

**FORDWICH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2013.**

Present: Councillors Patrick Heren (chair), Andrea Russo, June Hardcastle, Roger Green, Philip Lewis. Guy Foster (clerk). In attendance: Alan Marsh (KCC) Heather Taylor (CCC) and two members of the public.

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**56/13. Apologies**

PCSO Jo White had sent apologies.

**57/13 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The April minutes were approved without amendment and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

**58/13 Matters arising**

There were none.

**59/13 Declarations of interest**

Cllr Heren declared his position as a trustee of Fordwich United Charities.  
Cllr Green declared his role with Friends of Fordwich and District and also declared his position as a trustee of Fordwich United Charities.  
Cllr Hardcastle declared her position as a trustee of Fordwich United Charities.  
Cllr. Lewis declared his position as a member of the JCC.

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At this juncture the meeting was adjourned to allow comments from members of the public. No comments were forthcoming.

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**60/13 To consider the Canterbury District Plan.**

While noting that the period for formal comments was not yet open, the meeting was generally very supportive of the Plan as it affected Fordwich, although Cllr Hardcastle reserved her position pending consideration of the plan.

Heather Taylor reported that Sturry PC had printed copies of the full plan which were available to all for reading at the Sturry PC office.

**61/13 To receive reports from KCC and CCC representatives.**

For KCC, Mr Marsh commented that it was very uncertain as to how much of the Canterbury Plan would actually be implemented, not least because of highways issues which were the responsibility of KCC.

Mr Marsh also noted that following the recent KCC elections, there was now a much reduced Conservative KCC majority and similarly, a reduced number of KCC members in north-east Kent. This was bound to have an influence on policy formulation and implementation.

Cllr Heren conveyed the meeting's thanks to Mr Marsh for his services in the past and congratulated him on his re-election.

Similarly, Heather Taylor was congratulated on her appointment as Lord Mayor of Canterbury. She said she aimed to be a "hands on" mayor and encouraged members to contact her on local issues where she might be of assistance. She reported that her nominated charities were to be Pilgrims' Hospice (Canterbury) and SNAPS children's charity (Herne Bay).

Ms Taylor also reported that Fordwich was to receive more dog waste bins although it was not yet known how many or where they would be placed.

### **62/13 To consider reports from police representatives.**

No police representatives were present.

### **63/13 To consider the Chairman's and Councillors' reports.**

Cllr Heren noted that there had been vandalism at the "folly" land including what appeared to be attempted theft of the fencing.

Cllr Russo reported that a resident had raised parking issues. This subject had been dealt with recently in some detail and there was clearly no perfect solution.

Cllr Green said that a resident had requested speed restriction signs on Church Lane/the Drove. It was agreed consideration of this should wait until the completion of the building works currently underway at this location.

Cllr Lewis queried whether the KCC vegetation team were returning to complete their work. This would need to be taken up with Alan Marsh and KCC. Cllr Lewis also noted one of the Jubilee birch trees was dead and Cllr Heren said this was going to be replaced by the original suppliers.

Cllr Hardcastle queried the absence of a Twinning Association report at the recent Annual Town Meeting. This was due to Cllr Lewis having been unable to attend the meeting.

### **64/13 To consider nominations of FUC trustees**

Mrs Elizabeth Lewis's reappointment as an FUC trustee was proposed by Cllr Hardcastle, seconded by Cllr Russo and unanimously approved. This appointment is in addition to those approved at the previous meeting, viz. David Keegan, June Hardcastle and Roger Green. Patrick Heren, whose term as an FUC trustee had not ended, remains in post.

### **65/13 To consider web-site maintenance arrangements.**

Cllr Heren tabled a series of proposals from the contractor (KiKK). After discussion, it was resolved to accept the following:

- Annual update: c. £60
- Cookie directive: c. £20
- Booking form for the Town Hall: c. £50. This money to be recovered from FUC in due course.

The other proposals (viz. site rebuild to aid mobile device browsing; a page of photographs) were noted and deferred for the time being.

At this point, Cllr Heren left the meeting and Cllr Russo took the chair.

### **67/13 Insurance renewal**

After discussion it was resolved to accept the 3 year arrangement as proposed by Came & Co at an annual premium of £317.12.

### **66/13 Finance**

The Clerk reported the cash book balances as:

Current account: £9,144.74 (bank balance: £9,322.89)  
Bonus saver account: £3,895.71

The following items were approved for payment:

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|--|---------|
| • Clerk's salary (net of tax) and expenses for May | £314.69 |
| • Came & Co (Broker Network Ltd.) – insurance      | £317.12 |
| • Eric Fewkes (internal audit)                     | £140.00 |

**Annual return 2012/13:** the Clerk tabled the final version of the annual return. He noted one change from the draft figures previously reported: the “other receipts” and “other payments” lines had both been increased by £667, there being therefore no overall change in the 2012/13 position. The internal audit had been completed and no issues had been raised. Having considered the annual return, including the matters concerning risk, internal control, etc as set out in the Annual Governance Statement, the Annual Return was unanimously approved and signed accordingly.

The Clerk reported that as agreed, he had applied to the CCC Area Member Panel for a grant in respect of the proposed Town Hall lift.

### **68/13 Clerk's report and correspondence**

The following items of correspondence were considered:

- Letter requesting donations for a community transport initiative. Regrettably, FTC had no money spare in its budget for this.
- FTC decision on Code of Conduct. This was raised by Cllr Hardcastle but there was no further correspondence to consider and the matter was not on the agenda so any further deliberations would have to be deferred.

A range of emails on various topics had been received and circulated during the last month and these were noted by the Clerk but there were no matters arising from these to be discussed.

### **69/13 Planning**

Noted: grants of permission in respect of CA/13/00571/FUL (Chequers House); CA/1201658/FUL and CA/13/00285/LB (both Brooklands).

Cllr Hardcastle left the meeting at this point.

### **70/13 Highways and footpaths**

It was noted that new yellow lines had still not been painted at the junction of Water Meadows and Marlowe Meadows. The Clerk to try and raise this with CCC.

It was also noted that a significant amount of loose gravel was coming from the road repairs in Moat Lane. This would need to be kept under review.

### **71/13 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be on June 26<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm in the town hall.

The meeting concluded at 9.19 p.m.

### **Guy Foster**

*Clerk to Fordwich Town Council*

June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013.

Signed as a true record \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_