

CINDERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Cinderford Town Council held at the Council Chamber, Cinderford on Tuesday, 8th June 2021 commencing at 7 p.m.

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS –Cllr. L Bent, Cllr C. Brown, Cllr Mason Coborn, Cllr. E.D. Martin, Cllr G.L. Morgan (Vice-Chair), Cllr R Pritchard, Cllr S Reader, Cllr R.A. Sterry, Cllr M. Turner, Cllr T Holder

Locum Town Clerk – Mrs E Bennett

APOLOGIES for Absence – Cllr C. Witham (Chairman), Cllr Max Coborn, Cllr J. Charlton-Wright, Cllr R. Lewis, Cllr L.I. Sterry, Cllr S Stammers (District Councillor)

IN ATTENDANCE: 2 members of the public & 1 staff member

The Vice Chair advised that legislation permitting virtual meetings ended on 7th May 2021. The Vice Chair welcomed Councillors and the public advising of the requirement to hold in-person meetings. Guidelines for the meeting had been published in advance and would be followed by the public and Councillors.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Noted as above.

2. **Declarations of Interest** – to receive any declarations of interest in any matter to be discussed at the meeting. Members and Officers are requested to identify the nature of the interest.
None declared.

3. Public Participation Session – to provide the opportunity for Members of the Public to raise questions or comment on items on the Agenda (limited to 15 minutes, with a maximum 3 minutes per person)

Two residents referred to an incident which had recently taken place in the High Street. A number of Councillors had previously met with the Police regarding the incident. The Clerk would follow up on the issues raised by the residents with the Police and Environmental Health at FODDC/Publica and request a further meeting.

4. Chairman's Urgent Business

Council formally thanked Lynda Thomas for her 30 years' service as Town Clerk and she was presented with a stained glass window depicting Cinderford which had been produced by a local artist.

Cllr Morgan on behalf of the Council wished Cllr Witham a speedy recovery following his accident.

5. To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 4th May 2021

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 4th May 2021, having been previously circulated were confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Proposed: Cllr. E.D. Martin, Seconded: Cllr R.A. Sterry. Cllr Mason Coborn abstained. Remaining Cllrs in favour.

6. Matters Arising from Minutes

Councillors received the actions chart prior to the meeting and noted the following updates:

ACTION	STATUS
Tim Holder would like to be co-opted to all committees except Events	Council agreed to the appointment. Proposed: Cllr. Cllr R.A. Sterry., Seconded Cllr R Lewis. Cllr Bent. All in favour.
Miners Field – check with FODDC re lease for planting trees in wet corner of field	Contact made. Awaiting reply
Small scale public garden idea for growing food/flowers & creation of community group at Double View – create paper for consideration by Playing Fields Committee	Being taken forward. Climate Change to be a standing item on future agendas.
Explore grant opportunities for garden/community group idea	Being taken forward.
The Rewild Project Proposed Open Day – confirm date and	Looking at date in September.

advise football team	
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Councillors received the closed items list:

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Review guidance on co-option	Defined by Localism Act 2011 s27(4) as a person who is not a member of the Council but who is either a member of any committee, sub committee or working group of the Council or a member of and represents the Council on any joint committee or joint sub-committee of the Council, and who is entitled to vote on any question that falls to be decided at any meeting of that committee or sub committee.
FODDC Planning Committee link	Cllrs on Planning Committee noted for information/conflicts of interest.
EVCPs – advise FODDC of our comments.	FODDC will prioritise Heywood Car Park.
Great British Spring Clean – forward details	Complete
Plaque unveiling	Event took place
Risk Assessment for in person meetings	Complete

7. Centre War Memorial – to receive the specialist report and quotation for refurbishing the memorial

Councillors had received a copy of the inspection report on the War Memorial by Ursells. Councillors noted its duty to undertake repairs. The works required would comply with relevant standards, guidelines and best practices. Councillors considered the quote and agreed to the specialist refurbishment at a cost of £5,514.00 including VAT. Proposed Cllr. E.D. Martin, Seconded Cllr Mason Coborn. All in favour.

