

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Council Meeting held on Wednesday 4th June 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall

Present:

Cllr Connolly – Chairman

Cllrs Adams, Hale, Lewendon, Price, Perkins, (A) Wilson & (G) Wilson, Paton, Anstey

In attendance:

NFDC Cllr Sevier & Cllr Bellows

HCC Cllr Heron

PCSO Daisy Towers

Mrs H Richards, Town Clerk

Mrs M Coatham, Finance Officer

1. Apologies

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Fulford & Buchanan

2. Declarations of Interest

No Declarations received

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 7th May 2014 and report on any matters arising

It was proposed by Cllr A Lewendon and seconded by Cllr G Wilson and **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 7th May 2014 be signed as a true record.

Matters Arising - No Matters Arising

4. To receive any Matters raised by the Public

No matters raised by the Public

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

PCSO Daisy Towers reported that the majority of Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) over the past month had been vehicle crimes and the police had been dealing with these incidents using Section 59 powers. Cllr Perkins queried what type of incidents could be dealt with under Section 59. PCSO Towers explained that minor driving incidents considered ASB, not dangerous driving, could be investigated and dealt with but only if a complaint had been received from a member of the public. It was also reported that while a few incidents had been reported, it appeared that fewer ASB incidents had occurred at the Recreation Ground. Cllr Perkins requested details for the camera that had been purchased to be used for crime prevention and currently held by the police. PCSO Towers to provide details.

6. To receive a report from the Town Mayor.

Nothing to report.

7. To receive a report from the County Councillor.

Burgate School Transport Plan - Cllr Heron updated the meeting regarding the Transport Plan. The original plan to remove coaches from within the school car park was discussed at an early stage with residents from Burgate Fields to alleviate concerns over potential parking problems. Recent concern raised over the proposals was therefore not anticipated and Cllr Heron advised that further consultation would be carried out. Additional parking spaces would be available within the car park to provide for the displaced vehicles from the closure of the lay-by to all traffic except buses. Cllr A Wilson raised concern that 6th form students who drive to school from within Fordingbridge do not

have parking permits issued to them and would be unable to park in the car park also problems would occur with parents collecting pupils by car.

Street Lighting Replacement – Cllr Heron advised that the historic style lights would be replaced with similar upgraded lights. He advised that this project was part of a 20 year PFI (Private Finance Initiative) project by SSE Contracting in partnership with Hampshire CC. Lights are replaced to provide a better quality light, ensure cost efficiency and better control and management. Cllr Heron to provide programme of works to Town Clerk.

Sweatsford Water - Cllr Perkins queried if any progress had been made regarding management of Sweatsford Water – none although responsibility had been passed to NFDC.

8. To receive a report from the District Councillors

Cllr Bellows – Nothing to report

Cllr Sevier reported on the WW1 Commemorative project and advised that 77 people had been identified with a connection to Fordingbridge. The WW1 website is due to go live within the following 2 weeks. Cllr Sevier issued a plea for handling any issues of inaccuracy raised by members of the public as it has been difficult to obtain records as many were destroyed in the Second World War at the War Records office in London; Town Council requested to take contact details from any persons raising concern.

Cllr Perkins enquired if any progress made on the maintenance of the trees at Sweatsford Water – Cllr Bellows responded in the negative.

9. The receive the following Committee meeting minutes

- Planning Committee – 14th May 2014
- Staff & Remuneration Committee – 1st May 2014
- Amenities Committee – 21st May 2014
- General Purposes - 21st May 2014
- Finance & Policy Committee – 28th May 2014

10. Matters Arising from Finance & Policy Committee 28th May 2014

Audit Report – The Finance Officer reported on the outstanding items from the Audit Report:

Annual Accounts 2013/2014 – These were accepted by members at the Finance & Policy Committee meeting on 28th May 2014. Members noted that the accounts should in future be agreed at a meeting of the General Council.

Budget Setting – Budgets need to be formally approved before setting the precept and this must be done by General Council and not Finance and Policy.

Outstanding Debts – Write-off of long standing debts must be minuted.

The Finance Officer advised members of the details of the 2 debts currently outstanding:

£115.00 Hire of Recreation Ground, Summer 2013
£ 40.00 Hire of Town Hall

It was proposed by Cllr Lewendon, seconded by Cllr Perkins and **RESOLVED:** that the outstanding debts detailed above be written-off.

The Finance Officer would prepare a policy for the writing-off of debts for discussion and approval at the Finance & Policy Meeting on 25th June 2014.

11. To report on any Health & Safety issues

Cllr Anstey reported that the ROSPA Play Equipment inspection had recently been completed and Clerk advised that the report had been received.

12. To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies

Cllr G Wilson – Reported on a Boules evening due to take place on 12th June 2014 at Sandy Balls Park

Cllr P Anstey – Reported attendance at the following:

- 12 May Sports Club AGM
- 25 May Football 6 a side
- 03 May Rugby Club AGM

Also meetings with various sports clubs.

Football Turks. They were invited by the Turkish Community in London to an end of season football competition in London, which they won. They now have invites to Turkey and plan to host “Turkish” teams at the Rec.

13. To note any items of correspondence

No correspondence

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

Concession Building – The Finance Officer advised the meeting that the second invoice had been received from Mike Castle.

Playscheme 2014 – The Finance Officer distributed posters to all Members for display locally.

Fordingbridge Hospital – Cllr Perkins raised concern over the service provision available at the Hospital with residents having to travel considerable distances for care. Cllr Lewendon responded by advising the meeting that specialist services could not be provided at all local (cottage) hospitals. Discussion followed regarding health care provision in Fordingbridge, with patients having to travel to Salisbury Hospital for even basic services such as Blood Tests. It was AGREED that the Town Clerk would write to the Health Care Trust (*confirmed since the meeting as the West Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group*) and Desmond Swayne MP regarding healthcare provision.

15. To note the date of the next General Council meeting as **Wednesday 2nd July 2014.**

The meeting closed at 8.10 pm.