

FARNHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 6th JULY, 2006, AT 7.00PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SOUTH STREET, FARNHAM

- * Cllr D J Attfield (Town Mayor)
 - * Cllr C G Genziani (Deputy Town Mayor)
 - o Cllr P G Burden OBE
 - * Cllr M A Clark
 - * Cllr C A Cockburn
 - * Cllr S Farrow
 - * Cllr (Mrs) P M Frost
 - * Cllr R D Frost
 - * Cllr J M Harris
 - o Cllr S A G Lang
 - * Cllr J E Maines
 - * Cllr (Mrs) A E Mansell MBE
 - * Cllr C H Mansell
 - * Cllr P G Marriott
 - * Cllr (Mrs) P M Marriott
 - * Cllr M W Norris
 - * Cllr (Mrs) S Scrivens
 - o Cllr V K Scrivens
-
- * Present
 - o Apologies for absence

C 086/06 QUESTIONS BY THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public who wished to ask a question of the Council.

C 087/06 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor P G Burden, Councillor S A G Lang and Councillor V K Scrivens.

C 088/06 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th May, 2006, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

C 089/06 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Name of Councillor	Agenda/ Minute No.	Subject	Type of Interest	Reason
M A Clark	9	Grants	Personal	Farnham Town Council's representative on the Maltings Association
S Farrow	10	Wrecclesham Community Centre	Personal	Farnham Town Council's representative.
(Mrs) P M Frost	7	Waste Minimisation	Personal	Surrey County Councillor
(Mrs) P M Frost	8	Proposed Farnham HOPPA	Personal	Waverley Borough Councillor & Surrey County Councillor
(Mrs) P M Frost	10	Wrecclesham Community Centre	Personal/ Prejudicial	Member of Management Committee.
R D Frost	7	Waste Minimisation	Personal	Wife is a Surrey County Councillor
R D Frost	8	Proposed Farnham HOPPA	Personal	Waverley Borough Councillor
R D Frost	10	Wrecclesham Community Centre	Personal/ Prejudicial	Wife is on the Management committee and Friend and Neighbour
J E Maines	13	Appointment to Outside Bodies	Personal/ Prejudicial	Chairman of Trustees by Farnham Town Council to 40Degreez.
(Mrs) A E Mansell	9	Grants	Personal/ Prejudicial	Farnham Youth Choir – Husband is Chairman
C H Mansell	8	Farnham Hospital HOPPA	Personal	Waverley Borough Council Financial Support
C H Mansell	9	Grants	Personal/ Prejudicial	Farnham Youth Choir – Chairman
P G Marriott	13	Appointment of Outside Bodies	Personal/ Prejudicial	Trustee and Treasurer
(Mrs) P M Marriott	13	Appointment of Outside Bodies	Personal/ Prejudicial	Married to treasurer
M W Norris	WA 06/0932	The Coach House, Runfold	Personal	Applicant known to me
M W Norris	WA 06/0933	The Hayloft, Runfold	Personal	Applicant known to me.
(Mrs) S Scrivens	WA 06/0932	Planning Application	Personal	Applicant known to me.
(Mrs) S Scrivens	WA 06/1225	Planning Application	Personal	Same road as mine but long way away.

C 090/06 STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

Mrs Marie King-Hele made the following statement on Item 6 – Cultural Strategy.

Farnham has a reputation as a centre for visual arts in the South East of England. This is based on the Maltings, the New Ashgate gallery and the University College for the Creative Arts. I wish to remind Farnham Town Council that Farnham has the potential for being a Cultural Centre with wider possibilities than just the visual arts. Theatre is a very important part of this and Michael Holden's report has shown how commercially important theatre is. We have no existing open facility for full theatre performance but we have a building in East Street which was provided by the people of Farnham which is a theatre. I ask Farnham Town Council to bear this point in mind when they consider their Cultural Strategy and to help make it an important part of Waverley Borough Council's Cultural Strategy too.

Part 1 – ITEMS FOR DECISION

C 091/06 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor reported that he had been invited to most places in the Town and had met some wonderful children and that he was really looking forward to the rest of the year and meeting more of these wonderful children.

C 092/06 CULTURAL STRATEGY

Members considered a report instructing officers to develop a Cultural Strategy for consideration by the Policy and Resources Committee.

Members debated the proposal for a Cultural Strategy for Farnham.

