

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the General Council meeting held on Wednesday 7th November 2018 at
7.30pm in the Town Hall**

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

Present: Cllr Anstey – Chairman
Cllrs Adams, Connolly, Earth, Hale, Fulford, Lewendon, Paton, Perkins, White and Wilson

In Attendance: Mrs R Edwards, Asst Town Clerk
1 Member of the Public

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Moulard.

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. To confirm the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 3rd October 2018 and to report on any matters arising.

Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Lewendon and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 3rd October 2018 be signed as a true record. All in favour.

Matters Arising

Minute No. 5 - Cllr Lewendon reported that he still had the bicycle and that PCSO May had not contacted him about it.

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

A local resident asked what is being done regarding the traffic situation in Fordingbridge. He said that the pavements are narrow, lorries drive onto the pavements in order to pass one another, few people use disability scooters as they are too dangerous to use in the town. Extra cars as a result of the new housing developments will exert extra pressure on an already struggling infrastructure. He felt that Hampshire County Council was turning a blind eye and that Fordingbridge was being ignored. He suggested that a traffic calmer opposite the estate agents Woolley and Wallis would be desirable, in order to slow the traffic down.

Councillors discussed the traffic situation and agreed it had been a problem for a long time and there was no quick solution. Cllr Adams reported that Sherings had wanted to extend the pavement at this location years ago but it wasn't allowed by the Conservation Officer due to the volume of traffic.

The member of public left the meeting.

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

Fordingbridge Town October 2018 Beat Report

Crime Tree	5th August – 3rd November	7th May – 4th August	Difference	Difference %
1b Violence with Injury	10	6	4	
1c Violence without Injury	10	13	-3	
2a Rape	2		2	
4a1 Burglary Residential	8	5	3	
Residential Burglary (excluding sheds / garages)	1	3	2	
4a2 Burglary Business and Community	2	2	0	
4b Vehicle Offences	3	3	0	
4d Bicycle Theft	1	2	-1	
4e Shoplifting	1	3	-2	
4f All Other Theft Offences	7	12	-5	
5a Criminal Damage	8	4	4	
6b Possession of Drugs	1	2	-1	
8 Public Order Offences	3	6	-3	
9 Miscellaneous Crimes Against Society	3	4	-1	
Sum:	59	62	-3	-4.84%

54 recorded occurrences, 16 of which are recordable as crimes

5 reports relating to ASB, all of which are isolated incidents

1 attempt to enter an outbuilding

Reports of people going door to door attempting to buy gold and silver

Cllr Lewendon asked what the difference between Crime and Recordable Crime was. He also asked what geographical area 'Fordingbridge Town' covers.

Action: Asst Clerk to ask PCSO May.

6. To receive a report from the Town Mayor

The Mayor said that he never ceases to be amazed at the community spirit in Fordingbridge.

He recently attended

- Poppy Concert at the URC where Hyde band played
- 3rd November - Lego day - The Mayor thanked David Tree for the contribution to the Christmas lights.
- 7th November – Guy competition at Fordingbridge Infant and Junior Schools
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The Mayor also complimented the knitted poppies made by the Yarn Community Fordingbridge which are now decorating the streets. He mentioned that many other communities within the town are currently preparing for Remembrance Day.

7. To receive a report from the County Councillor

No report received.

8. To receive a report from the District Councillors

No report received.

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

Planning Committee – 10th October 2018 – received Cllr Hale

Staff & Remuneration Committee 17th October 2018 – received Cllr Adams

Finance & Policy Committee 24th October 2018 – received Cllr Adams

Finance & Policy Committee – 31st October 2018 – received Cllr Adams

Cllr Adams reported that the newly formed working group, set up by the Finance and Policy Committee to agree a design for a WW1 memorial stone and inscription, had recommendations to make. Councillors postponed this discussion to agenda item 13.

Councillors asked that when working groups were set up, it be made clear which committee they should report back to.

10. To report on any Health & Safety issues

Nothing to report.

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

Cllr Fulford reported that the meeting due to be held at Burgate school had been cancelled.

Cllr Wilson attended the Allotment AGM and prize giving on 17th October. She also reported on the Allotment Committee meeting on 6th November - several Health and Safety issues had been raised and it was decided to carry out a risk assessment.

Cllr Earth reported that the Twinning Association Autumn Jazz evening on 27th October had been a great success.

Cllr Adams attended the Go New Forest Open Day on 17th October.

12. To note any items of correspondence

The Asst Clerk read out the National Association of Local Council's legal update:

... the Monday following the local council elections on Thursday 2 May next year falls on a bank holiday. This matters for establishing the date that councillors retire and new councillors assume office, that is, the fourth day after the ordinary day of election (s.16 (3) of the Local Government Act 1972).

In many cases bank holidays do not count for the purpose of computing days – s.243 of the 1972 Act. NALC's view in this case is that the relevant day for retiring/ taking office would be the day after the bank holiday Monday; Tuesday 7 May 2019. We put this to the Electoral Commission, who agreed with our view, stating;

"It is the Commission view that the bank holiday postpones the day of retirement and taking office for councillors by one day, as the bank holiday you are referring to is on Monday 6th May 2019, this means that the relevant day for retirement and taking office is Tuesday 7th May".

Cllr Wilson asked where the elections will be held if the Town Hall was closed due to works. The Asst Clerk reported that it is hoped the hall will be available for the elections. Cllr Adams asked if the shed could be used for storage while works were taking place.

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

The Asst Clerk reported that permission has now been granted to erect Christmas lights in Fordingbridge. Cllr Perkins asked about donations from local businesses last year towards Christmas lights and cantenary wires that hadn't been purchased. The Town Clerk is following this up.

The Asst Clerk reminded members of the WW1 Exhibition to be held in the Town Hall on 9th, 10th and 11th November 10am – 5pm. Also, any Councillors volunteering as a Marshal for the Remembrance Day parade could borrow Hi-Vis jackets from the office.

Cllr Adams, as representative of the WW1 memorial working group, read out the group's suggested wording for the new memorial stone's inscription. The working group would like the villages surrounding Fordingbridge to be included in this memorial - Cllr Adams has spoken to neighbouring Parish Clerks and to the District Councillor, Ann Sevier, who all like this idea. The proposed stone will cost between £800 - £900. £1000 has been allocated from reserves to the Remembrance Sunday event to cover the cost of a lasting memorial, crosses, wreaths, Hyde Band and refreshments (*Finance and Policy Committee, 25th July 2018, Para 7*).

Cllr Adams asked Councillors to agree

1. Where this memorial stone should be sited in the Recreation Ground
2. That outlying villages will be included in it

Councillors discussed the protocol of working groups reporting back and whether this item should go to the Finance and Policy Committee or to the next General Council meeting. It was agreed that as this item was not on the agenda, it could not be decided at this meeting. Members agreed to discuss at an Extraordinary General Council meeting the following week.

Cllr Fulford asked that a date be decided for discussing the CIL policy. Cllr Connolly to arrange.

14. To note the date of the next General Council meeting as Wednesday 14th November 2018

The meeting closed at 8.22pm

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN OCTOBER 2018 BEAT REPORT

APPENDIX A

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 FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT <https://www.police.uk/hampshire/1NW01/>