

CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Cinderford Town Council held at The Council Chamber, Cinderford on Tuesday, 13th October 2015 commencing at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS; Mrs J. Johnson (Chair), M.M. Coborn (Mayor), Mrs L. Bent, Mrs L.I. Sterry (Deputy Chair/Mayor), Mrs K. Brown, T. Holder, Mrs E.D. Martin, G.L. Morgan, R. Sterry, M.D. Turner, L.S. Wilce, C. Witham, Ms K. Wynn.

Mr Neil Ricketts.

APOLOGIES for Absence were received from Cllrs. A. Knight, R. Pritchard.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Cllr. Coborn declared an interest in item 112, Miners Welfare Hall.

Cllr. G.L. Morgan declared an interest in item 115 (j & k), Northern Quarter,

Cllr. Mrs L. Bent declared an interest in item 115 (a) 32 Trinity Way.

As Mr. Ricketts had attended the Meeting, the Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting was taken first.

99. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Events Committee Meeting held on the 28th September 2015, having been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

100. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES.

(a) Christmas Lighting 2015. (Minute 2)

Mr. Ricketts had attended the meeting to discuss the Christmas lights available from Gloucester City Council, and to ensure that the Town Council would be happy to receive the lights. The Clerk confirmed she had contacted Mr. Surman and reassured him that the Town Council was well aware of the weight limitations and that no lights would be used across the streets. It was agreed a meeting be arranged to discuss the lighting arrangements and to compile a list of buildings they could be attached to. Mr. Ricketts confirmed he was happy to pay for the lights, and that perhaps any surplus could be used by other Towns/villages. He also confirmed that he was looking to try and arrange a Christmas film viewing prior to the parade and to encourage others to take part as well.

The Chair thanked Mr. Ricketts for his generosity, and he then left the meeting at 7.15 p.m.

(b) Christmas Parade 2015 (Minute 3).

Cllr Turner commented that having spoken with the Traders Association, they had confirmed they did not wish to organise the Christmas Window competition, so he would look at arranging some flyers. Noted.

101. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 8th September 2015, having been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

102. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

a. Open Day/Memorabilia. (Minute 84 c).

The Open Day/Memorabilia Display had proved to be very positive and Members agreed that another be planned for the following year. With regard to the funds raised from the event, it was agreed the money be donated to the local charity Foxes Bridge Community Hub. Cllr Turner suggested that a memorabilia display be erected in the foyer, which he would be happy to monitor and change as required. Members agreed it was a good idea and that perhaps individual photographs of Councillors also be put on display. As it was now a new Council, it was also agreed that a photograph be taken of the Council for display in the Council Chamber. The Clerk was asked to arrange for a photographer to attend before the start of the next Council meeting in November.

RESOLVED accordingly.

b. Web page. (Minute 84 h).

Cllr Witham confirmed the Web page was now live and the web address was CTC.gov.uk. Noted.

c. County Highways, (Minute 91).

Highways had confirmed that the removal of the centre white lining was to encourage slower traffic. Where roads were narrow (less than 5.5m), traffic especially larger vehicles would have to run either on or over the white lines, creating a maintenance issue. The improvements Team had been asked for their opinion on the benefits of re-instating the markings. Members were not happy with the reply and asked that County Cllr Morgan raise the issue at his next meeting with Highways.

With regard to the lighting improvements on the zebra crossing, the Clerk had received confirmation that the order had been progressed through to street lighting, and the Clerk had asked that this be chased for urgent attention.

d. Forest Fitness Centre. (Minute 93).

As this item had been dealt with, to the exclusion of the press and public, the Clerk confirmed that another meeting had been arranged for her and the Chair, to meet with the Trustees and volunteers on Thursday, 22nd October 2015. Noted.

103. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Playing Field Committee Meeting held on 28th September 2015, having been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

104. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

(a) Steam Mills Recreation Ground. (Minute 5).

