

FORDBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON 26TH JANUARY 2015

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

7790. APOLOGIES

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Councillors Dooley and A. Nash.

7791. HEART OF ENGLAND NHS FOUNDATION TRUST TO PROVIDE INFORMATION AND ANSWER QUESTIONS REGARDING CONSULTATION IN RESPECT OF SURGERY RECONFIGURATION

Two representatives from Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust attended the meeting to provide background information and to answer questions from members regarding reconfiguration of surgery across the Trust sites. A summary of the information provided is set out in Appendix A.

7792. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were no declarations of interest made by members relating to items on the agenda.

7793. COMMENTS, QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

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

7794. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held 1st December 2014 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the proceedings.

7795. CONSIDERATION OF THE PRECEPT FOR THE 2015/2016 FINANCIAL YEAR

RESOLVED that the Council require a precept of £102,934 for the 2015/2016 financial year

7796. CONSIDERATION OF FILLING FOUR CASUAL VACANCIES BY CO-OPTION: BENNETT'S WELL WARD, COLE WARD AND HATCHFORD WARD (2)

RESOLVED that no further action be taken on this matter until after the election if appropriate

7797. REPORT BY CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

The Chairman reported that she attended the Kingshurst and District Labour Club Pensioner's Christmas party on the 23rd December 2014, which was a very nice evening.

7798. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Health and Recreation Committee held 12th January 2015 were presented to the meeting.

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

7799. FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held 12th January 2015 were presented to the meeting.

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

7800. APPOINTMENT OF A RESERVE REPRESENTATIVE ON SOLIHULL PARTNERSHIP FORUM

The Clerk reported that Solihull M.B.C. was re-vamping the Partnership Forums and as part of this process had indicated that participating groups were allowed to nominate a reserve representative.

RESOLVED that Councillor Bennett-Watson be appointed as the Council's reserve representative on the Solihull Partnership Forums

7801. ACCOUNTS

RESOLVED that the report listing accounts paid as submitted be approved

7802. REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

There were no representatives' reports presented to the meeting by any member of the Council

7803. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS

Councillor F.V. Nash reported that the main issues have been the potential developments on Conway Road and Cooks Lane as well as rent arrears and housing transfers. She also reported that strict conditions had been attached to the revised licence at the Catholic Community Centre and details of the conditions have been given to local residents.

7804. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT LAND ADJOINING CONWAY ROAD

Members were advised that a further consultation meeting will take place at North Solihull Sports Centre and a brief discussion took place regarding the merits of development on the site.

7805. CORRESPONDENCE FROM HEART OF ENGLAND NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

The Clerk advised members that they had an opportunity to respond as a Council to the consultation exercise following the presentation by representatives from the Trust.

RESOLVED that consideration of this matter be deferred to the next meeting of the Council to allow members more time to formulate a response

7806. 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 8.45 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

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APPENDIX A

Heart of England NHS Trust

The Trust is carrying out the consultation exercise because it had decided that its clinical service was not sustainable in the future. The Trust is hoping to deliver a better service and the resulting changes may hopefully cut costs, but the changes are not being driven by a need to cut costs. The changes will mean that specialist surgery will be conducted at individual hospitals, but surgical diagnosis will continue at each local hospital. The Trust is or will be extending operating theatre sessions and working on Saturdays which will therefore hopefully create jobs.

The Trust is looking at numerous transport solutions to assist with moving patients from their local hospital to the site where surgery will take place. These include approaching National Express to tender for a bus service to link the main sites and working with the volunteer driver service. Improvements in respect of the appointment system and the late cancellation of operations are also being considered.

Members were advised that the consultation period will continue until after the general election.