8. High Street (nr Miners Statue) – to receive 3 quotations to replace the unrepairable bench

Councillors noted the current bench was broken and not repairable. 3 quotations were received. After discussion it was resolved to choose the Armed Forces Bench Seat at a cost of £958.00 + VAT from David Ogilvie Engineering. Council agreed this would be a fitting bench style located close to the War Memorial. Proposed Cllr R.A. Sterry., Seconded Cllr T Holder. All in favour.

9. Litter:

a) #Love Your Forest – to receive details of the Cinderford Skate Park Litter Pick & Trash Converter visit in July

Council received details from the LYF Co-ordinator on a potential trash converter horsebox visit to do a litter pick with the home educator group. The suggested date was mid-July. Council agreed to the request.

b) Neighbourhood Watch Youth Incentive – to consider supporting the litter picking scheme and loan of equipment

Council received details from the Youth Association Development Officer, FVAF on setting up a litter picking campaign as a pilot project. Council considered the request for the loan of equipment and the drop off point for litter collected. Council agreed to the loan request. The Clerk would investigate litter drop off points.

10. Cinderford Methodist Church – to receive an update on the proposed purchase and sales particulars

The Chair updated on the letter from Perry Bishops dated 19/5/2021 which confirmed agreement has been reached for the proposed purchase of the Cinderford Methodist Church. Cllr Brown reported the bid had been accepted based on its community benefit, continuation of worship and use by community groups.

11. To receive the pre consultation letter and associated drawings on Cornerstone, Holly Hill Wood Industrial Estate, Cinderford

Council received Cornerstone's correspondence dated 21/5/2021 noting the proposal was for the removal of equipment and for installation of 6 replacement antennas and ancillary equipment. Council noted the proposed telecommunications installation upgrade at the above site address.

12. GCC - Various Road Closures

The GCC roadworks bulletin had been forwarded to Council. A copy is available to the public at <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/roads/roadworks/>

13. Correspondence.

- Council received the written formal registration of CTC's interest in purchasing Cinderford Health Centre. Councillors requested an update on the latest project position and Cllr Witham would provide a full report at the next meeting.
- Council received the FODDC press release on the bid for the Levelling Up Fund dated 12 May 2021.
- Council received the latest communication from Danter's Fun Fair providing suggested dates and these would be confirmed shortly by Danter's.
- Council considered the request from Cinderford Town FC for a grant for the lounge roof and long skittle repairs. Council requested further information on costs. The Clerk would request further information.
- Council noted Cinderford Town FC would be holding a Cancer Research Charity Event on 29/08/2021 with live music
- Council considered the request from the Rural Services Network for a named individual CTC Member. Cllr Roger Sterry agreed to be the representative.

- Council received details of the GCC Ash Dieback Replanting Scheme. This would be considered by Cllr Reader. Valley Road was suggested as an additional planting location to sites already identified.
- Council agreed the insurance renewal with TMM at a cost of £6558.01 following independent advice.

14. Reports

a) Update from County Councillor

Cllr Charlton-Wright had requested the Council follow up with GCC and the County Councillor on the reduction in the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph on all side roads in Cinderford. Council discussed the current laws in place. Cllr Morgan suggested the issue was raised at the Community Safety Partnership meeting which is attended by the police and GCC. Any request for a speed limit change is referred to GCC.

Cllr Charlton-Wright also enquired whether it would be possible to enquire about a part road closure of Church Road for the Queens' Platinum Anniversary in 2022 for a street party. Council discussed the request noting committee groups should complete the required forms (available at <https://www.fdean.gov.uk/media/m1vds1fk/temporary-road-closure-application-form.pdf>) and liaise with GCC regarding bus diversions if necessary.

b) Update from District Councillors

Councillor Martin updated on the annual meeting advising on committee appointments. She provided an update on the Levelling Up Fund highlighting joint involvement between the parties concerned. The local MP was also supporting the bid.

