

CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Cinderford Town Council held at The Council Chamber, Cinderford on Tuesday, 14th March 2017 commencing at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS; Mrs L.I. Sterry (Chair), A. Knight (Deputy Chair), Mrs K. Brown, T.R. Holder, Mrs J. Johnson, Mrs E.D. Martin, G.L. Morgan, R. Sterry, M. Turner, C. Witham (via video/audio link), Ms. K. Wynn.

APOLOGIES for Absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs L. Bent, R. Pritchard.

Declarations of Interest - None.

183. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th February 2017, having been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

184. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

(a) Members Reports - Wi-fi (Minute 165)

Cllr Witham commented on the new web-cam, which had received 10,000 loads, which included 3,500 people from 20 different countries. It had received very positive comments, including the views from people abroad. The Chair thanked both Cllr Witham and Turner for their work, and thought the web cam was really good fun.

However, it was mentioned that Cllr Pritchard had customers objecting to the web cam and contemplating getting a petition raised against it, due to lack of privacy. Cllrs Witham and Turner both confirmed that it was not possible to gain images of peoples faces, or car registration numbers, and the Clerk had confirmed the web cam was covered by the CCTV Policy and the signage placed around the Town Centre. The Clerk also pointed out that Members should not be supporting any petition, whilst bound by the democratic decision of the Town Council.

(b) Highways - Bridge Junction - (Minute 173)

Highways had confirmed that an option to install traffic signals had been investigated with an outline design prepared. However the funding situation remained unchanged, with the Regeneration Board looking for funding. Noted.

(c) Residents - Linear Park Entrance - (Minute 174)

Cllr Morgan confirmed that the land swap should be taking place in April, so the Clerk would write to the Forestry Commission thereafter regarding the entrance. Noted.

185. SARA - REQUEST FOR DONATION.

An email had been received from the Severn Area Rescue Association, requesting financial assistance.

RESOLVED that a donation of £100.
be given under Section 137.

186. GAPTC - ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AND NOTICE OF AGM (Call for Resolutions).

The annual membership for the forthcoming year would be £2,132.75. and the AGM would be taking place on Saturday 15th July 2017, with any Resolutions to be submitted by Friday 2nd June 2017. Noted.

187. GAPTC/NALC LOBBY DAY.

The Association would be holding a Lobby Day in Parliament on 28th March 2017 to raise the profile of Parish and Town Councils, and to support the event, were asking local Councils to contact their MP to meet at a local surgery to discuss local issues and how to work together. Members agreed this could be useful and the Chair confirmed she would like to meet with Mark Harper, and Cllrs Mrs Brown and G.L. Morgan confirmed they would also like to attend.

RESOLVED accordingly.

188. GCC - ROAD CLOSURE - ST. WHITES ROAD.

GCC had confirmed a road closure order, from 5th to the 7th June, for the closure of St. Whites Road, from the junction of Abbots Road to Church Road, to allow Severn Trent to carry out pipe repair work. Noted.

189. GCC - ROAD CLOSURE - CHURCH ROAD.

GCC had confirmed a road closure order, from the 22nd May to the 2nd June, for the closure of Church Road, from the junction of St. Whites Road to the Stockwell Green junction, for repairs at the existing highways drainage system. Noted.

190. GCC - ROAD CLOSURE - RUSPIDGE ROAD.

GCC had confirmed a road closure order, from 20th to the 21st April, for the closure of Ruspidge Road, from Eastern United to the Roman Road, to rebuild a damaged chamber in the carriage way. Noted.

Members raised their concerns that the roads marked for closure in the above three minutes had only just been re-surfaced, and asked the Clerk to raise the issue with Highways, regarding the programming of the works.

RESOLVED accordingly.

191. FODDC - 1st BATTALION THE RIFLES.

Following the Motion passed at the Meeting in December 2016, FODDC had now written to the 1st Battalion The Rifles, to invite them to plan to exercise the right to march through any or all of the Forest of Dean Towns, at a convenient date, and copied the invitation to all four Towns to allow them to become involved in the lead up to any event in their respective towns. Noted.

192. ST. JOHNS CHURCH - REQUEST FOR KISSING GATE.

The Church had asked if the Town Council would consider purchasing a kissing gate to be fitted at the pedestrian entrance to the Churchyard, in an effort to stop the wild boar gaining access. Following discussion, Members agreed the Council should purchase and also fit the kissing gate.

RESOLVED accordingly.

193. LENA MALLER - DEMENTIA WORKING GROUP.

The Clerk and Lena had discussed the way forward in working with the Town Council, and suggested that a working group be set up to work with Lena and Dee in the first instance, with all Members being kept informed of the meetings and updates, so anyone could join in with the group at any time. Members agreed this would be a good way to progress this and it was

RESOLVED that Cllrs Mrs Sterry,
Mrs Johnson, Mrs Brown and Ms Wynn
form the working group.

