

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES
COMMITTEE HELD ON 16TH SEPTEMBER 2013

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

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies for non-attendance by members were submitted in respect of the meeting.

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

Councillors Allen, Kimberley, C. McLaughlin, S. McLaughlin, A. Nash, F.V. Nash and L. Sorrell all declared that they had a dispensation to allow them to participate and vote on the item relating to the Chairman's allowance.

Councillor Hyde declared that he had a disclosable pecuniary interest in the item relating to the Chairman's allowance and would therefore withdraw from the meeting at the appropriate time

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held 29th July 2013 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. CONSIDERATION OF AN APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY TS STIRLING SEA CADETS

The Clerk submitted a standard application from the above organisation and a report indicating the group's compliance with the Council's criteria for financial support.

RESOLVED i) that consideration of this matter be deferred and a representative from the Sea Scouts be invited to attend the next meeting of the Council
ii) that the invitation be positive and encourage the representative to attend, as the Council is supportive of the application in principle subject to clarification of certain issues

7. CONSIDERATION OF HOW TO DISCHARGE A DONATION FROM C.A.R.A

The Clerk reported that he had received a cheque in the sum of £651.00 from Chelmsley Advice and Resource Agency which was disposing of its remaining assets. He had also received correspondence from the Chairman of the Agency asking the Council to re-distribute the amount to local charities.

RESOLVED that the donation received from C.A.R.A. be added to the Chairman's charity fund to be donated to the relevant charity next year
(Councillor A. Nash asked for it to be recorded in the Minutes that he abstained from voting on this matter)

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

The Clerk advised that it been brought to his attention that the resolution passed by the Council in 2007 in respect of the Chairman's allowance indicated that the additional £500 was only available if necessary to meet the costs of hospitality at the Chairman's Charity Dance and the Annual Meeting of the Council. Each of the former Chairmen present indicated that any surplus from this sum had been separately donated to their nominated charity, except Councillor Sorrell who had returned a surplus which had been added to the main donation to her nominated charities.

RESOLVED that the Clerk write to Councillor Doyle to ask her for a statement of expenditure for hospitality at the Chairman's Charity Dance and the Annual Meeting of the Council.
(Councillors Kimberley and A. Nash asked for it to be recorded in the Minutes that they abstained from voting on this matter)
(Councillor Hyde declared a disclosable pecuniary interest and withdrew from the meeting whilst this matter was discussed)

9. CONSIDERATION OF PURCHASING A LARGER GAZEBO

The Clerk reported that a gazebo purchased last year had been discovered to be damaged when attempting to set it up at the Fun Day. The supplier had agreed to a 50% refund in view of the length of time since purchase. He reported that a replacement of the original gazebo would be obtained.

RESOLVED that no further action be taken on this matter

10. CONSIDERATION OF PURCHASING AN ADVERTISING BANNER FOR USE AT COUNCIL EVENTS

Councillor Allen proposed that the Council purchase two canvas banners to be displayed on the fencing at the Fordbridge Centre to advertise the Fun Day and the Charity Dance. The Clerk reported that the estimated cost of each banner would be £30.00.

RESOLVED that the Council purchase two canvas banners to advertise the two events as described above

11. WARWICKSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Clerk reported that the Annual General Meeting of the Warwickshire Association of Local Councils will be held on 13th November 2013 at the Shire Hall in Warwick. All members were welcome to attend but the Council would have only two voting members. Any motions for consideration must be submitted no later than 23rd October 2013

12. CONSIDERATION OF THE AMOUNT TO BE DONATED TO THE RBL POPPY APPEAL BY THE COUNCIL IN RESPECT OF WREATHES FOR REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Clerk reported that the Council had agreed to purchase two wreathes each year for Remembrance Sunday and asked members to consider making a donation for each wreath rather than the purchase price set by the Poppy Appeal.

RESOLVED that in accordance with the provisions of Section 137 of Local Government Act 1972 the Council donate the sum of £50.00 to the R.B.L. Poppy Appeal for each wreath for the next five years (up to and including 2017)
(Councillor Hyde asked for it to be recorded in the Minutes that he voted against the proposal)

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

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APPENDIX A

Income from hire of the Fordbridge Centre

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
	£	£	£
April	3,039.00	2,066.00	2,361.00
May	2,573.00	2,518.00	1,738.00
June	1,528.00	1,660.00	2,039.00
July	2,565.00	2,021.00	1,905.00
August	<u>1,343.00</u>	<u>1,786.00</u>	<u>1,616.00</u>
	<i>11,048.00</i>	<i>10,051.00</i>	<i>9,659.00</i>
September	1,458.00	2,031.00	
October	1,881.00	2,170.00	
November	1,753.00	2,326.00	
December	1,221.00	1,771.00	
January	2,956.00	1,543.00	
February	2,078.00	1,798.00	
March	<u>2,238.00</u>	<u>2,360.00</u>	
	24,635.00	24,050.00	

APPENDIX B

Monthly Employee Costs

July 2013:

Salaries & Wages	£3,890.16
Employer's NI	£170.61
Employer's Pension Contributions	£479.23

August 2013:

Salaries & Wages	£3,781.93
Employer's NI	£173.32
Employer's Pension Contributions	£478.95