

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES  
COMMITTEE HELD ON 14TH JANUARY 2013

PRESENT: Councillor C. McLaughlin (in the Chair)  
P. Allen  
A. Doyle  
M.G. Hyde  
J. Kimberley  
S. McLaughlin  
F.A. Nash  
F.V. Nash  
H. Stone

1. APOLOGIES

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

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

Councillors Doyle, Hyde, C. McLaughlin and S. McLaughlin all declared that they had a dispensation to allow them to participate and vote on item number eight regarding the Council's financial strategy.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held 19th November 2012 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. CONSIDERATION OF A REPORT BY THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL: MONTHLY EMPLOYEE COSTS

The Clerk submitted a report, for members' information, detailing the monthly employee costs for the previous month. The detailed information is set out in Appendix B.

6. EXTERNAL WINDOW CLEANING AT THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE

The Clerk reported that he had received quotations of £28, £30 and £40 per visit to undertake cleaning of the external windows and frames at the Fordbridge Centre on a monthly basis.

RESOLVED that the Council accept the quotation in the sum of £28 from Salter Cleaning to undertake external window cleaning at the Fordbridge Centre

7. CONSIDERATION OF FORMULATING PLANS FOR A REFORMED CHILDREN'S COUNCIL

The Clerk reported that he had some ideas to reform the children's council which would develop from the experience gained from the previous children's council and would strengthen the link with the Council. He did advise however that he had not as yet had time to commit the ideas to paper. He reported that Fordbridge school had indicated informally that they would like an opportunity for the council to resume.

- RESOLVED i) that the Clerk produce a framework for a reformed children's council at the next committee meeting  
ii) that the Clerk write to the head teachers at the two schools to obtain a commitment to support the children's council

8. CONSIDERATION OF THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2013/2014 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Clerk submitted the draft budget for the 2013/2014 financial year and confirmed that he had prepared the budget on the basis that a smaller precept would be required due to changes in legislation regarding Council Tax Benefit. He also reported on the proposed changes to the legislation and how this would affect Fordbridge.

- RESOLVED that the draft budget for the 2013/2014 financial year as proposed by the Clerk to the Council be approved

*(Councillor Stone reported that she had a disclosable pecuniary interest in this matter and consequently took no part in the debate or voting)*

9. CONSIDERATION OF SPEAKER(S) TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Members were invited to consider speakers to attend the Council's Annual Parish Meeting in May, to allow sufficient time to be made to make the necessary arrangements

- RESOLVED i) that invitations be sent to the Leader of Solihull M.B.C. the cabinet member responsible for regeneration and Ian Cox to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to discuss regeneration in the parish of Fordbridge  
ii) that a representative from Centro be invited to attend a future meeting of the Council

10. CONSIDERATION OF THE IMPACT OF INTRODUCING THE "LIVING WAGE" FOR STAFF AT THE FORDBRIDGE CENTRE

The Clerk reported that consideration of this matter should be deferred to allow the staffing committee to complete its review of the job description of the staff at the Fordbridge Centre

- RESOLVED that consideration of this matter be deferred to a future meeting of the committee

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

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APPENDIX A

**Income from hire of the Fordbridge Centre**

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
	£	£	£
April	1,588.00	3,039.00	2,066.00
May	1,537.00	2,573.00	2,518.00
June	2,201.00	1,528.00	1,660.00
July	865.00	2,565.00	2,021.00
August	2,194.00	1,343.00	1,786.00
September	1,263.00	1,458.00	2,031.00
October	1,752.75	1,881.00	2,170.00
November	<u>1,788.00</u>	<u>1,753.00</u>	<u>2,326.00</u>
	<i>13,188.75</i>	<i>16,140.00</i>	<i>16,578.00</i>
December	1,126.00	1,221.00	
January	2,417.00	2,956.00	
February	1,503.00	2,078.00	
March	<u>1,418.00</u>	<u>2,238.00</u>	
	<i>19,652.75</i>	<i>24,635.00</i>	

APPENDIX B

**Monthly Employee Costs**

November 2012:	
Salaries & Wages	£4,152.38
Employer's NI	£199.60
Employer's Pension Contributions	£503.71