Members expressed concern about staffing time to produce the Cultural Strategy but were advised that Ms Sheila Rayner the Assistant Town Clerk would co-ordinate the process, however there would be a need for all of the Council's Officers to contribute to the strategy.

Members asked if the Cultural Strategy would take into consideration the buildings in Farnham, both old and new and were informed that the Cultural Strategy would include built architecture and the built environment as well, it would be a vision for the future but it was essential that the outcomes were within Farnham Town Councils power and ability to deliver.

The brief of the Strategy was discussed and it was explained that it was the officer's intension to make the brief as broad as possible and that they would explore the parameters and bring a draft back to the Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.

It was proposed by Councillor C Cockburn and seconded by Councillor C H Mansell

RESOLVED: That Farnham Town Council's officers research and develop a Cultural Strategy for consideration by the Policy and Resources Committee.

C 093/06 SURREY WASTE MINIMISATION PLEDGE

Members considered a recommendation from the Environmental Services Committee that Farnham Town Council signs up to the Surrey Waste Minimisation Pledge; the purpose of the pledge is to add impetus to the objective of the strategy.

The key vision of the strategy is for a more sustainable future where resources are used and managed more efficiently so that by 2025:

- The amount of waste produced will be minimised
- The overwhelming majority of materials will be re-used or recycled
- The environment will be protected and enhanced for future generations.

RESOLVED: That Farnham Town Council signs up to the Surrey Waste Minimisation Pledge.

C 094/06 PROPOSED FARNHAM HOSPITAL HOPPA SERVICE

Members were requested to consider a report on the Farnham Hospital HOPPA Service which was deferred from Environmental Services Committee. The report requested Council to delegate to officers authority to release approved funding of £20,000 for the proposed Farnham Hospital HOPPA Service, when required.

Members noted that funding had been earmarked as a contribution towards the establishment of a HOPPA service and included as a project in the Environmental Services Committee's 2006/2007 capital programme.

Members asked whether Farnham Town Council would be expected to contribute further funding to the scheme and it was explained that HOPPA should be able to raise funding by themselves in the current year. A shortfall appeared this year only because the organisation had missed the deadlines for funding sources.

Members were informed that the Council would receive regular updates on the progress of the Farnham Hospital HOPPA Service in the Status of Current Projects report which would be reported regularly to every Council.

RESOLVED: That authority be delegated to the Council's officers to release the sum of £20,000 be released to contribute to the start up costs of a new HOPPA service between Farnham and Frimley Park Hospital when required.

C 095/06 GRANTS

Councillor's C H Mansell and (Mrs) A E Mansell withdrew from the meeting having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item.

Members were requested to consider a recommendation from the Policy and Resources Committee to reconsider the Project Grant Applications which were submitted in February, 2006, and considered to be Revenue Grant applications and therefore did not qualify for project grant funding.

Members discussed whether Farnham Town Council would need to change the policy on grants in order to release monies for the three applicants. It was explained that policy on grants would only be changed for grants falling within the 2005/2006 application period.

It was explained that due to the Council's decision to review its grants policy the three applications that were presented to the Council had "fallen into the gap" of funding. It was recommended by the Policy and Resources Committee that they should be reconsidered for funding from the balance of funds available for grants from the 2005/2006 budget.

It was agreed that the New Farnham Repertory Actors Company would be asked to produce evidence that the season of plays that funding was requested for, would be taking place before the grant monies were released.

A vote was taken 11 for and 1 against and the following resolution was carried.

RESOLVED: That

- a) Council set aside the 2005/2006 grants policy on this occasion only for the three applicants, namely, New Farnham Repertory Actors Company, Farnham Voluntary Transport Association and Farnham Youth Choir.**
- b) The New Farnham Repertory, subject to evidence of its season of plays commencing, be granted £2,500, the Farnham Voluntary Transport Association be granted £750 and the Farnham Youth Choir be granted £750.**

Councillor's C H Mansell and (Mrs) A E Mansell returned to the meeting.

Councillor's (Mrs) P M Frost and R D Frost withdrew from the meeting having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item. Members were asked to note the current progress of works at the Wrecclesham Community Centre. To consider recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee that the Council's Officers be delegated the authority to arrange the transfer of the property from Tindle Newspapers Limited to Farnham Town Council and to consider the electricians condition report on the Wrecclesham Community Centre and to approve the commissioning of any works.

