



**FLEET TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING**

held on

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

**PRESENT**

**Councillors:** R. Schofield (Chairman), G. Carpenter, G. Chenery, P. Einchcomb, R. Harrison, R. Hill, L. Holt, K. Jasper, A. Oliver, D. Pierce, R. Richmond, R. Robinson, S. Tilley, P. Wildsmith, G. Woods, J. Wright.

**Also Present:** Janet Stanton - Town Clerk  
Susanna Walker - Committee Clerk  
Charlotte Benham - Project and Committee Officer  
Councillor John Bennison - HCC  
Councillor Steve Forster - HCC  
Councillor Wendy Makepeace-Brown – HCC

**FC March 2021 ITEM 1                      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

**FC March 2021 ITEM 2                      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Chenery declared an interest in Item 5 – Fleet Town Football Club.

**FC March 2021 ITEM 3                      QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from the public.

Members were made aware that HCC/HDC Update has been moved to the Items to Note section, giving opportunity for all formal business of the Council which relies on Council decisions to take priority.

Councillor Schofield updated members on the following:

- **Fleet Pond Society AGM.**
  - 55 attendees online.
  - Zoom voting used successfully during the meeting.
- **Microsoft Teams.**
  - FTC to trial poll voting during virtual meetings.
- **HVA AGM**
- **NALC Webinar**
- **British Legion War Memorial Centenary Meeting.**
- **Fleet BID Board Meeting**
  - Support for Christmas Lights down to the station.

## FC March 2021 ITEM 4

## MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Members received and approved as a correct record the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021. Members also received and approved the confidential minutes of the Council Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

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

RLA	16 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
Establishment	13 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
Establishment – Confidential	13 <sup>th</sup> January 2021
Policy & Finance	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
Development Control	8 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2021

## FC March 2021 ITEM 5

## FLEET TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Further to the Council Meeting of May 2020, members resolved:

*“That Fleet Town Football Club rental payments be deferred for 6 months, with a review to be held at Council after that period”.*

Members were reminded of Fleet Town Football Club's (FTFC) original request:

*“As the club has no guaranteed source of income for the foreseeable future and very limited reserves, would the Council be prepared to defer all rental payments until such time as the club is financially able to make them again?”.*

Members reconsidered and reviewed this, and discussed the matters below following an update from Councillor Woods:

- FTFC had their first management committee meeting in a year.
- FTC met with the treasurer.
- Concern with the stability of the club management and finance.
- FTFC have recently received a £10,000.00 grant.
- There are several maintenance issues and grounds repairs.
- FTFC would like to renegotiate a long-term lease to enable additional funding.
- Current football season will not start until September 2021.
- FTFC to join the Combination County League.
- FTFC rent to be deferred for 6 months and then restart in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the financial year 2021/2022.
- Subject to one condition that FTFC agree to resolve the floodlight issue by the time the season starts.
- Agreement of terms to focus on FTFC as a community group and awareness of residents around the football club.
- FTFC to become a company without guarantee, subject to approval at the AGM in March 2021.

Following this, members discussed the following:

- Sustainability of FTFC.
- FTC to have access to FTFC accounts.
- The word deferral infers that FTFC will back pay the unpaid rent.
  - Amend the word defer to cancel.
- FTFC will not have paid any rent for the financial year 2020/2021.
- Ideal to receive a report with accurate financial information.

Following the discussion, it was proposed that FTC waive FTFC rent from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. The Lease Working Group together with the Council's Representatives on the FTFC will then review FTFC finances, rent and lease and present a full report to the Annual Council Meeting in May 2021, to be reviewed alongside all other tenants.

Members **RESOLVED** that

Fleet Town Council will waive Fleet Town Football Club's rental charge for the financial year 2020/2021. The Lease Working Group together with the Council's Representatives on the FTFC will produce a full report to be brought to Council at the Annual Council Meeting in May 2021, to review the rent position with Fleet Town Football Club for the next financial year 2021/2022.

