

FORDWICH TOWN COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on 28th June 2016.

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

69/16 Apologies

Cllrs Green and McCarthy had sent apologies. Georgina Glover (CCC) and Alan Marsh (KCC) had also sent apologies.

70/16 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.

71/16 Matters arising

None.

72/16 Declarations of interest

Members declared interests as follows:

- Cllr Lewis declared his position as a custodian of Fordwich church
- Cllr Heren declared his position as a trustee of Fordwich United Charities
- Cllr Clark declared her position as a custodian of the town hall

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

A query was raised as to the status of the planning application relating to the Old Rectory. The chairman confirmed there was no further news on this.

73/16 To receive reports from KCC and CCC representatives.

Heather Taylor reported that the Cost Cutter shop in Sturry would be closing and the Co-operative store would be relocating to this site. There was no news as to the future of the existing Co-operative site. She also noted that the post office in Sturry was to be refurbished and re-opened as a more full-time, higher profile operation.

74/16 To receive reports from police representatives

No police representative was present. The clerk reported that he had made contact with the new PCSO, Mr Paul Harris but Mr Harris was unable to attend.

75/16 To receive the Chairman's and councillors' reports

Cllr Clark referred to an email about over-hanging foliage at the side of roads. It was noted that the width of the correspondent's vehicle probably exceeded local width limits but it was agreed to include something on the subject in the next newsletter. Pot-holes in Moat Lane and Stodmarsh Road were noted and the clerk undertook to report these to Alan Marsh of KCC while pointing out that web-sites like fixmystreet.com were very useful in this respect.

Cllr Clark also referred to the continuing problems of inconsiderate/illegal parking by a particular resident. She continued to chase CCC on this topic.

Cllr Heren had received a letter of thanks from the Mayor of Sandwich, following Cllr Heren's retirement as mayor of Fordwich.

Cllr Lewis reported on:

- The recent twinning event and his visit to Brightlingsea.
- He suggested an informal meeting to review the civic service guest list. On this subject, he had already booked a preacher and similarly had booked a speaker (a local vintner) for next year's annual town meeting.
- Emergency plan: we should perhaps ask the local flood warden for help on this.
- Planning sub-committee: on next month's agenda we should have an item to consider creating this; it could perhaps co-opt suitable local residents.

76/16 The Drove: to consider the issue of street repairs

Due to Cllr McCarthy's absence, it was agreed to hold this over to a future meeting.

77/16 Finance

The clerk reported cash book balances at end-May as:

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Current account: | £18,865.40 |
| Business reserve account: | £3,961.16 |

The current account balance at end-May was £19,388.53. The statements are now coming in much earlier, hence a number of unrepresented cheques.

The bank statements were signed by the chairman.

Following last month's resolution, the clerk had prepared a letter to the bank requesting closure of the business reserve account. This was duly signed by Cllrs Heren and Lewis.

The following were approved for payment:

- Clerk's salary (net of tax) and expenses for June £310.88
- HMRC (PAYE for April/May/June) £195.00

It was noted that the clerk's salary had increased very slightly as of April 1st, following a national pay award.

78/16 Clerk's report and correspondence

As usual, a number of emails had been circulated by the clerk prior to the meeting. There was no further comment on these at this juncture.

79/16 Planning

There were no planning items to be considered.

80/16 Highways and footpaths

Cllr McCarthy is working on a plan for marking out parking areas in the town and had circulated various documents on the topic but in his absence, discussion was deferred until a future meeting.

81/16 Date of next meeting

The next FTC meeting was confirmed as Wednesday July 27th at 7.30 p.m. Cllrs Lewis and McCarthy had apologised that they were unable to attend the July meeting. Cllr Heren had offered to chair this meeting and it was agreed that as long as Cllr Green was available, it would go ahead as planned.

Guy Foster

Clerk to Fordwich Town Council

Signed as a true record _____ Date: _____

Position _____