



FLEET TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

held on

Wednesday 5 September 2018

at The Harlington at 7pm

**Councillors**

Bob Schofield (Chairman), Ruth Ashworth, Grahame Chenery, Paul Einchcomb, Alan Hope, Kathy Jasper, James Kirkpatrick, Alan Oliver, Mike Peddell, Richard Robinson, Sue Tilley, Sharyn Wheale, Peter Wildsmith, Ruth Williams, George Woods, Jonathan Wright

**Also Present**

Janet Stanton-Town Clerk  
Sheila Rayner –Committee Clerk

Cllr Bennison –HCC  
Cllr Collett-HCC  
Cllr Forster-HCC/HDC

Ian Doorbar- Footsteps Day Nursery  
Mr Grant-Fleet Town Football Club  
Richard and Claire Whittington-Fleet Town Football Club

Tim Burt-Local resident  
Val Clinch-Local resident  
Terry Froggatt-Local resident  
David Fishpool-Local resident  
Sebastion Gidley-Local resident  
Mr Jebson-Local resident  
Brian Sexton-Local resident

The Chairman informed the members that former Councillor, Mr Jeff Smith , had been taken very ill on holiday in Italy. He remained in a very poorly condition and was due to be repatriated to the UK on Friday 7 September 2018

The Council asked for best wishes for a speedy recovery to be sent to Mr Smith's wife and family

## **FC Sept 2018 ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There was apology for absence from Cllr Holt

## **FC Sept 2018 ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were declarations of interest from:

Cllr Chenery-item 7-Lions Community store lease  
Cllrs Woods and Wildsmith-item 5 Ancells Farm school bus

## **FC Sept 18 ITEM 3 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Mr T Burt referred to the written answer he had just received to the question he asked at the extraordinary Council meeting on 13 August 2018. It was explained that the delay in responding was due entirely to absence of staff on summer leave. The Chairman confirmed the reasons given for progressing the redevelopment of the Harlington outside of policy 1A of the Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman agreed to forward to Mr Burt, a copy of a letter sent to another local resident on the same subject

## **FC Sept 2018 ITEM 4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

With a correction to the spelling in the heading of item 5 (Neighbourhood Plan) and the correction to Fleet Board to read Fleet BID (item 7), the confidential minutes of the meeting of the Council Meeting held on 4 July 2018, and the minutes and the confidential minutes of the extraordinary Council meeting held on 13 August 2018, were approved and signed by the Chairman

Having explained to Cllr Wheale why her comments at the meeting held on 13 August 2018 had not been recorded in the minutes, it was agreed that an item be placed on the next Council agenda regarding membership of working groups

The Council received the minutes of the following Committees

Development Control 9, 23 July, 13 August 2018

Amend minutes of Development Control on 9 and 23 July 2018 to show that Cllr Hope was in the Chair

Cllr Woods expressed concern that HDC appeared to ignore FTC comments/objections on planning applications. Agreed that an HDC planning officer be invited to provide training on planning matters to FTC members

Policy and Finance Committee 16 July 2018

## **FC Sept 2018 ITEM 5 GRANT APPLICATION-ANCELLS FARM SCHOOL BUS**

Cllr Woods provided a verbal update on the Ancells school bus issue and referred to the letter to be sent in response to the earlier letter signed by the MP and local members

It was reported that

- 3 non-Fleet HCC members would walk the route
- A meeting would be held with Mr Gough, Head Teacher of Fleet Infants, on 13 September 2018 at 6.30pm with questions submitted in advance

- Drive to school impact event possibly on 17 September 2018
- Setting up of Hart the Bus on Facebook
- Meeting of HCC on 20 September 2018
- Similar action groups had been set up in Hook
- Importance of speedy commissioning of the assessment before HCC make a final decision
- Importance of a professional assessment

Cllr Woods had suggested Hart the Bus/Friends of Ancells submit an application for a grant to fund an independent safe route to school assessment but commended that FTC fund the independent assessment directly

**RESOLVED** unanimously

That FTC allocate £ 1188 to fund an independent safe route assessment by Fenley Road Safety Ltd of Reading, accredited by Highways England

### **FC Sept 2018 ITEM 6 HARLINGTON DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

The Chairman informed members that:

- The consultation process was progressing
- The newsletter was being distributed
- The exhibition would open on Friday 7 September 2018
- A delay on the publication of the information booklet due to the Post Office delayed approval of the standard pre-paid response card to the questionnaire.

**RESOLVED**

To note the current situation with a copy of the brochure to be circulated to all members

### **FC Sept 2018 ITEM 7 LIONS COMMUNITY STORE**

The members considered the proposed Lions Community Store lease. Following some minor clarifications it was

**RESOLVED**

To approve the Lions Community Store Lease for signature.

