

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE HELD ON 1ST APRIL 2019

PRESENT: Councillor S. McLaughlin (in the Chair)
P. Allen
H. Bennett-Watson
M. Blackburn
D. Cole
J. Kimberley
F.A. Nash
F.V. Nash
L. Sorrell

1. APOLOGIES

An apology for non-attendance from Councillor C. McLaughlin (recovering following stroke) was received and acknowledged but not approved.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

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

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held 18th February 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings

4. REPORT BY THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: REVIEW OF SYSTEM OF INTERNAL CONTROL

The Clerk submitted a report outlining the Council's current procedures in respect of collection of debts and arrangements for urgent repairs and maintenance at the Fordbridge Centre. Members considered the report and also sought the Clerk's view on any other changes he required.

RESOLVED i) that the Clerk draft an amendment to the financial regulations to increase the limit on debit card payments to £50.00
ii) that letters reminding them of their responsibilities be issued to all hirers who do not settle invoices within 30 days
iii) that the Clerk monitor the length of time taken by hirers to settle invoices and report to the Council in due course to consider additional measures

5. CHAIRMAN'S CHARITY DANCE 2019

The Clerk and the Chairman provided an update on the arrangements for the Charity Dance.

RESOLVED i) that the Council utilise the money provided by the Airport to purchase two raffle prizes with a combined total value of £50.00
ii) that an Events Sub-Committee meeting be held on 18th April 2019 at 1pm to discuss the arrangements for the day of the event

6. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR CITIZENS ADVICE: CHELMSLEY WOOD

The Clerk reported that he had been advised by Citizens Advice Solihull that the application form was still being processed and would be submitted in due course.

RESOLVED that consideration of the application be deferred to the next meeting of the Council

7. CONSIDERATION OF A RESPONSE TO A PLANNING APPLICATION RELATING TO A COMMUNICATIONS MAST AT CITY TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

The Clerk submitted details of a planning application relating to a replacement communications mast located at City Technology College.

RESOLVED that no objections or other response be made by the Council in respect of this application

8. CONSIDERATION OF AMENDING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE START TIME OF MEETINGS WHICH ARE NOT OPEN TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The Clerk reported that a recent meeting of another committee had lasted for only just over five minutes and asked members to consider how to make start times and calendars more flexible for meetings which are not open to the public.

RESOLVED that the Clerk draft the necessary amendments to Standing Orders to: -

- a) reduce the scheduled number of Staffing Committee meetings and
- b) provide for more flexible start times for meetings which are not open to the public

The meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN