



FLEET TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING

held on
Wednesday 6th April 2022
in the Harlington

PRESENT

Councillors: B. Schofield (Chairman), G. Chenery, P. Einchcomb, R. Fang, L. Holt, A. Hope, K. Kuntikanamata, K. Jasper, A. Oliver, R. Richmond, R. Robinson, S. Tilley, P. Wildsmith, B. Willcocks, G. Woods, J. Wright.

Also Present: Janet Stanton – Town Clerk
Susanna Walker – Committee Clerk
Wendy Allen – Office Manager
Councillor Steve Forster – HCC
Councillor Katie Davies – HDC
Councillor Adrian Collett – HCC

FC April 2022 ITEM 1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Chairman welcomed all members to the last meeting of the 2018-2022 Council. Members received and accepted apologies for absence from Councillor Wheale, due to ill health.

FC April 2022 ITEM 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

FC April 2022 ITEM 3 **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from the public.

FC April 2022 ITEM 4 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman updated members on the following:

- **Annual Resident's Meeting**
 - Around 90 residents attended.
 - A good selection of presentations and Geoff Baker's honorary award was well received.
- **Oakley Park, Friends of Group AGM**
 - The group have continued to be active and have a full schedule of events.
 - Thanks given to Mike Bye and his team of volunteers who contribute to the high standard of the park and its facilities.
- **Sasha's Project First Anniversary Celebration**
 - This was well attended.
 - Thanks given to the team of trained volunteers who are on hand to deal with young people with mental health issues.
- **Police**
 - Councillor Woods and Councillor Schofield both attended a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner Donna Jones.
 - Discussions were held regarding policing structure, police numbers and communications.

- **New Fleet Town Market**
 - Launched on Saturday 2nd April 2022.
 - It was highly successful and well attended, which hopefully demonstrates the broader benefit of a successful market.
 - Thanks given to Councillor Richmond, Councillor Willcocks and Councillor Butcher.
- **Fleet BID Renewal Referendum**
 - The referendum was successful, and the BID will now run until 2027.
 - 54% of the respondents voted yes, with one voting no which significantly influenced the outcome.
 - Best wishes are given to the new BID team when they are appointed.
- **Jubilee Committee**
 - Support needed as Marshalls to assist with traffic and visitor control.
- **County Councils Parish and Town Council Event**
 - One major topic was devolution and the recognition that the money needs to go with any devolved services.
- **SIDS**
 - The SIDS board result for Basingbourne Road was that the 85thile speed was 31mph.
 - There was a week's break in the readings and an adjustment in the display. It no longer shows the actual speed over 35mph, but actual speeds are still recorded.
 - Currently exploring whether the boards can record speed without any display.
- **Local Government**
 - The report on the Jackie Weaver affair was published last week.
 - It was noted that, as pointed out by the chairman of the Parish Council, Ms Weaver had no authority at that meeting to control proceedings.
 - Officers are employed to implement the resolutions of the Councillors.
- **Re-standing as a Town Councillor**
 - 1 contested election in Pondtail Ward.
 - Across all the other Wards, there are 3 vacancies.

FC April 2022 ITEM 5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Members received and approved as a correct record the minutes and Confidential Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd March 2022. The Chairman signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting, subject to the following amendments:

- Councillor Hope is recorded as both attending and sending apologies for the meeting. Councillor Hope's name was removed from Councillors attending.

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

RLA	16 th March 2022
Development Control	28 th February 2022
	14 th March 2022

It was noted that in future minutes, the chairman's name should be recorded.

FC April 2022 ITEM 6 FINANCIAL MONITORING

Members received and noted the following:

1.
 - a. The bank reconciliation for February 2022
 - b. The list of receipts for February 2022
 - c. The list of payments for February 2022
2. Councillor Robinson confirmed that the bank statements match the reconciliation, and he has signed the bank statements and payment schedules.

RESOLVED

Members accepted and approved into the minutes:

1. a. The bank reconciliation for February 2022
b. The list of receipts for February 2022
c. The list of payments for February 2022
2. To accept Councillor Robinson's confirmation that the bank reconciliation for February 2022 equals zero, and the bank statements match the reconciliation.

FC April 2022 ITEM 7 CEMETERY PRICE LIST 2022/2023

Members were made aware that at the RLA Meeting on 16th March 2022, it was **RESOLVED**:

1. To approve the Cemetery Fees for 2022/2023.
2. To approve the Garden of Remembrance Fees for 2022/2023 with the following amendments:
 - There is to be no increase in the resident's fees, therefore the Garden of Remembrance fees for a Fleet resident remain as the current price.
 - The Garden of Remembrance fees for a non-resident be increased as proposed.

Members received new Cemetery Fees and Garden of Remembrance Fees 2022/2023, with the updated amendments and discussed the following:

- Amend the title that reads "Reduction for Fleet Town Council resident" to **Reduced Fees for Fleet Town Council resident**.
- Amend the title that reads "50% Reduction in fees for Fleet Town Council resident" to **Reduced Fees for Fleet Town Council resident**.
- Non-resident fee is higher in the cemetery, due to the ongoing grounds maintenance. FTC residents already contribute to this through their council tax.
- Any profit from the cemetery goes back into the cemetery maintenance.
- Monies will need to be put aside for the future. The cemetery will become a closed cemetery at some point, due to limited space for new graves. The council will only be able to offer spaces in the Garden of Remembrance.
- Cemetery paths will need to be resurfaced in the future.

