

## **CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Cinderford Town Council held at The Council Chamber, Cinderford on Tuesday, 14th July 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 K. Brown, G.L. Morgan, T. R. Holder, Mrs E.D. Martin, R. Pritchard, R.A. Sterry, M.D. Turner, C. Witham, Ms K. Wynn.

Ms K. Thorne

APOLOGIES for Absence was received from Cllr. A. Knight, Mrs L. Bent.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Cllr. Mrs E. D. Martin declared an interest in item 42, Forest Sensory Service donation request.

The Chair welcomed Mrs Louise Johns to the meeting, to give an update on Cinderford Regeneration,

- Trilogy Developments had met with the District Council in July to discuss the next steps with their two outline planning applications. Trilogy confirmed that following the successful Judicial Review by the Co-op, the retailer Asda had now withdrawn.
- The Northern Quarter; following NE licence approval the GCN work recommenced in June. A number of vandalism issues had been reported to the Police and was being closely monitored by HCA contractors.
- GCC to take on project management role for spine road delivery, subject to GCC Cabinet approval. Currently scheduled to start on site in November. with a 36 week contract, to complete in July 2016.
- Gloucestershire College; Governors had now given support for the new build, and aim to start on site in June 2016, and to open in September 2017.
- Two new bat roost buildings were completed in March 2015 and FODDC is carrying out monthly monitoring checks. The roosts need to house up to 50 bats before the Northern United buildings can be demolished.
- Blanenau Gwent Borough Council is to join the Cinderford Regeneration Board as new critical friends.
- CNQ legal Challenges;
- Hybrid Planning App P0663/14/OUT - the High Court has refused permission for both of the legal challenges to proceed to Judicial Review. Claimants could seek an Oral Hearing and one of the challengers has made such a request. Currently FODDC is awaiting dates for this to take place.
- Northern United P1449/12/OUT and Forest Vale P1449/12/OUT - the Appeal made by FoDFOE had been dismissed by all 3 judges. FoDFOE had also sought leave to appeal the latest judgement in the Supreme Court, but this had also been refused. This closes down any further legal challenge on this application.
- Cinderford Bridge Junction - the design is continuing to progress. Amey will be obtaining an environmental survey and liaising with local bus companies to understand the implications of temporary closure whilst the work is underway. Amey is also looking at designs to reduce the cost of the junction due to the limited budget. the works have been programmed for the last quarter of this financial year, between January and March 2016. - Members requested that Highways consult with the Town Council regarding design, and thought the junction needed to be widened, and with a dedicated land for right turn traffic coming down the hill. Louise confirmed she would pass these comments on.

The Chair thanked Mrs Johns for her report and she then left at 7.10p.m.

### **40. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 9th June 2015, having been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

#### **41. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES.**

- (a) GMTF - AGM Nomination for Board Director. (Min. 29).

Cllr. Coborn confirmed that following a conversation with Bob Watters, he had decided not to stand as a Director. Noted.

- (b) Request for a seat by Lidl's. (Min. 31).

The Clerk confirmed the seat would be installed this week and that no reply had been received from Lidl's or Stagecoach, following the request for financial help. Noted.

- (c) Members Reports. (Min. 33).

**Website** - Cllr Witham confirmed the domain was now registered, with a holding page set (no charge), and that he would bring a review of all the costings to the next meeting of Council.

**Social Media Policy** - The Clerk apologised for omitting the draft Policy document from the Agenda and confirmed it would be on the Agenda for the next meeting.

**Forest Health Forum** - Following a discussion regarding the TTIP the Health Forum had written an open letter to the press and to the MP voicing their concerns.

- (d) White Lining. (Min. 38).

Highways had confirmed the white lining from Nailbridge leading to Wesley Road and including part of the Forest Vale Ind. Est. would be done within a 4 week programme.

#### **42. FoD CHILDREN'S OPPORTUNITY CENTRE.**

FoD Children's Opportunity Centre had written requesting a donation towards their running costs and it was

RESOLVED a donation of £100.00 be given, under Section 137.

#### **43. THE FOREST BEE.**

The Forest Bee had written requesting a donation towards printing costs of their brochure, to enable them to connect with more people.

