

# **FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL**

The Pump House, 5 Market Place, FARINGDON, Oxfordshire, SN7 7HL  
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Clerk: Sally Thurston



## **Minutes of Full Faringdon Town Council (FTC) meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 7:00pm in the Jubilee Room, Pump House, Faringdon**

Cllrs. present: Kiera Bentley (Chair)

Jane Boulton

Rosalind Burns

Peter Castle

Angela Finn

Kimberly Morgan

Stephen Smith

Liz Swallow

Bethia Thomas

Gene Webb

Mike Wise

James Famakin (online, non-voting)

In Attendance: Sally Thurston, Town Clerk

Margaret Nairne, Town Clerk's Assistant

David Grant, District Councillor

6 members of the public

### **1/6/22 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Leniec, Cllr Martin

Sarah Johnson, Facilities and Services Officer

PC Alex Norris.

### **2/6/22 Minutes of last Meeting – Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

It was PROPOSED that the Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 be SIGNED as a correct record. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

### **3/6/22 Declarations of Interest & requests for dispensations**

None

### **4/6/22 Public Participation Time**

None

### **5/6/22 Fish Brothers site, Marlborough Street**

Members received and considered a presentation from a member of the public regarding the future use of the site. The proposal is to create an accessible, inclusive, diverse and eco-minded community arts venue called The Garage to include a purpose-built theatre and rehearsal space. The project proposal is still at an early stage and those on the board of the newly set-up not-for-profit company are hoping for commitment from the site owners before drawing up a proper budget and plan. Members of the Council were pleased to hear about the proposal and the enthusiasm shown, and voiced a

few initial thoughts regarding impact on other venues in the town, funding sources and potential timespan, and look forward to hearing more in due course.

#### **6/6/22 Reports from Outside Bodies**

- a) Members received and NOTED a report from Thames Valley Police
- b) Members received and NOTED a report from Parish Transport Meeting
- c) Members received and NOTED a report from Solar Streets
- d) Members received and NOTED a report from FATAC

#### **7/6/22 County Councillor's Report**

Members received and NOTED a report from Cllr Thomas.  
Cllr Thomas will follow up with VoWHDC with regard to the Fernhill Gardens play area which is not yet open.

#### **8/6/22 District Councillors' Report**

Members received and NOTED a report from District Cllrs. Thomas and Grant.  
Cllr Grant agreed to promote the Joint Local Plan Survey, which has a deadline of 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022, to get more responses.

#### **9/6/22 Chair's Activity Report**

Members received and NOTED a report from Cllr Bentley.

#### **10/6/22 Reports from Committees and Working Parties**

Members NOTED minutes and reports from the following committee meetings, including decisions taken under delegated authority:

- a) Strategic Working Party: 11th May
- b) Planning & Highways: 23rd May 2022
- c) Climate Change Working Party: 24th May 2022

#### **11/6/22 Faringdon Town Council Annual Accounts - 1st April 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022**

- a) Members received and NOTED the Annual Internal Audit Report.
- b) It was PROPOSED that the Annual Governance statement (section 1 of the annual return) be APPROVED. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.
- c) It was PROPOSED that the Accounting Statements (section 2) be APPROVED. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.
- d) Members received and NOTED year end bank reconciliations
- e) Members received and NOTED dates for the period of public right to view accounts.

Town Clerk was congratulated on facilitating an excellent audit.

#### **12/6/22 Clerk's Report & Schedule of Payments**

- a) Members received the schedule of payments up to and including June 13th 2022. It was PROPOSED by Cllr Bentley that the payments be APPROVED. This was SECONDED by Cllr Swallow and RESOLVED.
- b) Members NOTED the Clerk's external activity report to 4<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### **13/6/22 Oxfordshire Councils' Councillor Code of Conduct 2022**

- a) Members received and considered adoption of a revised Code of Conduct, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011. It was PROPOSED by Cllr Bentley that the Code of Conduct be APPROVED. This was SECONDED by Cllr Swallow and RESOLVED.

### **14/6/22 Strategic Working Party Recommendations**

- a) Members received and considered a prioritised list of projects and work and AGREED that the prioritised list is a good way of increasing efficiency of the Council. Each committee should take responsibility for projects within its scope.
- b) It was PROPOSED the protocol for approving future projects via a Project Request Form be APPROVED. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

### **15/6/22 Faringdon Crest**

Members considered and discussed the proposal for a crest for Faringdon as this has been requested both by Konigstein and the Cadets. Cllr Castle PROPOSED that Members agreed for the Council to use the crest originally designed by a local artist. Discussion followed as to whether the original design is a bit too busy and complicated. Cllr Burns COUNTER-PROPOSED that the artist be asked to simplify the design. This was SECONDED by Cllr Thomas and RESOLVED.

### **16/6/22 Elms Tennis Court s106 Funding Agreement**

It was PROPOSED the funding agreement for re-surfacing Elms Tennis Court be AGREED and signed. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED. Works are scheduled for February 2023 and the Finance Committee are aiming to agree a quote so that a price can be secured soon.

### **17/6/22 Faringdon War Memorial Trust requests**

- a) Following a successful Oxfordshire Artweeks exhibition in 2022, Members received a request from the Faringdon War Memorial Trust that the Town Council allocate resources to enable this event to take place again in 2023. Cllr Thomas suggested that all future proposals come with an officer recommendation to allow members to make a more informed decision. Following a recommendation from the Clerk, it was PROPOSED and SECONDED the Artweeks proposal go ahead, and it was RESOLVED.
- b) Following a recommendation from the Clerk, it was PROPOSED that staff resources be allocated to enable a War Memorial Exhibition to take place in November 2022. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

### **18/6/22 Joint Local Plan Issues Consultation**

Members received and considered a consultation launched by VoWHDC with specific reference to a response drawn up and shared by Garsington Parish Council. Members agreed to support Garsington's comments and to respond along the same lines. Cllr Thomas will consult with the Clerk before Clerk draws up Faringdon Town Council's response. Faringdon Town Council's response will include reference to the following:

Crucial to have additional infrastructure and a cohesive plan in place prior to new houses being built. This should include a policy for resurfacing surrounding roads and connecting footpaths and cycle ways plus proper consideration and inclusion of:

- Employment land
- Leisure facilities
- Playing fields
- Health Infrastructure
- Building communities

**19/6/22 Items for Information Only**

Members were invited to the OALC AGM on 4<sup>th</sup> July.

**20/6/22 Correspondence**

Members NOTED a list of correspondence circulated to them up to and including 6th June 2022

**21/6/22 Action list**

Members NOTED the update.

**22/6/22 Agenda Items for the next meeting to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

Update on Members meeting Thames Water and Windrush Against Sewage Pollution.

**Meeting closed at:** 9.03pm