

FORDWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 21st May 2015.

Present: Councillors Patrick Heren (chair), Philip Lewis, Val Clark, Roger Green, Adrian McCarthy (part). In attendance: Guy Foster (clerk), Georgina Glover and Heather Taylor (CCC) and two members of the public.

56/15 Apologies

Cllr McCarthy would be late due to traffic. Alan Marsh of KCC was on holiday.

57/15 Minutes of the previous meeting

It was unanimously resolved to agree the minutes of the previous meeting as tabled, without amendment. They were duly signed by the chairman.

58/15 Matters arising

No matters were raised.

59/15 Declarations of interest

Following the recent election, the relevant forms were distributed to the members for completion and return to CCC, via the clerk. In addition to the requirements as set out in the statutory returns, members declared interests as follows:

- Cllr Heren declared his position as a trustee of Fordwich United Charities
- Cllr Clark declared her position as a custodian of the town hall.
- Cllr Lewis declared his position as a custodian of Fordwich church.
- Cllr Green declared his role with Friends of Fordwich and District and also declared his position as a trustee of Fordwich United Charities

At this point the meeting was adjourned to hear comments from members of the public. The following matters were raised:

- Some minutes were missing from the web-site. The clerk explained that we were reliant on a third party but he would try and remedy the situation.
- It was felt the town meeting could have been better publicised. This point was conceded although it was pointed out that the notice had been on notice boards well in advance of the meeting.

60/15 To receive reports from KCC and CCC representatives

Alan Marsh of KCC was on holiday.

For CCC, Heather Taylor and Georgina Glover thanked those who had voted for them in the recent elections. Heather remains on the licensing committee and Georgina will be on the planning committee. Heather said interviews were to be held to select a Sea Cadet as Fordwich Mayor's Escort. Cllr Heren agreed to go to meet the cadets at one of their meetings.

61/15 To consider reports from police representatives

PCSO Jo White was unable to attend the meeting.

62/15 To receive chairman's and councillors' reports

Cllr Heren reported that the town meeting had gone well. He was in the process of writing up the minutes.

Cllr Lewis reported that the drains at the roadside were now clear and that some overgrown foliage had been tackled.

Cllr Green raised the issue of the verge where the High St. joins Moat Lane. This could do with clearance. This was not a new problem. The clerk undertook to contact Alan Marsh.

Cllr Clark raised the matter of the pilot Local Warden Support Officer scheme, as set out in a recent email from KALC. It was agreed by all to review this and to consider at the next meeting.

63/15 Finance

The clerk reported the cash book balances at today's date as:

Current account:	£9,558.71
Bonus saver account:	£3,959.00

The bonus saver account bank statement was per the above and was signed by the chairman. The latest current account statement had yet to be received.

The insurance renewal was considered. The quotation from Came and Co was actually slightly down on the current year and it was unanimously resolved to accept it. The chairman asked about the insurances register. The clerk undertook to review it but reported that the values were automatically increased by 3% each year by the insurers.

The following were approved for payment:

- Clerk's salary (net of tax) and expenses for May £303.22
- Insurance premium £303.63

Annual return for 2014/15

The clerk had circulated the figures which showed a cash surplus for the year of £5,747 of which £5,000 represented the grant from KCC towards the town hall lift.

The clerk reminded the meeting of the contents of the annual governance statement.

Both the above items were considered and it was unanimously resolved to approve the annual return which was duly signed by the chairman.

64/15 Clerk’s report and correspondence

The clerk reported no further matters which had not already been brought to the attention of FTC

65/15 Planning

There were no specific items to be considered.

The recent correspondence with CCC re Moate Farm was discussed. It was resolved not to pursue the matter of judicial review but that Cllr Green would write to CCC, noting the flaws in their correspondence. Cllr Green to circulate a draft for comment before sending.

66/15 Highways and footpaths

No further discussion at this juncture.

67/15 Date of next meeting

This was confirmed as June 24th.

Guy Foster

Clerk to Fordwich Town Council

May 27th 2015.

Signed as a true record _____ Date:

Position _____