

CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Cinderford Town Council held at The Council Chamber, Cinderford on Tuesday, 14th January 2020 commencing at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS; C. Witham (Chairman), C. Brown, J. Charlton-Wright, Mason Coborn, T.R. Holder, Ms R. Lewis, Mrs E.D. Martin, G.L. Morgan, R.A. Sterry, M. Turner.

Town Clerk - Mrs L.L. Thomas

APOLOGIES for Absence were received from Cllrs. Max Coborn, Mrs L. Bent, R. Pritchard, Mrs L.I. Sterry.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cllrs Mrs Martin ref Clerk's Report - grants for FFS and CANDI.

Cllr C. Brown ref Clerk's Report - grant for Forest Youth Services (FVAF)

131. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

There was no public participation.

132. CHAIRMAN'S URGENT BUSINESS.

None.

133. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 10th December 2019, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

134. PLANNING MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on Tuesday 10th December 2019, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

135. WEBSITE UPDATES.

The Chair commented that he had been so busy with work that he was finding it difficult to find the time to upload the Minutes etc on to the Council website. He had therefore asked AR Web Design in Rheola House if they would be interested and how much it would cost. They had confirmed that probably 1-2 hours depending on volume at £35. per hour. The Chair asked Members if they were happy to take this offer up with a retainer of up to £70. per month.

RESOLVED accordingly.

136. LAND TO RENT AT ST. JOHN'S SQUARE.

Following a conversation with Bruton Knowles, the Clerk confirmed to Members that there was no further information available, and any offer had to be submitted by the 20th January. It was agreed an offer of £300. per year be made which would keep the green space available for the community and if the Lessor was amenable the Town Council would consider taking the land on a long term lease which could see recreational equipment being placed.

RESOLVED accordingly.

137. TOWN CLOCK SERVICE.

As the six year service agreement had ended, an offer had been sent for Council to consider, an annual contract, three-year contract or a further six year contract.

As the six year contract meant a saving of £168. Members agreed to take up a further six year service contract.

RESOLVED accordingly.

138. 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>

- Buckshaft Road - full closure 22nd January - 27th January, excluding weekends 07.00 - 19.00 for resurfacing.
- Office Road and Hillberry Road - full closure 27th January - 29th January, 07.00 - 19.00.

139. CORRESPONDENCE.

- ERDF - Will Masefield/Grove Sykes had confirmed that work would be commencing at Bilson Green, Ruspidge Halt, Church Bank and Laymoor Quag. Work parties would be held on the 6th and 15th February on Church Bank, which would involve clearing some of the bramble, gorse and scrub which had encroached on the grassland. The fencing on the green would be post and rail, installed before March and grazing Dexter cross cattle would be placed on site for up to 6 weeks in the late summer-autumn.
- FODDC - Members had been invited to a briefing on the Southern Gateway Commercial Development (Plots F1/F2) of the Northern Quarter, on Monday 24th February, 6 - 7 pm. Anyone wishing to attend to confirm to the Clerk.
- GAPTC - Nominations for Buckingham Palace Garden Party - Noted.
- FVAF - It had been decided to defer the Pocket Parks application until later this year, to allow a full informed application to be made.

140. BUDGET 2020/21.

The Clerk circulated her Report to all Members for the 2020/21 budget, which also included other projects requiring funding for consideration. Members discussed the Report and in addition to the projects listed, agreed to budget £2,500. for the CTC Climate Emergency funding, £1,000. for FoD Age Concern, which would become an annual grant to them, and £250. to Creative Educational Projects to assist with their rental costs. A copy of the Report is attached to these Minutes for reference.

RESOLVED the Precept for 2020/21
be set at £294,670. (an increase of 86p
on Band D).

Cllr Mrs Martin confirmed that it was likely that FODDC would set its budget showing a £5. increase on Band D. Noted.

141. DONATIONS.

There still remained £825. in the donations budget for the current year and requests had been received from;

- Cinderford Brownies - £80.
- Wild Boar Sponsorship - £60. (previously agreed)

RESOLVED the amounts as listed above
be given under Section 137.

Cllr Mrs E.D. Martin left the meeting at 8.10 pm.

142. RISK ASSESSMENT AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS 2020.

The Clerk circulated to all Members copies of the current Risk Assessment for their perusal and retention, together with a copy of the updated Financial Regulations. Members agreed that both documents be approved, as reviewed.

RESOLVED accordingly.

143. MEMBERS REPORTS.

- Cllr Witham reported that since the last meeting, there had been 1,140 different users in the Town Centre, and 344 at the Belle Vue Centre. Unfortunately the problems with the 2nd web cam were still ongoing.
- Cllr Morgan gave a brief report on the draft GCC budget which would be discussed at the February meeting. There was no contingency money available and they were looking at a 1.99% increase plus a 2.% increase in Adult Social Care. The highways local budget had been reduced from 30k to 10k.

144. 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 - £11,429.57
BVC - £3,224.38
CTC - £20,346.90

145. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

RESOLVED the next Full Meeting be
held on Tuesday, 11th February 2020
at 7 p.m.

146. CLOSURE.

The meeting ended at 8.25 p.m.