

FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

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

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Clerk: Sally Thurston



Minutes of a Town Council meeting held on Wednesday 12th June 2019 at 7.15pm in the Jubilee Room, the Pump House, Faringdon

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| Cllrs. Present | Mike Wise (Mayor) Julie Farmer (Deputy Mayor) Kiera Bentley Jane Boulton Rosalind Burns Peter Castle Steve Leniec Lucy Martin (from min 6/7/19) Kimberly Morgan Stephen Smith Liz Swallow Bethia Thomas |
| In attendance: | 6 members of the public C/Cllr. Judith Heathcoat (from min 6/7/19) C/Cllr. David Grant PC Mick Goodenough (until min no. Sally Thurston, Town Clerk Marzia Sellitti, Deputy Town Clerk |
| Minute number: Item/meeting/year | |
| 1/7/19 | Apologies for Absence Cllr. Angela Finn |
| 2/7/19 | Minutes of last meeting Minute number 3/6/19 was amended to read <i>Deputy Mayor</i> . With this amendment the minutes of the annual meeting held on Wednesday 8 th May 2019 were signed as a correct record. |
| 3/7/19 | Declarations of Interest & requests for dispensations Cllr. Wise declared and interest in item 12. as a recipient of expenses. This was NOTED. |
| 4/7/19 | Public Speaking and Question Time A member of the public presented a petition signed by over 1500 residents requesting that licensing restrictions on the Wheatsheaf Public House remain unchanged. Following a complaint from a resident about noise from the establishment, the licensing authority had imposed some conditions. Members of the public were concerned about the viability of the public house and the town centre in general. It was explained that the Town Council had no power over licensing and the petition should be directed at the licensing authority. The group asked that the Town Council supported the petition. It was requested that the matter was included on a future agenda to enable full discussion. This was NOTED. |
| 5/7/19 | Reports from Outside Bodies Members NOTED reports from: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Thames Valley Police The report highlighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been spate of bike and vehicle thefts in surrounding areas • A sophisticated cannabis factory had been found in a residence in the Town Centre and closed down. • Several vehicles had been seized in the area for no valid insurance • There would be a tool marking day on 29/6/19 10am to 1pm at |

