

# FORDWICH TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

Present: Councillors Patrick Heren (chair), Adrian McCarthy, Philip Lewis, Val Clark, Roger Green. In attendance: Guy Foster (clerk), Alan March (KCC), PCSO Susan Radcliffe and three members of the public.

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### **01/16 Apologies**

Georgina Glover (CCC) had sent apologies.

### **02/16 Minutes of the previous meeting**

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

### **03/16 Matters arising**

Moate Farm: Cllr Lewis reported that he had met with an officer from CCC. It seemed that enforcement action was unlikely. There was discussion on the topic of the invitation to visit Moate Farm with members generally being happy to visit.

### **04/16 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

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**At this point the meeting was adjourned to hear comments from members of the public.**

- The carol service was greatly enjoyed. This sentiment was echoed by members.
- Concern was expressed about the development of the barracks site and the effect this might have on traffic movements through Fordwich. The chairman empathised with this but reminded the meeting that FTC had made its views known through the local plan consultation process.

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### **05/16 To receive reports from KCC and CCC representatives**

No CCC representatives were present.

For KCC, Mr Marsh noted the pressures on the budget which meant that the KCC council tax element would be rising by the maximum of 3.99%, to include the ring-fenced 2% for social care.

The ward boundary review had been completed and Mr Marsh reported that Fordwich would still be within his ward.

#### **06/16 To consider reports from police representatives**

Our new PCSO, Sue Radcliffe was present and introduced herself. She was sharing the wider area with another PCSO but would be looking after Fordwich. She can be contacted via [sue.radcliffe@kent.pnn.police.uk](mailto:sue.radcliffe@kent.pnn.police.uk) or **07772 226193**.

Cllr Clark raised the issue of illegally parked cars. This is really a matter for CCC but PCSO Radcliffe confirmed that driving on pavements was a police matter and she would do what she could. She noted that the police liaised with the “safer streets” team at CCC which helped in such matters.

#### **07/16 To consider participating in the “clean for the Queen” initiative**

Cllr Lewis identified three areas where a good tidy-up would be in order. After discussion it was agreed to go for the weekend of March 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> and to advertise for volunteers. An informal meeting would be arranged to consider details.

#### **08/16 To receive reports from members.**

Cllr Heren gave an update on the progress of the town hall lift project. He also reported on a feature he had been involved in for BBC radio and an upcoming TV feature, both to do with the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Shakespeare’s death.

Cllr Clark reported on the recent lorry incident which caused damage to Watergate House. The police were involved and it was to be hoped that the driver would be prosecuted. She had sent details of recent lorry incidents to Tim Middleton at KCC but had had no response. Cllr Clark intends to organise a meeting of Lorrywatch volunteers at her house.

Cllr Green opined that some kind of physical barrier was the only way effectively to stop oversized vehicles coming through Fordwich. In response to this, Cllr Heren suggested involving the local media once again.

Cllr Lewis reported as follows:

- There were many instances of dog fouling in Fordwich Road
- Most of the street drains have now been cleared. KCC are returning to do the one by the phone box.
- More sandbags are available.

- He had bought some new lights for the Christmas tree and had managed to get the tree removed by CCC, post twelfth night.
- The twinning society had agreed that all local residents would automatically be members, without having to pay a subscription but donations were very welcome.

Cllr McCarthy noted the dog fouling issue and reported that he had managed to get one miscreant to clear up his dog's mess. He noted that the Drove end of King Street was now marked for repair but that there were a number of potholes elsewhere which needed repairing.

### **09/16 Finance**

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

Current account:       £12,551.66  
 Bonus saver account:   £3,960.33

The bank statements were signed by the chairman.

The following were approved for payment:

• Clerk's salary (net of tax) and expenses for January	£295.62
• HMRC – PAYE for October/November/December	£193.20
• Ewart Clough – Christmas tree	£270.00
• Cllr Lewis – newsletter costs and tree lights	£40.00
• Fiona Cadwallader - civic service flowers	£80.00

The paperwork to have Cllr McCarthy included on the bank mandate had been returned by the bank as personal identification was needed. The clerk passed this to Cllr McCarthy.

### **10/16 Clerk's report and correspondence**

As usual, a number of emails had been circulated by the clerk prior to the meeting. The clerk had nothing to add at this juncture.

### **11/16 Planning**

Application CA//15/02744/FUL (20 Water Meadows). No objections.

The clerk had contacted CCC in respect of the delay in the resolution of the application relating to the Old Rectory. The relevant officer had said the aim was to resolve this before Christmas but clearly this hadn't happened and there was no further news.

**12/16 Highways and footpaths**

There was no further discussion at this juncture.

**13/16 Date of next meeting**

This was confirmed as February 24<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 7.30 p.m.

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**Guy Foster**

*Clerk to Fordwich Town Council*

February 6<sup>th</sup> 2016.

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

Position \_\_\_\_\_