



FLEET TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

held on

Wednesday 1st February 2023 at 7pm

PRESENT

Councillors: R. Schofield (Chairman), G. Chenery, K. Cottrell, P. Einchcomb, S. Engström (arrived during item 7), R. Fang, L. Holt, E. May, A. Oliver, R. Richmond, R. Robinson, S. Tilley, P. Wildsmith, B. Willcocks and G. Woods.

Also Present: Rochelle Halliday – Executive Officer
Councillor Adrian Collett – HCC
Councillor Steve Forster – HCC (left after item 5)
Councillor Stephen Parker – HCC
Representative of Friends of Oakley Park

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Members received and accepted apologies from Cllr Sharma Krishnmurthy due to a work commitment. Cllr Hope was absent. Cllr Engström had provided previous notification of her late arrival due to a HDC training course.

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Oliver declared an interest in Item 14 – Contractual Matters, as a Member of Hart District Council.

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 3 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from the public. The representative from Friends of Oakley Park thanked FTC for the newly installed trim trail at Oakley Park stating it has been well received and used since the installation.

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 4 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr Schofield reported his attendance during the period as follows:

- Attended a HDAPTC meeting with Cllr Einchcomb.
- A meeting on The Harlington Lease at HDC with the Executive Officer.
- The Vision meeting on 18th January, notes from this meeting will be issued prior to the second session on 22nd February.

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 5 HCC/HDC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr Forster gave an update on general matters of interest.

School Strikes

Just under half of schools were open in the area as a result of the recent industrial action.

Rail Land Slip at Hook

A stakeholder meeting was held last week.

Antisocial Behaviour

A dispersal order has been put in place to address the antisocial behaviour in the High Street.

Potholes

A survey has been conducted and some potholes have had temporary repairs. The bad weather has exacerbated the issue and is being followed up.

Roads

The roadworks on Fleet Dip will continue as more CCTV investigations are required. It is not yet been established whether this work will be conducted by the utility company or HCC.

Cllr Forster urged everyone to report severe potholes.

Cllr Collet advised on the following matter.

Cove Road Waterworks

The roadworks will start again next week for approximately one week, to enable the pipes to be connected together. Temporary traffic lights will be in place. It is anticipated that the noise levels of the works will not be as significant as previously experienced.

Cllr Parker advised on general matters of interest.

County Deal

The County Deal proposal for a directly elected leader has been submitted to Central Government and there has been an encouraging response so far.

S106 Funds

A successful meeting was held with the Queen Elizabeth Barracks working party regarding the use of Crookham Park S106 funds for highway improvements/crossings. There is £3m in the fund for highway improvements.

20mph Limit

A Member asked for an update on the 20MPH consultation. Cllr Parker replied that it will be considered by HCC in June.

Cllr Schofield thanked Cllr Forster for his support of the provision of new equipment for the Fleet SpeedWatch.

Cllr Oliver reported on the following issues.

Traffic and On-Street Parking Agency Agreement

The Traffic and On-Street Parking agency agreement will transfer from HDC to HCC during March, to take effect in April. HDC highways staff will be transferring to HCC.

Thermal Imaging Camera

A purchase order has been completed. Fleet Town Council and Hook have agreed to be part of the trial.

Cllr Forster left the meeting at 7.30pm.

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 6

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED

The minutes of the Council held on Wednesday 4th January 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following amendments:

- Page 1, Present – amend C Cottrell to K. Cottrell.
- Item 5, Page 2 - amend traffic lights to streetlights.

- Item 9, Page 4 - remove 2023 from the April RPI.

The Council received and noted the minutes of the following Committees:

RLA (inc. Confidential)
Development Control

21st December 2022
9th January & 2nd January 2023

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 7 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT - FLEET LINK FARES

Members reviewed a revised proposal, Option C, from Hampshire County Council for the Fleet Link bus fares. The proposal now allows for the phasing of the fare increases at a slower rate until October 2024. The single fare will also be removed.

Cllr Woods provided background information from the meeting held with HCC on 11th January 2023.

Cllr Engström arrived at 7.40pm.

Members discussed the option of bus sponsorship in the future and some concerns were raised, although the matter is being driven by financial uncertainty.

RESOLVED

Members approved the Fleet Link bus fare proposal Option C and agreed for this option to be funded from the Council's share of the contract surplus.

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 8 ANNUAL RESIDENTS' MEETING

Members considered the format and content for the Annual Residents' Meeting on 21st March 2023. A request was received to have the meeting live streamed, if possible.

The final agenda will be shared at the next meeting and the meeting will be promoted via social media.

RESOLVED

- a) That the format and content for the Annual Residents' Meeting were approved as presented, subject to adding a public Q & A section straight after the Annual Review. A general Q & A section will still take place at the end.
- b) That Cllr Schofield and Cllr Tilley will be the presenters at the Annual Residents' Meeting and that guest speakers will also be invited from the community.

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 9 ACTION DAY

Members considered the proposed date for the Action Day on 29th April 2023. Members discussed if there was any conflict with the pre-election period for holding a public event that day. It is to be noted that this is not an election year for Fleet Town Council, however, the Council does have Members who are also elected Members of HDC. **Action: Executive Officer** to verify with the Monitoring Officer at HDC.

Members who are also members of a political party were instructed that there should be no promotion regarding the Action Day on social or other media, including photographs.

Members noted that the Action Day will be promoted at the Annual Resident's meeting.

RESOLVED

Members agreed that the Action Day will take place on Saturday, 29th April 2023, 9.30am to 12.00pm on and around the High Street subject to confirmation from HDC that it does not contravene the pre-election period rules.

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 10 VISION DAY

Members noted the brief update following the first Vision Day session. Members were urged to submit input if unable to attend the next session but encouraged to attend. A report will be issued prior to the next Vision Day session on 22nd February 2023.

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 11 COMPLAINTS

Members noted that one complaint had been received and that the matter is under consideration by the HDC Monitoring Officer.

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 12 EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

Members received and noted the Executive Officer’s report.

The schools climate change competition to be organised by the Council was discussed. It was suggested that Cllr Cottrell contacts Stephanie King at HDC regarding additional support for the competition.

Cllr May requested that if the winning entry is a piece of artwork, for it to be considered as part of the Ancells Farm Pavilion mural.

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of the Council is on Wednesday 1st March 2023 at 7pm in The Function Room of The Harlington.

FC FEBRUARY 2023 ITEM 14 CONTRACTUAL MATTERS

The Chairman stated the reasons that this item needed to be confidential.

RESOLVED

That subject to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Exclusion of the public in accordance with Section 1(2) and by reason of the confidential nature of the business of the Town Council, the Public and Press will be excluded from the Meeting.

All members of the public left and the remainder of the meeting was conducted in confidential session.

The meeting closed at 9.04pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....

Chairman