



FARNHAM TOWN COUNCIL

A

Minutes Council

Time and date

7.00pm on Thursday 9 December 2010

Place

The Council Chamber, South Street, Farnham

- * Cllr J Ward (Town Mayor)
- * Cllr G Hargreaves (Deputy Town Mayor)
- * Cllr D Attfield
- * Cllr G Beel
- o Cllr C Cockburn
- * Cllr V Duckett
- o Cllr (Mrs) P Frost
- o Cllr R Frost
- * Cllr L Fleming
- * Cllr C Genziani
- * Cllr S Hill
- * Cllr D Le Gal
- o Cllr A Lovell
- * Cllr J Maines
- * Cllr S O'Grady
- o Cllr R Steel
- * Cllr C Storey
- o Cllr A Thorp

- * Present
- o Apologies for absence

Officers Present:

Robert Burn (Acting Town Clerk)

Ginny Gordon (Town Clerk's PA) (taking the recording of the meeting)

The proceedings of the meeting of Farnham Town Council held on Thursday 9 December 2010 were digitally recorded for Council purposes only.

QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

There were no questions by the public.

C 097/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cockburn, Mrs P Frost, R Frost, Lovell, Steel and Thorp.

C 098/10 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Farnham Town Council Meeting held on Thursday 21 October 2010 were signed by the Town Mayor as a correct record.

C 099/10 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Name of Councillor	Agenda/Minute Number	Subject	Type of Interest	Reason
S O'Grady	Agenda Item 13	Staffing Situation	Personal	Wife employed by Council

C 100/10 STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

There were no statements by the public.

C 101/10 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor announced that he had attended the Carols for Good Causes event at the Farnham Maltings.

The Town Mayor also attended this year's Poppy Launch near Dorking.

The Remembrance Day service was attended by the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey who was very complimentary about the organisation of the event

The Town Mayor had attended Bonfire Night and the Venison Dinner.

The Town Mayor had also attended the funeral of Major Bryan Sell, a former Town Mayor.

The Town Mayor had attended the Farnham Volunteers' and Assist concert at St Andrew's Church.

The Town Mayor had taken part in packing up shoe boxes and sending them to children around the world.

The Town Mayor had attended the switch on of the Christmas lights in the town.

The Town Mayor referred to the visit of the Countess of Wessex to the Abbey School.

The Town Mayor also reminded Members that the final Farmers' Market for the year was taking place on 12 December.

Part I – Items for Decision

C 102/10 FARNHAM TOWN COUNCIL DRAFT BUDGET 2011/2012

Members received a report and recommendations from the Corporate Development and Audit Working Group on the Draft budget for 2011/2012.

Cllr Fleming, as Lead Member of the Corporate Development and Audit Working Group introduced the draft Budget for 2011/2012.

Cllr Fleming explained the main changes in the 2011/2012 Budget from the previous year's Budget. The shortfall was due mainly to a drop in investment income and also income from the use of burial services.

Cllr Maines asked questions relating to the rates paid on the office building and whether the loan from the Public Works Loan Board had been repaid. Cllr. Le Gal asked for a breakdown of the loan figures. (The loan has not been repaid and the matter is due to be considered by the Corporate Development and Audit Working Group.)

Cllr Storey asked question about the status of the building handover, the burials service and Christmas lights.

Cllr Fleming stated that if any further changes to the draft budget were needed they would be reported back to the Council at its next meeting in January.

RESOLVED: to agree the Draft Budget for 2011/2012.

Cllr. Fleming also referred Members to the interim management letter received from the internal auditors which was referred to in the notes of the Corporate Development and Audit Working Group on the agenda. The letter needed to be approved by the Council and copies were circulated.

RESOLVED: to note and accept the interim management letter and that the relevant points contained therein be addressed.

C 103/10 HERITAGE OPEN DAYS – ADMINISTRATION

Members considered two letters received from the Farnham Society concerning the organisation of the Heritage Open Days in 2011. The Society were suggesting that although they would continue to work in partnership with the Council the administration of the Open Days should be carried out by the Council in future.

Cllr. O'Grady stated that the Council was not in a position to take on the administrative burden of organising the Heritage Open Days but was willing to continue to work with the Farnham Society.

RESOLVED: that the Farnham Society be advised that the Council is not in a position to take on the administrative burden of organising the Heritage Open Days but is willing to continue to work with the Farnham Society in the organisation of the events.

Part 2 – Items Noted

C 104/10 **WORKING GROUP NOTES**

Members received the notes from the Cemeteries and Appeals Working Group held on 3 November 2010 – copy of notes **attached to record minutes**.

Members received the notes from the Farnham in Bloom Working Group held on 8 November 2010 – copy of notes **attached to record minutes**.

Cllr. Hargreaves as Lead Member of the Farnham in Bloom Working Group stated that a new group called Farnham in Bloom Community Group had been set up to try and address the need for a better community spirit in Farnham. Cllr. Hargreaves also referred to a recent competition in the schools to design the best litter poster.

Members received the notes from the Tourism and Events Working Group held on 18 October 2010 – copy of notes **attached to record minutes**.

Cllr. O’Grady as Lead Member of the Tourism and Events Working Group thanked all those who were involved in the Christmas lights switch on and welcomed the involvement of the local TA.

Members received the notes from the Corporate Development and Audit Working Group held on 15 November 2010 – copy of notes **attached to record minutes**.

C 105/10 **REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

There were no reports from outside bodies.

C 106/10 **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Members received the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Consultative Group held on the 11 November 2010.

RESOLVED: That the observations made by the Planning Consultative Group held on 11 November 2010 and dealt with in accordance with delegated authority, be noted.

C 107/10 **CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS**

The Council noted that the Town Council offices will be closed from 5pm on 23 December 2010 and will re-open at 9am on 4 January 2011.

C 108/10 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Members noted that the date of the next Council Meeting was Thursday 20 January 2011 at 7pm in the Council Chamber.

C 109/10 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: That in view of the confidential nature of business to be transacted at Agenda Item 13, Staffing Situation, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw at the end of Item 12.

Part 3 – Confidential Items

C 110/10 STAFFING SITUATION

Members considered the staffing situation.

The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8.40.

Date

Chairman