

## **FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the General Council meeting held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2015 in the Town Hall**

**(Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Committee)**

#### **Present:**

Cllr Connolly – Chairman

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

#### **In Attendance:**

Mrs H Richards, Town Clerk

Cllr A Sevier, New Forest DC

#### **1. To receive any apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence received from Cllr (G) Wilson

Cllr E Heron, Hampshire CC and Cllr R Bellows, New Forest DC

#### **2. To receive any Declarations of Interest**

No Declarations of Interest made.

#### **3. To confirm the minutes of the General Council meeting held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 and report any matters arising**

Cllr Anstey proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Lewendon and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015 be signed as a true record.

There were no Matters Arising.

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

No Members of the Public present.

#### **5. To receive a Report from the Town Mayor**

The Mayor reported on duties undertaken and events attended during July.

6 <sup>th</sup> July	Youth meeting @ Avonway
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Opened new garden @ Fordingbridge Infant School
11 <sup>th</sup> July	Sandleheath Choir Event
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Christmas in Fordingbridge meeting – The Mayor made a plea for additional help with this project Burgate Sports Day (cancelled)
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Parish Liaison meeting – new format successful & meetings would continue quarterly with Police attendance
28 <sup>th</sup> July	Planning meeting re. Neighbourhood Plan

#### **6. To receive a report from the County Councillor**

Not present – no written report.

## **7. To receive a report from the District Councillors**

Cllr Sevier reported on a meeting at New Forrest District Council to discuss housing allocation throughout the District. The National Park Authority has Green Areas designated which should be protected from development.

Cllr Sevier reported that with regard to the production of Neighbourhood Plans funding could not be guaranteed from NFDC and production of a Plan would incur costs of approximately £30,000. Lymington & Pennington Town Council are moving forward with a Neighbourhood Plan.

The process for allocating land for housing, will begin by New Forest DC writing to landowners to inform of the need for housing land and to encourage landowners to put potential sites forward – figures are due to be published at the end of the year.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Town Council will be writing to David Groom and Chris Elliott at New Forest DC regarding proceeding with the Neighbourhood Plan for Fordingbridge.

Cllr Sevier reported that further information had been obtained in connection with the WW1 project – the Chairman then gave thanks to Cllr Sevier for her commitment and diligence to and co-ordination of the project.

Cllr Sevier left the meeting.

## **8. The receive the following Committee meeting minutes and any recommendations to General Council contained therein**

- Planning Committee 8<sup>th</sup> July 2015 – received by Cllr Fulford
- General Purposes & Amenities 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015 – received by Cllr Anstey
- Finance & Policy 29<sup>th</sup> July 2015 – received by Cllr Connolly – Cllr Anstey requested that the following amendment be made to the minutes:

**Minute No. 12** - *Remove reference to “Hampshire Football Association or Hampshire Rugby Football Union” and replace with “relevant sporting organisations”.*

## **9. To report on any Health & Safety Issues**

No health & safety issues to report.

## **10. To receive reports from representatives on Outside Bodies and meetings attended**

### Cllr Earth

Avonway – Cllr Earth reported on a meeting attended – Helen Tague to retire 31/10/15

### Cllr Anstey

Turks Football Club - 17/7/15 Cllr Anstey reported on attendance at the Turks FC AGM at which time a new management team was agreed.

### Cllr Lewendon

Cllr Lewendon reported on a request by Roly Errington, Ellingham, Harbridge & Ibsley PC) seeking information about the RAF in Ibsley during the second world war.

**11. To report on the future of the Sports Club Project**

The Chairman advised the meeting that due to lack of funding available, the original proposal for a new building incorporating both the sports club and changing facilities, was no longer feasible. It is agreed that the existing changing facilities are not fit for purposes. Other options were now being considered including refurbishment/upgrading of the existing pavilion with some works to the sports club or a smaller rebuild. The project is reliant on self-help and community involvement and this message must be advertised and communicated.

Cllr Fulford proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Anstey and therefore **RESOLVED**: that due to a lack of funding availability the Town Council will be unable to proceed with the original proposal for the new Sports Facility building.

Discussion then took place over ownership of the Sports Club building and the responsibility for it. The Chairman clarified that the Town Council owns the building which is leased to the Sports Club. The rental charge was raised but no further discussion took place.

**12. To note any items of correspondence**

The Chairman advised members that a letter had been received from Cllr Heron, Hampshire CC & New Forest DC regarding the Transport & Traffic Management Agency – partnership working with Hampshire CC & New Forest DC and that following the retirement of one of the Engineers at New Forest DC, the Council no longer has the expertise to manage and supervise minor highway schemes. Due to this factor and the need to save resources Cllr Heron has decided that there is no point in holding the local traffic management agency meetings at the present time to talk about future programmes until at least some of the current uncertainties can be resolved. This is principally the decision of HCC on how it wants to proceed with future traffic management arrangements and this decision is unlikely until later in the year. This would mean that schemes such as the recently implemented schemes at Provost Street and Burgate School would be dealt with directly by Hampshire CC – the raised the question of whether this was in line with “localism”.

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

The Clerk reported on the Crime report provided by Inspector Stokes:

**ASB** (Anti-Social Behaviour) significantly down year to date, 2 reports in past month

**VAPI** (Violence Against the Person Injury) 3 reports this month

- domestic incident
- shoplifter who was detained and is being dealt with
- two elderly persons suffering from dementia where no formal action will be taken.

**Dwelling Burglary** - I am happy to report they have not been any in the past month

**BOTD** (Burglary Other Than Dwelling) there have been 3 in the past month, none in Fordingbridge itself, 1 in Damerham, 1 in Hyde and 1 in Rockbourne, 1 suspect arrested for 1 offence.

**Damage** - no reports of criminal damage have been received.

**Theft** - there have been 8 reports 3 attributed to same suspect who has been arrested, the others are a mix of push along scooters, food, bicycle pumps and alcohol.

**TFMV** (Theft From Motor Vehicle) there have been 4 reports this month, 1 relates to fuel and suspect arrested, 3 others relate to bags and backpacks being left on display and windows smashed to steal them.

**Suspicious Incidents** - there have been 4 reported,

- ladder at the back of Lloyds Bank where it looks like thieves may have been preparing to steal lead,
- suspicious call to an elderly lady stating it was Police,
- suspicious vehicle but no registration was taken
- male who has been urinating at the Skate Park, Council aware and advice given to issue him a banning letter.

Burglary at Fordingbridge Junior School not included above as it occurred this weekend, named suspect will be dealt with shortly.

To summarise crime is on a downward trend in Fordingbridge at the moment but please continue to encourage your community to report any suspicious activity.

Cllr Lewendon reported that New Forest DC are currently considering a Screening Opinion for a Solar Park at Whitsbury Road, Brookheath, Rockbourne.

Cllr Paton reported that during a recent visit to the Recreation Ground, the Groundsman locked the gate at 6.00pm – well in advance of sunset. Town Clerk to discuss with groundsman and investigate provision of barrier.

**14. To note the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2015 at 7.30pm**

The meeting closed at 8.45pm