



FLEET TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

held on

Wednesday 6 December 2017

at The Harlington at 7.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillors Bob Schofield (Chairman), Paul Einchcomb, Leslie Holt, Alan Hope, Richard Hunt, Alan Oliver, Mike Peddell, Dai Pierce, Richard Robinson, Jeff Smith, Jonathan Wright, George Woods

Also Present

Janet Stanton- Town Clerk

Sheila Rayner -Committee Clerk

Cllr Bennison-HCC

Cllr Forster-HCC

Mike Bye-Friends of Oakley Park

Michael Jepson-Local Resident

Chairman's Announcements

Cllr Schofield reported on the following matters:

- HALC AGM on 4 November 2017- The nominal increase in fees was agreed
- Remembrance Sunday on 12 November 2017, which had been well attended. The Chairman thanked all the volunteers and officers for their help with the arrangements
- HCC Community Bus briefing on 16 November 2017
- Meeting with the Grounds Maintenance bidders on 4 December 2017 with 10 contractors present
- Christmas Festivities on 29 November 2017 attended by approx. 18,000 local residents. Thanks were expressed for the Christmas lights and Christmas tree and to all those who had made the event such a success
- Hampshire Constabulary Christmas Concert
- Invitation from the Mayor of Farnham to the Farnham Christmas concert (the chairman would therefore be unable to attend the FTC Panto Gala Night)
- HCC Parish briefing on the new Highways contract to be held on 13 December 2017

FC/Dec 2017/ ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Chenery, Gotel, Gray, Jasper Walton, Wheale

FC/Dec 2017/ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Smith –Item 11- Fleet Medical Centre

FC/Dec 2017/ITEM 3 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from the public

FC/Dec 2017/ITEM 4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Following the report that Cllr Parker had responded on behalf of Fleet Conservatives to the request for an explanation regarding the Fleet Conservative Group's comments on the Harlington public consultation exercise and with the correction to the spelling of Cllr Makepeace-Browne, the minutes of the meeting of Council held on Wednesday 1 November 2017 and the extraordinary meeting of Council held on 27 November 2017, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

The Council received the minutes of the following committee meetings:

Development Control Committee

13 November 2017

FC/Dec 2017/ITEM 5 HARLINGTON DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Following the meeting of the Harlington Working Group on 1 December 2017, Cllr Schofield reported the following :

- The situation remains very fluid as design refinements continue. Drawings are being amended on a daily basis.
- A preliminary detailed costing had been prepared, but is still subject to refinement as the scheme develops and evolves
- BFF have incorporated comments from the last working group meeting including foyer layout, bulk storage, dressing room arrangements, meeting rooms, public circulation including access and egress.
- The extent of technical disabled access is being reviewed
- The Fire safety review has been completed and necessary issues are being dealt with.
- Major plant arrangements are still under review
- The final list of technical audio visual equipment is being rationalised and adjusted against legacy items that can be transferred from the Harlington.
- Meetings between FTC's architects and HDC Planners have been very positive with some good advice being given by HDC Officers.
- All the necessary surveys have been initiated including the Transport Assessment required by HDC's Planning Officer.

The Outline Planning Application is still scheduled to be submitted in January 2018 once FTC members have approved the scheme and costings

The members noted the up to date position and that no further authorisations were required

FC/Dec 2017 ITEM 6 BUDGET 2018/2019

The Chairman presented a draft balanced budget which provided for a 0% increase in the Council Tax rate which had previously been agreed by Council

The summary budget had now been arranged in a way that showed the Harlington separately and this was explained to the members

It was noted that no notice had yet been received of the 2018/2019 precept

RESOLVED

To approve the draft budget for 2018/2019 as presented

FC/Dec 2017 ITEM 7 FINANCIAL MONITORING

The members received the financial monitoring statements

It was confirmed that only the payments, receipts and reconciliation were statutory audit requirements

RESOLVED

To receive into the minutes

- a) Cash book up to October 2017
- b) Reconciliation for to October 2017
- c) List of Payments for October 2017

