

CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

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

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS; C. Witham (Chair), R.A. Sterry (Mayor), M.M. Coborn, C. Brown, T.R. Holder, Mrs E.D. Martin, G. L. Morgan, R. Pritchard, Ms S. Reader, M. Turner.

Town Clerk - Mrs L.L. Thomas

One Member of the Public

APOLOGIES for Absence were received from Cllrs Mrs L. Sterry, Mrs K. Turner.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr Mrs Martin declared an interest in the presentation by Glos Credit Union, as she was a Member of the Glos Credit Union.

The Chair 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.

Al Jack, Executive Director of Gloucestershire Credit Union introduced himself to everyone and gave a brief description of how Credit Unions could help to assist people but how they were dependent on volunteers being available to help them in running information points for people to access. He explained that by being pro-active and getting information available, people can be helped before they get too involved. GCU is a community owned provider of savings accounts and loans for people and small businesses within the County and kept money local and helped local communities. He circulated several leaflets explaining what a Credit Union was, information on loans and savings, and on volunteers. Members agreed it would be good to see the Credit Union available in the Forest and agreed to put leaflets in reception, and suggested that maybe some sessions could be held in Cafe 31. The Chair thanked Al for attending the meeting, which he then left at 7.35.

The Member of the Public present said she had been unable to access the Minutes of the web page, and the Chair apologised that due to work commitments, he had got behind in updating but would attend to this as soon as possible.

140. MINUTES.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 12th February 2019, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

141. MINUTES OF PLANNING MEETING.

The Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on Tuesday 12th February 2019, having been circulated, were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

142. GCC - ROAD CLOSURES.

The Clerk had received the following road closure notification:

- Application for use of portable traffic signals to allow Western Power to replace their link box in Belle Vue Road, just above the top entrance to the Belle Vue Centre from 3rd April to 10th April.

143. DEFIB/CCTV FUNDING FOR REFURBISHED PHONE BOX IN HILLDENE.

Following refurbishment of the former phone box, Gemma was continuing to fundraise to get a Defibrillator fitted, and the Clerk had ascertained that grants were still available at FODDC which the Town Council could apply for to help get this valuable community asset. However since the work had taken place, it had been noted that already youths were seen climbing all over it, and the Clerk suggested fitting another CCTV camera to cover the box. Members agreed to apply for a grant to acquire the defib, but some concerns were raised regarding a camera being fitted and it was suggested that Gemma undertake a consultation of people living in the area to gauge their reactions. Cllr Brown confirmed he would look to see if he could source any other funding streams, and Members agreed a new camera could form part of the CCTV upgrade.

RESOLVED accordingly.

144. YOUTH INCENTIVE SCHEME - FUNDING REQUEST.

Part of the Forest Neighbourhood Policing Intensive Engagement Project, was to get individuals in the community to draw a picture of how they see Cinderford, which was called Rich Picture. Following completion of a number of these Rich Pictures with various ages, it had identified that anti-social behaviour by youths and lack of youth provision was an issue within the Triangle, then flowing out from the location to residential areas. Following on from this work PCSO Sue Pritchard had spoken with a young man who wanted to make changes to his lifestyle and she was now suggesting instead of issuing ASB Warning Notices, to encourage youths for positive behaviour, where they would be rewarded in small ways maybe with credit vouchers, culminating with a cinema ticket. She estimated that the set up cost of the scheme would be £350. and asking if Town Council would consider making a grant to cover this. Members agreed it was an excellent idea to support positive behaviour and agreed to donate the £350. requested.

RESOLVED accordingly.

145. TO CONSIDER ACTION LOGS FOR MEETINGS.

The Chair in consultation with the Clerk suggested to trial an 'Action Log' to keep everyone updated on all activities.

146. CORRESPONDENCE.

- GCC Street lighting - Reference the request for a further street light to be installed in Heywood Road, the Clerk had received confirmation that this was not possible as there were no footpaths and the road being quite narrow. The Clerk had written to the resident accordingly.
- GCC - Notification of temporary closure of Oak Quarry for upgrading, from 18th March to 5th April.
- Highways - The centre white lining would not be re-instated in Cinderford High Street due to the width of the road.
- Coleford Area MCTI Partnership - Would CTC be taking part in the Heritage Open Days and Members agreed they would host another Memorabilia Day on Saturday 14th September.
- Cobalt Fundraising - Confirmation that the £338,000. had been achieved to allow the purchase of the new mammography equipment for the Thirlestaine Breast Centre.

147. MEMBERS REPORTS.

- Cllr Morgan had prepared a report on the County budget and also the new Highways Contract - circulated to Members and attached to these Minutes for information.

- Cllr Brown confirmed that following the consultation work, the outcome was for further pedestrianisation, more car parking, and the acquisition of the Wesley Methodist Church. Both Lydney and Cinderford Town Councils had submitted bids to FODDC but as the Cinderford bid had scored higher, this was being put to Cabinet for approval. Cllr Brown and the Clerk would be meeting Wendy Jackson on the 21st March to finalise the bid prior to submission to Government. Everyone thanked Cllr Brown for his work in preparing for the bid.
- Cllrs Coborn and Pritchard had collected all the fly tipping from Lidl and from the car park at the rear of The Factory Shop. Cllr Coborn had arranged to meeting with Management from both premises to discuss the ongoing issue of fly-tipping, and would update the Clerk for inclusion on the action log.

148. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

Members were circulated with the figures for accounts requiring payment and it was;

RESOLVED the accounts and wages
totaling the following amounts be paid;
BVC/CTC - £14,013.78
BVC - £5,687.41
CTC - £10,580.11

149. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

RESOLVED the next Meeting be held on
Tuesday, 9th April 2019 at 7 p.m.

150. DATE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING.

As Members would be in the 'purdah' period, the Clerk suggested that the Annual Meeting be held, inviting Parishioners to the meeting to allow any questions, but instead of preparing Reports, for Members to consider how the aging residents cope by trying/observing the use of the Gert Suit, and hopefully to see how the Raizer Chair worked in getting older people from the floor into a sitting position. The Members agreed with the suggestion, and it was also agreed to hold the meeting on Tuesday 16th April at 6 p.m.

RESOLVED accordingly.

151. CLOSURE.

The meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.