

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a General Council Meeting held on 2nd January 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall

Present:

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

In attendance:

Ms K Mason, Town Clerk

1. Apologies

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Fulford, Perkins, Price, Shering, NFDC Cllrs Bellows & Sevier & HCC Cllr Heron

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Adams declared an interest in agenda item 9, payment of accounts.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2012 and report on any matters arising

It was proposed by Cllr (A) Wilson and seconded by Cllr Hale that the minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2012 be signed as a true record. All in favour, Carried.

Matters arising

The Chairman reported that a new Sargent of Police has been appointed for Fordingbridge and will attend the next General Council meeting.

Green Lane – Cllr Lewendon reported that the pavement outside Artisans Hairdressers is now sloping the wrong way. The Clerk to advise HCC Highways.

4. To receive any matters raised by members of the public

No members of the public were present.

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

No police were present.

Cllr Wilson reported that her shed had been broken into over the Christmas period, possibly by the same burglars who tried to break into Harrisons. The Police are aware.

6. To receive a report from the Town Mayor.

1.12 - attended the reception for Steve Coles at Fordingbridge Fire station to commemorate his 42 years in the service.

7.12 – Late Night Shopping event

11.12 - attended Ringwood & Fordingbridge Lions 'Dragons Den' event between Ringwood School and Burgate School

10.12 - Attended Ringwood Town Council Civic Service

18 to 20.12 - attended various local organisations Christmas events.

7. To receive a report from the County Councillor.

Not in attendance

8. To receive a report from the District Councillors

Not in attendance

Cllr Connolly thanked Mr Newman and Mr Padfield for attending the meeting and advised that the

9. To receive details of Monies collected and payments 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

Dog Waste – It was suggested that the Ground staff empty the dog bins as dog waste can be put in with the normal rubbish. Currently this is carried out by NFDC at a cost of £2k per year. The Clerk to enquire.

10. To receive the following Committee meeting minutes and any recommendations contained therein:

Staff & Remuneration Committee held on 6th November 2012 – Resolved: that the minutes of the Staff & Remuneration Committee held on 6th November 2012 be received.

Planning Committee held on the 13th November 2012 – Resolved: that the minutes of the Planning Committee held on the 13th November 2012 be received.

Amenities Committee held on 20th November 2012 – Resolved: that the minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 20th November 2012 be received.

General Purposes Committee held on 20th November 2012 – Resolved: that the minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on 20th November 2012 be received.

Finance & Policy Committee held on the 27th November 2012 – Resolved: that the minutes of the Finance & Policy Committee held on the 27th November 2012 be received.

Staff & Remuneration Committee held on 11th December 2012 – Resolved: that the minutes of the Staff & Remuneration Committee held on 11th December 2012 be received.

Planning Committee held on the 12th December 2012 – Resolved: that the minutes of the Planning Committee held on the 12th December 2012 be received.

11. To sign a dispensation to allow members to set the precept request for 2013/14.

Members each signed a dispensation form to allow them to take part in discussion and the decision to set the precept for 2013/14.

A dispensation was granted under the Localism Act 2011 as the Town Council:

- (a) considers that without the dispensation the number of persons prohibited by section 31(4) of the Act from participating in any particular business would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business as to impede the transaction of the business,
- (b) considers that granting the dispensation is in the interests of persons living in the authority's area,

12. To resolve to sign the SLA from NFDC for the Information Office

It was proposed by Cllr Connolly and seconded by Cllr Adams that the SLA from NFDC, to run the Information Service, be signed. All in favour, Carried.

13. To resolve to sign the SLA from NFDC for tree inspections

It was proposed by Cllr Anstey and seconded by Cllr Hale that the SLA from NFDC, to carry out tree inspections within the parish, be signed. All in favour, Carried.

14. To report on any Health & Safety issues

Nothing to report.

15. To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies

The Mayor and members visited Ford Ward at Fordingbridge Hospital on Tuesday 18th December to hand out mince pies and sherry to patients and staff.

Cllr Hale reported that Bishops pond now has water in it and looks like a pond after years of being dry.

Victoria Rooms – A replacement noticeboard has been erected outside the Victoria Rooms. Forest Forge are performing a play on 11th January 2013.

Cllr Lewendon attended a meeting of the Hospital steering Group on 20th December. It has been decided to keep the name of Ford Ward the same. The contract has been signed to move the X-ray Dept. to the Arch Clinic.

The old hospital building will be vacated by 31st March 2013. It will be handed over to the National Health Agency and it is unlikely that the building will be inspected regularly. Members expressed concern that the building may be allowed to deteriorate further.

16. To note any items of correspondence

HCC Public Consultation – planning for safe and well maintained highways. This will be an agenda item at the next Finance & Policy Committee meeting on 30th January.

Capping of precept – The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Eric Pickles announced on 19th December 2012 that Parish and Town Councils would not be included in the capping proposals for principal authorities for 2013/2014.

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

Nothing to report.

18. To note the date of the next General Council meeting as Wednesday 6th February 2013

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.