The Clerk confirmed that the overgrown area, to the rear of the ground had now been cut. However, following the decision to trial a drive through system, she had received an email from the under 5's pre-school, with concerns, as they had not been contacted by the School, and thought there could be a health and safety issue affecting their drop off and pick up times.

The Clerk suggested a meeting be held one morning at Steam Mills to allow Members to view how children were dropped off, to ensure that the final decision would be in the safety and best interest of everyone attending the School.

RESOLVED accordingly.

(b) Collingwood Skatepark. (Minute 6).

The Clerk confirmed she had ordered the kissing gate (£450), which the handyman would be able to fit.

With regard to the suggested fence line, to create a dog walking corridor to the wood, this had been priced up between £1,000 and £3,000, depending on the materials used, and the Clerk suggested waiting until the Town Council knew what was happening regarding the use of the field by Hilldene Athletic

RESOLVED accordingly.

(c) Miners Welfare Playing Field. (Minute 7).

The Clerk had spoken with the Police, who confirmed they had visited the playing field on several occasions. Noted.

(d) Hilldene. (Minute 8).

The repairs at Freeminers Way had been carried out the following day, but the grass matting had been pulled up at the weekend on the Latimer site, but had since been replaced. Noted

(e) Double View. (Minute 9).

Once again glass had been smashed over the entire surface of the MUGA, with dog faeces being left there again. Noted.

105. MEMBERS REPORTS.

Cllr. Mrs Martin had attended the Health Forum AGM, where they had all tried sedentary (sitting) Tai-Chi., following which everyone was smiling and feeling good. She suggested that perhaps Members would like to try this after meetings!

106. CHURCH ROAD RESIDENT - REQUEST FOR DOUBLE YELLOW LINES .

A resident in Church Road had contacted the Clerk regarding the ever increasing problem of cars parking along Church Road, from the shop along towards the converted Chapel. It was impossible for cars to pass safely, and he asked if the Town Council would support a request for double yellow lines. He had also raised concerns regarding the appalling state of the surfacing of the road. As the Clerk and Cllr Morgan had a meeting scheduled with Brian Watkins from Highways, the Clerk suggested that this be raised with them for a possible solution, as double yellow lines would take a long time to achieve and they would still require enforcement. It had been noticed that there appeared to be no traffic enforcement over the weekends, and the Clerk was asked to contact FODDC to confirm working arrangements.

RESOLVED accordingly.

107. BRITISH LEGION - REMEMBRANCE PARADE 8/11/15.

The Armistice Parade would take place on Sunday, 8th November 2015, leaving the Belle Vue Centre at approximately 10.45 am, proceeding to the Triangle for 11am, where the service would be led by Rev. Mike Barnsley. Light refreshments would be served in the skittle alley at the Soldiers & Sailors Club, following the service. Noted.

108. FODDC - NAMING OF NEW DEVELOPMENT AT FORMER ST. JOHNS HALL.

FODDC had received an application from the developer to name the new development at St. John's Parish Hall, either St. Johns Mews or St. Johns Court, and had asked if the Council thought either suggestion suitable, or whether they would wish to suggest an alternative name.

On checking the history of the site, Cllr Morgan had found that Edward Protheroe had erected the building on 'Cinderford Tump' in 1840 as a large school for the benefit of the families connected with his adjacent collieries. He therefore suggested the development be named Protheroe Place.

RESOLVED accordingly.

109. FODDC - SUGGESTIONS FOR LAND SUITABLE AT FORMER HOUSING (SLAA 2015).

The District Council were inviting people and organisations to suggest where land in the district could be used for housing, as it was carrying out its annual assessment of possible sites. All sites would then be assessed to see if they were suitable for development. Noted.

110. FODDC - COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY SCHEME.

A motion had been passed at the recent annual general meeting of GAPTC requesting that the District Council advise all their Parish/Town Councils of the current timetable for adoption of a Community Infrastructure Levy scheme. The merits of CIL had been regularly reviewed in the Forest of Dean, most recently in April 2015 when the cabinet re-affirmed its support in principle for a CIL scheme. However, it was not anticipated that a decision on a CIL scheme for some or all of the District, would be made by cabinet, no earlier than April 2016. The Clerk advised an overview document on the CIL was available on www.communities.gov.uk, and urged Members to look at this. Noted.