Members **RESOLVED** to

Approve the recommendation of the Recreation, Leisure and Amenities Committee to:

1. approve the Cemetery Fees for 2022/2023.
2. approve the Garden of Remembrance Fees for 2022/2023.

subject to the two amendments:

- Amend the title that reads 50% reduction in fees for Fleet Town Council resident to **Reduced Fees for Fleet Town Council resident**.
- Amend the title that reads Reduction for Fleet Town Council resident to **Reduced Fees for Fleet Town Council resident**.

FC April 2022 ITEM 8 DATE OF NEXT ACTION DAY

Members noted that the proposed date of the next Annual Action Day is to be held on Saturday 28th May 2022 at 09:30 – 12.00midday. Members also noted that volunteers are needed to take part and that all Councillors are encouraged to keep the day free and to communicate the event to residents, family and friends.

Members were made aware that the exact numbers of people attending is not known until the day, and age appropriate activities are distributed accordingly.

RESOLVED

That the Action Day takes place on Saturday 28th May 2022 at 09:30 – 12.00midday.

Members noted that at the RLA Meeting on 16th March 2022, it was **RESOLVED**:

1. To determine that the FTC parks should not be used for private events which are not open to the whole community.
2. To amend the Civic Events policy in line with the decision of the Council and bring to Council in April 2022.

Members received and considered the amendments to the Open Air Civic Events Policy and discussed the following:

- The difference between community groups and residents holding events in the FTC parks.
- Individual events are classified as private events, which therefore exclude members of the public.

Members agreed the following amendments to the Open Air Civic Events Policy:

- 4.5 *Not to permit more than five events in Calthorpe Park in any one calendar year* should now be:
4.4.1 Not to permit more than five events in Calthorpe Park in any one calendar year
- 4.6 *Not to allow any event on Calthorpe Park to continue beyond 9:30pm* should now be:
4.4.2 Not to allow any event on Calthorpe Park to continue beyond 9:30pm
- 7 has been updated to
7 The Council will not generally support any events that include balloons, lanterns etc. being released into the atmosphere.
- 8 has been updated to
8 The Council will not allow the parks to be used or hired out for private parties / events which are not open to the local community groups.

RESOLVED

To approve the Open Air Civic Events Policy with the updated amendments:

- 4.4.1 Not to permit more than five events in Calthorpe Park in any one calendar year
- 4.4.2 Not to allow any event on Calthorpe Park to continue beyond 9:30pm
- 7 The Council will not generally support any events that include balloons, lanterns etc. being released into the atmosphere.
- 8 The Council will not allow the parks to be used or hired out for private parties / events which are not open to the local community groups.

Members were made aware that the Council regularly reviews Standing Orders and asked to consider whether the existing FTC Standing Orders and Financial Regulations should be subject to any revisions. Members noted that any type in bold are ones that must be included into the Standing Orders.

Members noted that any suggested revisions should be submitted to the Town Clerk by Friday 22nd April 2022 for consideration by Annual Council Meeting on 18th May 2022.

RESOLVED

Members to submit any suggested revisions to the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations to the Town Clerk by Friday 22nd April 2022 for inclusion in the final copy to be considered at the Annual Council Meeting on 18th May 2022.

FC April 2022 ITEM 11 FLEET HALF MARATHON

Members received and noted a letter of thanks from Penny Abbott, Race Director - Fleet Half Marathon.

FC April 2022 ITEM 12 COMPLAINTS

Members noted that no complaints had been recorded since the last meeting.

FC April 2022 ITEM 13 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Members received and noted the following updates from the Town Clerk:

- Christmas Lights
 - Contract tender goes out this week.
 - Councillors are invited to help evaluate the tenders on Tuesday 3rd May 2022.
 - This will then be taken to the Annual Council Meeting in May for approval.
- Refreshment Kiosk in Calthorpe Park
- Platinum Jubilee Bench
 - The proposed location by Basingbourne Canal requires a certain type of bench.
 - The Fleet & Church Crookham Society would like the bench on FTC land.
 - Proposed locations include: the Sensory Garden in the Views or by the Oatsheaf pub.

FC April 2022 ITEM 14 HCC/HDC

Councillor Forster discussed the following points:

- Grants
 - Majority of County Councillor grants have been allocated to local organisations, with any remaining going to support Ukraine.
- Queen's Green Canopy Initiative
- Speed Limits in Fleet
- Heatherside School to be a pilot for a sustainability scheme
- Work on Hitches Lane
- Ukraine Support

Councillor Collett reported on the following:

- Ancells Farm overgrown vegetation has been cleared by Highways.
- Fleet Golf Club ground survey.
- Highway trees available to be planted from Hampshire Highways.

Councillor Oliver updated members on the following:

- Bus Improvement Fund.

Councillor Davies noted the following:

- Fleet Action Day.
- Civic Quarter Regeneration.
 - Public engagement to be held between 16th – 18th June 2022.

FC April 2022 ITEM 15 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The date and time of the next meeting of the Council is on Wednesday 18th May 2022 at 19.00 in the Harlington.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman

Part 3 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Under 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 were excluded from the Meeting.

Members discussed the confidential minutes from the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd March 2022.