



FARNHAM TOWN COUNCIL

A

Minutes
Council

Time and date

7.00pm on Thursday 25 June 2009

Place

The Council Chamber, South Street, Farnham

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

- * Present
- Apologies for absence

Officers Present:

Roland Potter (Town Clerk)

Wendy Coulter (Members and Committees Services Co-ordinator)

Ginny Gordon (Receptionist/Farmers' Market Co-ordinator)

DEVELOPMENT OF THE FARNHAM SPORTS CENTRE

Prior to the meeting there was a presentation by Councillor R Steel on the redevelopment of the Farnham Sports Centre.

C 027/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Frost, Mrs P Frost, A Lovell, J Maines, C Storey and A Thorp.

C028/09 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

There were no disclosures of interests.

C029/09 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Farnham Town Council meeting held on 21 May 2009 were signed by the Town Mayor as a correct record.

C 030/09 STATEMENTS BY THE PUBLIC

No members of the public present wished to make a statement.

C 031/09 TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Mayor circulated a list of her announcements:

27 June 2009 Armed Forces Day – Farnham Town Council would be flying the Union Flag together with Farnham Town Council Flag.

28 June 2009 Farmers' Market

2 July 2009 Members' Workshop – SANGS at **7.30 pm**

6 July 2009 FIB Judging Day – morning litter pick (The Town Mayor asked Members to contact Sheila Rayner with times available to help during the morning). Afternoon Tea with the Judges would be at **4.00 pm**.

16 July 2009 Council Meeting at 7.00 pm

18 July 2009 Friends of Cemeteries Launch (Green Lane Cemetery) at 11.00 am

Band Concerts (Sunday afternoons 3.00 – 5.00 pm) More Councillor support and help needed for band concerts (The Town Mayor asked members to contact Cath Sydenham)

Concert Dates: **5th, 12th, 19th July**
2nd, 9th, 16th August
26th, 13th September

Councillor Cockburn reiterated the importance of the Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANGS) Consultation and asked whether, as a Town Council more public awareness should be raised on the issue.

The Town Clerk suggested that a Public Statement could be made on the Town Council's Website with a link to the Waverley Borough Council's Website and a Press Release would be issued to the local press.

Part 1 – Items for Decision

C 032/09 YEAR END ACCOUNTS

Members received the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2009 and noted that the unaudited detailed annual accounts for the year would be considered by the Corporate Development and Audit Working Group prior to being presented to Full Council.

C 033/09 DESIGN STATEMENT TASK GROUP UPDATE

Councillor Steel presented a report to updating the Council on the current status of the Farnham Area Design Statement.

Councillor Steel informed the meeting that additional help was now required to deliver the project and asked Council to consider appointing additional members to join the Task Group to assist with the growing workload.

Council also requested to authorise the Task Group to co-opt local people with knowledge and experience to contribute to the development of the Farnham Area Design Statement as per Standing Order 57 (b).

The Task Group had commissioned the assistance of Mr P Lerner, an Independent Planning Consultant to help compile the Design Statement and advise the Group regarding technical planning matters.

The Group has sought the assistance of a number of local historians with the writing of the historical background papers.

Papers have been submitted covering the beginnings of Farnham to the present day and a separate paper on locally famous architect, Harold Falkner, who built many buildings in Farnham. A position paper entitled "Traffic in Farnham" has also been prepared.

The Group held two very successful and well attended workshops with local residents' associations and other local stakeholders.

A third workshop was held for members of Farnham Town Council.

However, Councillor Steel explained that the Task Group only has limited resources and thanked Miss W Coulter (Members and Committees Services Co-ordinator) for all her hard work and dedication in delivering the project, however there was still a great deal of work to do in order for the Design Statement to be submitted within the timescale.

Although the Project is progressing, Council noted that there was a large volume of information which still needed to be collated, analysed and interpreted. To ensure that the Project is delivered within its timescale Council was asked to:

1. Nominate more Members to assist with the completion of the Design Statement.
2. To co-opt local people with knowledge and experience who would contribute to the development of an Area Design Statement.

Councillor Duckett proposed and Councillor Steel seconded that Councillor Maines would be prepared to assist with the completion of the Design Statement.

Councillor Cockburn volunteered to be the second Member to assist and Councillor Steel seconded this proposal.