Members noted the report of the Electricians which identified the current electrical works to be unsatisfactory.

Members also noted the electrician's recommendation to rewire the building.

Considering the urgency and importance of the work required the members considered the waiving of financial regulations to progress the work as soon as possible.

Members expressed concern about the amount of funding that had been set aside for any works to take place at Wrecclesham Community Centre. The Town Clerk explained that at this time sufficient funds had been set aside to meet any additional funding need for any works at the Community Centre.

Members were advised that if Farnham Town Council took over the ownership of the Wrecclesham Community Centre then Farnham Town Council would have a legal duty to carry out any works that were required at the Community Centre.

It was proposed by Councillor M W Norris and seconded by Councillor C A Cockburn

RESOLVED: That

- a) Authority be delegated to the Council Officers to arrange the transfer of the Wrecclesham Community Centre from Tindle Newspapers Ltd to Farnham Town Council.**
- b) That Financial Regulations 11.1(c) is adopted to waive financial regulations for the awarding of a contract exceeding £5,000 on the grounds that the work required is of an urgent nature and has Health and Safety implications.**

Councillor's (Mrs) P M Frost and R D Frost returned to the meeting.

C 097/06 EXTERNAL AUDIT

Members received the amended accounts and management letter for the financial year ended 31st March, 2005.

RESOLVED:

- a) **That the accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2005, after adjustment to the notes of the accounts be approved and signed.**
- b) **That the Auditors management letter for the year ended 31st March, 2005, be approved and signed.**
- c) **That the amended auditors report for the year ending 31st March, 2005, be received.**

C 098/06 ANNUAL RETURN

Members received a request that authority be delegated to the Policy and Resources Committee to sign off the Annual Report for the financial year 2005/2006.

RESOLVED: That the Policy and Resources Committee be delegated authority to sign off the Annual Return for the financial year 2005/2006.

C 099/06 APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor's J E Maines, P G Marriott and (Mrs) P M Marriott withdrew from the meeting having declared Personal and Prejudicial interests in this item.

Members were asked to consider the appointment of an 'observer' only, from Farnham Town Council for 40 degreez.

RESOLVED: That Councillor D J Attfield be appointed as Farnham Town Council's 'observer' on 40 degreez.

Councillor J E Maines and Councillor P G Marriott returned to the meeting.

Part 2 – ITEMS TO NOTE

C 100/06 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(1) Public Services Committee

It was proposed by Cllr C H Mansell and seconded by Cllr P G Marriott and

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Public Services Committee held on 25th May, 2006, be adopted.

(2) Environmental Services Committee

It was proposed by Cllr M W Norris and seconded by Cllr (Mrs) A E Mansell and

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Services Committee held 8th June, 2006, be adopted.

(3) Policy and Resources Committee

It was proposed by Cllr C H Mansell and seconded by Cllr (Mrs) A E Mansell and

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 22nd June, 2006, be adopted.

C 101/06 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED: That the observations made by the Plans Panel held on 11th May, 2006 and 25th May, 2006 and 8th June, 2006 and 22nd June, 2006 and dealt with in accordance with delegated authority, be noted.

C 102/06 FARNHAM SPORTS ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the 188th Meeting of Farnham Sports Advisory Council were noted.

C 103/06 STATUS OF CURRENT PROJECTS

Members noted the progress of current projects.

C 104/06 ITEMS TABLED

The Town Clerk explained that due to the change in the postage charging it was anticipated that the postage cost for agendas was likely to increase dramatically.

Therefore, members were asked to consider trialling a new system for agenda delivery as follows:

- 1) The agenda only would be delivered by post as required by law
- 2) The supporting papers would be delivered in PDF format via email
- 3) Members without email would receive the full agenda by post

Members expressed concern that the potential size of files would lock low speed email systems.

RESOLVED: That the new process would be trialled for the rest of the municipal year and

- 1) The agenda only would be delivered by post as required by law**
- 2) The supporting papers would be made available on the website and a full paper copy would be available at the meeting or for collection**
- 3) Members with no email would receive a full agenda by post and any member who requested would have a paper copy and supporting papers delivered by post**
- 4) In addition a full copy of the agenda would be delivered to the press.**

C 105/06 PUBLICITY

Members decided to issue a press release on the Farnham Hospital HOPPA.

The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 8.51pm.

Date

Chairman