RESOLVED a donation of £75.00 be given, under Section 137.

#### **44. CINDERFORD & DISTRICT CAGE BIRD SOCIETY.**

The Cage Bird Society had written for financial assistance towards their Annual Show.

RESOLVED a donation of £75. be given, under Section 137.

#### **45. FOREST SENSORY SERVICE.**

The Forest Sensory Service had written requesting a donation towards their running costs.

RESOLVED a donation of £100.00 be given under Section 137, and that FSS be added to the list of organisations considered for an annual grant in January, when deciding the budget.

#### **46. CINDERFORD TRADERS - QUERIES & REQUEST FOR FURTHER FUNDING.**

Cinderford Traders had contacted the Clerk with a few queries they had, and a request for further funding.

- Would Council provide additional funding (£30.) to cover the cost of three advertising signs - **This would be paid out of the £100. allocated previously.**
- Would additional Traders on the market have to pay if they already had a business in the Town - **If they paid council tax in Cinderford then there would be no charge.**
- If Traders wished to join from outside the Town, what would be the charge - **the same as the Friday market, with details submitted to the office.**
- Regarding the former McColls shop, was it now leased or not - **A Licence had been granted, which was all the Town Council knew.**
- Could the Council influence a well known chain to occupy the former Beales - **No.**
- Could the Council have signage created for local shops to go on lamp posts in the Town - **No, the Town Council had no budget for this, suggest they contact Paula Burrows at FODDC.**

If the Clerk could obtain a list of the Tuesday Traders, Cllr Witham confirmed he could put this on to the web site

RESOLVED accordingly.

#### **47. CINDERFORD MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOC. - LETTER OF THANKS & INFORMATION.**

Cinderford Music Festival had written with a copy of the programme, and thanking the Town Council for their financial support for the Annual Music festival. Since receiving the information, the Clerk had noted that it had been reported that the Festival would not be held in 2016, but that they hoped to return in 2017. Noted.

#### **48. CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU - REQUEST FOR A TOWN COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE.**

The Citizens Advice Bureau had written requesting a Town Council representative be appointed to attend their meetings. Cllr Mrs Brown confirmed she would be happy to represent the Council.

RESOLVED Cllr. Mrs Brown represent the  
Town Council.

#### **49. CINDERFORD TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB - REQUEST FOR ADVERTISING SUPPORT.**

Cinderford Town Football Club had asked if the Town Council would once again support them by placing an advert in their programme for the forthcoming season, at a cost of £200.00.

RESOLVED accordingly.

#### **50. NATIONAL FLOOD FORUM - LOCAL FLOOD GROUP/TOWN COUNCIL REP.**

The National Flood Forum, being an independent charity supporting and representing communities at risk of flooding, were keen to support the creation of a flood group to cover Drybrook, Steam Mills and Cinderford. Some local residents had expressed an interest in forming a group, and had asked if any Town Council Members would also join the local group. Cllrs Graham Morgan and Mark Turner both confirmed they would be interested.

RESOLVED accordingly.

#### **51. MS THORNE - REQUEST FOR 30MPH SPEED LIMIT ON STEAM MILLS ROAD.**

Ms Thorne had written asking the Town Council for support in her campaign to reduce the speed through Steam Mills; she had already started a petition (125 signatures to date), with the hope of reducing the speed limit through Steam Mills from 40mph to 30mph. Cllr Morgan advised her to hand in the petition to Shire hall. After downloading a speed radar on her phone, she had determined that many road users travelled well above the 40mph speed limit, with some exceeding 60 mph.

The Town Council had tried in the past to get the speed reduced through Steam Mills, as had the School itself. All other Schools had a 30 mph speed limit applied and it did seem to be an anomaly that a 30 mph could not be applied to Steam Mills.

RESOLVED the Town Council fully support the campaign, and that the Clerk write to Highways, Road Safety Liaison Group, FoD Road Safety Partnership and to Mark Harper MP.

**52. BARNARDOS - POP-UP CHILDRENS CENTRE - COLLINGWOOD PARK 28/07/15.**

Barnardos had written confirming they would be holding a 'Pop-up' at the Collingwood Skate Park on Tuesday 28th July, 10am - 2pm, with activities for children 0-8. Noted.