## **FC March 2021 ITEM 6**

## **HCC / HDC UPDATE**

### **HCC / HDC**

Councillor Bennison reported on the following:

- **Retirement of John Coughlan, CEO of HCC.**
  - Replacement process to be completed after the elections in May 2021.
- **Fly Tipping.**
  - Rise in reported cases.
- **Road Funding.**
  - Funding from Central Government has decreased by 25% to £38.8million.
- **Solar Panels.**
  - Grant of £30million available for 350 sites across the county, including schools and council buildings.
- **Bus Passes.**
  - HCC Bus Pass cannot be used before 0930 from 08.03.2021, due to schools going back.
- **Secondary Schools.**
  - 90% of children have got their first choice of school.
  - 98% of children have got their preferred choice of school.
- **Flooding.**
  - Dinorban Avenue work to start on 08.03.2021.
- **Watery Lane.**
  - Redfields Lane reopen.
  - 2nd planning application for roundabout has been turned down.
  - 1st planning application to be reviewed by the end of March.

Councillor Forster updated members on the following:

- **Fly Tipping.**
  - HDC cases reduced by 25% in 2020, from 568 to 425.
- **COVID Vaccinations.**
  - 96% of over 80s have been vaccinated in the local area.
  - Proposed increase from 1200 to 3000 vaccinations a week.
- **Calthorpe Park School.**
  - 47% of the project is completed.
  - 70% of internal works completed.
  - Consultation with parents and school regarding congestion and traffic flow improvements.
  - New crossing and cycle route.

Councillor Makepeace-Browne reported on the following:

- **Civic Regeneration.**
  - Public engagement to take place after elections in May 2021.
  - HDC to set up a webpage to update residents on Civic Regeneration.
- **Fly Tipping.**
  - Cardboard waste in Church Road car park to be cleared.
  - Prosecutions.
- **COVID Vaccinations.**
  - Success of The Harlington.

**FC March 2021 ITEM 7****HARLINGTON UPDATE**

Members noted that FTC had a meeting with HDC to discuss the current version of the Harlington Lease. The lease is currently with HDC legal advisors and the Harlington Working Group will meet to discuss the draft lease once it has been reviewed. Members noted that future negotiations will continue with Councillor Radley and Gabrielle Ellen, who is taking over from Glyn Lloyd.

**FC March 2021 ITEM 8 & 9****ANNUAL RESIDENT'S MEETING & WAR MEMORIAL CENTENARY CELEBRATION**

Councillor Schofield proposed the discussion of both Item 8 – Annual Resident's Meeting & Item 9 – War Memorial Centenary Celebration at this point. Members were reminded that at the Council meeting in February, members discussed and agreed a small budget for an external film company to film a video for the War Memorial Centenary Celebration.

Members were made aware that a local film company in Fleet were excited to be involved in a community project and had agreed to film both the video for the War Memorial Centenary Celebration and the Annual Resident's Meeting in May 2021. It was noted that the company will provide an amount of funding towards this, and the cost for both videos was within the budget set by FTC.

**FC March 2021 ITEM 10****FLEET TOWN COUNCIL - COVID19 RECOVERY**

Members received an update from the Town Clerk on the COVID19 recovery at FTC. Members noted the following:

- **Vaccinations.**
  - There have been approximately 2400 people vaccinated at The Harlington in the last 2 weeks.
  - The government have requested further use of The Harlington past the current agreed date of 30th June 2021.
  - Special thanks given to all the doctors, staff, volunteers, and clinicians.
  - The Harlington to return to its usual business in September 2021.

**FC March 2021 ITEM 11****TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

Members received and noted an update from the Town Clerk. The following matters were discussed:

- **Grants.**
  - Potential government grants available for local communities to buy local assets.
- **Farnham Infrastructure.**
  - Consultant's communication regarding Farnham town infrastructure and its links to surrounding communities.
  - Deadline for any suggestions and comments is 14th March 2021.
- **Fly Tipping.**
  - Fly-tipping is increasing on FTC land
  - Not included in local data due to FTC's responsibility to clear up own land.

**FC March 2021 ITEM 12****COMPLAINTS**

Members noted that there have been no new complaints received since the last meeting.

**FC March 2021 ITEM 13****DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The date and time of the next virtual meeting of the Council is scheduled for Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 19.00.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.30.

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.**

**FC March 2021 ITEM 14****STAFFING**

Members discussed and approved the confidential recommendation put forward by the Establishment Committee at its meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021.