

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a General Council held on Wednesday 1st February 2017 at 7.30pm in the Town Hall

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

Present: Cllr Connolly – Chairman

Cllrs Adams, Paton, Anstey, Lewendon, Hale, Earth, Perkins & Bailey

In attendance: Mrs H Richards, Town Clerk
Cllr Heron, Hampshire CC
Cllr Bellows, New Forest DC

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Fulford & Price & Cllr Sevier (New Forest DC)

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest

No declarations made.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 4th January 2017 and report any matters arising

Cllr Lewendon proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Paton and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the minutes of the meeting held on the 4th January 2017 be signed as a true record. All in favour.

Matters Arising

Minute no. 8 - Cllr Lewendon reported that the overgrown hedge at Whitsbury Road had still not been cut.

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

No members of the public present.

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

	January 2017
Anti-social Behaviour	4
Violence against the Person Injury	3
Dwelling Burglary	1
Burglary other than Dwelling	5
Damage	6
Theft	6
Theft from Motor Vehicle	1
Suspicious Incidents	3

Cllr Lewendon raised concerned over vehicles parking on the road & pavement outside of the Chinese takeaway in Salisbury Street causing danger to pedestrians who are unable to pass on the footway. Town Clerk to contact Police.

Cllr Earth reported that continuing problem with Dog Fouling on pathways near to the schools; Town Clerk reported that this was once again becoming a problem throughout the town and including at the Recreation Ground. Cllr Bellows undertook to speak with the Dog Warden.

6. To receive a report from the Town Mayor

19/01 NFALC Meeting

22/01 Regal Cinema Meeting – opening in May, details of Membership now available

25/01 HALC – Planning Negotiate a Better Outcome course

30/01 Quadrant Meeting

7. To receive a report from the County Councillor

Cllr Heron reported on progress on Devolution plans – there would be no Solent deal. Focus will now be on what the government wants as a whole and whether any “quick wins” could be achieved now for the benefit of residents. Hampshire CC will consider the budget report soon, including the announcement that Adult Care precept increases call be rolled together.

With regard to Highway matters, Cllr Heron requested feedback on the replacement of the brick pavements in Bridge Street or whether it would be preferred if these were replaced with tarmac. Members agreed that bricks should be replaced with tarmac on the road as constant damage is caused to the bricks by traffic. Members added that this replacement with tarmac should extend to all paved areas of road within the Town Centre (High Street, Salisbury Street)

8. To receive a report from the District Councillors

Cllr Bellows reported that a new service was being offered to residents to remind them when glass collections are due by signing up for text messages – those signing up are entered into a reward draw.

Cllr Earth queried that Riverside Place do not receive a glass collection. Cllrs Heron & Bellows responded that as these properties are flats, they have been approached to consider provision of a communal glass recycling bin which would be entered by New Forest DC and advised Cllr Earth to contact the Management Company.

Cllr Perkins reported that although the New Forest DC street sweeper had recently been operating in Fordingbridge, the quality of the service was poor.

Cllrs Heron & Bellows left the meeting.

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

- Planning Committee – 11th January 2017 – Received by Cllr Connolly in Chairs absence
- Amenities Committee – 18th January 2017 – Received Cllr Anstey
- General Purposes Committee – 18th January 2017 – received by Cllr Earth
- Staff & Remuneration 25th January 2017 – Received Cllr Connolly Staffing & Accommodation report to Finance & Policy 22nd February.
- Finance & Policy 25th January 2017 – Received Cllr Connolly - Risk Register to March meeting.

10. To report on any Health & Safety issues

Nothing to report from the Health & Safety officer

Cllr Perkins reported that the Co-op front access door was still not in operation and considered that this is a safety hazard, no means of escape in case of fire.

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

Cllr Earth

Twinning Murder Mystery event to be held at St Mary's Church Hall on 4th February 2017

Cllr Hale

- 5/1/17 - meeting of the Victoria Rooms Trust – preparing for Forest Forge (successful)
 - Concerns over loss of bookings
 - Likely to be small deficit in 2016
- 10/1/17 - Fordingbridge Conservation Volunteers – Request from Mayor for proposals for Bishops Pond (Graham Long to report)
 - Use site for public access in long term

Cllr Anstey

10/1/17 Meeting with the Turks FC (instigated by Town Council) to discuss facilities & Turks aspirations for promotion. Turks have now submitted quote for plumbing works to provide new showers as an alternative to members of the football club carrying out the works (insurance problem).

All schools and other organisations should have common sports policy.

Members requested that other options be investigated – Town Clerk to contact New Forest DC.

Cllr Connolly

NFALC meeting –

- new Police Chief Inspector Bob Mitchell, priorities highlighted for the New Forest partnership however cyber-crime is not one of the priorities, however the partnership will be attending sessions at schools.
- Broadband in New Forest
- Drones Policy – not to be flown over any Government owned land

HALC - Planning Negotiate a Better outcome –

- information on how we can challenge reports and statistics provided by developers,
- Local Councils need to be involved at an earlier stage – (pre-application) raise at next NFALC meeting or for pre-application details to be published
- Neighbourhood plan important

12. To receive any items of correspondence

No items of correspondence to report.

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

The Clerk reported the following items:

- Vacancies – Assistant Clerk post to be advertised this week
Information Officer post on hold until after meeting with New Forest DC and consideration of the staffing and accommodation report by the Finance & Policy Committee on 22nd February 2017
- Planning – HALC – Highlights the need for forward planning by the Town Council (Neighbourhood Plan/Community Plan/Wish List)

Cllr Lewendon reported that a new fleet of buses were now servicing Fordingbridge with improved access, seating and WiFi available

Cllr Perkins mentioned that the Environment Agency had announced tighter controls on fishing licences with fines of up to £800 for non-possession of a licence.

Cllr Connolly advised that at least 50 visitors were expected to arrive for the Twinning 35th Anniversary in May with various events being organised including a football match.

14. To note the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 1st March 2017

The meeting closed at 8.40pm