



FLEET TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

held on

Wednesday 1 June 2016

at The Harlington at 7pm

PRESENT

Councillors Bob Schofield (Chairman), Steve Cante, Grahame Chenery, Paul Einchcomb, Alex Gray, Leslie Holt, Alan Hope, Richard Hunt, Kathy Jasper, Alan Oliver, Dai Pierce, Richard Robinson, Jeff Smith

Also Present

Janet Stanton-Town Clerk
Sheila Rayner-Committee Clerk

Cllr Bennison-HCC

FC/June 16/ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There was an apology for absence from Cllrs Gotel, Walton and Wright

FC/June 16/ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

FC/June 16/ITEM 3 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from the public

Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman, Cllr Bob Schofield, reported to Council on the activities he had undertaken since the Annual Meeting of Council on 11 May 2016. The following topics were mentioned:

- Thanks for his re-election as Chairman of the Council for 2016/2017
- Looking forward to a productive year with progress on the Harlington ,the Neighbourhood Plan and park improvements
- Meeting to discuss community bus services

- Input to HDC Planning Committee regarding a planning application for a town centre hotel
- Fleet Future Steering Committee
- Meeting regarding possible new pavilion in Calthorpe Park
- Attendance at the Ageing Well Network
- Congratulations to the organisers on the very successful Fleet food Festival

A copy of the report attached to record minutes

FC/June 16/ITEM 4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

With the correction to Cllr Schofield’s name at item 2, the minutes and the confidential minute of the meeting of the Annual Council meeting held on 11 May 2016 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

As a matter arising at **item 10 Membership of other Bodies and Annual Fees**, the Chairman reported that he and the Town Clerk had considered the evidence regarding the performance of NALC.

In accordance with item 10 Cllr Schofield **recommended** that FTC should continue its membership of NALC into 2016/2017 with the matter to be kept under review

RESOLVED

To renew FTC’s membership of NALC and authorise the payment of the fee of £1,000 with a watching brief resulting in a further review in May 2017

As a further matter arising at **item 7 Appointments to External bodies 2016/2017** Cllr Smith was elected to represent FTC on the Flood Forum chaired by Hart District Council

With the correction to the date of the next meeting from 23 May 2016 to 13 June 2016 (item 9 Development Control minutes 23 May 2016)

The Council received the minutes of the following meetings:

Development Control Committee	9 and 23 May 2016
Planning Committee	23 May 2016

FC/June 16/ITEM 5 AUDITOR’S REPORT AND ACTION PLAN

The members received and considered the internal auditor’s report for 2015/2016 and the proposed Action Plan

RESOLVED

- To note the Internal Auditors Report 2015/2016
- To approve the proposed Action Plan to address issues raised in the Report

FC/June 16/ITEM 6 ANNUAL RETURN

The members received and approved the completed Annual Return for 2015-2016. Having been satisfied that the 8 conditions had been met, it was

RESOLVED

To authorise for submission and signature by the Chairman of the Council, Cllr Schofield, the Annual Return 2015/2016

The Council expressed its appreciation to the Town Clerk for the expeditious manner with which the Annual Return had been completed.

FC/June 16/ITEM 7 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The members received and considered some proposed amendments to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to reflect the General Power of Competence and new tendering requirements.

The Chairman explained that an earlier intention to propose the establishment of a formal new committee to deal with the Harlington development had been abandoned as this would gain little and lead to additional bureaucracy. It was confirmed that officer time spent on the Harlington project will be recorded and monitored regularly by Full Council

Members discussed various elements of Financial Regulations, particularly:

- the correction to 3.1 to show management of the Harlington project by Council
- the renumbering of para 8.2 to 8.4 with the insertion of the words “in accordance with 8.2 above” (This would help to indicate the primary policy is to diversify investment and secondarily achieve the best returns possible)
- the renumbering of para 8.4 to 8.2 with the insertion of the word ‘practically’ between operate’ and ‘outside’

RESOLVED

- a) With the additional amendments as shown above, to approve the proposed amendments to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to reflect the General Power of Competence and new tendering requirements-copy of changes stored with record minutes
- b) To circulate the revised edition to all members for inclusion in their copy of the Councillors’ Manual

FC/June 16/ITEM 8 REVIEW OF EARMARKED RESERVES AND CAPITAL PROJECTS

Following an explanation from the Chairman regarding the status and treatment of earmarked reserves, the members considered the earmarked reserves and the identification of capital projects for 2016-2017

Members discussed various aspects particularly:

- New booking system for the Harlington
- Coffee shop improvements

It was confirmed that a full report on these items and any other capital projects brought forward would be the subject of a detailed report to the appropriate committee

RESOLVED

To receive and note the statement of earmarked reserves and to approve the identification of capital projects for 2016/2017, which would later form the subject of a detailed report to committee

