

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON 2ND DECEMBER 2013

PRESENT: Councillor A. Nash (in the Chair)
P. Allen
M. Hyde
J. Kimberley
C. McLaughlin
S. McLaughlin
F. Nash
L. Sorrell

7618. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Dooley and Jamieson.

RESOLVED that Councillor Dooley's absence from meetings due to lengthy illness be approved

(Councillor Hyde asked for it to be recorded in the Minutes that he voted against this decision)

7619. 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.

7620. COMMENTS, QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
There were no comments, questions or suggestions made by members of the public.

7621. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held 30th September 2013 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

7622. DECLARATION OF VACANCY: HATCHFORD WARD

The Clerk reported that Ms Hannah Stone had not attended a meeting for a period of six consecutive months, and as such had ceased to be a member of the Council.

RESOLVED that the seat in the Hatchford Ward be declared vacant to allow the statutory process to commence

7623. CONSIDERATION OF FILLING THREE CASUAL VACANCIES BY CO-OPTION: BENNETT'S WELL WARD, COLE WARD AND HATCHFORD WARD

The Clerk submitted a letter of resignation from Mrs. Alwyn Doyle and confirmed that the vacancy had been advertised in accordance with statutory procedures.

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

7624. REPORT BY CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

The Chairman reported on the attendance of the Council's representatives at Remembrance Sunday services and he offered his thanks to them. He reported on the opening of the new store on the site of the former "Prince Hal" pub. He also reported on the carol service which had gone well being well attended and he observed that it had been a nice evening. Thanks were extended to Councillor F. Nash and the Clerk for the organisation of the event. The Chairman also read out a letter of thanks from St. Leonard's Day Centre.

7625. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held 18th November 2013 were presented to the meeting.

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

7626. APPOINTMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE ON ANOTHER BODY: HS2 COLESHILL JUNCTION COMMUNITY FORUM

RESOLVED that consideration of this appointment be deferred to the next meeting of the Council.

7627. ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED that the report listing accounts paid as submitted be approved

7628. REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

Councillor Sorrell reported on a meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee and consultation regarding a choice between two new flight paths following extension of the runway. Neither of the proposed routes has an impact on Fordbridge, and a decision will be made in April 2014

Councillor Allen reported on a meeting of the management committee of St. Leonard's Day Centre and advised that the group only has funding from Solihull M.B.C until March 2014.

7629. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

Councillor F.V. Nash reported on further issues regarding the cutting back of trees, frequent requests for larger properties which are just not available and also fuel bills

7630. CONSIDERATION OF CORRESPONDENCE FROM COMMUNITY ACTION IN FORDBRIDGE

The Clerk submitted a letter from the Chairman of Community Action in Fordbridge outlining an incident involving the Council's representative at a meeting and detailing the organisation's view regarding future representation.

RESOLVED i) that Sarah Barnes and Alison Lush be asked to give their view of the decisions that lead to Councillor Hyde being advised not to attend the first meeting of the evening
ii) that the Clerk obtain a copy of the group's constitution
iii) that consideration of representation on this body be deferred to the annual meeting of the Council

7631. CONSIDERATION OF A RESPONSE TO ELECTORAL COMMISSION CONSULTATION REGARDING STANDING FOR ELECTION

The Clerk reported that he had sent details of the consultation document to all members.

RESOLVED that the contents of the document be received and noted and no further action taken.

7632. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FOR A STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FROM THE PREVIOUS CHAIRMAN IN RESPECT OF THE CONDITIONAL ELEMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN'S ALLOWANCE

The Clerk reported that no response had been received to his initial request for information regarding expenditure on hospitality at this year's Chairman's Charity Dance.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write again to Mrs Doyle, sent by recorded delivery, noting that this is a second request and requiring a reply by 15th January 2014

7633. 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 8.50 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

