

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 16th January 2019 in the Town Hall

(Minutes draft until approved at the following meeting of the Committee)

Present: Cllr Earth – Chairman
Cllrs Adams, Anstey, Hale & Wilson

In Attendance: Mrs P. Goddard, Town Clerk
Mrs R. Edwards, Asst Town Clerk
Mrs M. Coatham, Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)
Cllrs Lewendon, Moulard & Paton (Public Gallery)

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Fulford

2. To receive any declarations of interest

No declarations were made.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st November 2018 and report on any matters arising.

Cllr Hale proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Wilson and therefore **RESOLVED:** to sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st November 2018 as a true record. All in favour.

Matters Arising

Minute No. 10 – No licence is needed from the Environment Agency for the installation of an electric pump on the allotments.

Minute No. 10 – The allotment fence has now been replaced.

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

No matters raised.

5. To report on any matters concerning St Marys Closed Churchyard and Stuckton Road Cemetery

No items to report.

6. Matters relating to the Town Hall

The Town Clerk reported that tenders have now gone out to contractors and the deadline has been extended from 17th to 31st January. The Listed Building application was submitted last week. The Buildings Manager will also cost the work. Cllr Earth expressed interest in being present at the opening of the tenders. Cllr Adams expressed interest in reviewing the tenders received.

Action: Town Clerk to circulate the tender documents to members.

7. To report any matters concerning footpaths

The Asst Clerk reported that the Rights of Way Vegetation priority cutting list was due back shortly. Eight footpaths were on the list but only five would be cut. Members decided that paths further from the town, where access was more difficult would be prioritised. The Lengthsman would be asked to do the remaining paths as part of his work.

8. Matters concerning Highways

No matters to report.

9. Matters concerning Allotments

Two allotment tenants had asked to install an electric pump to serve their plots – this would be similar to one already provided on another plot. The pump would be stored in a shed on the plot.

Cllr Wilson proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Adams and therefore **RESOLVED**: to give permission to dig a well on Fordingbridge allotments. All in favour.

A day is planned for allotment holders to clear the allotment bank of rubbish. Cllrs Earth and Wilson will oversee this clearance work. The RFO advised members that the insurance will only cover volunteers if a risk assessment is done and volunteers sign a code of conduct. A First Aid kit will also need to be available on the day.

Action: Cllr Wilson to do risk assessment and ask volunteers to sign a code of conduct.

Action: RFO to book skip.

10. To consider the future of the Play Scheme

Hampshire County Council have historically given FTC a grant towards the running of the Playscheme. However, they didn't do this in 2017 and it is unknown yet whether a grant will be available for 2019. The grant covers the additional cost of one to one support for the children that need it. FTC budgets £2000 for other costs of the Playscheme. Enquiries are already being received from parents regarding the Playscheme this coming summer, however no decision about the running of the Playscheme can be made without knowing if a grant is available.

Action: RFO to ask Playscheme manager if grant available from Hampshire County Council

11. To note any items of correspondence

The Asst Clerk advised members of a Facebook message complaining about the dog poo in Fordingbridge. Members agreed to investigate buying bin stickers advising people that any bin can be used for dog poo. Also to request that schools help in educating children and parents. A post would be shared on Facebook asking people to pick up after their dogs and poster put up around the town. Cllr Wilson requested that the poo bin at Elmwood Avenue be moved to the footpath behind St. Mary's Church Hall.

Action: Cllr Wilson to produce posters and give to office for erection

Action: Asst Clerk to post on Facebook, buy bin stickers, get in touch with schools and request that the poo bin is moved from Elmwood Avenue.

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

Nothing further to report.

13. To note the date of the next meeting as 20th March 2019

The meeting finished at 8.07pm