



FLEET TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

held on

Wednesday 4 October 2017

at The Harlington at 7.00 pm

PRESENT

Councillors Bob Schofield (Chairman), Grahame Chenery, Paul Einchcomb, Denis Gotel, Leslie Holt, Alan Hope, Richard Hunt, Kathy Jasper, Alan Oliver, Mike Peddell, Dai Pierce, Jeff Smith, Neil Walton, Jonathan Wright, Sharyn Wheale, Luke Wood, George Woods

Also Present

Cllr Bennison-HCC

Cllr Forster-HCC/HDC

Caroline Ryan- Community safety HDC

James Knight-Community Safety HDC

Janet Stanton- Town Clerk

Sheila Rayner -Committee Clerk

Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman reported that the past month had been dedicated almost entirely to The Neighbourhood Plan and the Grounds Maintenance contract

He referred to the publication of a leaflet by a group from within the Fleet Conservative Group which alleged that the FTC consultation on the Harlington development was biased.

The Chairman made it clear that an explanation was required from the Fleet Conservative Group of the grounds on which the accusation of bias had been based and that this should take the form of a written response to FTC

FC/Oct 2017/ ITEM 1

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Gray and Cllr Robinson

FC/Oct 2017/ITEM 2

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Chenery Item 6 –Lions Lease

Cllr Oliver Item 4-BID grant
Cllr Schofield Item 4-BID grant
Cllr Smith Item 18-Public complaint
Cllr Woods Item 6-Lions Lease

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

There were no questions from the public

FC/Oct 2017/ITEM 4 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

With the deletion of Cllr Walton's name which had been included twice, the minutes of the meeting of Council held on Wednesday 6 September 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

The Council received the minutes of the following committee meetings:

Development Control Committee 11 and 25 September 2017

Members commented on the continuing need for FTC to submit comments to HDC regarding parking issues associated with planning applications. It appeared that the gap between parking proposals and parking policy was widening.

Agreed that it should be reinforced with HDC that on-street parking issues added to problems for local residents

Establishment Committee (confidential and non-confidential) 13 September 2017

RLA Committee with its **RECOMMENDATION** at item 16 27 September 2017

The following **RECOMMENDATION** from the **P&F committee 17 July 2017** item 9-Grant application Nutcracker Trail approved- That funding of £3,000 for the BID Nutcracker Trail, be funded from Reserves, was **RESOLVED**

The addition of the following words to the RLA minutes at item 9 was agreed

' d) The Clerk be tasked to contact Rushmoor Borough Council to determine the positive steps that they have introduced, working alongside the police to counter anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol use and litter problems in public places in their Borough. To provide a report to RLA committee on the potential benefit of introducing similar steps in our Town Parish area'

FC/Oct 2017/ITEM 5 COMPLETION OF EXTERNAL AUDIT FOR 2016/2017 (taken after item 9)

Members were pleased to note that the external audit for 2016/2017 had been completed. The Town Clerk was thanked for her efforts to ensure that this had been achieved

RESOLVED

That the report of the external auditor for 2016/2017 be approved and accepted by Council

FC/Oct 2017 ITEM 6 LIONS LEASE

It was reported that the existing lease on the Community Store expired in 2020 years but the Lions were changing their status to Lions Club of Fleet (CIO). The existing lease had been signed by three individuals.

Members indicated that a new lease, using the new standard form of lease should be drawn up.

RESOLVED

That the particulars etc to be included in the new standard lease should be referred to the Lease Working Party

FC/Oct 2017 ITEM 7 BID/FTC-BASELINE AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF STANDARD SERVICES

Members were asked to authorise the signing of the BID/FTC Baseline Agreement for the Provision of Standard Services

RESOLVED

To authorise the signing of the BID/FTC Baseline Agreement for the Provision of Standard Services

FC Oct 2017 ITEM 8 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Members considered a request from Church Crookham Parish Council to consider contributing funding for youth workers through organisations such as Fleet Phoenix, following concerns regarding anti-social behaviour and drug issues .

Members discussed various known elements of anti-social behaviour including drug related issues together with the need for better social education and the provision of youth activities.

