

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES  
COMMITTEE HELD ON 13TH JUNE 2016

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

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2016/2017 MUNICIPAL YEAR

RESOLVED that Councillor C. McLaughlin be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the 2016/2017 Municipal Year

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2016/2017 MUNICIPAL YEAR

RESOLVED that Councillor Sorrell be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the 2016/2017 Municipal Year

3. APOLOGIES

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

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 13th April 2016 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.

7. HIRE OF THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE: EVENING FUNCTIONS NOT REQUIRING BAR PROVISION

The Clerk reported on issues arising from a recent day long function with no bar and re-iterated a recommendation that he made earlier in the year that this type of function tends to be more problematic and as such should be restricted.

RESOLVED that the Council no longer accept evening functions not requiring bar provision unless the hirer is known to the Council (e.g. regular users)

8. 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 2016 as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations and he submitted her report.

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

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

The Clerk submitted correspondence from a local resident expressing an interest in being co-opted to fill a casual vacancy. The Clerk reported that he had spoken to the applicant to confirm that he is not disqualified from standing as candidates.

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, F.A. Nash, F.V. Nash and Sorrell

(Councillor C. McLaughlin and S. McLaughlin declared a non pecuniary interest in this matter and consequently took no part in the debate or decision)

(Councillors H. Bennett-Watson and F.A. Nash asked for it to be recorded in the Minutes that they abstained from voting on this matter)

10. REQUEST TO WAIVE HIRE CHARGES AT THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE TO HOST A MACMILLAN CHARITY EVENT

The Clerk submitted a request to waive all or part of the hire charges at the Fordbridge Centre to host a charity event. The Clerk confirmed that the applicant had hired the Centre on previous occasions without any issues.

RESOLVED that the Council approve the request and waive all charges and an event be held on a mutually convenient date

11. APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY MERIDEN ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND ASSOCIATION

The Clerk submitted an application by Meriden Adventure Playground Association for assistance with the purchase of two crash mats to replace items destroyed in a recent arson attack.

RESOLVED that consideration of this matter be deferred and the Association be asked to provide the following:-  
a) the Association's most recent statement of accounts  
b) clarification of ownership and responsibility for the playground and  
c) confirmation of the steps being taken to protect equipment in the future

12. REPORT BY THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: BUDGET MONITORING TO 31.3.2016

The Clerk submitted a report detailing a comparison between budget allocation and actual income and expenditure for the period ended 31st March 2016. He reported that there was one significant variation and outlined the details.

RESOLVED that the details of the comparison between actual income and expenditure and the budget allocation and the significant variation for the period ended 31st December 2016 as set out in Appendix B be noted and approved.

13. ACKNOWLEDGING LOCAL ACHIEVEMENTS

RESOLVED that consideration of this matter be withdrawn pending submission by the Clerk of a revised policy

14. REPORT BY THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: FUND BALANCES

The Clerk submitted a report outlining the Council's current fund balances and the surplus balance expected for the current financial year. Members were invited to consider how to discharge the surplus balance.

RESOLVED that consideration of this matter be deferred to the next meeting of the Council to allow the Clerk to provide further information regarding the outstanding loan

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

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APPENDIX A

**Income from hire of the Fordbridge Centre**

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	
	£	£	£	
April	1,309.00	2,236.00	2,198.00	1,665.00
May	<u>1,710.00</u>	<u>1,165.00</u>	<u>1,386.00</u>	3,330.00
	<u>3,019.00</u>	<u>3,401.00</u>	<u>3,584.00</u>	
June	1,468.00	1,433.00		5,000.00
July	2,298.00	2,070.00		6,665.00
August	954.00	1,253.00		8,330.00
September	2,099.00	1,458.00		10,000.00
October	1,459.00	1,892.00		11,665.00
November	1,115.00	1,626.00		13,330.00
December	856.00	788.00		15,000.00
January	1,719.00	1,399.00		16,665.00
February	1,383.00	2,223.00		18,330.00
March	<u>1,508.00</u>	<u>1,542.00</u>		20,000.00
	17,878.00	19,085.00		

APPENDIX B

1. Expenditure on electricity at the Fordbridge Centre was significantly higher than the agreed budget. The Council entered into a new contract during the course of the financial year.