The Northern Quarter Task Force Group were issuing their final report and FODDC were setting up a working group to review the relationship with Publica. A post Covid FOD recovery plan was in place and the Council were working together to support various initiatives. An update on the petition relating to the Local Plan was also given.

c) Update from Vice-Chairman

Cllr Morgan, who was in the Chair for the meeting, confirmed he had no items to report which were not covered on the agenda. He reiterated his best wishes for a speedy recovery to Cllr Witham.

d) Update on Staffing Review

The latest report had been received. Cllr Morgan would circulate the report and access code to the Personnel Committee who would take the report forward as appropriate.

e) Update on the new arrangements for policing in Gloucestershire from the Police Meeting 27.05.2021

Cllr R Sterry updated on the GAPTC meeting attended by Superintendent Davis about the new arrangements for policing in Gloucestershire which covered a new operating model. The role of the Area Commander, 6 x Districts and Inspectors was covered. Lockdown 1 had led to a reduction of 28% in crime figures. The newly elected Police Commissioner would shortly hold roadshows. Other areas of focus were PCSO attendance and call answer times to the 101 number. The FOD Superintendent planned to hold a meet and greet session shortly. The Clerk would circulate the presentation from the event to Councillors.

15. Planning Applications

- a) Erection of single storey front extension to provide massage room and store
106 Church Road Cinderford Gloucestershire GL14 3EH (P0870/21/FUL)
- b) Erection of a temporary canopy (retrospective).
Cinderford Delivery Office Woodside Street Cinderford Gloucestershire GL14 2NQ (P0880/21/FUL)
- c) Erection of a two storey side extension with associated works.
14 Valley Road Cinderford Gloucestershire GL14 2PD (P0367/21/FUL)
- d) Erection of a two storey rear extension and a single story front porch extension
24A Barley Corn Square Cinderford Gloucestershire GL14 2LF (P0781/21/FUL)
- e) Erection of a two bedroom house and associated works
Land adjacent to 9 College Road Cinderford Glos GL14 2JX (P0797/21/FUL)
- f) Erection of a pair of semi detached dwellings with associated landscaping, parking and works
88 Church Road (also known as proposed dwelling adj 3 Stockwell Green)
Cinderford (P0684/21/FUL)
- g) Erection of 4no residential units with associated landscaping, car parking and access
Rock House , 89 St Whites Road, Cinderford, GL14 3ER.

RESOLVED No Objections to 15 a to g of the above applications

- h) Erection of two storey extensions, first floor extension and alterations to convert existing detached bungalow into two storey house.
15 Springfield Drive Cinderford Gloucestershire GL14 2T (P0904/21/FUL)

RESOLVED Objection - Council considered the plans to be overdevelopment of the existing site and not in keeping with the current bungalow street scheme. The impact on the forest view was also highlighted as an issue.

16. Finance

a) To agree the Accounts for Payment

Members were circulated with the figures for accounts requiring payment and it was RESOLVED that the accounts and wages totalling the following amounts be paid:

BVC/CTC - £11830.08
CTC - £17864.38
BVC - £2944.23

b) To agree moving from cheque book banking to internet banking

Council discussed the move and agreed to move to internet banking. The Clerk requested cheque signatories contacted Lloyds Bank to progress the change.

c) To complete the Annual Governance Statement 2020/21(section 1)

The Council completed the Statement and the Chairman and the Clerk signed the Annual Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 March 2021.

d) To adopt the Accounts and complete the Account Statements for 2020/21 (section 2)

The Council adopted the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021.

e) To note the announcement of Period of Exercise of Public Rights, subject to approval of section 1 and 2

The dates were noted.

f) To approve the documents to be sent to the External Auditor

Documents were approved for submission.

17. Policies

In advance of the meeting Councillors were provided with the following policies:

a) Internet Banking

Following discussion at 16b above Councillors approved the Policy.

b) Procurement & NALC Guide to Understanding Procurement

Members were provided with the CTC Procurement Policy, NALC Guide to Understanding Procurement and NALC Legal Topic Note 87 on Procurement. Members approved the Policy.

c) Lone Working & Risk Assessment

Members approved the Policy.

18. Date of next Meeting

Tuesday 13th July 2021 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 08.40pm.

Signed:.....

Date:.....