

CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Cinderford Town Council held at The Council Chamber, Cinderford on Tuesday, 12th January 2016 commencing at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS; Mrs J. Johnson, (Chair) Mrs L.I. Sterry, (Deputy Chair) Mrs K. Brown, A. Knight, Mrs E.D. Martin, T.R. Holder, M. Turner, K. Wynn, C. Witham.

APOLOGIES for Absence were received from Cllrs. M. Coborn, (Mayor) G.L. Morgan, R. Pritchard, R.A. Sterry.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Cllr. Mrs E.D. Martin declared an interest in Minute 150 - donation for the Royal British Legion.

143. MINUTES.

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

144. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

(a) Christmas Lights. (Minute 133 a).

Many Positive comments had been received from the public regarding the additional Christmas lights in the Town.

145. MEMBERS REPORTS.

No reports were given.

146. TRIANGLE LEASE.

Following the request for copies of all rent renewal notices, FODDC had since replied that as they do not intend to action or pursue any historic rent reviews, it would not be prudent to search for archive material and not in the best interest of the community. They then requested that the Town Council provide individual details of all income and expenditure since May 2000.

Members agreed that the request would be too onerous and as the District Council had commented, not a good use of the Council resources.

As the next rent review was due in November 2017, for implementation in May 2018, it was suggested that the Lease continue as is, with the Clerk keeping detailed accounts of all income and expenditure, but also log all time spent, both administration and maintenance, in connection with the Triangle. This would then provide clear and concise information, in an attempt to provide a clear way forward.

RESOLVED the Clerk respond accordingly.

147. PRIDE IN CINDERFORD CAMPAIGN - TO RAISE & INSPIRE THE TOWN.

Cllr. Witham had been inspired by the Cinderford RFC PRIDE campaign, and thought it would be good to try and arrange various things throughout the year to raise positive comments about the Town, such as best garden, best Christmas window, sporting club, business achievements etc. Members agreed it was an excellent idea, and fully supported the initiative.

148. APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL INDEPENDENT AUDITOR – Mr IAIN SELKIRK.

Mr Selkirk had contacted the Clerk offering his services once again, as the independent, Internal Auditor and it was;

RESOLVED Mr Selkirk be duly appointed for the Internal Audit of Accounts for the year ending March 2016.

149. BUDGET 2016/17.

The Clerk circulated to Members a copy of her report on the budget for 2016/17, which was considered in detail, and it was agreed to include the following:

- Music Festival – £1000.
- Playing Fields - £2,500.
- Bus Shelter - £2,500.

This meant a total expenditure of £190,200. but with £200. being paid from reserves would mean a precept of £190,000.

There had however been some recent meetings regarding the payment of the precept and the LCST grant, which the District Council had always confirmed should be deducted from the gross expenditure, to give the precept amount. It seemed however that the grant could be used by the Town Council as it wished and did not have to be deducted. There was still ongoing discussion regarding the wording in the council tax leaflet issued by FODDC but it had been agreed that the grant, which for Cinderford, was £20,920. would be paid in addition, and separately to the precept, if the Town Council so wished.

RESOLVED the Precept be set at £190,000.
plus the LCST grant of £20,920.

150. DONATIONS.

As Members had dealt with some donation requests during the year, there remained a balance of £681. The Clerk circulated the list of applications requesting donations, and following consideration it was

RESOLVED the following donations be given, under Section 137.

2nd Cinderford Brownie Pack - £75.

County Air Ambulance Trust - £100.

British Legion - £100.

151. TO REVIEW THE RISK ASSESSMENT 2016.

Following the recommendations of the Auditors, the Clerk had gone through the document, and had made changes to incorporate the additional information required which everyone agreed with, but it was requested that a reference to Data Protection also be added to the document, which was then acceptable to all.

RESOLVED the Risk Assessment for 2016 be duly approved, with the Date Protection reference included.

152. TO REVIEW FINANCIAL REGULATIONS 2016.

As there had been no notifiable changes to the Financial Regulations, as reviewed in 2015, the existing document was approved for 2016.

RESOLVED accordingly.

153. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

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

- (a) Land Adjoining 142 High Street - Approval of matters for P1949/15/OUT for the erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings. P1828/15/OUT.
- (b) 1063 Church Road - Erection of a two storey side extension with internal alterations. P1895/15/FUL.

RESOLVED no objections be made to any of the above applications.

154. 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 - £20,713.38
BVC - £2,334.97
CTC - £4,100.24

155. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

RESOLVED the next Meeting be held on Tuesday, 9th February 2016 at 7.00 p.m.

156. ROYAL FORESTERS INN - NAMING OF DEVELOPMENT.

The developer had proposed the Royal Forester Mews or Royal Foresters Court.

RESOLVED the Council support Royal Foresters Court.

157. STEAM MILLS SCHOOL - SPEEDING.

The Police had arranged to carry out a speed watch with the children from the School on 25th and 26th January from 9 - 10.30. All Members were invited to attend if they wished to take part. Noted.

158. CLOSURE.

The meeting closed at 8.00p.m.