194. CINDERFORD ST. JOHNS CC - OLD TOWN CLOCK.

The Club had responded to the offer submitted by the Town Council but felt as they had looked after it for so many years, and that it was a valuable clock, it would be worth £1,000. The Town Council considered that the clock would still need money spent on it, in order to get it into good working condition, and that possibly more funding required in order to get the clock fitted in a new location.

RESOLVED a final offer of £750.
be made to the Club, for the old clock.

195. OFFICE ROAD - DOG FAECES.

Cllr Ms Wynn had noted the appalling state of Office Road, where dog walkers had thrown hundreds of black bags filled with dog waste into the verge and hedges. The clerk had reported it to FODDC who had cleared the area once, but more bags were still being thrown there, which would be cleared. The Clerk had also spoken with Highways to get the verge and hedge cut back in an effort to stop this and would co-ordinate the work being done. Members asked the Clerk to price up how much dog waste bins plus the service contract, would cost.

RESOLVED accordingly.

196. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS .

The Clerk had updated the Council Financial Regulations to include the procurement procedures, as required by current legislation.

RESOLVED the updated Financial Regulations
be formally adopted.

197. FOREST FITNESS CENTRE - FUTURE MANAGEMENT.

Freedom Leisure had put out a press release on the 13th March, which included a quote from Cllr Mrs Sterry, as Chairman, confirming the Fitness Centre would be joining the leisure centre facilities managed by them, on behalf of FODDC, as from the 1st April. The Clerk confirmed she had received a draft 101 Agreement from FODDC but had referred it for further legal advice, and reminded everyone that authority had already been delegated to the Clerk and Chairman to negotiate and conclude the agreement, on behalf of the Town Council, with the Mayor and Chair to sign any documentation.

The volunteers had arranged a presentation for Alan Elliott on Monday 27th March at their Coffee Morning, starting at 10.00 am, to which all Members were invited. The Clerk suggested the Town Council present a gift to Alan, and to provide a 'retirement' cake for the event. She also suggested that the Town Council, as Trustees, consider presenting vouchers to the volunteers, in appreciation for their ongoing commitment to the Centre, during the transition period. Members agreed with the suggestion and that the Clerk purchase High Street vouchers to the value of £50. for each volunteer, as agreed by the Volunteer Committee.

RESOLVED accordingly.

198. PURCHASE OF FURTHER EQUIPMENT.

Following on from the success of the web cam it was suggested that a second one be purchased to point down the High Street which Members agreed was a good idea. To have a 10 day recording feature on both web cams would cost £120. per annum, which Members agreed to. With regard to a laptop, Cllr Witham suggested pricing up both a laptop and a screen for use with video conferencing and would speak to someone at FODDC for information, and would bring to the next meeting. Cllr Witham also suggested to upgrade the web hosting, which would be £120. per annum with free security. Cllr Witham then thanked the Council employees, Ryan and Scott for all their help in putting the equipment up in the Triangle.

RESOLVED 2nd the web cam be purchased
and to upgrade the web hosting.

199. COUNCILLOR EMAIL ADDRESSES.

Cllr Witham suggested setting up Town Council email addresses for all Members to allow Council emails to be kept separate from personal emails. Members agreed this was a good idea, and Chris confirmed he would help anyone set this up, if they attended the next meeting earlier than the start time. Noted.

200. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

As Members of the Development Control Committee, Cllrs G.L. Morgan, R.A. Sterry and Mrs L.I. Sterry took no part in the vote on any of the following applications.

- (a) 35 Station Street - Erection of a two storey rear extension and associated alterations. P0264/17/FUL.
- (b) 1 Severn View - Erection of a replacement front porch to dwelling. P0348/17/FUL
- (c) 33 Springfield Drive - Altertions to roof to enable conversion of roof space to living accommodation and associated alterations. Creation of a balcony. P0166/17/FUL.
- (d) Eco House, Forest Vale Road - Extension to south west elevation to provide additional storage space. P0085/17/FUL.
- (e) Bituchem Holdings Ltd. Brookside Road, FVIE - Proposed two storey office extension. P0198/17/FUL.
- (f) Former Broadmoor Brickworks, FVIE - Change of use of site and building from former Brickworks to workshop, warehousing and car breakers/vehicle dismantlers. Office building to be extended, opensided structure to be enclosed for operational use and central roof section within main unit to be raised. 17/0005/FDMAJW (GCC application)

RESOLVED No Objections be raised
to any of the above applications.

RESOLVED the above applications
be Supported.

201. 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 - £12,326.15
BVC - £4,115.18.
CTC - £14,241.42

202. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

RESOLVED the next Meeting be held on
Tuesday, 11th April 2017 at 7 p.m.
preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting
at 6 p.m.

203. ST. STEPHENS CHURCH - CRAFT FAYRE.

Members were invited to the Craft Fayre taking place at St. Stephen's Church on Saturday 25th March, 10 - 1 pm. Noted.

204. CLOSURE.

The meeting closed at 8.50p.m.