

FORDWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 29th July 2015.

Present: Councillors Patrick Heren (chair), Val Clark, Roger Green, Adrian McCarthy. In attendance: Guy Foster (clerk), Alan Marsh (KCC) and two members of the public.

81/15 Apologies

Cllr Lewis had sent apologies.

82/15 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.

83/15 Matters arising

No matters were raised.

84/15 Declarations of interest

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 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. No matters were raised:

85/15 To receive reports from KCC and CCC representatives

Alan Marsh of KCC reported as follows:

- The work on Well Lane would start on August 10th. Cllr Clark reported that the Fordwich sign at Moat Lane still needed fixing/replacing and that the bollard by the George and Dragon needed repairing. These items were noted by Mr Marsh.

- He was keen for the proposed town hall lift project to be tackled with some urgency.
- He felt the changes to KCC ward boundaries would go through as currently proposed which meant that after the 2017 election he would no longer be representing Fordwich, which would instead be part of the Littlebourne ward. Cllr Heren expressed regret and hoped that these changes would not take place.

Georgina Glover of CCC reported on the Canterbury district plan process (to which Mr Marsh had also referred.) The inspector had been hearing evidence and it was clear there were some issues with the plan. The outcome was hard to predict and the final plan was some months away.

Referring to Mr Marsh's comments on the Town Hall lift, Cllr Heren reported on various possible designs. Cllr McCarthy had been investigating funding opportunities and said that the National Lottery Heritage Fund looked promising. He circulated some literature on this fund.

86/15 To consider reports from police representatives

PCSO Jo White was unable to attend the meeting.

87/15 To receive chairman's and councillors' reports

Cllr Heren reported:

- He had had a reply from Julian Brazier MP on the subject of sites for gypsies and travellers. There was little evidence of impending government action on the subject.
- He had spoken to the web-site designer to obtain a price for modifying it so that we would be able to update it directly.

Cllr Clark had been in touch with Lorrywatch to obtain replacement signs. She would also like to obtain some "no coaches" signs, following recent coach incidents. She had spoken to one haulage firm following an incident involving their lorry.

88/15 To appoint a member of the board of trustees of Fordwich United Charities

Cllr Green felt this position should be advertised before an appointment was confirmed and the meeting agreed to do this.

89/15 To consider the matter of disposal/relocation of **the beacon**

Sturry Parish Council had expressed an interest and it was unanimously resolved to give the beacon to them on the condition that its removal was handled by Sturry PC.

90/15 Finance

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

Current account: £15,408.64
Bonus saver account: £3,959.33

The bank statements were signed by the chairman.

The following were approved for payment:

- | | |
|--|---------|
| • Clerk's salary (net of tax) and expenses for July | £295.42 |
| • Clerk's salary (net of tax) and expenses for August (post-dated) | £295.42 |
| • HMRC: PAYE for April/May/June | £193.60 |

91/15 Clerk's report and correspondence

The clerk noted the requirements of the "transparency code" which would require various additional pieces of information to be posted on the web-site.

92/15 To consider the proposed pilot **Local Warden Support Officer scheme**

It was noted that the deadline for expressions of interest had now passed but it was agreed to express FTC's interest in this scheme anyway.

93/15 Planning

It was noted that the plans for the proposed development of the land next to 6 High Street had been revised. It was agreed that members would examine these plans on-line and supply comments by email. From what was currently known, it seemed likely that the changes represented an improvement but not to such an extent as for them to be acceptable to FTC. The main issue was parking.

CA//15/01248/FUL (1 Stour Mews): it was unanimously agreed to object to this proposal on the grounds of loss of visual amenity, the problem being the height of the proposed fence.

94/15 Highways and footpaths

No further discussion at this juncture.

95/15 Date of next meeting

This was confirmed as September 30th.

Guy Foster

Clerk to Fordwich Town Council

August 3rd 2015.

Signed as a true record _____ Date: _____

Position _____