

CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS; Mrs L.I. Sterry (Chair), A. Knight (Deputy Chairman), R.A Sterry (Mayor), Mrs K. Brown, M.M. Coborn, Mrs J. Johnson, Mrs E.D. Martin, G.L. Morgan, R. Pritchard, M. Turner, Mrs K. Turner, C. Witham.

Town Clerk - Mrs L.L. Thomas

One Member of the Public - Mr. Peter Stanway

APOLOGIES for Absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs L. Bent T.R. Holder.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

Cllr. Mrs Sterry welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded them that the meeting was being live streamed, in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Town Council, and as contained in the openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014.

The Chairman welcomed Caroline Smith (Senior Manager Engagement and Inclusion) and Katie Norton (CEO) from NHS Gloucestershire CCG to the meeting, to give their presentation on the Community Hospital Consultation for the Forest of Dean.

The consultation booklet contained all the information regarding the current sites, and their preferred option of a new single community hospital for the Forest. They explained how the existing sites could not accommodate some services, and that a new facility would incorporate an endoscopy suite and would be flexible to allow for mobile diagnostics. Significant investment would be made to maximise services, and to allow minor procedures and minor surgery.

Concern was expressed regarding the proposed minimum number of beds only being 24, which was half the number of beds currently available. It was explained that currently only half the number of beds locally were taken by Forest residents, and this was something that they needed to address.

Members also commented on the emotiveness of losing local facilities especially with regard to the Dilke, and asked if any plans had been considered, should the preferred option receive the go-ahead, and the Dilke be closed. It was confirmed that if the current sites were not required by the NHS, any receipt received from disposal of the sites, had to be re-invested in the new facility.

If the preferred option was not supported, then the existing facilities would have to continue, but it would prove very difficult to retain staff and to provide medical care to the Forest residents.

The Chairman then offered Mr. Stanway to ask any questions of Caroline and Katie.

The Chair then thanked both Caroline and Katie for attending the meeting, which they then left, as did Mr. Stanway at 8.05 pm.

The Clerk asked Members if they wished to debate and form their response to the consultation, but Members agreed they would like more time to consult with the public and that a further meeting be held.

109. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 10th October 2017, having been circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

110. ANY URGENT BUSINESS (AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIR).

None received.

111. CLLR. WITHAM - TO CONSIDER PURCHASING CAMERA/LIVE STREAM EQUIPMENT.

Following the decision made by Council to purchase equipment, Cllr Witham reported on the number of viewings, the Town Council had on all their meetings, proving the successfulness of engaging with the community. He had looked at available packages to increase what the Council could provide within the room hire facilities, and recommended a package he had sourced at the price of £1,100. Cllr Turner also noted that the press had given coverage by following the live streaming.

RESOLVED Cllr. Witham purchase
the equipment on behalf of the Council.

112. CLLR. TURNER - TO CONSIDER INVITING MARK HARPER MP TO FUTURE EVENTS HELD IN THE TOWN.

Cllr. Turner suggested that Mark Harper be invited to any future events held in the Town, as he was often seen in other Towns but not in Cinderford. He could be invited to any event organised by the Town Council, but it would depend on organisers of other events to invite him if they wished to.

RESOLVED the Clerk invite Mark Harper
to attend the Christmas Lights switch on.

113. CLLR. WITHAM - COMPLAINTS REGARDING PARKING ON FOOTPATHS IN HEYWOOD ROAD.

Complaints were constantly being received regarding vehicles parking on the footpaths outside the takeaways in Heywood Road, every Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. Cllr. Morgan confirmed he would speak with Highways, and the Clerk was asked to contact the Police and write to the takeaways concerned.

RESOLVED accordingly.

114. CLLR. COBORN - PROHIBITION OF DOGS IN ALL RECREATION AREAS.

Cllr. Coborn was concerned about the increasing amount of dogs being allowed in the recreation areas and it was

RESOLVED the Clerk purchase further signage,
'No Dogs Allowed' for all recreation areas.

115. FORESTRY COMMISSION - LINEAR PARK.

Although the Clerk had still not received any formal responses from her earlier emails to the Forestry Commission, Cllr Roger Sterry had spoken with the Community Ranger at the litter pick in Hollyhill Wood and she had subsequently emailed that the cost of a new replacement bridge on the Linear Park, would be in the region of £8 - £10,000. As the Forestry Commission had removed the bridge without any form of consultation, and which had now resulted with the Town Trail not able to be used, Members agreed it be referred to the Regeneration Board.

