

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the General Council meeting held on Wednesday 3rd July 2019 at 7.30pm in
the Victoria Rooms
(Minutes subject to approval at the next meeting of the Council)**

Present: Cllr Anstey – Chairman
Cllrs Adams, Earth, Hale, Lewendon, Mouland, Paton, Perkins, White & Wilson

In Attendance: Mr P Goddard, Town Clerk
Cllr Bellows (NFDC)
Katy Griffin (Salisbury Journal)
Two members of the public

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Jackson and Goldsmith, Cllr Sevier.

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest

3. To confirm the minutes of the General Council meeting held on Wednesday 5th June 2019 and to report on any matters arising

Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Adams and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the General Council meeting held on the 5th June 2019 are signed as a true record.

Matters arising: Cllr Lewendon advised that there are no handrails at the SANG and it does not comply with the drawings. Anything over 45cm off the ground needs handrails.

Action: Town Clerk to ask if the SANG is finished.

4. To confirm the minutes of the Extraordinary General Council meeting held on Wednesday 26th June 2019 and to report on any matters arising

Cllr Paton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Adams and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the Extraordinary Annual Council meeting held on the 26th June 2019 are signed as a true record. There were no matters arising.

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

No matters raised.

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

The Clerk read the following report from the neighbourhood policing team for June 2019.

Anti-Social Behaviour	6
Violence against the person	5
Dwelling Burglary	0
Burglary other than Dwelling	0
Business Burglary	3
Damage	1
Theft	1
Theft from Motor Vehicles	6
Suspicious Incidents	6

7. To receive a report from the Town Mayor

Cllr Anstey reported that on 25th June he attended the 1st Sandleheath Sea Scouts awards for the youth and also the adult volunteers.

On 28th June he attended the service unveiling the memorial plaque and thanked those that attended.

On 2nd July he was photographed with the new defibrillator for the Salisbury Journal. This both lets people know where it is and is a way of thanking the residents of Fordingbridge.

Cllr Anstey referred to the travellers' encampment at the Recreation Ground and advised that the correct process has been followed and that there is now a legal process that needs to be followed. All that was required to be done by the Town Council had been carried out.

Cllr Anstey noted the well-run camping event held by the Whippet Club commenting on the preparation and the fact the club had, with the guidance of the Town Council, obtained the necessary exemption certificate to enable them to reside on the Recreation Ground

8. To receive a report from the County Councillor

Cllr Edward Heron was not in attendance, no report received.

9. To receive a report from the District Councillors

Cllr Ann Bellows referred to the recent meeting with the Burgate School. Cllr Anstey commented on the need to communicate to the School and other bodies what the Town Council does. Some topics that were raised at the meeting did not fall within the Town Council's remit. Cllr Bellows noted the school's desire to engage with the Town, District and County Councils. Cllr Anstey advised that interested non-councillors could be co-opted on to sub-committees. Cllr Bellows suggested that interested residents could also attend general council meetings as a member of the public.

Cllr Perkins raised the issue of contractors that are cutting the grass verges are going to fast and leaving the cuttings in situ.

Cllr Wilson raised the proposed street market and the desire to limit the stall holders to local businesses. Cllr Bellows advised that Cllr Sevier had prepared information regarding the street market. Cllr Wilson queried who at NFDC should the Town Council be liaising with and Cllr Bellows undertook to find out.

10. To receive an update on parking in Salisbury Street

Cllr Anstey advised that there was nothing for the Town Council to update the public on. Cllr Lewendon had suggested that parking concerns could be logged through an existing facebook page, 'No parking in Fordingbridge' but that site has since been closed. He suggested setting up an alternative page.

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

- Planning Committee – 12th June 2019 – received Cllr Hale
- EO General Purposes Committee – 26th June 2019 – received Cllr Wilson
- Finance & Policy Committee – 26th June 2019 – received Cllr Adams

12. To receive a presentation from Ringwood and Fordingbridge Citizens Advice

The Town Clerk advised that the representative had sent his apologies and hoped to attend the next General Council meeting instead.

13. To approve a resolution to support Fairtrade

Cllr Anstey referred to the draft resolution to support Fairtrade. Cllr Adams expressed support for Fairtrade. Cllr Perkins asked how Fairtrade worked in conjunction with the New Forest produce marque. The member of the public advised that they worked in tandem. Cllr Anstey agreed with the idea of better working conditions but was aware that some reports talk about controversy regarding Fairtrade and there were mixed reviews about the positive effects of Fairtrade. Cllr Anstey advised Fairtrade is not a charity but a business and queried whether the Town Council should be promoting a business. Cllr Hale proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Lewendon and therefore RESOLVED to approve the following resolution. Nine in favour and one against.

The Town Council will support a strategy to facilitate the promotion and purchase of foods with the FAIRTRADE Mark as part of its commitment to and in pursuit of sustainable development and to give marginalised producers a fair deal.

To be recognised by the residents and business community of Fordingbridge, suppliers, employees and other local authorities, as a town that actively supports and promotes Fairtrade and to increase the sale of products with the FAIRTRADE Mark.

The Town Council resolves to contribute to the campaign to increase sales of products with the FAIRTRADE Mark by supporting the campaign to achieve Fairtrade status for Fordingbridge as detailed in the Fairtrade Foundation's Fairtrade Towns initiative.

To this end, Fordingbridge Town Council resolves to:

- Offer FAIRTRADE Marked food and drink options internally and make them available for internal meetings
- Promote the FAIRTRADE Mark using Fairtrade Foundation materials in refreshment areas
- Use influence to urge local business to offer Fairtrade options to their staff and promote the FAIRTRADE Mark internally
- Nominate a council representative (member or officer) to sit on the Fairtrade Steering Group and support ongoing work to promote Fairtrade
- Engage in a media campaign to publicise the Fairtrade Towns initiative.

14. To agree a response to the Serving Hampshire – Balancing the Budget Consultation

Cllr Anstey referred to the balancing the budget consultation which concludes that asking whether the process the County Council was going down was approved. Whilst one may not agree with the outcome of the consultation the question being asked is whether there was approval of the consultation process itself. Cllr Anstey therefore proposed the Town Council agreed with the process the County Council was going through. Cllrs queried the cost of the process and Cllr Wilson expressed the view that she could not argue with the process itself.

15. To report on any Health & Safety issues

The Town Clerk advised Cllrs that due to the presence of travellers at the Recreation Ground the scheduled Health and Safety visit by Ellis Whittam had been postponed until 6th August.

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

Cllr White had attended the Summer Festival committee meeting. He advised that the Events Group had convened an extraordinary meeting to discuss the Christmas Lights which he proposed to attend. Cllr White asked whether other Cllrs also wished to attend. Cllr Anstey suggested that if possible the RFO should attend on behalf of the Town Council. Cllr Paton had attended the meeting with the Burgate School.

17. To note any items of correspondence

There was no correspondence to report.

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

Cllrs discussed the Town Council's official response to residents regarding the travellers encampment at the Recreation Ground. Cllr Anstey referred to his comments earlier that the encampment was being dealt with. Cllr Paton suggested that the Town Council should consider installing a height restriction barrier at the entrance to the car park.

19. To note the date of the next General Council meeting as Wednesday 7th August 2019

The meeting closed at 8:07 p.m.