

FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

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Clerk: Sally Thurston



Minutes of Full Faringdon Town Council (FTC) meeting held on Monday 11th September 2023 at 7:00pm in the Jubilee Room, Pump House, Faringdon

Cllrs. present: Peter Castle (Chair)
Jane Boulton
James Famakin
Julie Farmer
Angela Finn
Alan Ford
Rufus Lunn
David Norris
Chris Palmer
Gene Webb
Mark Wild
Mike Wise

In Attendance: Sally Thurston, Town Clerk
Margaret Nairne, Town Clerk's Assistant (online)
D/Cllr Edwards
C/Cllr. Thomas
PCs Norris and Hutchings

1/8/23 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Steve Leniec and Kimberley Morgan

2/8/23 Minutes of last Meeting – Monday 10th July 2023

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11th July 2023 were signed as a correct record.

3/8/23 Declarations of Interest & requests for dispensations

None

4/8/23 Public Speaking and Question Time

Members NOTED:

- Correspondence from residents relating to concerns about the safety of the A420.
- Objections to a licence application to have a food van outside the Swan Public House. The Planning and Highways Committee will consider a response to the Vale of White Horse District Council at their meeting on 25th September 2023.

5/8/23 Items for information and action list:

Members NOTED the action list and the following items for information:

- a) Action List
- b) Broadband had now been installed in the Old Town Hall via a grant from Oxfordshire County Council

6/8/23 Correspondence

Members NOTED a list of correspondence circulated by email up to and including 11th September 2023

It was PROPOSED to bring item 14 forward to enable the police officers present to take part. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED

14/8/23 Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and 7/8/23 Reports from Outside Bodies

- a) Members received and NOTED a report on the upsurge in ASB in Faringdon. Successful measures have been taken to reduce incidents. The neighbourhood police team were thanked for their efforts.
- b) Members received and NOTED a report from Thames Valley Police

8/8/23 County Councillor's Report

Members NOTED a report from C/Cllr. Thomas.

Following a member question Cllr. Thomas agreed to investigate the status of s106 funds held by OCC for social care.

9/8/23 District Councillors' Report

Members NOTED a report from Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC) Cllr. Thomas and Cllr. Edwards

10/8/23 Chair's Activity Report

Members NOTED the Mayor's activity report.

11/8/23 Reports from Committees

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

- a) CIL/S106 Working Party Notes: 17th July 2023
- b) Finance and Audit Committee: 17th July 2023
- c) Planning & Highways: 24th July and 21st August 2023
- d) Community and Partnerships Committee: 4th September 2023

12/8/23 Clerk's Report & Schedule of Payments

- a) Cllr. Castle PROPOSED, Cllr. Finn SECONDED to approve the schedule of payments up to and including September 11th 2023, including those paid in August 2023 under delegated authority (appendix a and b). This was RESOLVED.
- b) Members NOTED Clerk's external activities to 11th September 2023.

13/8/23 Faringdon Tourist Bus

Members received and considered an update on what has been a very well received project. It was agreed that a meeting would be called once all the data for the project had been received, to determine the next steps for the bus and consider extending the pilot scheme.

15/8/23 Amenity Land in Faringdon

Members NOTED updates on:

- a) The FAZE site which will likely be declared as surplus by County Council and be sold. If this happens FTC will consider all options.
- b) The Infant School site which will likely become a SEND School. It was NOTED that there will be no obligation for the Department of Education to provide a community use MUGA on site.
- c) MUGA site

Several options were being investigated.

It was PROPOSED that the clerk do a feasibility study on purchase for community of the land available for sale in the town centre. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

It was further PROPOSED that a working party be set up to support the clerk in the study. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED. The following members were elected to serve on the working party: Cllrs. Castle, Farmer, Palmer and Wild.

16/8/23 Health provision in Faringdon

- a) Members considered a recent decision by the dental practice in Faringdon to cease NHS provision. It was PROPOSED that the clerk write a letter to the practice and the local member of parliament to express disappointment and concern about this decision. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.
- b) Members discussed the current situation regarding the medical practice. It was NOTED that numbers were rising in the practice and a move of building was necessary. The chair explained that he regularly received complaints from residents regarding difficulties in getting appointments.

17/8/23 Wessex Leisure s 106 Funding

Members NOTED notes of a meeting to discuss reallocation of funds allocated to the Wessex Leisure Centre which will not go ahead.

It was PROPOSED that the clerk continue to investigate possibilities for the use of this money and report suggestions and findings to council. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

18/8/23 Civic Regalia

- a) Members considered upgrading the regalia worn by the Deputy Mayor. It was agreed that this needed upgrading to ensure it was recognised as a chain of office.
- b) Members considered upgrading the regalia worn by the Mayor. It was agreed that this needed upgrading to ensure past Mayors names could be engraved to record history.
- c) Members considered consort badges. It was agreed that reasonably priced consort badges would ensure consorts were recognised at events.
- d) Members considered badges for past Mayors. It was agreed that reasonably priced badges would recognise the service of past Mayors.

It was PROPOSED that the clerk investigate solutions to all of the above and take a costed proposal to the Finance and Audit committee (F&A). This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

19/8/23 Councillor IT Provision

Members considered IT provision for councillors. It was agreed that councillors needed efficient and effective IT to carry out their roles. It was PROPOSED that it be recommended to F&A that the unspent election reserve be allocated for this purpose. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED. It was further PROPOSED That the clerk obtain three quotes for small laptops for each councillor to recommend to F&A. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

20/8/23 South Central Probation Unpaid Work Consultation Survey 2023

Members discussed the survey and PROPOSED the clerk be delegated o respond on behalf of the council. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

21/8/23 National Association of Local Councils

Members considered putting candidates forward to stand in the NALC Larger Council Committee. It was PROPOSED that Cllr. Lunn be approved to stand if he wished to do so following receipt of full information. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED.

