

# **FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL**

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

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[www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk)

Clerk: Sally Thurston



Minutes of the Facilities Committee meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7.15pm in the Corn Exchange, Faringdon.

**Members present:** Cllr Rosalind Burns  
Cllr. Jane Boulton  
Cllr. James Famakin

**In attendance:** Deputy Town Clerk, Marzia Sellitti,  
Facilities Manager, Phil Matson  
1 member of the public

**1/2/21 Apologies for Absence**  
Cllr. Finn, Leniec, Martin, Swallow

**2/2/21 Minutes of last meeting**  
Minutes of the Facilities Committee meeting held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March were AGREED and SIGNED as correct record.

**3/2/1 Declarations of Interest**  
None

**4/2/21 Public Question and Speaking Time**

- a) Members NOTED a written questions received by the Clerk before the meeting. The resident enquired why most of the bus stops in Faringdon are not disabled friendly and have no shelter or seating. It was NOTED that the clerk will correspond with the resident to clarify that only two bus shelters are under FTC remit and these include a shelter and a seating. It was further suggested to direct the complaint to the body responsible for the other bus shelters in Faringdon.
- b) Members NOTED a letter of complaint from a resident regarding overgrown vegetation in the Churchyard. The clerk will correspond with the resident to reassure which areas are maintained by the Tidy Team in the churchyard and to clarify that the new building mentioned in the letter, which is disabling access to water is sole responsibility of the church. The clerk will also communicate to the resident where the wild meadow is allocated.
- c) A member of the public spoke about the poor state of the telephone box in Canada lane, enquiring if this could be restored or removed. The clerk will make enquiries.

**5/2/21 Elect a Vice Chair**  
It was proposed by Cllr. Burns to elect Cllr. Famakin as a Vice Chair. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

**6/2/21 Financial reports**  
Members received and NOTED the following financial reports:  
a) Corn Exchange  
b) Pump House  
c) Open Spaces

**7/2/21 Facility Reports**

Members receive and NOTED the following updates and reports:

- a. Corn Exchange
- b. Pump House
- c. Recreation and Open Space
- d. Facilities Reports
- e. Members NOTED updates and reports including decisions taken under delegated authority:
- f. Elms Tennis Court is waiting for quotes for resurfacing the court. It was PROPOSED to make recommendation to Council to apply for the S106 funds and go ahead with the works. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.
- g. Tuckers Play area  
Members NOTED that acts of vandalism are still ongoing. It was suggested to bring the matter to Full Council to discuss possible solutions.
- h. All Saints Church Yard
- i. Town Park
- j. Oakwood Park
- k. Tidy Team  
Members NOTED an issue of litter and overgrown vegetation in part of the area owned by the Sovereign Housing estate. Members enquired if the matter could be investigated by the clerk.
- l. The Wilderness (see more under item 8)
- m. Storage
- n. Corn Exchange
- o. Pump House
- p. Bus stops
- q. Salt Bins

**8/2/21 The Wilderness**

Members received quotes for a storage container in the Wilderness. It NOTED that the Folly Trust wishes to donate their shipping container to the Wilderness. The Chair and members expressed the committee gratitude for the kind offer. The clerk will correspond with the Folly Trust. It was NOTED that the budget allocated for the Wilderness currently stands at £2,100. The clerk will investigate quotes for delivery arrangements of the container unit and will contact the industrial estate adjacent to the Wilderness to ask permission for access and allow container to be transferred to the Wilderness.

**9/2/21 Health and Safety Inspections**

Members NOTED the following:

- a) Health and Safety audit.
- b) ROSPA inspections report for:
  - a. Tuckers Play area
  - b. Oakwood Park

The chair and members congratulated the staff at FTC for the efficient work done and the successful reports.

**10/2/21 Lawn Mower**

Members RECEIVED quotes of industrial lawn mowers. Members NOTED a recommendation from the Clerk and Facilities Manager to purchase the Scag lawn mower for a total cost of £7,795, which was designed for uneven grounds and churchyards. Members NOTED that the current budget was £6,000, however, the recommended mower will enable the tidy team to conduct grounds operations without causing physical strains ensuring Health and Safety is maintained. It was PROPOSED to recommend to the Finance committee to purchase the machine using the £ 6, 000 from the allocated budget and additional funds from the asset replacement fund. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

**11/2/21 Info board Highworth Road layby**

Members discussed replacing a display board in the Highworth Rd layby.

It was NOTED that costs for replacement should be around £500. It was PROPOSED to delegate authority to the Clerk to purchase board in conjunction with chair of facilities and chair of finance. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

**12/2/21 Corn Exchange Room Hire**

Members NOTED recommendations from the Communities and Partnerships Committee for free room hire for the following:

- a) Green Day event on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September -All day
  - b) Folks Festival in October – All day event -evening in the Corn Exchange
  - c) A community larder to be held weekly for 3 hrs a week on Thursday from mid-September.
- It was PROPOSED to approve the recommendations. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

**13/2/21 Trees**

Members NOTED a request to purchase and plant trees for the Queens Canopy and Earth and Faith Projects. It was PROPOSED to support the project and investigate costs for trees. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

Members NOTED that an organization named Eforest offers free trees. The clerk will investigate. Members further discussed and PROPOSED to allocate a small budget of £ 200 from the Recreation budget for this project. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED. Members enquired if the community could be asked to donate unwanted sapling trees to promote free trees planting.

**14/2/21 Notice Board**

Councillors discuss the necessity to install a new information board outside the Pump House to make publications for the community more visible in the centre of the town, in addition to the information board outside the Corn exchange, the information centre and in Southampton Street. It was PROPOSED for the Clerk to investigate suitable locations and costs for the purchasing of a new board. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

**15/2/21 Christmas Lights Working Party**

It was PROPOSED to appoint Cllr. Boulton, Famakin and Bentley as members to the Christmas Lights Working Party. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED. Members NOTED that the first meeting will be held on the 9th of July at 13:00

**16/2/21 Items for Information Only to include:**

Member NOTED that a VOWHDC Bug Trail campaign will start in August to promote litter clearance and recycling in Tuckers Park.

Members NOTED that the love parks week campaign will start in the end of July to promote clean parks and open spaces for the community, in Tuckers Park and Town Park.

**17/2/21 To consider agenda items for the next meeting**

Councillors advised to send their requests and suggestions to the clerk.

**Meeting ended at 20:25**