

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a General Council held on Wednesday 4th January 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, Price, Paton, Anstey, Lewendon, Wilson, Hale, Earth, Perkins & Bailey

In attendance: Mrs H Richards, Town Clerk
Cllr Sevier, New Forest DC

1. To receive any apologies for absence

No apologies received

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest

No declarations made.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 7th December 2016 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 7th December 2016 be signed as a true record. All in favour.

Cllr Perkins entered the meeting

Matters Arising

No matters were raised.

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

No report received.

6. To receive a report from the Town Mayor

15/12/16 Lunch Club Christmas Lunch

18/12/16 Attended 100th Birthday party of local resident

20/12/16 Visit to Fordingbridge Hospital

7. To receive a report from the County Councillor

Not present and no written report received.

8. To receive a report from the District Councillors

Cllr Sevier spoke of the most recent proposals for strategic sites in the Local Plan Review and in particular the site at Burgate to the West of the A338 (not yet formally submitted to New Forest DC but details have been distributed to Town and District Councillors). This site has yet to be assessed for suitability but has the potential to provide a link from the A338 to the Whitsbury Road sites. Town Council to discuss a response to the developer at Planning Committee on 11th January.

Cllr Lewendon again raised the overgrown hedge at the northern end of Whitsbury Road –
Cllr Sevier undertook to email Cllr Heron (Hampshire CC) and Town Clerk to speak with Highways.

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

- Planning Committee – 14th December 2016 – The Town Clerk advised that the electronic version emailed to Members contained an incorrect date which had been amended – 2nd draft distributed at the meeting in hardcopy. Cllr Hale received the Minutes.

10. To receive a recommendation from the Finance & Policy committee on the precept for 2017/18.

Members considered the recommendation for the budgets and associated precept of **£194,657.00** for the financial year 2017/18.

Cllr Price proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Lewendon and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the Precept Request for the financial year 2017/18 shall be **£194,657.00** All in favour

11. To report on any Health & Safety issues

Cllr Anstey reported that a drone had recently been used to film a Rugby match at the Recreation Ground; regulations require the permission of the land owner and other requirements. Cllr Anstey to contact the Rugby Club & Town Clerk to check regulations.

Cllr Wilson raised concern over the surfacing of the High Street and the pedestrian crossing following a recent incident when a wheelchair user had become stuck in one of the grooves in the paving.

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

Cllr Anstey reported on attendance at a sports Club meeting on 12th December at which time the club advised that they would not be pursuing the conversion of the old toilet block into a storage facility as any sports club funds are for the sports club facility. The works proposed by the Turks to the changing rooms was on hold awaiting the outcome of the recent visit by LanServices and it was confirmed at the meeting that it was not an option for the Turks 1st Team to move to Damerham as the ground and facilities are not suitable.

Cllr Anstey confirmed that he had raised the issue of vehicles being parked beyond the barrier leading to the sports club (when the car park is full).

13/16/16 Cllr Anstey reported on the Planning (Permitted Development) event held by the National Park Authority (NPA). The NPA advised delegates that they welcome input from parish & Town Councils and they represent the views of local residents. – This led to a discussion about whether the Town Council should discuss planning applications made by its own Members – Town Clerk to research good practice and prepare a report/policy for presentation to the Planning Committee.

14/12/16 Cllr Anstey, together with the chairman, attended a community youth event run by PCSO May and hosted at the Salvation Army Hall. The Chairman advised that there was general concern over the condition of the skatepark and feedback indicated that it was still well-used and needed to be replaced. It was likely that Cllr Bellows (NFDC) and Michael French from the Salvation Army would work together to enable youth meetings to take place.

13. To receive any items of correspondence

The clerk reported on correspondence received from Lloyds Bank regarding closure of the Fordingbridge branch.

Hampshire Alert (Police) – Request from the Chief Constable for responses to the Police and Crime Commissioners survey on spending. Town Clerk to forward to Members for individual responses.

Concern was raised concerning groups of youths playing on Scooters across the road – police not taking any action.

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

The Clerk had nothing further to report.

Cllr Perkins reported that street sweeping had been carried out recently in the Town. It was mentioned that drains are now blocked and need clearing.

15. To note the date of the next meeting as Wednesday 1st February 2017

The meeting closed at 8.20pm