22/8/23 Landscape Character Assessment

Members considered a response to a study launched to better understand, protect and enhance the unique landscapes across Vale of White Horse. It was PROPOSED that a council response was no necessary. This was SECONDED and RESOLVED. Members were invited to respond as individuals.

23/8/23 Agenda Items for the next meeting

Poor servicing of bins across the town was considered as an item but it was agreed to refer this to VoWHDC.

Meeting closed at: 8.50pm

Appendix A. Schedule of Payments		Aug-23	
Salaries	Salaries	£	15,849.96
HMRC	Tax and NI	£	3,436.50
OCC Pension CONTS	Pension Contributions	£	5,161.19
Bacs payments made early			
Piano Gallery	Piano repair	£	180.00
R Burns	Pink Plaques grant	£	16.20
Orafin	Painting and planting Bursary	£	200.00
Faringdon Coffee Shup	Painting and planting Bursary	£	200.00
N Henshaw	Bench Project - Research and design	£	2,000.00
Bacs payments			
B Hayter	Mileage	£	3.51
P Kinch	Plant hire	£	21.54
Seldram	Cleaning Supplies	£	26.46
K Dyche	Mileage and expenses	£	38.31
AIS Ltd	Copier Costs	£	48.55
K & N Dyche	Agency	£	88.20
Filmbank	Licence	£	104.40
OALC	Cllr. Ford/Farmer Training	£	138.00
Faringdon Community Choir	Agency	£	150.00
Leaseplan	Van Lease	£	152.53
ROSPA	Inspections	£	184.20
Elan City	SID fixings	£	201.82
James Hallam	Building Valuations	£	378.00
SLCC	Conference	£	452.00
TVE	Backpack Blower	£	528.00
Bromsgrove Day Centre	Grant	£	1,684.00
Faringdon Netball Club	Grant	£	2,000.00
Folly Tower Trust	Grant	£	3,000.00
Spurgeons	Family Services	£	5,741.85
Cloudy IT	IT Services Annual Fee	£	7,332.34
Direct Debits			
Coop Bank	Credit Card Repay	£	303.82
Lloyds Bank	Debit Card Repay	£	-
VWHDC	CEX Rates	£	812.00
VWHDC	PH rates	£	274.00
CF Corporate	Copier Lease	£	198.25
Fuel Card Services	Fuel	£	180.32
Screwfix	Maintenance	£	8.18
Total Energies	PH Gas	£	222.90
Smartest Energy	PH Electricity	£	105.36
British Gas	CEX Gas	£	72.26
O2	Mobiles	£	41.31
Mainstream	Telephone and Broadband	£	185.64
British Gas	CEX Gas	£	74.59
British Gas	CEX Electricity	£	252.65
Total Energies	OTH Electricity	£	1,463.41
Total Energies	PH Gas	£	699.05
Smartest Energy	PH Electricity	£	97.69
British Gas	CEX Gas	£	74.59
Barclaycard	Merchant fees	£	59.83
Total Town Council Invoices		£	54,443.41

Appendix B. Schedule of Payments		Sep-23	
Salaries	Salaries	£	15,510.05
HMRC	Tax and NI	£	3,504.65
OCC Pension CONTS	Pension Contributions	£	5,087.92
Bacs payments			
Caterton TC	Mayors event	£	10.00
The Place	Agency	£	22.00
M Bond	Agency	£	22.50
M Bradley	Agency	£	22.50
H Martin	Agency	£	24.75
K Dyche	Agency	£	27.00
Go Tell the Bees	Agency	£	27.00
AIS Ltd	Copier Costs	£	34.51
L Hounam	Agency	£	39.60
A Saunders	Agency	£	48.60
P Wheeler	Agency	£	60.75
C Purdy	Agency	£	65.25
M Makes	Agency	£	75.60
S Irigoyen	Agency	£	81.00
J Puddifoot	Agency	£	90.00
TVE	Oil and strimmer line	£	90.10
Film Bank	Licence	£	104.40
J Cole	Agency	£	104.85
National Trust	Allotment Rent	£	147.50
Leaseplan	Van Lease	£	152.53
J Fennelly	Agency	£	190.80
Folly and Wild	Agency	£	200.25
Alpha Graphics	Stock	£	208.20
Southfield	Stock	£	248.83
B&W Lifts	Lift Service	£	252.00
So Pure	Agency	£	271.78
L Whitney	Agency	£	297.00
Pyrotech	Fire Safety	£	500.40
Uffington Potter	Agency	£	673.20
FCB	Agency	£	773.00
Faringdon Electrical	Services	£	908.24
PPLPRS	PRSPPS Licence	£	1,398.36
Soundsmith	Cinema Projector	£	7,573.20
Direct Debits			
Coop Bank	Credit Card Repay	£	186.33
Lloyds Bank	Debit Card Repay	£	-
VWHDC	CEX Rates	£	812.00
VWHDC	PH rates	£	274.00
Total energies	OTH Electricity	£	61.87
Total energies	OTH Electricity	£	2,361.17
British Gas	CEX Gas	£	74.59
Smartest Energy	PH Electricity	£	86.74
Castle Water	FTFC Water	£	33.01
Veolia	Waste	£	147.65
British Gas	CEX Electricity	£	178.91
Fuel Card Services	Fuel	£	73.34
Mainstream Digital	Telephone and broadband	£	218.33
PWLB	Loan payment	£	3,031.84
O2	Mobiles	£	47.32
Total Town Council Invoices		£	46,435.42