

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Finance & Policy Committee held on Wednesday 25th September 2012 at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall Council Chamber, Fordingbridge

Present:

Cllr Adams – Chairman

Cllrs Anstey, Connolly, Lewendon, Hale, Price, (A) Wilson & (G) Wilson

In attendance:

Ms K Mason, Town Clerk

Deborah Gordon, Finance Officer

Martine Coatham, Finance Officer.

Prior to the meeting Cllr Connolly advised members of the sad death of former Cllr Martin Westlake on 22nd September 2012. Cllr Westlake had given great service and loyalty to Fordingbridge Town Council and was fondly remembered by those who served with him. The Mayor and other members will attend the funeral on Friday 5th October 2012.

The Chairman welcomed Martine Coatham to the meeting who is taking over as Finance Officer.

1. To accept apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Fulford, Paton, Perkins, & Shering

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 29th August 2012 and report on any matters arising

It was proposed by Cllr Adams and seconded by Cllr Connolly that the minutes of the meeting held on 29th August 2012 be signed as a true record. All in favour, Carried.

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

No members of the public present.

5. To receive details of Monies Collected and Payment of Accounts

It was proposed by Cllr Adams and seconded by Cllr Connolly that the monies collected and accounts be approved and paid. All in favour, Carried.

Recreation Ground charges for single events – members AGREED that this matter would be deferred to the next Amenities Committee meeting in October.

6. To receive any Finance & Policy Matters referred from sub-committees

No matters referred.

7. To consider the following grant applications

Fordingbridge Stroke Club – it was AGREED to award a grant of £350

8. To discuss Recreation Ground Hire charge policy.

It was AGREED to defer this matter to the Amenities Committee meeting in October.

9. To discuss the NFDC consultation on Developer's Contributions

Members discussed a list of projects they would like to have considered by the Task & Finish Group at NFDC for funding from Developers Contributions:

- New Concession building in the Memorial Gardens £70k
- Radio controlled bus stop signs £10k
- Whitsbury Road Play Area footpath £15k
- Replacement 'Play House' at Recreation Ground Play area £15k
- Paddling pool repair £10k
- Bishops Pond access path and boardwalk £10k

The Clerk will send off the list to NFDC in time for the 30th September deadline. Members AGREED to contact the Clerk prior to this date with any further suggestions.

10. To discuss the Local Council Tax Support Scheme

Members noted the comments from NFDC regarding the revised payments of Council Tax Benefit and the possible implications for Town & Parish Council precepts.

11. To note any items of Correspondence

For the next item Cllr Connolly left the room.

Fordingbridge Twinning Association – a request was received from the Twinning Association to give a grant to fund transport costs of £800 for a group of twinners to go to the Vimoutiers Apple Festival in October. The Mayor and his wife will be attending, representing the Town Council following an invitation from Vimoutiers Town Council.

It was proposed by Cllr Adams and seconded by Cllr Hale to award a grant of £200 to cover the costs of the Mayor and his wife who are representing the Town Council. All in favour, Carried.

Cllr Connolly returned to the meeting.

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

Nothing to report.

13. To note the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 230th October 2012

At the end of the meeting Cllr Connolly presented flowers and a gift to Deborah Gordon, Finance Officer who is leaving the Town Council after 10 years' service. Members wished her well and thanked her for her loyal service to the Town Council.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.