

CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Cinderford Town Council held at The Council Chamber, Cinderford on Tuesday, 12th November 2019 commencing at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS; C. Witham (Chairman), Max Coborn, Mason Coborn, Mrs L. Bent, Ms R. Lewis, Mrs E.D. Martin, G.L. Morgan, R. Pritchard, Ms S. Reader, Mrs L.I. Sterry, M. Turner.

Town Clerk - Mrs L.L. Thomas

APOLOGIES for Absence were received from Cllrs. J. Charlton-Wright, R.A. Sterry

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr Mrs Martin declared an interest in item 12, a request for financial support from Forest Road Unemployed Community Centre.

98. PRESENTATION FROM MRS DAPHNE PEARSON (AGE CONCERN).

The Chair welcomed Daphne to the Meeting and she then gave a presentation on the services provided by FoD Age Concern. The organisation founded in 1991, provided a daily home delivery service of affordable, hot and freshly prepared three course meals to the elderly, vulnerable and disabled persons throughout the year, with a similar delivery service to 13 elderly persons' luncheon clubs. They also provided a local befriending service to visit lonely, isolated and vulnerable elderly persons in their homes to give them social contact, check on their wellbeing and to lend assistance where needed. The area in particular need of support was the cost of mileage allowances to volunteer drivers, who used their own vehicles at 45p per mile, costing around £24,000. annually. They had provided a copy of the budget plan for 2019-20, identifying all expected income and expenditure. There were three ways in which the Town Council could support them, being; Financial Grant, to assist in attracting more volunteer drivers and for a lunch club set up in Cinderford. The Chair thanked Daphne for her interesting presentation, and she then left the meeting at 7.30 pm.

Members discussed the presentation and felt they could publicise the need for volunteer drivers on the social media pages and agreed to give them a £500. donation immediately, and to include Age Concern when discussing the budget in January.

RESOLVED accordingly, and the £500.
to be paid under Section 137.

99. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

There was no public participation.

100. CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS.

None.

101. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 8th October 2019, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

102. PLANNING MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Planning Meetings held on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 30th October 2019, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

103. MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING.

The Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on Wednesday 16th October 2019, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

104. MINUTES OF PLAYING FIELDS MEETING.

The Minutes of the Playing Fields meeting held on Wednesday 30th October 2019, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

105. POLICING IN CINDERFORD.

The Clerk had met with Chief Inspector Richard Pegler regarding the moving of the PCSO's. He had confirmed that PCSO Teague would not be returned to Cinderford but the Clerk pointed out that a permanent officer was needed to work with PCSO Pritchard in order to establish ongoing contact with the Public. They would be recruiting for more PCSO's and following training, he assured the Clerk that a further PCSO would be appointed to Cinderford, which he expected to be around March 2020. The Clerk had pointed out to him that the whole situation had not been handled well, with a poor lack of communication from Glos Police. There would also be a new Inspector starting in the Forest, Nick Cook, and hopefully would be meeting with the Clerk within the next few weeks. Noted.

106. CLIMATE EMERGENCY.

Cllr Mrs Martin had attended a Forum recently to discuss Climate Emergency and stressed how important it was to raise awareness and look at energy supplies and what could be done without being too costly, in an effort to become carbon neutral by 2030. Members agreed that Cinderford Town Council needed to do this and that Mrs Martin lead on a working group to discuss how to move forward.

RESOLVED that Cinderford Town Council formally declare a 'Climate Emergency' and Cllr Mrs Martin to inform all Members of the first working group meeting.

107. DONATION REQUEST FROM FOREST ROAD UNEMPLOYED COMMUNITY CENTRE.

The Centre had written asked for financial support to upgrade the 16 PC's at a cost of £1,767.52 to allow them to continue to work on improving IT skills for the local community. Cllr Brown said there were many funders around who would provide computer/IT equipment and that he would contact Chris Morgan at the Centre, with the required information. Noted.

108. DONATION REQUEST FROM FOREST COMMUNITY TRANSPORT.

Forest Community Transport had written asking for Council to consider giving them some financial support. They had received a donation of £100. in January 2019 and advised that should they write again to the Town Council, that further financial information should be provided, but this had not been done. Members thought that many of their services were provided in the Lydney, West Dean area, and wondered how much they were used in Cinderford and that many charities provided this service. They would need to provide a full financial breakdown, and Council would then discuss the request at the budget meeting in January. Cllr Brown confirmed he would obtain further information on other providers.

RESOLVED accordingly.

109. PERMISSION TO CARRY OUT METAL DETECTING ON MINERS WELFARE FIELD.

Mrs Hurrell and Mr Ward had contacted the Clerk to obtain permission to carry out metal detecting on the field. Any metal finds would belong to the Council and could be used for display if so required. They were Members of NCMB and had full Public Liability Insurance. Members thought it a good idea and confirmed they could carry out the detecting.

RESOLVED accordingly.

110. TO CONSIDER PURCHASE OF TWO FURTHER MARKET STALLS.

Following the success of the Friday market, Cllr Turner asked if Council would consider purchasing a further two stalls, which would cost £258. plus VAT. Members thanked Mark for his assistance with the Friday market, and agreed a further two stalls be purchased.

RESOLVED accordingly.

111. FHSF - APPROVAL FOR ADV FOR DEVELOPMENT POST.

Cllr Brown and the Clerk had met with Wendy and Richard (FODDC) to discuss the advert and the Clerk had thought it better to be a contracted post rather than be employed by CTC on such a short term basis. Members were happy with the proposal and for Cllr Brown and the Clerk to progress.

RESOLVED accordingly.

112. GCC - VARIOUS ROAD NOTICES.

The Clerk had received notification of a road works bulletin showing temporary road closures and notices, which had already been forwarded by email to Members, for their attention and with a link for people to follow, if they wished;
<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/roadworks>

113. CORRESPONDENCE.

- Great Oaks - acknowledgment of donation of £270.
- Multiple Sclerosis Society - acknowledgement of donation of £270.
- Wesley Players - acknowledgement of donation of £400.
- FVAF - Notice of AGM and 25th Anniversary Celebration - Friday 15th November, 1.30 - 4.00 pm at Cinderford Methodist Church.
- North Glos Orienteering Club - they had now decided to use Cinderford Leisure Centre on Sunday 19th January, as their base, instead of Steam Mills.
- FODDC - Woodland trust - tree planting in recreation areas - forward to Chairman.
- FODDC - Cinderford Northern Quarter Briefing - all Members invited - Monday 2nd December at FODDC 6 - 7 pm.
- FODDC - Request for support to establish 'Gateways' into the Forest of Dean - it was thought CTC would support in principle, but costings would be required to allow full discussion.
- Power for People - request for support of campaign for more local clean energy generation - this could be discussed by the Climate Emergency W/G - forward email to Cllr Mrs Di Martin.

114. MEMBERS REPORTS.

115. 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 - £15,357.94
BVC - £2,017.01
CTC - £31,512.17

116. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

RESOLVED the next Full Meeting be
held on Tuesday, 10th December 2019
at 7 p.m.

117. CLOSURE.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.