

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 16th September 2020 at 7.15pm, via video conferencing.	
Welcome	Cllr. Bentley welcomed everyone to the Facilities virtual meeting. This meeting was carried via Microsoft Teams Video Conferencing.
Minute no: Item/meeting/year	
1/2/20	Apologies for Absence Cllr. Steve Leniec and Cllr. Bethia Thomas sent their apologies. Cllr. Boulton unable to join due to technical issues.
2/2/20 Cllrs roll call:	Kiera Bentley (Chair) James Famakin Angela Finn Liz Swallow Mike Wise.
Officers roll call:	Sally Thurston: Town Clerk Marzia Sellitti: Deputy Town Clerk Jo King: Clerks Assistant
3/2/20	Minutes of last meeting Members noted that in minute n. 2/2/20 Cllr. Bently should read Bentley this was amended. Minutes of the meeting held on on Wednesday 10 th June 2020 were AGREED and SIGNED as a correct record.
4/2/20	Declarations of Interest None.
5/2/20	Public Question Time None.
6/2/20	Precept 2021/22 a) Members NOTED the following 2020/21 financial reports. It was NOTED that income is low against expenditure for COVID reasons: I. Corn Exchange. II. Pump House III. Recreation and Open Spaces. b) Members considered the following draft budgets for year 2021/22: I. Corn Exchange Members NOTED that the budget reflects figures from last year due to Covid19 and lack of sufficient data for the current year. It was also NOTED that gas and electric rates for next year are predicted to raise due to inflation. It was PROPOSED that the DRAFT budget provided be put forward. This gave an expenditure budget of £7,786. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED. II. The Pump House Members NOTED that the budget reflects figures from last year due to Covid19 and lack of sufficient data for the current year. It was also NOTED that gas and electric rates for next year are predicted to raise due to inflation. It was PROPOSED that the DRAFT budget provided be put forward. This gave an expenditure budget of £7,941. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED. III. Recreation and Open Spaces Members received an update on an electric vehicles investigation. Members NOTED that investing in an electric van would result in costs raising to £ 4,270 per year, therefore, agreed to review this again next year. It was PROPOSED

	<p>that the DRAFT budget provided be put forward. This gave an expenditure budget of £17,363. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.</p> <p>c) Members considered capital expenditure projects for 2021/22 It was PROPOSED and AGREED to review the asset register to investigate further on any equipment that might need replacing. Members expressed an interest in new trees and relevant surveys as a potential capital project. The Clerk will investigate potential future project requiring capital expenditure and report to the next Facilities meeting.</p>
7/2/20	<p>Facilities Reports Members NOTED updates and reports including decisions taken under delegated authority for the following:</p> <p>a) No updates on Elms Tennis Court. Members NOTED that the tennis court had been successfully run following the guidelines imposed as a result of COVID-19.</p> <p>b) Tuckers Play area and Oakwood – have been reopened. All the play equipments, benches and gates are rigorously sprayed with disinfectant twice weekly. Both play areas have undergone maintenance following a new ROSPA assessment.</p> <p>c) All Saints’ Church Yard</p> <p>d) Town Park</p> <p>e) Tidy Team has been tackling maintenance works in open spaces and venues, cleaning, grass cutting and installing street furnitures in town.</p> <p>f) Corn Exchange. It was NOTED that the Place has now moved into the old council offices and aim to open on 1st October 2020. A new broadband will soon be installed for the use of the Place and hirers. The hall has been repainted. All electrical test and legionella assessment have been carried out.</p> <p>g) The Pump House</p> <p>h) Bus Shelters</p> <p>i) Planters</p>
8/2/20	<p>Covid-19 Members received a update report on the reopening of the venues. All risk assessments for the venues have been completed. It was PROPOSED that the following opening schedule be approved:</p> <p>i) The Corn Exchange will open to regular hirers only on Monday 21st September 2020, if their risk assessment is approved. Parties, celebrations and concerts will not be allowed to take place.</p> <p>ii) The Pump House will not open to hirers and will not open the museum to public due to the restrictions imposed by the single narrow access in the building. The Food Bank will carry on operating in house and being managed by the FTC staff due to a the increased infection rate. This should be reviewed regularly in line with the Covid-19 infection rate.</p> <p>This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.</p>
9/2/20	<p>ROSPA Members NOTED ROSPA reports for:</p> <p>a) Oakwood Park</p> <p>b) Tuckers Play Area</p>
10/2/20	<p>Tree Suvery Members NOTED a recent tree survey undertaken in August. Only one tree of the 127 identified trees was reccomended for immediate action. A maintenance programme for the remaining trees will be brought to the next meeting. The survey will be reviewed in three years.</p>
11/2/20	<p>Benches and Planters – Town Centre</p> <p>a) Members NOTED a proposal for new planters in the Town Centre. It was NOTED that the consultation identified some concerns from residents that planters would be obstructive during local events After debate, it was PROPOSED that further investigation should be undertaken including more funding for a comprehensive Town Centre regeneration project. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.</p>

	b) It was PROPOSED to consult with the community further on town centre regeneration.
12/2/20	Town Park Members NOTED a correspondence for a revised proposal of the lease of Town Park awaiting response from OCC officer.
14/2/20	Folly Park Members received a report on an offer received to take over the management of the Folly estate. Members felt this was not a Town Council responsibility and PROPOSED to reject the offer. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.
15/2/20	Items for Information Only None
16/2/20	Agenda for Next Meeting Town Centre Consultation Free Trees from the Tree Council Tree maintenance programme for consideration Trees for capital expenditure Wilderness Members will suggest any other items via email.

Meeting ended at 20:30