

FORDWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th October 2017.

Present: Councillors Philip Lewis (chair), Roger Green, Adrian McCarthy. In attendance: Guy Foster (clerk), Alan Marsh (KCC) and eight members of the public.

107/17 Apologies

Cllrs Heren and Clark had sent apologies.

108/17 Minutes of the previous meeting

It was unanimously resolved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as tabled. They were duly signed by the chairman.

109/17 Matters arising

None.

110/17 Declarations of interests

Members declared interests as follows:

- 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 allow representations from the public. The following points were raised:

- Part of the Stour Valley Way footpath is overgrown. Alan Marsh (KCC) undertook to have this looked into.
- The chairman outlined the problems of parking and traffic congestion in Fordwich and the actions FTC had identified to attempt to deal with these issues. He then invited comments from the public. There was general support for the idea of residents-only parking bays and extra yellow lines but it was agreed that central to the success of any such measures was the question of enforcement.

111/17 To consider issues relating to traffic and parking

After discussion, it was resolved that Cllr McCarthy would write to CCC setting out FTC's proposals for parking restrictions and enquiring as to the feasibility of residents' parking bays, specifically to establish that qualifying permits would be limited to Fordwich residents.

The clerk to write to Mr Marsh on matters within KCC's remit such as signage and speed limits.

112/17 To receive reports from CCC and KCC representatives

Alan Marsh (KCC) suggested that spare land on the fringes of Fordwich might be identified as possible sites for car parks.

No CCC members were present.

113/17 To receive reports from police representatives

PCSO Nathan Mullins was not present.

114/17 To receive reports from members

The chairman reported as follows:

- There has been a car accident in Moat Lane.
- Some of the bollards and planters have been damaged.
- One of the "cinque ports" signs has been knocked down.
- There is to be an event on the 25th November in the Old School Room to raise money for the town hall lift.
- There is to be a performance of a version of "A Christmas Carol" in the church on December 6th.
- He attended the Cinque Ports "Speakers Day" at Sandwich.
- There has been some improvement in SERCO's performance re bin emptying.
- The Fordwich Arms currently look after various flags for us. We can't be sure that the new tenants will do the same; a "flag monitor" would be useful.
- There will be a town tidy-up this Saturday – volunteers needed please
- There have been reports of anti-social behaviour; these can be reported direct to CCC via their web-site
- FUC have agreed to a further 12 months of River Tours operations
- Could we purchase a brush cutter? This was agreed in principle at a previous meeting. Following discussion it was resolved to authorise the chairman to purchase one up to a cost of £350.

Cllr McCarthy reported that he is meeting with Mr Neame to resolve the matter of the repairs to the Drove.

Cllr Green noted that the Moate Farm planning appeal had been allowed by the planning inspector but that the application for a transport operator's licence at the site has been refused.

115/17 Finance

The clerk reported that the cash book balance at end-September was £13,632.38. This has been reconciled to the bank balance of £17,143.30. The bank statement was tabled and signed by the chairman.

The following payments were approved:

- 1. Clerk October £315.94
- 2. Mrs Sue O'Donnell (Fordwich Arms) £350.00 (civic service teas)

116/17 To receive the clerk's report and correspondence

The clerk tabled his report. He drew attention to:

- KCC voluntary warden scheme: there was no further news; a volunteer was still needed.
- The papers for the KLAC AGM have been received
- The annual report of KCC adult social care has been received

117/17 Planning

The approval of application CA//17/01839/LB (Walnut Tree Cottage) was noted.

118/17 Highways and footpaths

There was no further discussion at this juncture.

119/17 Date of next meeting

The next FTC meeting was confirmed as Wednesday November 29th.

Guy Foster

Clerk to Fordwich Town Council

Signed as a true record _____ Date: _____

Position _____