

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES  
COMMITTEE HELD ON 26TH JUNE 2017

PRESENT: Councillor P. Allen  
M. Blackburn  
D. Cole  
K. Dooley  
J. Kimberley  
C. McLaughlin  
S. McLaughlin  
F.A. Nash  
F.V. Nash  
L. Sorrell

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2017/2018 MUNICIPAL YEAR

RESOLVED that Councillor C. McLaughlin be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the 2017/2018 Municipal Year

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2017/2018 MUNICIPAL YEAR

RESOLVED that Councillor Blackburn be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the 2017/2018 Municipal Year

3. APOLOGIES

An apology for non-attendance from Councillor Bennett-Watson (childcare issues) was received and acknowledged but not approved.

4. DECLARATIONS OF 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.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held 3rd April 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings

6. REPORT BY THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: INCOME FROM HIRE OF THE FORDBRIDGE  
CENTRE

The Clerk submitted a report, for members' information, detailing income from hire of the Fordbridge Centre in the current financial year, and also the two previous financial years. The detailed information is set out in Appendix A. The Clerk advised that the report will in future be submitted directly to members by email on a monthly basis

7. REPORT BY THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: RUNNING COSTS AT THE FORDBRIDGE  
CENTRE

The Clerk submitted a report, for members' information, detailing running costs at the Fordbridge Centre, in the previous financial year and also the budget figures for the current financial year. He noted that during the 2016/17 financial year, income from the Centre was higher than expenditure. The Clerk advised that the report will in future be submitted directly to members by email on a monthly basis

8. MERIDEN PARK ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

Members were invited to consider, following withdrawal of funding by Solihull Council whether to support the playground or to invite the staff and supporters of the playground to submit a detailed proposal to the Council

RESOLVED that no further action be taken on this matter

9. CONSIDERATION OF STAGING A CHRISTMAS EVENT FOR USERS OF THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE

The Clerk submitted a report outlining draft arrangements for a Christmas event for users of the Fordbridge Centre

RESOLVED i) that consideration of this matter be deferred to the next meeting  
ii) a meeting of the Events Sub-Committee be held to consider a revised draft plan for the event

10. REPORT BY THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: BUDGET MONITORING TO 31.3.2017

The Clerk submitted a report detailing a comparison between budget allocation and actual income and expenditure for the period ended 31st March 2017. He reported that there were no additional significant variations other than those already approved.

RESOLVED that the details of the comparison between actual income and expenditure and the budget allocation for the period ended 31st March 2017 be noted and approved.

11. BAR PROVISION AT THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE

The Clerk reported that the prospective alternative provider previously reported to members was not currently in a position to assist the Council. The Clerk re-iterated his concerns regarding the current situation.

RESOLVED that the Clerk be authorised to seek alternative providers for the bar at the Fordbridge Centre

12. CONSIDERATION OF A REPORT FROM THE COUNCIL'S INTERNAL AUDITOR

The Clerk confirmed that the Council's internal auditor had completed the internal audit for the financial year ended 31st March 2017 as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations and he submitted her report.

RESOLVED that the internal auditor's report be received and accepted

13. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Clerk reported that despite ample publicity, attendance at the Annual Parish Meeting remained low and recommended that the statutory meeting be held on the same date as the Annual Meeting of the Council. He also recommended a proviso that a parish meeting will be held if a specific issue arises with sufficient public interest to justify the meeting.

RESOLVED that the Clerk's recommendations be accepted by the Council

14. PROVISION OF UNIFORMS (T-SHIRTS) FOR STAFF AT THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE

Members were invited to consider providing polo shirts as a basic uniform for members of staff at the Fordbridge Centre. It was suggested that this would help with the identification of staff by users, promote awareness of the Centre and enhance the corporate image.

RESOLVED that the Council purchase two white polo shirts complete with the Council's logo and red type for each member of staff

15. CONSIDERATION OF AN APPLICATION TO BE CO-OPTED TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL

The Clerk reported that Mr. David Hinsley had responded to the Council's approach to neighbouring Councils, expressing his wish to be co-opted to become a member of the Council

- RESOLVED i) that in accordance with the Council's standard procedure the candidate be invited to an interview with a sub-committee of five members  
ii) that the sub-committee consist of Councillors Allen, Dooley, S. McLaughlin, F.V. Nash and Sorrell

16. REFURBISHMENT OF THE KITCHEN AT THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE

A proposal was made to consider refurbishing the kitchen at the Fordbridge Centre given that it is over twelve years since extension of the building and the last major work on the kitchen.

- RESOLVED that the Clerk obtain three quotations for refurbishing the kitchen to include stainless steel work surfaces and upstands

17. W.A.L.C. CALENDAR OF TRAINING AND EVENTS

The Clerk submitted the calendar of upcoming training and events organised by W.A.L.C.

- RESOLVED that the Clerk obtain a hard copy of the details and circulate to all members

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

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APPENDIX A

Income from hire of the Fordbridge Centre

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	
	£	£	£	
April	2,236.00	2,198.00	1,950.00	
May	<u>1,165.00</u>	<u>1,386.00</u>	<u>1,520.00</u>	
	<u>3,401.00</u>	<u>3,584.00</u>	<u>3,470.00</u>	
June	1,433.00	2,312.00		5,000.00
July	2,070.00	1,525.00		
August	1,253.00	1,481.00		
September	1,458.00	954.00		10,000.00
October	1,892.00	1,653.00		
November	1,626.00	1,914.00		
December	788.00	1,256.00		15,000.00
January	1,399.00	1,588.00		
February	2,223.00	1,523.00		
March	<u>1,542.00</u>	<u>1,418.00</u>		20,000.00
	19,085.00	19,208.00		