

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON 7TH DECEMBER 2015

PRESENT: Councillor F.V. Nash (in the Chair)
H. Bennett-Watson
K. Dooley
J. Kimberley
C. McLaughlin.
S. McLaughlin.
A. Nash
L. Sorrell

7907. APOLOGIES

An apology for non-attendance was received from Councillor Allen

7908. 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.

7909. COMMENTS, QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

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

7910. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held
19th October 2015 be approved and
signed by the Chairman as a correct
record of the proceedings.

7911 CONSIDERATION OF FILLING FIVE CASUAL VACANCIES BY CO-OPTION:
BENNETT'S WELL WARD, COLE WARD AND HATCHFORD WARD (3)

The Clerk reported that two applicants had been interviewed by the Council's sub-committee. The sub-committee's recommendation was that it was unable to support the applications at this stage and the applicants be asked to attend two future meetings with a view to being re-interviewed at a later stage. The Clerk also reported that he had received correspondence from another local resident expressing an interest in becoming a member of the Council. He had written to her suggesting that she attend the meeting.

RESOLVED i) that the Council does not accept the
recommendation of the sub-committee
and cannot support the applications of
Mary Brooks and Charlotte Kesterton
and they be advised accordingly.
ii) that Ms Robyn Hall be invited to
attend the upcoming meetings of the
Council
iii) that further consideration of the five
vacancies be deferred to the next
meeting of the Council

7912. REPORT BY CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

The Chairman reported that she had attended to the Remembrance Sunday parade and the KDLC Pensioners' Club fish and chip afternoon.

7913. STAFFING COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meetings of the Staffing Committee held 9th November 2015 and 23rd November 2015 were presented to the meeting.

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

7914. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held 16th November 2015 were presented to the meeting.

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

7915. ACCOUNTS AND MONTHLY EMPLOYEE COSTS

RESOLVED that the report listing accounts paid and monthly employee costs as submitted be approved

7916. REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

Councillor Sorrell reported on a meeting of the Airport Consultative Committee advising that Birmingham is the busiest business travel airport outside London and employs 650 people plus external partners and contractors. She also further advised that if a person doesn't fly then neither does their baggage and also that the Airport hopes to start flights to China and everybody has the right to a private search. The Chairman reported on behalf of Councillor Allen that St. Leonard's Day Centre had been given £800 by Jaguar Land Rover

7917. PROGRESS REPORT FOR INFORMATION BY THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

The Clerk submitted a progress report for members' information regarding implementation of outstanding issues. The contents of the report is set out in Appendix A.

7918. CONSIDERATION OF CORRESPONDENCE FROM SMITH'S WOOD PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk submitted correspondence from Smith's Wood Parish Council seeking support for its campaign for Centro to provide travel vouchers for use by food bank users.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write to Centro in support of the travel voucher scheme proposed by Smith's Wood Parish Council

7919. CONSIDERATION OF THE COUNCIL'S INVESTMENT POLICY

The Clerk submitted a report providing information regarding the C.C.LA. Public Sector Deposit Fund and advised that the fund is not covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. A general discussion took place regarding the amounts held in reserve by the Council and the amount outstanding on its loan.

RESOLVED that consideration of this matter be deferred to the next meeting of the FGP committee and the Clerk provide details of the outstanding loan

7920. CHRISTMAS EVENT FOR USERS OF THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE

RESOLVED that no further action be taken on this matter

7921. CONSIDERATION OF THE ENTERTAINMENT TO BE PROVIDED AT THE CHAIRMAN'S CHARITY DANCE 2016

RESOLVED that consideration of this matter be deferred to the next appropriate meeting

7922. 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 9.20 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

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APPENDIX A

Business Rates

LHL Property Auditors were instructed to recover on the Council's behalf any refund of non domestic rates to which it was entitled in respect of the Fordbridge Centre. Within a week the Council had been sent a refund of rates already paid in the sum of £11,936.61 plus confirmation that no further payments will be required in the current financial year, a further saving of £826.00. The total refund therefore received by the Council amounts to £12,762.61

Re-Surfacing Of The Car Park At The Fordbridge Centre

I advised that Balfour Beatty that the Council wished to accept its quotation subject to them agreeing to a retention of 10% until the end of the current financial year. Balfour Beatty refused to accept this condition and an order for the relevant work has been placed with Property Services and its contractors. The weather is now an obstacle as tarmac cannot be laid in temperatures of less than 5 degrees Celsius. The work will be completed as soon as the climatic conditions are suitable which may unfortunately be in the New Year and will take around four days. Access to the new section of the car park will be retained for as much of the four days as possible.