FC /June 16/ITEM 9 FINANCIAL MONITORING

The members received the financial monitoring information and following a discussion about the use of local companies whenever possible, it was

RESOLVED

To receive into the minutes

- a) The bank reconciliation for April 2016
- b) The Cash book for April 2016
- c) The list of payments for April 2016

FC/June 16/ITEM 10 TENNIS COURTS-CALTHORPE PARK

The members considered a report on the setting up of an on-line booking/payment system to improve access to the tennis courts at Calthorpe Park following the completion of resurfacing works to the tennis courts

Following an explanation of the financial contributions by the Lawn Tennis Association, the meeting also formally received and approved the tender for the resurfacing works and discussed the need to improve the appearance of the surrounding area in Calthorpe Park around the tennis courts site

RESOLVED

- a) To set up a Stripe account to receive payments from users booking tennis courts at Calthorpe Park
- b) To receive and ratify the tender /quotation authorisation form, signed by two Councillors, for

the resurfacing work for the tennis courts in Calthorpe Park in the sum of £64,258.80 (with the subsequent addition of £35,000 to the Earmarked Reserves list at item 8 above)

FC/June 16/ITEM 11 HARLINGTON DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The members received an update report on the new Harlington Development:

Theatre Designers

- Technical meetings have been held with Charcoal Blue, Theatre designers to understand requirements, assess the building/facilities and equipment within The Harlington.
- Timescales for actions have been agreed by Charcoal Blue as follows:
 - 17 June 2016 Receipt of report from Charcoal Blue regarding the different Options.
 - Date - TBC Working Group to review the report
 - 28 June 2016 CB to make any amendments recommended by Working Group
 - 29 June 2016 Despatch of report with Council agenda
 - 6 July 2016 FTC – Full Council to consider the report and proposals.

Architects - Macallan- Penfold

- Further to the initial brief to Macallan Penfold, FTC has now received some preliminary proposals for a refurbishment layout which further proved it was possible to accommodate a new theatre within the existing Harlington. Further work has now been suspended until Charcoal Blue have completed their report.

Library Services

- A meeting has been set up with Library Services for 6th June to discuss space utilisation and future options for the upstairs library space.

The Arts Council

The Clerk has set up an initial meeting with the Regional Adviser from the Arts Council to explore joint opportunities and seek advice on whether capital funding would be available and how best to meet the Arts Council criteria in order to apply for Arts Council capital Funding.

Cllr Schofield also reported verbally on possible Arts Council funding and the latest thinking regarding the upper floor of the library and the possibility that this could be linked to the Harlington to provide a second performance space

The members noted the report and that it was hoped that there would be a further report in July 2016

FC/ June2016/ITEM 12 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

Cllr Oliver agreed to prepare a written report for the next meeting of Council and explained the various elements of the Neighbourhood Plan process including:

- Town centre studies led by Michael Butcher
- Review of brownfield sites with HDC being assisted by Eastleigh BC
- The Characterisation Study and the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)
- Assessment of Ancells Farm (Cllr Gray and Mr George Woods)
- Hartland Park now a reality in developing the housing options.
- The drafting of policies by rCOH to support the Neighbourhood Plan

FC/June 16/ITEM 13 ELECTORAL REVIEW OF HAMPSHIRE

Members noted that there is to be a further limited consultation for Havant and New Forest. Given this, the final recommendations from the local Government Boundary Commission for the whole of the county will now be published on 16 August, 2016. If members wish to see the information relating to the further consultation for Havant and New Forest, it is available in the Town Council office.

FC/June 16/ ITEM14 FLEET FUTURE

It was reported that Fleet Future had decided to suspend any new initiatives and concentrate on engagement in ongoing projects such as the Neighbourhood Plan

FC/June 2016/ITEM 15 HCC/HDC

HCC

Cllr Bennison reported on the following matters:

- He will continue to serve on the same committees in 2016/2017 namely, Children Services, Hampshire Fire and Rescue and The Basingstoke Canal
- An anticipated report on flooding hopefully in July
- Road closures connected with the Farnborough Airshow
- Devolution proposals including the suggestion of a possible demise of District and Borough Council replaced with a Hampshire-wide Council, putting additional pressure on local Councils

HDC

Cllr Oliver reported on the following matters:

- Planning issues concerning suitable alternative green space, Grove Farm and Pale Lane
- Following public consultation, 63% endorsement of a new settlement at Winchfield
- Draft Local Plan expected to be presented to members of HDC in September 2016

FC/June 16/ITEM 16

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Members noted the Town Clerk's report covering the following issues:

- Floral displays summer 2016
- Staff appraisals
- Skate Park
- Portable CCTV camera in Calthorpe Park
- Christmas lights tender 2016 onwards
- Business and Administration apprenticeships

FC/June16/ITEM 17

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 6 July 2016 at the Harlington at 7pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.02pm

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