RESOLVED accordingly.

Cllr. Mrs Johnson left the meeting at 8.45 p. m.

116. FODDC - PARISH & TOWN LIASON MEETINGS - TO APPOINT TWO REPS FROM CTC.

The new Cabinet at FODDC were re-establishing liaison meeting between District and Town/Parish Councils. Two reps were required to attend 6 pm start, quarterly meetings at the District Council offices. Cllrs Coborn and Turner volunteered.

RESOLVED Cllrs. Coborn and Turner
be the CTC representatives.

117. ARRIVE ALIVE - REQUEST FOR A DONATION.

Arrive Alive (funding rapid Emergency Response) had written requesting a donation towards their running costs. Members did not think this service would be of benefit to the parishioners, so decided that no donation would be given.

RESOLVED accordingly.

118. GCC - ROAD CLOSURES - VARIOUS LOCATIONS.

- 4th - 6th December - Temp traffic lights 3-5 High Street - to allow CCTV survey of existing Severn Trent pipework
- 5th - 7th December - Temp traffic lights 94 St. Whites Road - to allow CCTV survey of existing Severn Trent pipework
- 11th - 13th December - Temp traffic lights 58 Belle Vue Road - to allow CCTV survey of existing Severn Trent pipework
- 18th December - closure of slip road from Nailbridge junction at The Branch to allow for surface patching on junction
- 22nd - 23rd January - closure of St. Annals' Road for resurfacing
- 22nd - 26th January - closure of Church Road from Junction of Stockwell Green to junction of Meendhurst Road for relining of sewer and repair work
- 5th - 9th February - closure of High Street from junction of Parragate to junction of Seven Stars Road for relining of sewer and repair work
- 12th - 16th February - closure of Somerset Road from junction of Hastings Road to junction of Victoria Street for open trench repair and relining of sewer
- 19th - 23rd February - closure of Office Road from junction of Valley Road to junction of Hastings Road for relining of sewer and manhole covers
- 26th Feb - 9th March - closure of Ruspidge Road from junction of Hewlett Way to outside 184 for relining of sewer
- 12th March - 3rd April - closure of Woodside Street from junction of Abby Street to roundabout for relining of sewer and repair works

119. CORRESPONDENCE.

- Cinderford Band - Acknowledgement of donation.
- NHS - Gloucestershire Care Services - Appointment of Ingrid Barker as Joint Chair
- Glos. Constabulary - 'Our approach to Neighbourhood Policing in Gloucestershire' booklet.

120. MEMBERS REPORTS.

Cllr Witham shared the Report he had prepared for the PWLB in support of the borrowing approval for the purchase of the former HSBC Bank. He had also visited the Heart of the Forest School to view their changing places facilities. Copy Report attached to these Minutes.

121. CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON - SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER.

The Clerk reminded members of the switch on of the Christmas Lights on Saturday, 25th November and asked for volunteers to act as stewards on various road junctions. FODDC had confirmed three days free parking left for this year. The Clerk suggested the 25, and possibly the 16th & 23rd December. The Town Council would be responsible for covering the meters and signage. Noted.

Cllr. Mrs E.D. Martin left the meeting at 9 p.m.

122. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

Any Member of the Development Control Committee, took no part in the vote on any of the following applications.

(a) 43 Heywood Road - Construction of single storey lean to kitchen extension with other alterations to form ground floor bedroom. Demolition of existing conservatory. P1691/17/FUL.

(b) 41 Church Road - Erection of three storey extension. Demolition of existing rear extensions. P1789/17/FUL.

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

(c) Fairholme , Stockwell Green - Outline application for the erection of a new dwelling. (Revised Scheme). P1641/17/OUT.

RESOLVED Objections be made. Plot not large enough to accommodate a further dwelling, and out of keeping with the existing street scene.

(d) Prior Approval for Method of Demolition 62 High Street - Demolition of derelict furniture shop. P1690/17/DEM.

(e) Garage, Parragate Road - Demolition of garage. (Retrospective). P1689/17/DEM.

RESOLVED the above application be supported.

123. 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 - £11,169.42.
BVC - £3,310.68.
CTC - £3,179.11.

124. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

RESOLVED the next Meeting be held on Tuesday, 12th December 2017 at 7 p.m.

125. CLOSURE.

The meeting closed at 9.10p.m.