

FORDWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February 2022.

Present: Councillors Adrian McCarthy (chair), Philip Lewis, Roger Green, Sue Thompson. In attendance: Guy Foster (clerk), Louise Harvey-Quirke (CCC), Alan Marsh (KCC)

15/22 Apologies

Cllr Connolly had sent apologies as had Georgina Glover of CCC.

16/22 Minutes of the previous meeting

It was pointed out that the last sentence of item 9/22 was incorrect and should be deleted. With this change, it was unanimously resolved to accept the minutes of the January meeting as tabled.

17/22 Matters arising

None.

18/22 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.

19/22 To receive reports from representatives of CCC and KCC

Louise Harvey-Quirke (CCC) reported that the annual parking review was complete and would be considered by the JTB on March 1st. There is a proposal to mothball the Sturry Road park and ride site due to low usage.

Alan Marsh (KCC) said that the KCC budget had been finalised and council tax would rise by 4.99%. He noted the huge cost of adult social care and the large increase in expenditure on children with special needs. He regretted that the need to book in advance to use waste sites had been retained. Apparently the possibility of a reservoir at Broad Oak is once again on the agenda.

Georgina Glover (CCC) had sent a written report which was noted.

20/22 To receive a report from the neighbourhood plan steering group

Cllr Thompson reported that two open meetings had been held and more would follow. The web-site would soon be live. The grant funding rules mean that we will probably have to repay unspent money at the year-end but can reapply for 2022/23.

21/22 Planning

Application CA/21/02482 (The Old Woodyard): this has been approved.

Romany Green Acres: the clerk has written to CCC reporting a breach of planning permission. He was asked to write to Mrs Harvey-Quirke along the same lines who would then try and progress matters.

Moate Farm appeal: there is still uncertainty as to the cost of hiring a barrister. This needs clarifying and a fixed price obtained.

22/22 To consider arrangements to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Many ideas have been floated but individuals need to be identified to run the events. Cllr Lewis said he was happy to be the focal point for recruiting such individuals.

23/22 To receive the Chairman's and Councillors' Reports

Cllr Thompson reported that a further meeting with neighbouring parishes would take place on March 8th to talk about the future of the Brett's site.

Cllr Green noted the recent 2.5 day power outage on Stodmarsh Rd. The fallen tree at the Old School building will soon be gone.

Cllr Lewis noted the awful state of fly-tipping on Well Lane. He has written to the Old Nursery site land agent. The church roof lost a number of tiles in the recent storm. Thanks to all those who helped in the town tidy-up. Together with the Bishop of Dover, he recently visited the newly-baptised people at Romany Green Acres.

Cllr McCarthy said that the new mayoral chain was nearly ready.

24/22 Finance

The clerk reported that the cash book balance at 1st February was £13,539.51. This has been reconciled to the bank statement figure of £14,638.35.

The following payments were unanimously approved:

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|---|---------|
| 1. Guy Foster – February salary and expenses, net | £376.81 |
| 2. Loxley Group Ltd (printing) | £30.00 |

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 3. Sue Thompson (NP expenses) | £434.40 |
| 4. Signscope Ltd (riverside notice boards) | £122.40 |
| 5. Val Clark (FTN postage) | £48.52 |

An application for a KCC member's grant for the jubilee has been submitted.

25/22 To receive the clerk's report and correspondence

The low wall in the High St is not listed. The maintenance issue here cannot therefore be reported to CCC.

The clerk has written to Brett's and CANENCO about lorry issues.

All other issues in the clerk's report had been dealt with elsewhere in the meeting.

26/22 Highways and footpaths

No further discussion.

27/22 Date of next meeting

This was confirmed as Wednesday March 30th 2022 at 7.30 pm in the town hall.

Guy Foster

Clerk to Fordwich Town Council

March 4th 2022.

Signed as a true record _____ Date: _____

Position _____