111. GCC - ROAD CLOSURE A4136.

Due to the scheduled re-surfacing works in Mitcheldean, on Sundays, from 11th October to 15th November, Highways had issued a no parking/no waiting order on St. Whites Road, whilst the work was being carried out. Noted.

112. 2016 MUSIC FESTIVAL - FUNDING.

As there would be no Music Festival in 2016, a remaining member of the organising committee would like to hold a scaled down festival at the Miners Hall, over a 2 day free event with 20 plus bands taking part, in order to keep the Festival alive. He had written asking if the Town Council would still be willing to fund the event at the same level, ie £1,000. Members agreed to fund the event to provide something in the Town, but also requested that perhaps the Triangle area could be used to involve the community.

RESOLVED accordingly.

113. SOCIAL MEDIA - THE WAY FORWARD.

It was agreed the facebook page was proving to be successful and encouraging community involvement, and Members were encouraged to share information on their own pages, if they wished to do so. Also if Members were aware of anything happening, interesting, positive events, to pass the information on to Cllrs Turner, Withan, Knight. Noted.

114. TOWN COUNCIL CHEQUE SIGNATORY REQUIRED.

The Clerk asked for another Member to be a signatory to the Town Council, to replace former Cllr O'Neill, It was suggested that the Chair, Cllr. Mrs Johnson become a signatory.

RESOLVED accordingly.

115. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

As Members of the Development Control Committee, Cllrs L.I. Sterry and Mrs E.D. Martin, did not take part in the vote on any of the following applications.

- (a) 32 Trinity Way - First Floor extension above existing flat roof garage. P1324/15/FUL.
- (b) 5 Steam Mills Road - Sub-division of house to create two separate dwellings and erection of a 1.8m close boarded fence. P1341/15/FUL.
- (c) Cinderford Delivery Office, Woodside Street - Retrospective application for construction of a yard cabin with associated access ramp to the rear yard. P1376/15/FUL.
- (d) 13 Abbey Street - First floor extension to side of property. P1343/15/FUL.
- (e) 34 Barley Corn Square - Demolition of existing derelict dwelling and erection of 3 terraced houses with associated works. P1168/15/FUL. Additional information supplied, and concerns raised by neighbour.
- (f) 142 High Street - First floor rear extension to provide third bedroom and associated works. P1488/15/FUL.
- (g) 8 Hollydean - Proposed alterations and extensions to existing two storey dwelling. P1403/15/FUL.
RESOLVED no objections be raised to any of the above applications.
- (h) 49 St. Whites Road - Construction of a two bedroomed single storey annexe, demolition of existing garage. P1389/15/FUL.
RESOLVED the above application be supported.
- (i) Site At, Valley Road - Discharge of conditions (11) vehicular access and (16) fire hydrants scheme relating to planning permission P1238/12/FUL. P0090/15/DISCON.
- (j) Land At Northern Quarter, (Birchwood Bat Roost), Discharge of condition (05) tree planting relating to planning permission P0153/13/FUL. P0078/15/DISCON.
- (k) The Northern Quarter - Discharge of condition (50) - Hydrological Risk Assessment of piling or any other foundation associated with the bridge relating to planning permission P0663/14/OUT. P0085/15/DISCON.
RESOLVED no objections, providing that FODDC was satisfied that all the conditions had been met.

116. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

Members were circulated with the figures for accounts requiring payment and it was;

RESOLVED the accounts and wages totalling the following amounts be paid;
BVC/CTC - £13,733.84.
BVC - £34,987.68.
CTC - £3,759.01.

117. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

RESOLVED the next meeting be held on Tuesday, 10th November 2015 at 6.30p.m. commencing with photographs.

118. CLOSURE.

The meeting closed at 9.00p.m.