was also raised regarding parking on the junction of West Street & Shaftesbury Street – visibility is obscured - Town Clerk to raise with Police.

The Chairman informed the meeting that Sgt Helen Mitchley (replacing Sgt Towler) would be invited to the March meeting of the Council.

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

It was reported that another container had been located on land at Puddleslosh Lane, opposite to the electricity sub-station – this had been reported to New Forest DC and the Enforcement team were investigating. Cllr Sevier responded and advised that she would visit and report the matter to appropriate officers at New Forest DC.

Members also noted that walkers continue to be intimidated when walking Puddleslosh Lane; however the local Police had advised at least one resident not to walk in this area.

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

No police report.

6. To receive a report from the Town Mayor

No official engagements during January.

7. To receive a report from the County Councillor

Not present at the meeting.

8. To receive a report from the District Councillors

Cllr Bellows reported that during the recent bad weather all refuse vehicles were able to operate and carried out collections. The new road markings to be placed in Provost Street would be completed in March. Sweatsford Water Meadow would not now be transferred to the Town Council and would be retained by New Forest DC. Cllr Bellows is liaising with officers to undertake the works required (and agreed with the Town Council) as soon as possible.

Cllr Sevier – Nothing additional to report. Cllr Lewendon raised the condition of the surface of the highway in Salisbury Street (Riverside Place entrance). The Clerk advised that Hampshire Highways were seeking approval from New Forest Conservation Officer to replace the paving with tarmac. Cllr Sevier to follow up with officers.

Cllrs Sevier & Bellows together with the member of the public left the meeting.

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

Planning Committee – Resolved: that the minutes of the Planning Committee held on 14th January be received.

Amenities Committee – Resolved: that the minutes of the Amenities held on 21st January 2015 be received.

General Purposes Committee – Resolved: that the minutes of the General Purposes held on 21st January 2015 be received.

Finance & Policy Committee – Resolved: that the minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee held on 28th January 2015 be received.

10. To report on Health & Safety issues

Nothing to report.

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

Cllr Connolly reported on two recent meetings with representatives from the Sports Club, the Hampshire Football Association, The Rugby Football Union, the Council's Architect and New Forest DC to discuss the new Sports Facility. A revised design has reduced the cost to approximately £650,000, which should be more acceptable to funding organisations.

Cllr Connolly also reported on a recent meeting with Mags4U at which time the preparation and publication of a Town Guide was discussed – no cost to Council, funded by advertising by local businesses. It was agreed that this guide should be a source of information to both local residents and tourists.

Cllr Fulford reported on a recent meeting of the Burgate Community Partnership Committee. The former committee had been reviewed and divided into 2 Committees, one Governors & Staff Committee and one Community. Concern was raised over Membership of the Community Committee and it was considered that a wider community group should be represented. All Committee members had been requested to prepare a resume of items for discussion. A project to provide new changing facilities is currently being discussed together with concerns over parking provision at the school – proposal to use hard standing area provided for the previously proposed Sports Hall.

Cllr Hale reported that the replacement of the Sports Pavilion at Rockbourne was progressing well.

Cllr Anstey reported that following the recent sports club meetings, a visit from the Hampshire Football Association was scheduled in March to discuss pitch provision and maintenance plans – Town Clerk and Grounds man to attend. Cllr Connolly advised Members that FA advice was that a maximum of 2 games should be played on pitches per week and the Council would investigate the availability of alternative pitches on other sites.

12. To note any items of correspondence

The Clerk reported on further correspondence received raising concern over on-street parking in Salisbury Street and High Street and the apparent lack of parking enforcement – this has been passed to the parking team at New Forest District Council.

Cllr Perkins joined the meeting

An event notice had been received from New Forest DC regarding a Churches Together “Walk of Witness” event to be held in the town on Friday 3rd April 2015.

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

Nothing to report from the Clerk

Cllr Perkins reported on a meeting attended that evening regarding preparation of an Emergency Plan for the Town – clerk to distribute details.

Cllr Fulford reported that a Fly Fishing Tutorial Session had taken place in the River Avon (adjacent Children’s Play Area) Town Council not advised of event.

14. To note the date of the next meeting at Wednesday 4th March 2015.

Meeting closed at 8.22pm