

# FORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held in Forton Parish Rooms

7:00pm Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022

## **PRESENT:**

Cllr. S. Spencer (Chair), D. Carver RFO, Cllrs: P. Hammond, A. Hawkins.

Members of the public were present.

## **IN ATTENDANCE:**

C. Little (Clerk)

### **1. Apologies for absence:**

Councillors P. Farrington and M. Councillor Smith submitted apologies to the clerk which were accepted.

Cllr. M. Winnington and Cllr. L. Baynton did not attend.

### **2. Declaration of Councillors' Personal Interests:**

None declared.

### **3. Minutes of Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 & Matters Arising not on this agenda:**

Minutes were accepted and signed without amendment.

Cllr. Carver commented that in respect of item 11 on the minutes, a traffic survey had taken place in front of Meretown Cottage presumably to collate information following the withdrawal of the recent planning application. The Chairman advised that should there be a further planning application we would be offered the opportunity to consider it at that stage.

### **4. Councillor vacancies:**

The Chairman advised that neither of the two councillors expecting to be appointed at the last meeting had come to fruition. The council therefore still had two vacancies. The clerk advised that she had been in contact with Julie Pickering at the Borough Council who confirmed that we could still co-opt without re-advertising the vacancies. The Chairman then invited applications from members of the public present. Three members of the public confirmed their interest but one, new to the community, stood down to give priority to the candidates who had lived in the area longer. He said that he hoped to continue to attend meetings as an observer and then apply again at a later stage. Councillor Carver then proposed that Zena Young and Oliver Thomas be co-opted as councillors; Peter Hammond then seconded this. The proposals were accepted and the Chairman welcomed both councillors to the council.

## 5. Financial Report and Authority for Payments:

The RFO presented the finance report:-

### 5.1 2022/2023 Quarter Two

The Quarter 2 financial statement dated 14<sup>th</sup> July 2022 was presented. It balanced to the latest bank statements received with a closing balance of £964.49.

#### Bank Statement Reconciliation

Current Account Statement @ 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	£110.00
Reserve Account Statement @ 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	£854.49
Reconciliation TOTAL	£964.49

### 5.2 Payments Approved

Precept Payments	Budget	Actual to Pay
Clerk's Salary (net) – 2nd quarter	£113.75	£90.95
PAYE	nil	£22.80
Clerk's Expenses – 2nd quarter	£15.00	nil

### 5.3 Annual Audit 2021/2022

The Internal Audit had been completed on the 6<sup>th</sup> May and no external audit is required. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return has been on the website since 13<sup>th</sup> May together with the notice of Local Government Electors Rights (the right to view papers closes on 22<sup>nd</sup> July). There have been no requests to view to date.

### 5.4 Insurance

At the last meeting the RFO was charged with resolving the council's insurance following receipt of the unexpected hike in rates and absence of choice from the broker Gallagher/Ecclesiastical/Hiscox. It was discovered that Zurich Municipal not only offers insurance that exactly meets the council's needs, it does so at the significantly reduced cost of £196.00 (budget £339.57). This Insurance was obtained on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, became active on 1<sup>st</sup> June and will run until 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023.

## 6. Update on A519 safer road campaign:

The clerk confirmed that she had contacted Councillor Winnington for the outcome of his site visit and meeting with Diane Firkin and the request for a 30mph limit. Unfortunately, Councillor Winnington had not yet been in touch. The Clerk agreed to contact him on his return and report back to councillors immediately rather than wait for the next meeting. Cllr Hawkins suggested that a community effort should be made to raise funds for traffic calming/speed limit signage. Cllr. Carver advised that including installation the cost might be in the region of £5K. Cllr. Hammond suggested that parish councillors could invite the community to a meeting but that member of the public would be needed to

consolidate the fund raising effort. It was agreed that this would be given more consideration when feedback was received from Cllr. Winnington and the County Council.

**7. Matters requiring attention in the Parish:**

None.

**8. Correspondence:**

None

**9. Any other business:**

Cllr. Carver asked if anyone present had any news on the Red Lion in Sutton.  
Cllr. Spencer advised that there had been no further progress.

**10. Date of next meeting:**

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022

The Meeting closed 7:39pm