

FORDWICH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on 30th September 2015.

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

96/15 Apologies

Cllr McCarthy and Georgina Glover (CCC) had sent apologies.

97/15 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.

98/15 Matters arising

No matters were raised.

99/15 Declarations of interest

Members declared interests as follows:

- Cllr Heren declared his position as a trustee of Fordwich United Charities
- Cllr Lewis declared his position as a custodian of Fordwich church.
- 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:

100/15 To receive reports from KCC and CCC representatives

Heather Taylor of CCC reported that Sturry PC now had a maintenance man who they would be happy to hire out to Fordwich. She also reported that Sturry PC had been able to have a dialogue with developers which had successfully influenced planning applications.

101/15 To consider reports from police representatives

PCSO Jo White was unable to attend the meeting.

106/15 Planning

The plans for the development on land adjacent to 6 High Street had been revised. The revisions represented an improvement but parking remained a major issue. The chairman agreed to draft some words for the clerk to submit to CCC.

There was discussion on local sewage problems and the implications in this regard of the major development in Sturry envisaged by the draft Canterbury district plan. The clerk was asked to write to CCC on the matter.

102/15 To receive reports from members

Cllr Heren reported on the recent Stour dredging meeting. Dredging was to be carried out downstream of Fordwich with the spoil dumped on the banks which would act as a flood barrier.

Canon Norman Woods had agreed to preach at the civic service. Cllr Heren had suggested refugees as a theme. Cllr Heren noted that this was listed on the Fordwich web-site, as well as other events and the FUC trustee vacancy.

Cllr Clark reported that she now had some Lorry Watch hi-viz vests and there was a new sign by the George and Dragon. More Lorry Watch volunteers were needed and there was discussion on publicising the scheme.

Cllr Lewis reported that the Well Lane road works had been completed but the work on the gully and culvert by the phone box had not been attended to. He would chase up KCC. Cllr Lewis noted that the streets had recently been swept and bins emptied, which was welcome news.

Cllr Lewis noted the Commonwealth Flag Day event next March and felt we might wish to participate.

Cllr Green reported that the land at the bottom of Moat Lane had been acquired by KCC some 20 years ago thus facilitating improvement/extension by them of the pavement in that location. KCC would need to be reminded.

103/15 To appoint a member of the **board of trustees of Fordwich United Charities**

Mr Andrea Russo had applied for this position and it was unanimously resolved to appoint him.

104/15 Finance

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

Current account: £14,624.20
Bonus saver account: £3,959.65

The bank statements were signed by the chairman.

The clerk reported a bank error where a cheque had been debited as £293.42 but should have been £295.42. The bank had undertaken to correct this for the payee but would not change the FTC amount.

The following were approved for payment:

- Clerk’s salary (net of tax) and expenses for September £295.42
- CCC – election expenses £471.26
- HMRC: PAYE for July/August/September £193.20
- PKF Littlejohn – audit fee £120.00 (inc VAT)

105/15 Clerk’s report and correspondence

The clerk noted correspondence from a local resident on sewage problems (discussed earlier in the meeting).

The clerk noted that the final outcome of the Boundary Commission’s review of KCC wards would now not be published until January 2016.

The annual return for 2014/15 had been posted on the web-site, the external audit having been completed.

107/15 Highways and footpaths

No further discussion at this juncture.

108/15 Date of next meeting

This was confirmed as October 28th.

Guy Foster

Clerk to Fordwich Town Council

October 10th 2015.

Signed as a true record _____ Date: _____

Position _____