

FORDWICH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd March 2022.

Present: Councillors Adrian McCarthy (chair), Roger Green, Geoff Connolly, Sue Thompson.
In attendance: Guy Foster (clerk) and one member of the public.

28/22 Apologies

Cllr Lewis had sent apologies as had Georgina Glover and Louise Harvey-Quirke of CCC and Alan Marsh of KCC.

29/22 Minutes of the previous meeting

It was unanimously resolved to accept the minutes of the February meeting as tabled.

30/22 Matters arising

None.

31/22 Declarations of interests

Members declared interests as follows:

- Cllr Green declared his role with Friends of Fordwich and District and also declared his position as a trustee of Fordwich United Charities.

32/22 To receive reports from representatives of CCC and KCC

None were present.

The meeting was adjourned for questions and comments from members of the public. The following points were raised:

- There was concern about a leaflet circulated by the Friends of Chequer Wood: was the potential bypass an issue? It was thought not.
- There is an overgrown hedge obstructing the pavement in the High St. Cllr McCarthy will speak to the owners.

33/22 To receive a report from the neighbourhood plan steering group

Cllr Thompson reported that the web-site was now live. Some mid-tem engagement meetings would be taking place with selected residents to give balance. The balance of unused grant to be repaid is £305.11 but this will be replaced by 2022/23 grant.

Cllr Connolly asked but the vision statement? Cllr Thompson replied that this was still a work in progress and would come before FTC for approval.

34/22 Planning

Moate Farm appeal: Cllr Green confirmed that FTC has Rule 6 status for all aspects. It appears a barrister will be available to help on a *pro bono* basis. It would be very helpful to have professional reports on matters such as traffic. Cllr Green will investigate. There is no date set for the hearing yet.

Romany Green Acres: Cllr Green had checked with the Land Registry and both parts of the site are still owned by members of the Cozier family. As requested, the clerk has written to Louise Harvey-Quirke about this site.

35/22 To consider arrangements to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Cllr Lewis has prepared a draft programme which was much appreciated. Helpers are still required. It was thought this draft should go in the Fordwich News to attract helpers.

A quiz in the George and Dragon was suggested as was the expansion of the art display to venues other than just the church.

36/22 To receive the Chairman's and Councillors' Reports

Cllr Green reported another street light problem. He asked about the parking review. It was reported that we expect a site visit from CCC officers to look at the Fordwich Road proposals. There is another meeting of the Joint Transportation Board in June.

Cllr Thompson reported on a recent meeting with neighbouring parish councils and others to look at the future of the Brett's site. They are meeting again on April 12th.

Cllr McCarthy has spoken to the chair of Sturry PC. They have no issues with the proposed yellow lines in Fordwich Rd. He has spoken to the CDAA about works to repair the surface of the Drove. A bit of money is available for this but is likely to need topping up.

37/22 Finance

The clerk reported that the cash book balance at 1st March was £12,548.38. This has been reconciled to the bank statement figure of £13,438.18.

The following payments were unanimously approved:

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| 1. Guy Foster – March salary and expenses, net | £450.57 |
| 2. Keith Raes (mayoral chains) | £560.00 |

3. Loxley Group Ltd (printing)	£30.00
4. Sue Thompson (NP expenses)	£997.40
5. Friends of Fordwich (NP Expenses)	£166.00
6. Roger Green (NP Expenses)	£90.09
7. HMRC – PAYE Jan-Mar	£272.60
8. Roger Green – Land Registry search fee	£6.00

The clerk pointed out that one cheque issued some time ago will now have expired while another was heading in the same direction. We ought to contact the respective payees.

The clerk expected the 2021/22 year to end roughly breaking even.

38/22 To receive the clerk’s report and correspondence

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

39/22 Highways and footpaths

Cllr Thompson reported a very overgrown footpath off Fordwich Rd. She has reported this online to KCC. She also reported a missing stile and a broken kissing gate on the path to Canoe Wild. Cllr McCarthy said he would report these to Alan Marsh.

40/22 Date of next meeting

This was confirmed as Wednesday April 27th 2022 at 7.30 pm in the town hall.

Guy Foster

Clerk to Fordwich Town Council

March 28th 2022.

Signed as a true record _____ Date: _____

Position _____