

# **FORDWICH TOWN COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2014.**

Present: Councillors Philip Lewis (chair), Val Clark, Roger Green, June Hardcastle. Guy Foster (clerk). In attendance: Alan Marsh (KCC) and two members of the public.

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### **106/14 Apologies**

Cllr Heren had sent apologies; he was unwell. PCSO Jo White had also sent apologies.

### **107/14 Minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> September were approved with one amendment to include the words "relating to Moate Farm" in the sentence on page 1 detailing Cllr Hardcastle's conflict of interests.

### **108/14 Matters arising**

None.

### **109/14 Declarations of interest**

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 and a perceived pecuniary interest in respect of Moate Farm.

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

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At this juncture the meeting was adjourned to allow comments from members of the public. The following matters were raised:

Three people have volunteered for Lorry Watch duties. Cllr Hardcastle said that the Stodmarsh Road group were interested and she would put them in touch.

There was discussion on the recent road works in King St. After some initial dissatisfaction, it seems that the end result is reasonably good, albeit the pavement edge has not been raised as expected.

The pot holes in Moat Lane are due to be fixed tomorrow.

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### **110/14 To receive reports from KCC and CCC representatives.**

For KCC, Alan Marsh reported:

- He had recently chaired a Joint Transportation Board meeting at which the transport implications of the Canterbury District Plan were reviewed. A key outcome was agreement that funding for roads infrastructure

must be in place before permission for major new developments will be granted.

- Mr Marsh outlined some of the successful efforts he had made in respect of the King St road works, as discussed earlier.
- Mr Marsh reminded the meeting that he has free pantomime tickets available once again for the Broadstairs production (16/17/20/21 December). Anyone interested should contact him directly, or Fordwich Town Council
- Mr Marsh remained hopeful of a compulsory purchase order in respect of Manston Airport which would see it continue as an airport.

No CCC representative was present.

### **111/14 To consider reports from police representatives**

PCSO Jo White was absent and had sent apologies.

### **112/14 Civic service: to review arrangements**

The clerk was asked to circulate the list of guest acceptances.

It was resolved to accept the reasonable costs of the event, notably teas (c. £200), flowers (c. £90) and order of service printing (c. £85). The vote was unanimous save for the matter of the flowers, where Cllr Hardcastle voted against.

It was confirmed that all the necessary arrangements for the service were in hand.

### **113/14 Chairman and councillors' reports**

Cllr Green reported that plastering was now nearly complete in the Old School House and so the whole project would soon be finished.

Cllr Hardcastle tabled a notice about a community transport initiative which operated in neighbouring areas and she thought might be extended to Fordwich. It was agreed to put something about this in the newsletter.

Cllr Clark said she would put some notes on Lorry Watch in the newsletter once again.

Cllr Lewis reported that he had spoken to Ray Foster of the Environment Agency and they had done some weed clearance in the river, albeit perhaps not as much as one might wish. The EA has also constructed some flood defences by the lakes but it was uncertain as to how successful these would be.

In advance of the annual service, the tidy-up of the church and churchyard has been done and Cllr Lewis himself has carried out a "litter-pick".

### **114/14 Finance**

The Clerk reported the cash book and bank balances as:

Current account: £13,320.93  
Bonus saver account: £3,957.86

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

The following item was unanimously approved for payment:

- Clerk's salary (net of tax) and expenses for October £313.29

### **115/14 Clerk's report and correspondence**

The clerk noted the following items:

- AGM details and papers received from KALC.
- Similar documents received from Healthwatch.
- "Water Resources and Drought Strategy" received from Sothern Water.
- The clerk had reported the salt bin and road sign damage to KCC. He had corresponded further with CCC re the School Lane street light issue.

### **116/14 Planning**

There were no new matters to be considered. The clerk reminded the meeting of the recent correspondence with CCC in respect of the Moate Farm application and its likely date for planning committee hearing. Cllr Lewis noted that it was Cllr Heren's intention to attend the meeting and that Cllr Heren had asked that Cllr Green attend too, given, his extensive background knowledge. All agreed to keep an eye out for the date of this meeting.

### **117/14 To consider the matter of disabled access to the town hall.**

It was reported that English Heritage are only happy to support an external lift which was not FUC's ideal solution. There was discussion as to whether FTC should meet in the undercroft for the time being. Cllr Green felt that local residents should be canvassed for their opinion on these matters.

### **118/14 Highways and footpaths**

The matter of the School Lane light was discussed again. Cllr Green undertook to take the matter up with CCC.

### **119/14 Date of next meeting**

This was confirmed as 26<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30 pm.

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**Guy Foster**

*Clerk to Fordwich Town Council*

November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2014.

Signed as a true record \_\_\_\_\_ Date:  
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Position \_\_\_\_\_