

CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Cinderford Town Council held at The Council Chamber, Cinderford on Tuesday, 9th June 2015 commencing at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS; Mrs J. Johnson, (Chair), M.M. Coborn (Mayor), Mrs L.I. Sterry (Deputy Chair/Mayor), Mrs L. Bent, G.L. Morgan, (8.15), T.R. Holder, A. Knight, Mrs E.D. Martin, R.A. Sterry, M.D. Turner, C. Witham, Ms K. Wynn.

One Member of the Public.

APOLOGIES for Absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs K. Brown, G.L. Morgan (late), R. Pritchard.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST - Cllr. A. Knight - Planning - Min 34(f).

The Chair welcomed PC Julie Evans and PCSO Dawn Teague to the meeting, to give Members an update on issues affecting the Town.

PC Evans introduced herself as the Community Officer for Cinderford, but reported that very often she was called to man the response car, so not always available in the Town. It was reported that crime figures had decreased from the previous month, but confirmed that they had dealt with;

- 13 Illegal immigrants brought in from Denmark - all caught
- Warrant issued for Class B drugs in Miners Walk
- 1 arrest for Burglary in Freeminers Way
- Currently vehicles being broken into, with items stolen (Flaxley Street)
- FVIE - diesel theft and vehicle parts theft
- Speed camera on Belle Vue Road - working with children from Forest View School, who issued 15 'tickets' to motorists exceeding speed limit.

Members were then asked if they wished to raise any questions;

- Cllr. Holder confirmed that speeding was an issue in Belle Vue Road during the evenings, which the Police noted.
- Triangle 'no right turn' was continuing to be abused - PC Evans confirmed they had been discussing this and agreed that Police would carry out checks at various times of day and tickets would be issued.
- Cllr. Mrs Martin asked if they could bring the number of recorded domestic abuse to the next meeting they attended as this could be useful information to provide on the web site
- It was considered that the investigation/arrests/lack of information was causing problems in the community, and that the Police needed to release information on progress, as soon as was possible. PC Evans confirmed she would pass this on.
- 20mph throughout the Town Centre was an issue - PC Evans confirmed this would be addressed as soon as they were able to do so.
- Cinderford Police Station - understood to be in the process of being sold.

The Officers were thanked for attending, and then left the meeting at 7.15 p.m.

26. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 19th May 2015, having been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

27. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

- a. Open Day/Memorabilia. (Minute 184a).

Members thought another date should be arranged and agreed the item should be on the Agenda for the next meeting.

b. Reformation of Carnival. (Minute 17).

Cllr. Turner confirmed he had spoken to FODDC regarding permits required, but was considering the suggestion made by Cllr. Mrs Johnson that something be held in the Town Centre, and perhaps to coincide with the Open Day at the Council Offices. Noted.

28. CINDERFORD TOWN YOUTH FC.

As they wished to make more use of the field in the forth coming season, they had requested permission to place a storage container on the field, and to be use the top part of the field for parking, (for parents). The Council agreed a container could be placed on the concrete base where the former building had stood, and that cars could be parked when the weather was dry, and that the Club be vigilant when allowing parents to park.

RESOLVED accordingly.

29. GMTF - AGM -THURSDAY 25TH JUNE 2015/NOMINATION FOR BOARD DIRECTOR.

Cllr. Coborn confirmed he was already attending the networking event, prior to the AGM, so would represent the Town Council at the AGM too. He was also considering whether to join as a Board Director, if the Council was happy to nominate him for the role. Members agreed to nominate Cllr. Coborn, should he decide to stand.

RESOLVED accordingly.

30. LOCAL ACTION GROUP - TOWN REPRESENTATIVE.

The Forest of Dean Local Action Group had written asking for a representative to be appointed. Cllr. Coborn confirmed he would be happy to represent the Town.

RESOLVED accordingly.

31. REQUESTS FOR SEATS BY LIDL.

Several Members had received requests for seats to be placed by the bus stop outside the Lidl store, on the High Street. The Clerk had obtained prices for a standard bench and also a themed memorial bench for price comparisons, and Members agreed one standard bench be supplied. It was also suggested that the Clerk ask Stagecoach and Lidl if they would be prepared to make a contribution towards the cost.

RESOLVED accordingly.