Resolved:

- **That Councillors Maines and Cockburn be co-opted as additional Members of the Task Group to assist with the completion of the Farnham Area Design Statement.**
- **That Task Group be authorised to co-opt local people with knowledge and experience to contribute to the development of the Farnham Area Design Statement as per Standing Order 57 (b).**
- **That the progress of the Farnham Area Design Statement Task Group be noted.**
- **That the Timescale for completion of the Farnham Area Design Statement be noted.**
- **That the expenditure on the Planning Consultant's fees of £2,324 to date be noted.**
- **That the public information and participation activities as set out in the report be noted.**

C 034/09 CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION

Members received a report on CCTV Capital Improvements with a recommendation from Corporate Development and Audit Working Group that:

- A sum of £25,470 be released from earmarked reserves to purchase additional video channels.
- A sum of £20,000 be released from earmarked reserves to contribute towards new digital memory stored at Guildford Police Station.

Councillor Duckett presented a report as a Town Councillor and as the Chairman of the Farnham Community Safety Task Group on the background of CCTV and the involvement of Farnham Town Council and highlighted the following points:

- The Town Council currently owns and funds the maintenance of a 14 camera CCTV system located around the Farnham Town Centre.

- The current system allows for 4 cameras to be monitored at any one time in the CCTV control room in the Guildford Police Station.
- The Town Council is extending the current CCTV system to provide an additional camera in Gostrey Meadow and the following areas have been identified for possible further coverage.
Station Hill
Upper Hart Car Park
East Street
- The limitation of the current system is that not all the cameras can be monitored at any one time. This is crucial to monitoring any major incident or to track criminals moving through the town.
- Currently all the cameras are recorded at Farnham Police Station and any investigation will necessitate in sending police officers from Guildford to Farnham for that specific purpose. This is a particular issue when a suspect is held in custody and there are time restraints on how long a suspect can lawfully be detained.
- The report reminded Members that Council has a duty to consider Community Safety in all its actions.

Councillor Ward proposed and Councillor Beel seconded that the recommendations be agreed.

Resolved:

- **That the sum of £25,470 be released from ear-marked reserves to purchase additional video channels. Agreed unanimously**
- **That a sum of £20,000 be released from ear-marked reserves and general reserves to contribute towards new digital memory stored at Guildford. Agreed unanimously**

C 035/09 LEAD MEMBERS AND SPOKESPERSONS FOR THE COUNCIL AND WORKING GROUPS

Council noted that the Lead Members and Spokespersons for the Council and Working Groups were as follows:

Councillor J Ward – Spokesperson for Farnham Town Council as per Standing Order 57(j) 1-3.

Councillor Ward – Lead Member of Corporate Development Working Group
Councillor Cockburn – Lead Member of Cemeteries Appeals and Working Group
Councillor Hargreaves – Lead Member of Farnham in Bloom Working Group
Councillor O’Grady – Lead Member of Tourism and Events Working Group.

C 036/09 WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Corporate Development Working Group

Councillor Ward gave a verbal update on the recent Corporate Development and Audit Working Group held on 18 June 2009.

Cemeteries Appeals and Working Group

Members noted the Cemeteries Working and Appeals Group notes – **attached to Record Minutes.**

Farnham in Bloom Working Group

Members noted the Farnham in Bloom Working Group notes – **attached to Record Minutes**

Tourism and Events Working Group

Members noted the Tourism and Events Working Group – **attached to Record Minutes**

Part 2 – Items to Note

C 037/09 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members received the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Consultative Group held on: 25 March 2009 and 29 April 2009.

RESOLVED: That the observations made by the Planning Consultative Group held on 25th March 2009 and 29th April 2009 and dealt with in accordance with delegated authority, be noted.

C 038/09 DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Members noted the date of the next Council meeting – 16th July 2009.

Councillors Cockburn, Hill and Hargreaves tendered their apologies for the meeting.

C 039/09 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted at Agenda item 10 receiving a confidential report from Transfer of Assets Working Group, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw at item 10.

Part 3 – Confidential Items

C 040/09 CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES FROM COUNCIL

Members received the confidential minutes Council held on 21st May 2009

The Town Mayor closed the meeting at 7.53pm.

Date

Chairman