

FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

The Pump House, 5 Market Place FARINGDON, Oxfordshire, SN7 7HL

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Clerk: Sally Thurston



Minutes of a TOWN MEETING held on MONDAY 22nd January 2018 at 7.30pm in the Corn Exchange, Faringdon

In attendance:	<p>Cllrs: Mike Wise (Town Mayor) David Barron Pauline Beesley Kiera Bentley Al Cane James Famakin Steve Leniec Andrew Marsden Anne Marie Wright</p> <p>15 Members of the public</p> <p>Staff Present: Sally Thurston – Town Clerk Rebekah Pugh – Deputy Town Clerk Adele Vincent – Information Centre Supervisor / Trainee Clerk</p>
1.	<p>Mayor's Opening Address Cllr. Mike Wise welcomed everyone to the meeting and sought permission from the meeting to allow Cllr. Steve Leniec to speak in his capacity as Chairman of the Finance Committee, although he lived outside the parish. This was AGREED. Cllr. Wise highlighted the recent changes to the committee structure and the method used for calculating the precept.</p>
2.	<p>Apologies for Absence The following apologies were received and NOTED: Liz Billson – Assistant Town Clerk T/Cllrs. Jane Boulton and Angela Finn West Faringdon Residents Association</p>
3.	<p>Minutes of the Town Meeting held on 10th April 2018 The minutes were then signed as a correct record.</p>
4.	<p>Matters Arising None</p>
5.	<p>Town Council Budget and Precept for 2018/19 a) A presentation on the proposed budget for 2018/9 from Faringdon Town Council was given. Cllr. Leniec informed the meeting that a precept figure of £365,224 had been proposed by the Finance and Audit committee which equated to a 0.9% rise to a band D household. The cost to a band D household would be £133.52 per annum; an increase of £1.22 per annum.</p>

	<p>Cllr. Cane highlighted a change in the way the Council delivers Youth Services to ensure they widen the reach and engage more young people. This would involve assisting other organisations both existing and new to provide alternative provision. A member of the public asked if young people would be consulted and asked what they would like to see in place. Cllr. Cane assured that this would be part of the process of assessing and planning the next steps.</p> <p>b) A member of the public suggested that all roads within the town boundary should be 20 mph. He felt this would be of huge safety benefit but also make the town a nicer and more vibrant place. The meeting AGREED. Cllr. Wise explained that this had been taken to both the police and Oxfordshire County Council in the past and had been met with resistance. It was PROPOSED that this should be taken forward again via the Traffic Advisory Committee. This was AGREED. Members of the public were asked to forward their thoughts to the Town Clerk via email and encouraged to attend the Traffic Advisory Committee on Friday 2nd March 2018 @ 9.30am.</p> <p>It was PROPOSED that a precept request of £365, 224 be recommended to Full Council. This was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Public Speaking Time and General Discussion</p> <p>Members of the public raised the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why are there no official pedestrian crossings in the Town Centre? It was AGREED that this should be raised at Traffic Advisory. • There should be a pedestrian crossing on the retail park at the top of Park Rd. It was AGREED that the Town Council would forward this request to the land owner. • The pavements in the Town Centre are badly worn and need attention. It was AGREED that the Town Council would raise this at Traffic Advisory and with the County Council. • It was NOTED that houses were being occupied at Faringdon Fields, did this mean that the sewage works were upgraded. Cllr. Wise explained that the houses were being occupied because, presumably, the sewage works had the capacity to accommodate a small increase in the number of connections provided there was no repeat of the heavy rains of 2014; the progress of the upgrade to the sewage works, scheduled for summer 2018, was not known. • An update on s106 / CIL was requested. Cllr. Wise explained that all the new developments in Faringdon would fall under the current s106 system although CIL was now in place. • There was concern that 53% of the allocated leisure monies from the Fernham Fields development could go to a leisure centre in Wantage. Members of both the public and councillors were opposed to this. The Clerk would request an update from Cllr. Cox. Members of the public and councillors were concerned that the residents of the town were not aware of issues such as this. It was suggested that a report for the Folly was written to cover this meeting. This was AGREED. • It was requested that the Piano in the Corn Exchange be regularly tuned. This was AGREED.