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| | <p>Screwfix.</p> <p>b) Wantage Independent Advice Centre AGM The report highlighted: WIAC are looking for a name change, to be more encompassing of the wider area – suggestions welcome. An assessment of need in the Western Vale is being undertaken</p> <p>c) FATAc The report highlighted: It has been requested that FTC write to dwellings with overgrown foliage to ask them to cut it back. This would be taken to the Facilities Committee. Parking meters for the Town Centre had been discussed. Further investigation is needed.</p> <p>d) Twinning The report highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming youth trip – volunteer leaders needed • Trip to Le Mele in October • Hoping to twin sporting clubs and groups • 30th Anniversary next year will be celebrated with a visit from the twin towns to Faringdon in May. |
| <p>6/7/19</p> | <p>County Councillor's Report C/Cllr. Heathcoat announced that Faringdon Watch Manager Dave Arlott had been awarded the British Empire Medal. Members NOTED a report from County Cllr. Judith Heathcoat The report highlighted scams were operating that claimed to be banks. The public should be vigilant. Cllr. Leniec asked if plans to reduce the numbers of crew on a vehicle from 5 to 3 would affect Faringdon. Members were assured that no decision would be taken that would endanger members of the public or firefighters. This was a consultation period and it was hoped that ways of working would be improved.</p> |
| <p>7/7/19</p> | <p>District Councillors' Report Members NOTED a report from District Cllrs. Grant and Thomas Cllr. Smith asked for further information on the targeted plans following the closure of Honda to be brought to the next meeting. Cllr. Smith enquired what progress had been made towards implementing civil parking enforcement. D/Cllr. Grant explained that a feasibility study was being undertaken. The district councillors were asked why the legal bill, which was outsourced, for the lease for the Farcycles Cycle Park was so high. D/Cllr. Thomas would come back to the Council with further information. Cllr. Bentley asked if the process for the licensing issue with the Wheatsheaf could be explained. D/Cllr. Thomas clarified that it was a legal matter between the publican and the licensing department. Licensing are following processes and the matter is in hand. D/Cllr. Thomas explained that the district supported businesses in the town centre, but they must comply with laws set out.</p> |
| <p>8/7/19</p> | <p>Chairman's Activity Report Members NOTED an activity report from Town Mayor, Cllr. Mike Wise The report highlighted a wide variety of activities and engagements undertaken throughout Oxfordshire. Faringdon events attended included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Event – successfully organised by OCVA and FTC • OVO cycle race. The town turned pink for the occasion and a pink bike trail was installed. The Clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to Farcycles who were heavily involved in the organisation. • Farcycles Music Mayhem – a wonderful event to raise funds for the cycle park • Rotary Dragons Den – awarding money to local groups • Litter Pick • The Place table-top sale |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open day at Ferendune • D Day commemoration event |
| 9/7/19 | <p>Reports from Committees</p> <p>Members NOTED minutes and reports of the following committee meetings, including decisions taken under delegated authority:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Town Meeting: 20th May 2019 b) Planning & Highways: 22nd May 2019 c) Strategic working Party: 5th June 2019 |
| 10/7/19 | <p>To appoint Town Council representatives to the following organisations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) It was PROPOSED that Cllr. Morgan act as a trustee, on behalf of Faringdon Town Council, for Wantage Independent Advice Centre. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED b) It was PROPOSED that Cllr. Thomas act as a representative for Faringdon Town Council with Bromsgrove Day Centre. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED |
| 11/7/19 | <p>Strategic Working Party</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) It was PROPOSED that the following short-term objectives recommended by the Strategic Working Party be APPROVED. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold regular town councillor surgeries 2. Support the Town Centre – set up a working party engage with the community – develop a strategy – consider street cleaning 3. Promote all town council good work and improve communication 4. Climate change – undertake an audit of the Town Council – set up a working party to address climate change 5. Parking – revisit the parking survey – to include the Town Centre Working Party discussions – lobby principal authorities to bring in civil enforcement 6. Develop two new regular events 7. Aim to achieve the Gold Standard award for local councils This was SECONDED as RESOLVED. b) It was PROPOSED that a Climate Change Working Party be set up. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED. It was PROPOSED that the following sit on the working party: Cllrs: Smith, Swallow, Martin and the Town Clerk Town Clerk This was SECONDED and RESOLVED. The first meeting will be held Thursday 11th July at 1pm in the Clerk’s Office. c) It was PROPOSED that a Town Centre Regeneration Working Party be set up. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED. It was PROPOSED that the following sit on the working party: Cllrs: Farmer, Bentley, Burns and Leniec and the Town Clerk This was SECONDED and RESOLVED. The first meeting will be held Tuesday 2nd July at 12pm in the Clerk’s Office. |
| 12/7/19 | <p>Clerk’s Report & Schedule of Payments</p> <p>Cllr. Leniec PROPOSED the schedule of payments up to and including June 12th, 2019 (appendix 1) be APPROVED. This was SECONDED by Cllr. Farmer and RESOLVED.</p> |
| 13/7/19 | <p>Town Council Accounts - 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Annual Governance Statement 2018/19 Cllr. Bentley PROPOSED that the annual governance statement for 2018/19 be APPROVED. This was SECONDED by Cllr. Farmer and RESOLVED. Cllr. Wise signed the governance statement as correct. |

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| | <p>ii. Accounting Statements 2018/19 Cllr. Castle PROPOSED that the accounting statements for 2018/19 be APPROVED. This was SECONDED by Cllr. Bentley and RESOLVED. Cllr. Wise signed the accounting statements as correct.</p> <p>iii. Reconciliations as at 31/3/2019 Cllr. Leniec PROPOSED that the reconciliation statement as at 31/3/2019 be APPROVED. This was SECONDED by Cllr. Farmer and RESOLVED.</p> |
| 14/7/19 | <p>Weaver Khan Lease It was PROPOSED that Cllrs. Wise and Bentley be delegated to sign the lease for the Old Council Chamber with Weaver Khan Architects. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED</p> |
| 15/7/19 | <p>Oxfordshire County Council Communities Town & Parish Council Survey It was PROPOSED that the Town Clerk respond to the survey informing OCC that FTC used the Tidy Team for emergency clearing but did not want to undertake further responsibilities at this time. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED</p> |
| 16/7/19 | <p>Oxfordshire County Council Traffic Sensitive Streets Consultation It was PROPOSED that the Town Clerk responded with a list of sensitive streets including the Market Place. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED</p> |
| 17/7/19 | <p>Lloyds Bank It was PROPOSED that Faringdon Town Council provide staff to ensure parking is available for the mobile bank on Wednesday afternoons. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.</p> |
| 18/7/19 | <p>Items for Information Only The following items were NOTED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OVO Bike Race was excellent • Festival of transport at Tuckers Park was a good event and well attended – they want to expand in future years. • Farcycles had a funding bid with Calor Gas which is awarded on public votes – please go on site and vote by 17th June • It was asked if Clerks could report a list of activity between meetings • Members were reminded to submit newsletter updates • The Town Council would be applying for NALC gold standard in the next 12 months • Marzia Sellitti was welcomed as Deputy Town Clerk |
| 19/7/19 | <p>Correspondence Members NOTED correspondence from 9th May up to and including 12th June 2019.</p> |

Meeting closed at: 8.55pm