FC Dec 2017 ITEM 8 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2018/2019

The members considered the draft schedule of meetings for 2018/2019 in readiness for formal presentation to Annual Council in May 2018

It was noted that the Annual Council meeting in May 2018 would be held on the third Wednesday in the month as it was an election year and additional agenda administration time was required

RESOLVED

To approve the proposed 2018/2019 meeting timetable, in readiness for presentation to the Annual Council meeting on 16 May 2018

FC Dec 2017 ITEM 9 HSBC BANK ACCOUNT-ADDITIONAL SIGNATORIES

Members were asked to approve additional signatories to the FTC HSBC Bank Account

RESOLVED

To approve Cllr Wheale and Cllr Woods as additional signatories to the FTC HSBC Bank Account

FC Dec 2017 ITEM 10 SID BOARDS

It was reported that the SID Boards had been managed by HDC but it had been confirmed that HDC no longer had trained operatives to install the SIDs

As the SIDs had proved to be very valuable in the collection of data and were welcomed by the Speedwatch group, FTC's Grounds Maintenance contractor had been asked to indicate a willingness to manage the repositioning of the boards

Having noted that the locations would be agreed between the Police, Speedwatch and HDC, it was

RESOLVED

That Nigel Jeffries provide the SIDs repositioning service up to a maximum cost of £180 per month until 31 March 2018

FC Dec 2017 ITEM 11 FLEET MEDICAL CENTRE

The Chairman reported on the growing number of concerns about the level of service provided by the Fleet Medical Centre and other surgeries

Patients were apparently being asked to wait four weeks just for a telephone appointment and lack of parking spaces was also causing a problem

A proposal by Wates for the development of 700 new dwellings was expected to secure only £360,000 for medical provision which would not be sufficient to address the existing issues.

There was a general discussion about the pressures on the National Health Service both locally and nationally with growing numbers of elderly people and a shortage of doctors.

Following discussion it was

RESOLVED

That FTC write to the Clinical Commissioning Group expressing concern about the level of service across Fleet surgeries and welcoming a briefing on the CCG's plans to address the issues

FC Dec 2017 ITEM 12 COMMUNITY BUS UPDATE

Cllr Schofield presented his report on the Community Bus meeting held at Winchester on 16 November 2017

He was able to assure members that there would be no cuts to community bus service budgets during 2018/2019

He highlighted the notion that charging £1 pa for a bus pass would attract income of £400,000 or charging 50p a trip would yield £4m. However this would require amendment of primary legislation

Members noted that community transport contracts would be extended for one year within the existing framework. A meeting had been arranged for 18 December 2018 to deal with this matter

Members discussed HCCs lengthy response to a parliamentary committee , the contribution from Hartland Park and the 600 responses sent to the recent consultation on bus transport

FC Dec 2017 ITEM 13 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

There was nothing further to report

FC Dec 2017 ITEM 14 HCC/HDC

HCC

Cllr Forster reported on :

- SW Rail consultation
- Future upgrades to Fleet station to be announced
- Upgrades to highways junctions at Hitches Lane and Elvetham Road
- Access to Calthorpe Park School near Leisure Centre roundabout
- Grove Farm proposed road improvements
- Night time economy issues

Cllr Bennison reported on:

- Courtmoor School travel plan update
- HCC highways teams readiness for winter storms and reduction in roads to be gritted
- Extensive installation of defibrillators

HDC

Cllr Oliver reported on :

- The Harlington development to be considered by Cabinet and the Scrutiny Committee
- Local plan to be considered by Scrutiny committee on 2 January, Cabinet on 4 January and Council on 5 January 2018

FC/Dec 2017 ITEM 15 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The members noted the Town Clerk's report and specifically:

- Concerns about the condition of the boilers at the Harlington and the possible necessity to take emergency temporary measures
- Need to check the business interruption insurance cover
- Request for a contribution from the library service
- The successful recruitment of a chef for the Christmas lunch

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm

FC/Dec 2017 ITEM 16 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 3 January 2018 at the Harlington at 7pm

Chairman.....Date.....