

## **CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Cinderford Town Council held at The Council Chamber, Cinderford on Tuesday, 13th March 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

### **PRESENT**

COUNCILLORS; C. Witham (Chairman), R.A Sterry (Mayor), Mrs L. Bent, M.M. Coborn, T.R. Holder, Mrs E.D. Martin, G.L. Morgan, Mrs L.I. Sterry, Mrs K. Turner, M. Turner.

Town Clerk - Mrs L.L. Thomas

2 Members of the Public and 2 Members of the Press

As Cllrs Mrs L.I. Sterry had resigned her position as Chair, Cllr Mrs E.D. Martin opened the meeting and asked for nominations for Chairman.

Cllr C. Witham was nominated and seconded and duly appointed Chairman of Cinderford Town Council.

RESOLVED accordingly.

Cllr Witham thanked Members for his nomination and election to Chair, and then asked Members to stand for one minutes silence as a mark of respect for the late Cllr Lloyd Wilce.

APOLOGIES for Absence were received from Cllrs Mrs J. Johnson, A. Knight.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr Mrs E.D. Martin declared an interest in Min 163 - CANDI.

The Chair then 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.

One Member of Public present, Claire Smith had asked the Chair to read out her statement regarding the petition she had started, in order to gain AONB status for the Forest of Dean. Ms Smith felt strongly that the FoD should have AONB status, the same as the Wye Valley, and hoped that this would prevent any future attempts with Fracking or other initiatives and to protect the area for all. Members also shared their concerns with the way the Forest was currently being depleted, but District Members were aware that AONB status had already been discussed at District level and thought it could be re-considered again around 2018/19. AONB status would not prevent the threat of fracking, and there was some concern expressed about the industrial heritage of the Forest, and whether Specialist Status would be more appropriate rather than AONB Status. However, Members agreed with the principle of what Mrs Smith was trying to achieve, and asked that the Clerk obtain up to date information on the AONB Status for Council to consider at a future meeting.

RESOLVED accordingly.

The two Members of the Public left at 7.20 p.m.

### **158. MINUTES.**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13th February 2018, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

### **159. TOWN COUNCIL VACANCIES.**

Following the death of Cllr Wilce, and the resignation of Cllr Mrs Brown, the Clerk had advertised the two vacancies as required. Once the Clerk had received formal notification from the Returning Officer, she would inform Members whether a bye-election would be held, or if the vacancies could be filled by co-option. Noted.

#### **160. GCC - ROAD CLOSURES - VARIOUS LOCATIONS.**

The Clerk had received notification of the following temporary road closure;

- Railway Road - 215 meters from no 15A to the side of no 12 Cullimore View for sewer works from 23rd April - 4th May 2018.

#### **161. DONATION REQUEST FROM COBALT UNIT.**

Whilst continuing their work in fundraising for Cancer, the Cobalt Unit was now fundraising for a new Dementia Futures Fund and asked if the Council would give a donation to this new project.

RESOLVED that £100. be given,  
under Section 137.

#### **162. FODDC - PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.**

FODDC had written asking if the Town Council would consider taking over the function of locking and unlocking the public conveniences in Heywood Road, which is currently undertaken by a security company. Members discussed the request but considered that the Town Council did not have sufficient staffing capacity to cover the extra work required, and therefore agreed not to take over the function.

RESOLVED accordingly.

#### **163. CORRESPONDENCE.**

- Darby & Joan Club - Thank you and acknowledgement of donation.
- St. Anthony's School - Clerk still awaiting contact from the School.
- GCC - Notification of appeals against the District Council's decision to refuse the two planning applications for the former St. Whites School.
- Foresters Forest - Sue Middleton to attend the April meeting of the Council to explain about the 38 projects under their Lottery programme.
- CANDI - successful application by FVAF to The Tudor Trust, which will include £10,000. capital for CANDI refurbishment.
- Forest Economic Partnership - agreed for any Town/Parish to nominate a single representative to the FEP Stakeholder Group. Cllrs Morgan and Holder were already representatives for Cinderford.
- FODDC - They had emailed that they were looking at a blanket Public Space Protection Order for all Town/Parish Councils, so the Clerk was awaiting further information, but would contact them further.
- GAPTC - were encouraging Councils to take part in the NALC Lobby Day, by contacting the local MP. Members agreed the Mayor and Chair should arrange to meet with Mark Harper, and for Members to email the Clerk with any issues.
- FoD & Wye Valley Men's Shed - A first Men's Shed had been set up in the area to promote general well being, continuing education and healthy lifestyles for retired men and women. The Clerk was asked to forward the information to Shaun Stammers in relation to the Healthy Wellbeing Project he was managing.

#### **164. MEMBERS REPORTS.**

Cllr Mrs Martin gave a District Cllr Report containing information on the budget set by FODDC, the commissioning of a District wide leisure study, the invitation for suggested housing land, the off-road bike project search for land, the Foresters Forest survey, the appointment of the FEP Chairman, and a new beverage cup recycling scheme launched. Full Report attached.

Cllr Witham reported that all the new IT equipment purchased for live screening was now working fine and with no anticipated problems. Cllr Mrs Sterry commented that following many negative comments from the public on the coverage of the previous meeting (due to the failure of the Council equipment) that live screening should be suspended in future if the equipment failed. It was however suggested and agreed that a spare camera set be purchased, which would mean the Council would have a back up.

RESOLVED accordingly.

**165. PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

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

(a) 5 Upper Bilson Road - Erection of a first floor rear extension and a single storey extension to part of existing dwelling. Demolition of existing conservatory. P0277/18/FUL.

RESOLVED No Objections be made to the above application.

(b) The Northern Quarter - Variation of condition 01 (approved plans and commencement of works three years from permission date) of permission P0663/14/OUT.P0195/18/OUT

(c) The Northern Quarter - Discharge of condition 26 (Building Management System to control light spill) of permission P0663/14/OUT. P0012/18/Discon

RESOLVED No Objections providing FODDC was satisfied that the conditions had been met.

(d) Community Room, 19A Freeminers Way - Conversion of community room into residential dwelling with associated works and landscaping. Construction of new parking and turning area. P0152/18/FUL.

(e) GCC - Abbey Recycling Ltd, Land adj Broadmoor House, Broadmoor Road - Erection of depollution shed. 17/0096/FDMAJW

RESOLVED Support for both these applications.

**166. 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 - £8,815.81  
BVC - £4,544.94  
CTC - £2,304.95

**DUE TO CONFIDENTIALITY, THE CLERK SUGGESTED THE FOLLOWING ITEM BE TAKEN TO THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.**

**RESOLVED ACCORDINGLY.**

Members of the Press then left the Meeting.

**167. RECOGNITION OF SERVICE TO THE TOWN.**

Please see Report attached, for Members only.

RESOLVED accordingly.

**168. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

RESOLVED the next Meeting be held on Tuesday, 10th April 2018 at 7 p.m.

**169. DATE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING.**

RESOLVED the Annual Parish Meeting be held on Tuesday, 10th April 2018 at 6 p.m.

**170. CLOSURE.**

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.