**53. PCC MEETING 09/09/15 - QUESTIONS TO BE SUBMITTED.**

The Police Commissioner Martin Surl had written inviting members to join him at Police Headquarters, Waterwells on Wednesday, 9th Sept. 2015 along with other elected representatives and was asking for questions from Members to be submitted prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED Cllrs. Coborn and Mrs Martin attend the meeting, with Members to submit any questions to the Clerk for dissemination.

**54. OPEN DAY/MEMORABILIA.**

Members discussed the possibility of holding another Open Day/Memorabilia on Saturday, 12th Sept. 2015, and it was suggested that perhaps the Co-op would let the Council use the former Beales store, in the hope that they could also display the old Town Clock.

RESOLVED the Clerk write to the Co-op.

Cllr. R. Pritchard left the meeting at 8.30p.m.

**55. PARKING IN FLAXLEY STREET/ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL.**

Cllr Knight had asked the item be raised, as it was such an ongoing issue with parking in and around the School. The problem had been raised in the past without any solution being found. It was however suggested that the School be asked if they could utilise the School Yard for car parking, for any event outside of their normal school hours.

RESOLVED accordingly.

**56. MEMBERS REPORTS.**

Cllr Coborn reported, that he had attended several events as the Mayor;

- 1st Year Celebration of Ironmasters Gym
- GMTF in Churchdown
- FSS Charity Dinner
- FoD Mayor's Meeting

**57. TRIANGLE LEASE.**

The Clerk had ascertained that the District Cabinet had discussed future management of the Triangle, but she was still awaiting their proposals. She suggested that a working group be set up to look at the proposals and consider what the Town Council would like to see happen with the Town Centre. Members agreed this would be the best way forward, and Cllrs Coborn, Morgan, Turner, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Martin and Mrs Sterry volunteered to carry out this work.

RESOLVED accordingly.

## **58. WI-FI PROVISION IN THE TOWN CENTRE.**

The Clerk suggested this item be left in abeyance, until a decision had been made regarding future ownership/maintenance of the Triangle.

RESOLVED accordingly.

Cllrs R. Sterry, Mrs L. Sterry and Mrs K. Brown left the Meeting at 8.45 p.m.

## **59. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

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

The first three applications (a)-(c) had been dealt with in order to meet the consultation dates.

- (a) 92 Church Road - Construction of vehicular access and hardstanding. (Revised scheme of P0604/14/FUL). P0868/15/FUL. **No objections.**
- (b) 45A St. Whites Road - Erection of a dormer window to existing dwelling. P0903/15/FUL. **No objections.**
- (c) 83A St. Whites Road - Change of use from existing annex to a 3 bedroom semi-detached house including associated works. P0250/15/FUL. **No objections.**

The following planning applications were then determined.

- (d) 110 Church Road - Erection of a detached dwelling and provision of associated parking and manoeuvring facilities. Alterations to existing access track. (Revised scheme of P0386/14/FUL).
- (e) 7 & 8 Mount Pleasant Road - Part retrospective two storey side and rear extension to No;7 and two storey rear extension to No;8. P0936/15/FUL.
- (f) 128A Church Road - Demolition of existing single storey flat roofed utility and erection of an extension to rear with first floor accommodation above. P0956/15/FUL.

RESOLVED no objections be raised to any of the above applications

- (g) Land to the Rear of 28, Commercial Street - Erection of 2 dwellings including parking and associated works. P0898/15/FUL.

RESOLVED objections be made to the above application due to poor and limited vehicular access. The description address was also inaccurate.

- (h) Land at Arcadia, Littledean Hill Road - Erection of 1 dwelling and associated parking. P0933/15/FUL.

RESOLVED this application was inappropriate for the plot of land with poor positioning on site.

## **60. 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 - £20,967.03.  
BVC - £5,176.23.  
CTC - £1,684.73.

**61. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

RESOLVED the next Meeting be held on  
Tuesday, 11th August 2015 at 7 p.m.

**62. SUMMER PLANTING AROUND THE TOWN CENTRE.**

Members congratulated the Handymen on the brilliant show of summer flowers again this year. Noted.

**63. CLOSURE.**

The meeting closed at 9.10p.m.