

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE HELD ON 11TH APRIL 2016

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

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for non-attendance as all members of the committee were present.

2. 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.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held 22nd
February 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a
correct record of the proceedings

4. 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.

5. REVIEW HIRE CHARGES AT THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE

Members were invited to consider any changes to the rates of hire paid by the Centre's regular Hirers

RESOLVED that the special rate agreed by the Council for hire by Friends-in-
Retirement on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons be increased to
£15 per session with effect from 1st August 2016

6. PROVISION OF ENTERTAINMENT AND A BUFFET AT THE CHRISTMAS EVENT FOR
USERS OF THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE

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

7. ADDITIONAL GRASS CUTTING AT THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE DURING 2016

The Clerk reported that the ever changing climatic conditions were resulting in the grass growing for a far longer period than previously. He asked members to approve the use of two further discretionary cuts at the end of this summer with a view to permanently amending the contract when it is reviewed later in the year.

RESOLVED that the Council approve the use of two further cuts to be ordered by the Clerk if necessary at the end of the season at the contractor's standard contract price for this work

8. WALC TRAINING EVENT: INDUCTION FOR NEW COUNCILLORS

The Clerk reported that Councillor Bennett-Watson had indicated her wish to attend this training event, which he added would cost £45.00 if approved.

RESOLVED that Councillors Bennett-Watson and S.McLaughlin attend either this event or the next, subject to their personal availability

9. REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE COUNCIL'S SYSTEM OF INTERNAL CONTROL

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

10. CONFIRMATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S INTERNAL AUDITOR

The Clerk recommended that the Council retain the services of Diane Malley who had written to him confirming her availability and also confirming her competence and independence. She also confirmed that there would be no increase to her charge.

RESOLVED that Diane Malley be engaged as the Council's internal auditor for the next twelve months

11. CONSIDERATION OF PURCHASING A REPLACEMENT COMPUTER AND SOFTWARE

The Clerk submitted quotations for purchasing an All-in-one computer, Microsoft Office software and an external hard drive totalling either £432.00 (subject to an offer still being place on purchase) or £452.00

RESOLVED that the Clerk proceed with purchase of the relevant hardware and software as described above

12. BAR PROVISION AT THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE

The Clerk reported details of an outline proposal arising from discussions with Leisure Bars Ltd involving a reduction in the cost of hire of the Centre on Saturday evenings. Leisure Bars would then provide a Designated Premises Supervisor, eliminate the existing bar contract charge and involve the Council receiving a share of the revenue raised by the bar. The proposal would require a significant increase in the number of bookings hence the reduction in the hire charge

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

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

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APPENDIX A

Income from hire of the Fordbridge Centre

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	
	£	£	£	
April	2,361.00	1,309.00	2,236.00	1,665.00
May	1,738.00	1,710.00	1,165.00	3,330.00
June	2,039.00	1,468.00	1,433.00	5,000.00
July	1,905.00	2,298.00	2,070.00	6,665.00
August	1,616.00	954.00	1,253.00	8,330.00
September	1,383.00	2,099.00	1,458.00	10,000.00
October	1,725.00	1,459.00	1,892.00	11,665.00
November	2,363.00	1,115.00	1,626.00	13,330.00
December	1,788.00	856.00	788.00	15,000.00
January	2,077.00	1,719.00	1,399.00	16,665.00
February	1,343.00	1,383.00	2,223.00	18,330.00
March	<u>2,278.00</u>	<u>1,508.00</u>	<u>1,542.00</u>	20,000.00
	22,616.00	17,878.00	19,085.00	