### **FC Sept 2018 ITEM 8 FLEET FOOTBALL CLUB**

The members considered a range of issues outlined in a letter that had been received from Fleet Town Football club. The issues pertained almost entirely to the lease which fell within the remit of full Council and not the RLA committee

Members were reminded of the long history of disputes between FTC and the Fleet Town Football Club (FTFC) which had dogged the relationship, concerning lease and covenant issues

Earlier agreements regarding lighting and the number of games had been ignored by FTFC. There had been various breaches of the lease conditions and this had caused friction between FTC, Residents and FTFC. Local residents had not been consulted on proposals which potentially could have a negative effect on them.

FTC members confirmed their support for a successful community football club and wished a harmonious relationship with FTFC. The Council recognised the potential community asset that the Club could offer.

Mr Grant of FTFC apologised for the historical oversights and explained that he had only been the club chairman since April 2017

Permission to establish a nursery would provide a regular income which could be ploughed back into the club

It was not only the lease requirements that were at issue, but also the covenants placed on the whole of Calthorpe Park.

There was a lengthy discussion including:

- Traffic movements and safety associated with dropping-off and collecting the children
- Previous waiving of rent payments
- Alleged minimal play noise by some members
- Continuing need for nursery places
- Need to engage with local residents
- Children arriving departing throughout the day
- Prevention of vandalism
- Loss of trust by local residents and FTFC
- Noise issues
- Commercial element of a nursery
- Important encouragement of youth to play football
- The need for an improved dialogue between FTC and FTFC
- Reminder of the recent financial support of FTC toward a new pavilion
- The need for FTC to understand the FTFC financial position and business model
- Possible effect on other nurseries
- The FTC condition of a greater concentration on the encouragement of young people
- Prejudicial interests of members

It was recognised that some issues could be dealt with immediately but that those concerning the lease would need to be the subject of detailed consideration by a working group and representatives of FTFC

## **RESOLVED**

- a) to approve the replacement of the tearbar and boardroom with two anti-vandal containers 21'X8' painted dark green
- b) agreement to the trimming of trees and agreement to coordinate this with the replacement of netting behind the goals with FTC obtaining an up to date quote for the tree work from the Council Tree Surgeon and presentation to RLA committee on 19 September 2018
- c) approval of the submission of a planning application to HDC for the change of use to a nursery but this does not imply landlord approval
- d) approval of the placing of a 32'x10' portacabin outside the cellar door for which a retrospective planning permission is being sought by FTFC from HDC
- e) that a working group be established to meet with representatives of FTFC to negotiate in confidence regarding financial and lease arrangements ( including issues c , d ,f in the agenda item)

The members received:

List of payments July 2018

Payments received/detailed income and expenditure July 2018

Reconciliation July 2018

## **RESOLVED**

To receive the financial monitoring information into the minutes

### **FC Sept 18 ITEM 10 REQUEST TO USE THE LENGTHSMAN FUNDING FOR ERECTION OF SID**

Members considered a request for funding from the Lengthsman budget for the erection of a Speed Indicator Display (SID) on Basingbourne Road

Following discussion it was

## **RESOLVED**

That use of the Lengthsman funding was inappropriate but that the quote made by the FTC Grounds Maintenance contractor for installing the SIDs should be updated and presented to the next meeting of Council for further consideration.

### **FC Sept 2018 ITEM 11 PARISH POLL**

Members noted that the requisite number of residents had requested that a Parish Poll take place . It was reported that the poll would be run and managed by HDC Electoral office . The potential cost was £16,500 for three portacabins to be used as temporary polling stations plus HDC's election charges of just under £6,000. However, this was thought to be an unreasonable cost and as a result of FTC negotiations with users of the Harlington and Ancells Farm Community Centre bookings have been cancelled or modified. which reduced the overall cost to around £7500. There would be no polling cards, postal or proxy votes

### **FC Sept 2018 ITEM 12 REPORTING OF INJURIES DISEASES AND DANGEROUS OCCURENCES REGULATIONS 2013 (RIDDOR)**

Members noted that a Reporting of Injuries Diseases and Dangerous Occurences (RIDDOR) had been submitted to the Health and Safety Executive following an accident that occurred during a CEROC class at the Harlington

### **FC Sept 2018 ITEM 13 HDC/HCC**

#### **HCC**

Cllr Forster reported on:

- request that this item appear earlier on future agendas
- upgrade proposals for Windy Gap
- extensive road works across the area

### **FC Sept 2018 ITEM 14 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT'**

The Town Clerk reported on:

- Christmas arrangements and appointment of a volunteer co-ordinator

- Harlington consultation rules and regulations to be sent to councillors for comments to Town Clerk
- Parish Poll counting arrangements

**FC Sept 2018 ITEM 15 COMPLAINT AGAINST A COUNCILLOR**

It was reported that a complaint had been made against a councillor. This will be subjected to the formal procedure

**FC Sept 2018 ITEM16 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of Full Council will be on Wednesday, 3 October 2018 at the Harlington, at 7.00 pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.50 pm

Signed.....

Date:.....

Chairman