32. OPCC - NATIONAL CRIME SURVEY.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner had supported the setting up of the National Rural Crime Network, who would be conducting the largest ever public survey on rural crime, and were urging people to complete the online survey at <http://www.nationalruralcrimenetwork.net/survey?member=Gloucestershire>. Noted.

33. MEMBERS REPORTS.

(i) **Zebra Crossing** - The Clerk reported on behalf of Cllr. Morgan, that following their meeting with Brian Watkins, it had been confirmed that both pedestrian crossings would be enhanced with l.e.d. lighting being placed around the beacons. Noted.

(ii) **Facebook** - Cllr. Tuner confirmed that the 'Un-official' CTC page had received a positive response, with positive feedback on the items and no abusive comments being received. It was recognised that it would be a useful communication/advertising page and therefore agreed that the Facebook page now be declared 'Official'.

RESOLVED accordingly.

(iii) **Wi-fi** - Cllr. Turner had found the provision to be more complicated than he had first anticipated and had received costings of £3/4,000. However, Cllr. Witham had been aware of a simpler version through Cloud/Sky Group, being a single access point with an initial installation charge of £300. + VAT and a monthly charge of £35. + VAT for a 12 month contract, which would allow up to 69 connections for basic trafficking, plus the cost of a telephone socket. There were still some reservations expressed about the provision and it was agreed that a report on the full process/costing be an item on the next Agenda for discussion.

RESOLVED accordingly.

(iv) **Web-Cam** - This would be discussed at a later date, following a decision on the provision of the Wi-fi. Noted.

(v) **Website** - Cllr. Witham had proposed that the website be launched under a different domain name, being www.cinderfordtowncouncil.gov.uk, following advice from the local government. The current provider Module IT were not licensed to provide the government domains, so the new domain would need to be purchased. Several options were given to Members to discuss, and it was agreed that the domain should be purchased from PJ Web Solutions in Manchester at the cost of £130 + VAT for the initial registration and first two years, then £40. +VAT for every two years thereafter.

RESOLVED accordingly.

Work had also been carried out on a new template design for the website, which had been set up in the Council Chamber for Members to view and it was agreed that the new template be used. The moderator account/control/access could be agreed at a later date.

RESOLVED accordingly.

(vi) **Social Media Policy** - a draft Policy document was circulated to all Members for their perusal, and it was agreed that the document be an item on the next Agenda, for further discussion if required, and then adopted.

RESOLVED accordingly.

(vii) **Forest Health Forum** - Cllr. Mrs Martin reported that it had been harrowing to hear the details of an elderly person waiting in the early hours of the morning for 3 hours for a GP/Nurse to arrive, and the poor provision for emergency medical services. The Health Forum were urging people to make contact to report any such problem, and this be shared on the Council website.

34. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

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

- (a) 1 Elmdean - Construction of a first floor extension to side elevation, construction of a detached garage/store and conversion of integral garage to form living space. P0723/15/FUL.
- (b) Rock House 89 St. Whites Road - Conversion of existing garage and loft store to form additional office space. P0418/15/FUL.
- (c) 15 Woodville Road - Erection of a single storey extension. Demolition of existing single conservatory. P0779/15/FUL.
- (d) 59 Springfield Drive - Alterations to convert single storey to two storey extension to provide additional bedroom space, extension to kitchen area. P0784/15/FUL.

- (e) 2 Severn View - Alterations to existing garage and addition of a conservatory at rear. P0805/15/FUL.
- (f) Land off St. John's Square - Outline application for the erection of a detached dwelling. P0682/15/OUT.

RESOLVED no objections be made to the above application.

Members were also advised of revised plans being received in respect of;

Land adjacent to The Blandings, Mousel Lane and 14 Woodgate Road, which were noted.

35. 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 - £10,739.90.
BVC - £2,360.42
CTC - £1,036.20

36. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

RESOLVED the next Meeting be held on Tuesday, 14th July 2015 at 7.00 p.m.

37. AUGUST MEETING.

Cllr. Sterry raised whether an August meeting was required, as many Councils did not meet in August. Members agreed this would be decided at the July meeting.

38. WHITE LINING.

Cllr. R. Sterry had received complaints that the centre white lining had not been replaced through the Town Centre, following re-surfacing, which was causing a problem for bus drivers, in particular. The Clerk confirmed she would refer this to Highways, in conjunction with the ongoing request for the white lining to be done, through Steam Mills. Noted.

39. CLOSURE.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.