



FLEET TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

**Wednesday 2 October 2013
at The Harlington at 7.30pm**

PRESENT

Councillors Bob Schofield (Chairman), Chris Axa, Chris Butler, Grahame Chenery, Paul Einchcomb, Sue Fisher, Steve Forster, Denis Gotel, Leslie Holt, Alan Hope, Alan Oliver, Dai Pierce, Sue Tilley, Wallace Vincent, George Woods

Also Present

James Corrigan, Town Clerk
Janet Stanton, Deputy Town Clerk
Sheila Rayner, Committee Clerk

Cllr Bennison, HCC/HDC
Cllr Wheale, HCC/HDC

Sarah Horton and Mike Bye, Friends of Oakley Park
Mike Butcher, Fleet Future

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Cllrs Appleton, Lewis, Perthen and Robinson,

ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Development Control 27 Aug 2013 13/01690/HOU- Cllr Forster

Before continuing with the meeting, Cllr Schofield commented on the following matters:

- Congratulations to the Friends of Oakley Park on the successes achieved at the recent South and South East in Bloom Awards ceremony
- Thanks to Fleet Future on concluding the Consultation exercise
- A meeting had been arranged with all the Friends Groups to be held on 24 October 2013
- The cycle path had been opened but not yet adopted pending snagging
- The Policy and Finance meeting held on 16 September was not quorate the first time this had happened.

ITEM 3 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from members of the public

ITEM 4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

With the correction to the spelling of Cllr Denis Gotel's name, the minutes of the Council meeting held on

4 September 2013 were approved

The Council received the minutes of the following committee meetings:

Development Control 27 August, 9 September, 23 September 2013

ITEM 5 OAKLEY PARK DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Cllr Schofield reported that following discussions with representatives of Friends of Oakley Park, the main principles of the Plan have been retained but much of the maintenance element of the original draft had been removed. This had been achieved through raising awareness of the content of the Council's Ground Maintenance contract.

Following discussion about the inclusion of toilets as an aspirational project and the acknowledgement of the Friends success in managing the Park it was,

RESOLVED

That the Oakley Park Development Plan 2013-2018 be adopted as an aspirational document

ITEM 6 NAMING OF CYCLE/FOOT PATH HITCHES LANE TO THE VIEWS

Cllr Wheale explained the background to the reasons why the opening ceremony had been arranged so quickly and reported that HCC had consulted various local societies about the naming of the footpath/cycleway. As the Baker family, which had operated a hardware store in Fleet since 1908, was so highly respected locally, Mr Baker had been approached by Councillor Wheale about the possibility of naming the route as Baker's Way. Several Councillors expressed concern at the way the process had been handled by HCC and that they had been placed in a difficult position.

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED

To inform HDC that FTC supported the name Baker's Way for the footpath/cycleway from The Views to Hitches Lane

ITEM 7 FLEET FUTURE UPDATE

Mike Butcher, the Chairman of Fleet Future was in attendance to make a presentation on the progress of Fleet Future to members of the Council.

Special thanks were given to James Corrigan, Cllrs Perthen, Tilley and Vincent for the contributions they had made particularly in establishing the organisation.

It was reported that the consultation exercise was complete with over 1,300 responses and 750 written submissions. The main areas were The Vision, Economy, Transport and Accessibility and The Community. Analysis of the detailed data was now to be undertaken. The setting up of suitably staffed Action Teams was now vital with the next steps being to read and analyse the data.

Following general discussions and questions, the Council thanked Mike Butcher for all his hard work and confirmed that they would like to receive a further update once the complete results of the analysis were known.

ITEM 8 CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk presented his report and drew particular attention to the following matters:

- Panto seats now 25% sold
- Harlington electrics-live wires discovered near metal framework which was a matter of concern and would need to be discussed with HDC. Up to £20,000 could be required to bring the electrical installation up to standard
- The Facilities Manager post had been advertised with 7/8 applications to date. The closing date was 11 October and the appointed local agent had commented that the salary appeared low for the duties involved and the requirements looked like two jobs.
- The odd job contractor had been engaged and was now busily engaged in catching up on repairs at the Harlington under the supervision of the Clerk.
- Third Generation Football-a report would be made to the next RLA committee
- The draft 'draft budget' for 2014-2015 was under preparation
- Town Talk delivery was due soon, Councillors were asked to advise the office when they receive one
- Banking arrangements would be discussed with a NatWest Relationship Manager on 3 October 2013.

RESOLVED

That the Town Clerk's report be noted

ITEM 9 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Members considered a report on the arrangements for Remembrance Day events. Members who intended to attend the Church service were asked to inform the Deputy Clerk by 1 November, so that seats could be reserved. Volunteers were also sought to assist with serving refreshments after the service on Sunday afternoon. It was noted that the PA system had been provided free of charge by a local company.

RESOLVED

That the report on Remembrance events be noted

ITEM 10 CHRISTMAS

The members considered a report on the proposed arrangements for Christmas including arrangements for the new cross street lights and the Christmas tree.

RESOLVED

That the report on proposed Christmas arrangements be noted

ITEM 11 FULL OF LIFE-OLDER PERSON'S EVENT

Members noted that an event had been arranged at the Harlington and the Deputy Clerk was thanked for all her hard work in arranging the event at short notice and managing to attract so many exhibitors, though it was disappointing however that despite extensive publicity that at times the number of exhibitors outnumbered the number of visitors.

ITEM 12 HCC/HDC UPDATE

Cllr Bennison:

- To remind the Council that there were Remembrance Day arrangements at Church Crookham
- The Basingstoke Canal Manager would like to make a presentation to the Council in connection with a funding bid

Cllr Wheale:

- Thanks to those who had served on the Fleet Festival Committee, in particular Cllrs Tilley and Vincent. Arrangements were now well advanced with bookings for stalls, banners, web site, Facebook, Twitter. Residents, shop keepers and restaurants had all been informed and programmes were being prepared.
- FTC to inform HCC where they would like cycle hoops to be placed on the footpath/cycleway
- Litter bins would be installed by HCC and FTC would be asked to arrange to empty these and recharge HCC
- Proposals were being formulated to deal with inconsiderate parking at The Spinney
- Lengthsman scheme –it was hoped that this may be extend to include weeding
- Scrutiny committee was considering a Community Infrastructure Levy

ITEM 13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 6 November 2013, at 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40pm

Signed:..... **Date**.....

Chairman