

FORDINGBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of the General Council meeting held on Wednesday 5th January 2022 at 7.30pm
held at the Town Hall.**

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

Present: Cllr Hale – Chairman
Cllrs Adams, Anstey, Goldsmith, Lewendon, Paton, White and Wilson

In Attendance: Mr P Goddard, Town Clerk
Mrs M Coatham, RFO
Cllr Bellows (NFDC)
A reporter from the Salisbury Journal

1. To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Earth, Jackson, Mouland, Perkins, Sevier (NFDC) and Heron (HCC).

2. To receive any Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest.

**3. To confirm the minutes of the General Council meeting held on Wednesday 1st
December 2021 and to report on any matters arising**

[Cllr Paton joined the meeting]

Cllr Wilson proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Goldsmith and therefore RESOLVED: that the minutes of the General Council meeting held on the 2nd December 2021 are signed as a true record. All in favour.

Matters Arising

Agenda point 11: The Clerk has contacted HCC regarding the parking at Mill Court and information in relation to parking tickets.

Agenda point 13: The Clerk met with Pro Live regarding sound panels and alternative options.

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

No matters raised.

**5. To receive a recommendation from the Finance & Policy Committee on the precept for
2022/2023**

Cllr Hale advised that £285,143.50 was the critical figure, which equates to a cost to band D properties of £118.16, which is a small increase of £6.86 per year. Cllr Adams proposed and it was seconded by White and therefore RESOLVED: to agree the recommendation of the Finance & Policy committee for the budget proposals for 2022/23 resulting in a precept request of £285,143.50. All in favour.

6. To approve a temporary scheme of delegation

Cllrs considered a proposed scheme of delegation. Cllr Wilson raised concerns regarding minutes and the scheme suggested by HALC. The proposed scheme was a temporary measure

given the rates of Covid to facilitate ongoing operation of the Council without the need for physical meetings. Cllrs discussed the implications of the scheme, the risk of meeting in person and the impact on residents. Cllrs agreed that the extraordinary planning meeting scheduled the next day would need to be held online. Cllr White proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Anstey and therefore RESOLVED: that the scheme of delegation would be adopted to allow online meetings only as deemed necessary by the chair of the Council or the relevant committee. All in favour.

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

Cllrs discussed Christmas lights and the current contract with Sparkx. Cllrs noted that there was a further year to run. The RFO advised that she and the Clerk had met with Ian Newman to discuss the current Christmas lights offering and would be looking to meet up with Sparkx after the lights are taken down. Cllr Paton suggested that, whilst there was a year to run on the current lights contract, it would be worthwhile including Christmas Lights on the agenda for the annual town assembly to obtain residents views regarding lights going forward.

Cllrs also discussed the Queen's Jubilee and agreed that plans need to be put in place early as facilities such as marquees are likely to be booked well in advance. Cllr White provided an update on the brazier at the Recreation Ground proposed for the Jubilee. He suggested a joint meeting with the Council and the Events Group to discuss the Jubilee and other events that might take place in 2022. Cllrs asked the RFO to ask the Council's insurers, Zurich whether current insurance would cover a Jubilee event or whether additional insurance would be required. Cllrs also discussed 'Clean for the Queen' events in advance of the Jubilee and a 'Plant a tree for the Jubilee' event.

8. To note the date of the next General Council meeting as Wednesday 2nd February 2022

The meeting closed at 8:07 p.m.