

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON 23RD JANUARY 2017

PRESENT: Councillor S. McLaughlin (in the Chair)
P. Allen
H. Bennett-Watson
M. Blackburn
C. McLaughlin.
F. Nash
L. Sorrell

8058. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Dooley, Kimberley and F.A. Nash.

8059. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST FROM MEMBERS AND OTHER DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

There were no declarations of interest made by members relating to items on the agenda.

8060. COMMENTS, QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no comments, questions or suggestions made by members of the public.

8061. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held 5th December 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

8062. CONSIDERATION OF THE PRECEPT FOR THE 2017/2018 FINANCIAL YEAR

RESOLVED that in accordance with the Clerk's recommendation the Council require a precept of £85,564 for the 2017/2018 financial year including the support grant from Solihull M.B.C. of £9,514

8063. CONSIDERATION OF FILLING FOUR CASUAL VACANCIES BY CO-OPTION: BENNETT'S WELL WARD, COLE WARD AND HATCHFORD WARD (2)

RESOLVED that consideration of these vacancies be deferred to the next meeting of the Council

8064. REPORT BY CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

The Chairman reported on the Christmas event for users of the Fordbridge Centre where everybody appeared to have a good time and enjoyed themselves. Reports from people who attended confirmed how much they enjoyed the afternoon.

8065. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Health and Recreation Committee held 9th January 2017 were presented to the meeting.

RESOLVED that the Minutes be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

8066. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held 9th January 2017 were presented to the meeting.

RESOLVED that the Minutes be received and the recommendations contained therein be approved

8067. REPORT BY THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: WALC TRAINING SURVEY

The Clerk reported that the Warwickshire Association of Local Councils had requested a response on behalf of the Council to its survey regarding training needs and priorities.

RESOLVED that the Council respond to the survey with the views as set out in Appendix A

8068. ACCOUNTS PAID, PETTY CASH PAYMENTS, MONTHLY EMPLOYEE COSTS AND BANK TRANSFERS

RESOLVED that the report listing accounts paid, petty cash payments, bank transfers and monthly employee costs as submitted be approved

8069. REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

There were no representatives' reports presented to the meeting by any member of the Council

8070. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTING THE WALC PROTOCOL ON THE RECORDING AND FILMING OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Clerk again submitted the WALC protocol on recording and filming of meetings with particular reference to specific requirements in respect of filming and notifying members of the public. He recommended that the Council make its own recording of each meeting to act as the definitive record. He also submitted further guidance from the government which confirmed that there was no legal requirement for a member of public to give prior notice of their intentions

RESOLVED i) that the Council adopt the WALC protocol on the recording and filming of Council and Committee meetings
ii) that the Council consider purchasing its own recording equipment

8071. FORDBRIDGE CENTRE: GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AND FORDBRIDGE GATEWAY SITES: MAINTENANCE

The Clerk reported that it had not been possible to send out the tender documents for the above prior to Christmas. All documents had now been sent and he recommended that the Council delegate the decision for awarding the contracts to the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

RESOLVED that the decision to award the Fordbridge Centre grounds maintenance contract and the contract for maintenance of the Fordbridge gateway sites from 1st April 2017 be delegated to the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee to be held on 20th February 2017

8072. CONSIDERATION OF A RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION BY SOLIHULL M.B.C. REGARDING REVIEW OF THE SOLIHULL LOCAL DRAFT PLAN

The Clerk reported that he had circulated details of the latest consultation in respect of the draft Solihull Local Plan. He also advised that the plan included proposals to develop land at the junction of Moorend Avenue and Chester Road and retained plans to develop land at Lambeth Close and on the site of the Centurion PH.

RESOLVED that the Council object to the proposal to develop land at the junction of Moorend Avenue and Chester Road due to the potential further loss of open space

8073. APPROVAL OF A TRANSFER BETWEEN THE COUNCIL'S CURRENT AND DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS

The Clerk advised that transfers between the Council's various accounts required approval in accordance with the revised financial regulations. He recommended that a transfer of up to £25,000 be made from the deposit account to the current account to meet the Council's financial obligations for the remainder of the financial year.

RESOLVED that the Clerk's recommendation be approved and the relevant transfer be made

8074. CONSIDERATION OF A RESPONSE TO MATTERS RAISED DURING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no comments, questions or suggestions made by members of the public.

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

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APPENDIX A

WALC Training Needs Survey

1. **Three topics (in order of preference) that would be the Council's priorities for next year.**
Improved response to planning applications, Housing policy, Engaging with local partners.
2. **Distance prepared to travel (miles)** 10,
3. **Preferred time of training:** Weekday evening, Saturday daytime
4. **List in order of preference the following possible training topics:-**
Action planning for the future, Neighbourhood planning, Engaging with your communities, Good governance, Preparing for foundation level (Local Council awards),