Members were reminded of the existing extensive support given to young people by FTC through a range of means and the investment in CCTV so that evidence could be supplied to the police

RESOLVED

That FTC is be prepared to meet with Church Crookham Parish Council to discuss and assist where possible in dealing with issues, but was not able to support the financing of an outreach worker

FC Oct 2017 ITEM 9 DESIGNATED PUBLIC PLACE ORDERS (DPPOs) and PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDERS(PSPOs) (taken after item 4)

Representatives of the HDC Community Safety Team were present to explain the implications of Designated Public Places Orders (DPPOs) and Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs)

For example, the existing DPPOs do not ban alcohol consumption in an area but can be used if people are drinking in a manner likely to cause harassment, distress or cause anti-social behaviour. They allow the police to move groups or individuals on as well as confiscate alcohol.

The new PSPOs being introduced in October 2017 will subsume DPPOs into the new legislation and will automatically convert them into PSPOs. However, without new signage these orders will be unenforceable. It was reported that new signage at two sites had cost Rushmoor Borough Council £7,000.

It was explained that the new PSPOs are able to restrict much more than the consumption of alcohol, including loitering, begging, use of substances and public urination. However these additional restrictions cannot be added to the Order without full consultation.

It was reported that PSPOs had become contentious in some areas because they had been used to deal with specific groups such as the homeless and it was important that any action taken by the police was 'proportionate'

There was a lengthy discussion regarding:

- the current thirteen DPPOs in Fleet, and the possible absence of persistent issues in Fleet to justify a PSPO
- the use of a PSPO to cover the town centre area
- the availability of a £100 fixed penalty with no right of appeal under a PSPO
- existing powers of dispersal
- signage at access and egress points
- incidents in Calthorpe Park
- existing and continuing power of police to deal with public order offences
- anti-social behaviour and programmes available to deal with it
- the geographical nature of any PSPO
- addressing issues regarding services for young people
- lack of police presence
- tackling drug supplying/dealing issues
- possible use of youth workers

Following this discussion and after careful consideration it was

RESOLVED

In order to address a broader range of issues, the existing DPPOs be allowed to lapse and to institute the procedure to obtain a new PSPO

Note: It was reported that the Crime and Police Commissioner is inviting bids to tackle local issues

FC Oct 2017 ITEM 10 HART DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN

Members were advised that HDC had published a Corporate Plan, on which comments were being invited. It was confirmed that HDC had indicated their approval to the redevelopment of Gurkha Square.

RESOLVED

That members submit any comments they have to Cllr Woods who will submit any comments on behalf of FTC

FC Sept 2017 ITEM 11 COMMUNITY BUS-FLEET LINK

The Chairman reported the potential withdrawal of support by HCC for community buses, the eventuality of which would be a contribution requirement of FTC of £26,000 pa if the current service was to continue

A small number of users also meant that Crookham Village Parish Council may also withdraw the £1900 pa contribution it made

Members discussed :

- the likely implementation date for any reduction in funding
- concentrating any subsidy on just one route
- the Hartland development would deliver a community bus service for 5 years through S106 contributions

Members noted the current situation

FC Oct 2017 ITEM 12 HCC/HDC

HCC

Cllr Bennison reported on :

- passenger subsidy
- HCC funding cuts of £40m for each of the next 2 Years
- Possible closure of some household waste sites
- School crossing patrols
- Support for community buses

Cllr Forster reported on:

- School crossing options in the Fleet area
- Additional parking restrictions around Velmead School
- Completion of road surface works in Church Road

- Scheduled road surface works at Elvetham Road
- SW Rail consultation on timetable and additional train issues
- HCC budget cuts due to be agreed by HCC full Council on 2 November 2017

FC/ Oct 2017 /ITEM 13 BASINGSTOKE CANAL

The members noted that the presentation by the Basingstoke Canal team had been deferred until the next Council meeting on 1 November 2017

Members received and noted the report of Cllr Smith following his attendance at the JMC on 26 July 2017

Members commented on concerns regarding the future funding of the canal and the high level of funding required to make the canal fit for any transfer to the Canal River Trust

There was general agreement that the canal was a valued asset for the area.

FC/ Oct 2017 /TEM 14 SOUTH EAST WATER-DRAFT DROUGHT PLAN CONSULTATION

Members noted the publication of a statutory draft drought plan 2018-2023 by South East Water and were invited to submit individual comments on line

FC/Oct 2017 ITEM 15 TOWN CLERK’S REPORT

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

- Identification to the Town Clerk of training courses that members may like to attend

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

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday 1 November 2017 at the Harlington at 7pm

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

Part 3 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Exclusion of the public in accordance with Section 1(2) and by reason of the confidential nature of the business of the Town Council, the Public and Press were excluded from the Meeting