

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the General Council on Wednesday 3rd January 2018 at 7.48pm in the Town Hall

Present: Cllr Connolly – Chairman

Cllrs Adams, Anstey, Earth, Fulford, Hale, Lewendon, Paton, Price, White, Wilson

In Attendance: Mrs H Richards, Town Clerk
Mrs R Edwards, Asst Town Clerk
Cllr Sevier, NFDC
Cllr Matcham, NFDC
A Member of the Press (Forest Journal)

1. To receive any apologies for attendance

Apologies were received from Cllr Fulford and Cllr Heron HCC.

2. To receive any declarations of interest

No declarations made.

3. To confirm the minutes of the General Council meeting held on Wednesday 6th December 2017 and to report on any matters arising

Cllr Wilson proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Anstey and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2017 be signed as a true record. All in favour.

Matters Arising

Minute No. 3 - Cllr Lewendon reported that Hampshire Highways have advised that the hedge on Whitsbury Road will soon be cut.

Minute No. 13 – The Asst Clerk gave out data on Parking Clock sales at Fordingbridge Information Office 2013-2018 (see appendix 1).

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 and Disorder Act

The following crime report was received for November. No report was received for December.

	November
Anti-Social Behaviour	4
Violence against person	6
Dwelling Burglary	0
Other Burglary	4
Damage	4
Theft	2
Theft from Vehicles	2
Suspicious Incidents	11

Cllr Adams asked how many of these incidents are actually attended by Police. Cllr Lewendon raised the issue of drug taking at Roundhill and whether the Police were doing anything about it.

Action: Clerk to find out how many incidents attended by Police.

6. To receive a report from the Mayor

The Mayor reported on the following events and duties undertaken during December:

- 8 Dec – Opened Help For Heroes bazaar at Downton
- 14 Dec – Luncheon Club Christmas party
- 15 Dec – Pantomime at Victoria Rooms by Western Downlands School
- 19 Dec – Fordingbridge Hospital visit taking mince pies to patients

The Mayor also judged the Christmas shop window display competition and presented prizes, with the first prize going to Jane the Florist. He reiterated his comments from the General Council meeting on 6th December 2017 as to what a fantastic job the local NFDC cleaner did on the evening of the Christmas Lights Switch cleaning up after the event.

Action: Clerk to write letter of thanks and also commend to NFDC

7. To receive a report from the County Councillor

No report received.

8. To receive a report from District Councillors

Cllr Sevier thanked the Council for supporting the Salvation Army's planning application for the buggy shelter (Planning Ref 17/11517). She will be supporting it when it goes to committee on 10th January and hopes it will go through.

Cllr Matcham has been working on a potential market at Roundhill. There will need to be a street plan with exact location of stall holders, car parking and access and escape routes. Fordingbridge Town Council will need to write the plan and send to NFDC.

Action: Cllr Matcham to liaise with Fordingbridge Town Council regarding the market.

Cllr Matcham reported that one of the General Council meeting dates on the website was incorrect.

Action: Clerk to investigate and ask website host to change.

Cllrs Sevier and Matcham left the meeting

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

- Planning Committee – 13th December 2017 Received Cllr Hale

10. To receive a recommendation from the Finance & Policy Committee on the precept for 2018/19

Cllr Lewendon proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Anstey and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the precept would be raised by 2% as recommended by the Finance and Policy Committee to £198550. All in favour.

11. To report on any Health & Safety issues

Nothing to report.

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

Cllr Earth informed members of the Twinning Association's murder mystery evening on 3rd February 2018 and invited all to come.

Cllr Hale

- informed members of the Forest Forge play The Frog Prince, performing at the Victoria rooms on 5th January 2018 and invited all to come.
- advised members of a meeting hosted by the Conservation Volunteers next Tuesday 9th January 2018 regarding Bishops Pond and the way forward.
- Has been part of a working group to look at ways to make better use of the Town Hall. Met with Cllr Wilson and the Conservation Officer who was not opposed to improving the staircase. However, the projector room currently overhangs the staircase and needs consideration. The idea has been mooted of having the Visitor Information Centre downstairs in the Town Hall and staff offices upstairs after building works are complete.

Cllr White met with Rotary and a local business owner regarding future events in Fordingbridge and the possibility of a Summer Festival this year.

Cllr Anstey

- Attended the Burgate 6th Form presentation evening on 13th December 2017
- Visited skate parks in Lymington and Ringwood

Cllr Lewendon contacted Cllr Heron and the police about the parking on Salisbury Street. The parking attendant will investigate.

The Asst. Clerk read an email from a member of the public complaining about the same issue of parking on Salisbury Street.

Action: Asst Clerk to forward email to NFDC and ask for action to be taken

13. To note any items of correspondence

Other than the email regarding parking along Salisbury St (see item 12) there were no other items of correspondence.

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

The Clerk reported that some of the town's Christmas lights fell down on Boxing Day. A catenary wire bracket attached to the Crown came loose and the lights fell down, breaking a window at the Cottage Loaf bakery. This will result in an insurance claim.

There will be a post-Christmas wash-up meeting to be held at the Town Hall on Wednesday 10th January 2018 at 6pm. All Councillors are invited to attend.

An email has been received from the Internal Auditor exploring the possibility of them acting as Officer for the new GDPR regulations due to come into force in May 2018.

14. To note the date of the next General Council meeting as Wednesday 7th February 2018

The meeting closed at 8.36pm