

FORDWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 30th July 2014.

Present: Councillors Patrick Heren (chair), Val Clark, Roger Green (part), June Hardcastle (part). Guy Foster (clerk). In attendance: Alan Marsh (KCC) three members of the public.

81/14. Apologies

Cllr Lewis had sent apologies. PCSO Jo White had also sent apologies.

82/14 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 25th June were approved and signed with an amendment requested by Cllr Hardcastle which had the effect of expanding her comments on the planning application at Polo Farm (item 75/14). There was also a typing error in item 76/14 (“sur” replaces “sue”).

83/14 Matters arising

None.

84/14 Declarations of interest

Cllr Heren declared his interest as a trustee of Fordwich United Charities.
Cllr Clark declared her position as a custodian of the town hall.
Cllr Hardcastle declared her position as a trustee of Fordwich United Charities and as a member of (and a member of the working group of) the Littlebourne and Stodmarsh Road Community Association. She also declared a perceived pecuniary interest in respect of the matter dealt with under item 90/14.

At this juncture the meeting was adjourned to allow comments from members of the public. No matters were raised:

85/14 To receive reports from KCC and CCC representatives.

For KCC, Alan Marsh reported:

- Pot holes: Mr Marsh would be touring the local area with a KCC engineer on 8th August, to identify problems.
- Canterbury Plan: there has still not been a JTB meeting to review the transport strategy inherent in the plan.
- Mr Marsh has pantomime tickets available once again for the Broadstairs production.

With reference to highways issues, Cllr Heren reported another case of an over-sized lorry damaging property in King St. Mr Marsh was not sure of the exact date of the promised works to King St/High St.

No CCC representative was present.

86/14 To consider reports from police representatives

PCSO Jo White was absent and had sent apologies.

87/14 To receive the chairman and councillors' reports.

Cllr Green joined the meeting.

Cllr Heren had received a letter from the twinning association thanking FTC for its recent financial contributions.

Civic service: it was agreed to hold this on November 2nd. Cllr Heren had circulated a proposed guest list and asked members to send any comments on this within the next few days.

Cllr Clark reported that the street light at the top of the High St was now working but a blocked drain at the same location had not yet been fixed. Cllr Clark spoke of litter in the streets and the clerk undertook to contact SERCO but the idea of a local volunteers' "street clean" was also mentioned.

Cllr Hardcastle reported concern by local residents about potential planning enforcement issues at Moate Farm. She also reported on her attendance at the recent KALC conference.

Cllr Green reported the continuing malfunction of the street light in School Lane. The clerk said he had reported this several times and would do so again but suggested it would help if Cllr Green reported it too.

88/14 Finance

The Clerk reported the bank balances as:

Current account: £14,640.00 (cash book balance £165.00 less)
Bonus saver account: £3,947.41

The current account and bonus saver bank statements were checked and signed by the Chairman.

The following items were unanimously approved for payment:

- Clerk's salary (net of tax) and expenses for July £297.69
- Ditto for August but post-dated to 31/8/14 £297.69
- KALC (conference fee) £72.00

89/14 Clerk's report and correspondence

The clerk noted the following items:

- Literature received on the KCC Minerals and Waste Plan, which is out to consultation until 12th September.
- Email from CCC re Parish Charter
- Annual CCC capital grants: deadline has been extended to 21st November which may be helpful if we wished to apply for something.

90/14 Planning

Moate Farm: (Cllr Hardcastle, having declared an interest, left the meeting at this point and remained absent for the rest of the meeting.) Cllr Heren read a letter from a local resident who was angry at what he perceived to be a lack of enforcement action by CCC.

After discussion it was agreed that Cllr Green would speak to Cllr Heather Taylor of CCC to set out FTC's concerns, while validation of the Moate Farm planning application was awaited.

Two other potential breaches of planning permission were noted, one at the "Willett's" site and one at Sandpit Wood. The clerk to be supplied with full details and would then write to CCC.

91/14 Highways and Footpaths

Cllr Green suggested that one way to stop over-sized vehicles entering Fordwich over the bridge was to install a physical barrier, albeit one that could be moved to allow access by emergency vehicles. Cllr Green said he had already suggested this to Alan Marsh of KCC but had had no response.

92/14 Date of the next meeting

This was confirmed as 24th September at 7.30 pm.

Guy Foster
Clerk to Fordwich Town Council
 August 6th 2014.

Signed as a true record _____ Date:

Position _____