

Folkestone Town Council

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Town Council held at the Chamber, Folkestone Town Hall, Folkestone on Thursday, 11th January 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councillor Roger West – Town Mayor (in the Chair)

Councillors Emily Arnold, Ann Berry, John Collier, Peter Gane, Claire Jeffrey, Neil Jones, Mary Lawes, Jacqueline Meade, David Monk, Carol Sacre, Martin Salmon, Richard Theobald, Sue Wallace, Richard Wallace, Rodica Wheeler and Pat West.

In attendance: Town Clerk ó Jennifer Childs, Town Sergeant ó Ian Bishop and Corporate Support Officer ó Toni Brenchley.

The Town Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Eileen Webb, led the Council in prayers for the Town and one minute's silence was held in honour of Father David Adlington who passed away suddenly from a suspected heart attack on 4th January 2018.

1463. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Danny Brook.

1464. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

1465. MINUTES

The Council was asked to receive the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 16th November 2017 and authorise the Town Mayor to sign them as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16th November 2017 be approved and signed as a correct record by the Town Mayor.

Proposed: Councillor John Collier

Seconded: Councillor Ann Berry

Voting: F:17, Ag:0, Ab:0

1466. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Mr Mouland advised that following the removal of trees in Clifton/Langhorne Gardens in October, the tree stumps, roots and damaged pavements still remained, posing a serious danger to pedestrians as a trip hazard.

Mr Mouland was advised that following investigations by the Chairman of Planning Committee, written assurance had been received from Dave Sefton and Kent Officers that a significant number of trees were dangerous and therefore renewal had been agreed with a number of agencies and the replacement of trees was taking place.

Town Clerk to ensure that this matter is being progressed.

Mr Mouland raised concern at the lack of trees in Dover Road and Canterbury Road when both roads used to be lined with trees and explained that he would be willing to fund the cost of three trees to improve the environment. Council

thanked Mr Moulard for his offer and advised that the responsible authority regarding trees in the area is KCC.

1467. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor reported on attending several events including:

- Christmas light switch on
- B&M Store opening
- Tree of Love
- Year 6 Christmas Concert
- Harvey Grammar Pantomime
- Santa Fun Run
- Cinderella Pantomime
- Folkestone and Hythe Cadets Awards Evening
- Nepalese Community Christmas Party
- JimJam Advent Calendar Door Opening
- Boxing Day Dip
- Blessing of the Sea, Margate

The Town Mayor gave thanks to all the contractors, staff and Councillors who worked to ensure that all these significant events went ahead.

1468. MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Planning Committee moved that the Council receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee's meetings of 2nd & 23rd November 2017.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Planning Committee's meetings of 2nd & 23rd November be received and adopted.

Proposed: Councillor Richard Wallace

Seconded: Councillor Richard Theobald

Voting: F:17, Ag:0, Ab: 0

1469. MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee moved that the Council receive the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting of 19th October 2017.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee's meeting of 19th October 2017 be received and adopted.

Proposed: Councillor David Monk

Seconded: Councillor John Collier

Voting: F:16, Ag:0, Ab: 1

1470. MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Community Services Committee moved that the Council receive the Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting of 3rd October 2017.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Community Services Committee's meeting of 3rd October 2017 be received and adopted.

Proposed: Councillor Roger West
Seconded: Councillor Sue Wallace
Voting: F:17, Ag:0, Ab:0

1471. MINUTES OF THE GRANTS COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Grants Committee moved that the Council receive the Minutes of the Grants Committee meeting of 24th August 2017.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Grants Committee's meeting of 24th August 2017 be received and adopted.

Proposed: Councillor Rodica Wheeler
Seconded: Councillor Pat West
Voting: F:17, Ag:0, Ab:0

1472. MATTERS AND RESOLUTIONS FROM COMMITTEES

- i. Community Services Committee**
The resolutions from Community Services were noted.
- ii. Finance and General Purposes Committee**
The resolutions from Finance and General Purposes were noted.

1473. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018/19

RESOLVED:

- 1. To receive and note the Schedule of Meetings for the Municipal Year 2018/19 subject to the following amendments:**
 - i) Planning Committee meeting on 9 May 2019 to be rescheduled due to the General Election on 2 May 2019**
 - ii) Typographical error for meeting time for Grants Committee of 4.30pm to be amended to 6.30pm**

Proposed: Councillor John Collier
Seconded: Councillor Rodica Wheeler
Voting: F:17, Ag:0, Ab:0

1474. FOLKESTONE TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2018/19

The Budget and Precept for 2018/19 was presented for consideration.

Councillors debated a zero based costing review of the budget in order to avoid being repetitive. It was stressed that Councillors were encouraged to put forward representations for amendments during the budget process but some items were more emotive than financial.

The costs incurred by Council for provision of allotments was discussed and concern raised that Council were still subsidising the costs for a limited number of residents to enjoy. It was highlighted that rental charges to allotment

holders in Folkestone had been incrementally increased over the years and were now the highest in Kent.

Concern was expressed that the proposed name change for Shepway District Council would impact on FTC financially. Assurance was given that this would not be the case.

RESOLVED:

- 1. To receive and note report C/18/225**
- 2. To approve the Town Council's precept of £786,950.**
- 3. To confirm the Precept for 2018/19 in accordance with the provisions in Sections 39, 41 and 50 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.**
- 4. To authorise the Town Mayor to sign the Precept demand on the District Council.**

Proposed: Councillor David Monk

Seconded: Councillor Peter Gane

Voting: F:17, Ag:0, Ab:0

1475. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 15th March 2018

.....Town Mayor
15th March 2018

The meeting ended at 7.30pm