

# FORTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in Forton Parish Rooms

## 1. Present:

Parish Cllrs: S Tomkinson (Chair), D Toon (Vice Chair) D Carver (RFO),

P Hammond, J Perks, S Spencer

C Little (Clerk)

Not present: Borough Cllr K Williamson, County Cllr M Winnington

## 2. Apologies for Absence:

Apologies accepted from Cllr E DeQuincey and Borough Cllr M Smith.

Cllr P Hammond wished to record his apologies for inadvertently failing to attend the meeting of 9<sup>th</sup> May

## 3. Declaration of Councillors' personal interests:

None

## 4. Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018 and matters arising not on this agenda:

Minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

GDPR position still awaiting clarification (see 5.d below).

## 5. Financial Report and Authority for Payments:

### a. Financial Statement

2018/2019 Quarter Two financial statement dated 16 July 2018 was discussed and agreed. It balanced to the latest bank statements received with a closing balance of £642.09.

Cash at Bank

Current Account Statement @ 05 July 2018	£110.00
Reserve Account Statement @ 05 July 2018	£532.09
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£642.09</b>

### b. Payments for Approval

Precept Payments	Budget £ p	Actual to Pay £ p
Clerk's Salary (gross) – 2nd quarter	105.82	105.82
Clerk's Expenses – 2nd quarter	t.b.a.	nil

### c. Annual Audit 2017/2018

The Council no longer required to have an External Audit and the Internal Audit was completed on the 1st May, as reported at the last meeting. The Financial Statement and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return has been on the website since 11th May together with the notice of Local Government Electors Rights (the right to view papers closes on 20th July).

### d. GDPR

To date there is still no definitive answer as to whether or not this Council needs to be registered with the Information Commissioner's Office for GDPR. A written enquiry to the SPCA resulted in the Council being told that there is still lack of clarity; NALC has said that all councils should register but the ICO website appears to indicate this is not necessarily the case and SPCA believes it is still best to wait some time longer for a resolution. The RFO believes the worst situation may be that the council may have to register annually for which there would be a fee of £40.00 per annum (discounted to £35.00 for direct debit). Nevertheless; this would be a cost the Council has not previously had to bear. The council agreed to wait for further developments.

## 6. Update on A519 Safer Road Campaign:

- Councillors stated that we have still not had sight of the results of the speed monitoring as previously requested –
- To be clear; we have not campaigned to widen this stretch of the A519. Our priority is safe pedestrian access, particularly for the vulnerable. Our suggested solution remains to create a path behind the fence.
- Maintaining the path and hedges to minimise the problem cannot safely be carried out by this Council or residents. This is a busy, fast road requiring the skill and equipment of professionals.
- Just because we have not secured County Council support does not mean that we can stop campaigning. We have agreed that this should stand as a continuous agenda item.
- Councillors are steadfastly committed to keeping the profile of this situation raised and recognise that the continuing support of Cllr Winnington is vital.

Clerk to email Cllr Winnington

## 7. Forton and Sutton Superfast Fibre Access Broadband:

Cllr Carver shared a transcript of a conversation he had had today with Superfast Staffordshire Programme Manager, Paul Chatwin. Superfast Telford have decided they will no longer be proceeding with upgrading the broadband in the area given the costs to remedy the ducting and unavailable funding to do so together with the fact that the beneficiaries are in Staffordshire, not Telford. Superfast Staffordshire is looking at possible options to complete the installation before Superfast Telford look to remove the cabinet already put in place. It transpires that Meretown and Forton are in the last 4% of properties

to require upgraded broadband based on the cost/benefit analysis. Paul Chatwin advised of the Community Fibre Partnership which may be an option. This would mean that Staffordshire Superfast would contribute 50% and the community would contribute the other 50%.

Cllr Carver to pursue the partnership option

#### **8. Collaboration Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> June:**

Councillors who had made themselves available for this meeting did not get any information regarding the venue. The clerk confirmed that she had not received any notification either.

Clerk to establish if this meeting went ahead and if so secure the minutes

#### **9. Matters requiring attention in the Parish:**

Fly tipping in Forton; both the clerk and Cllr Carver had pursued this with StreetScene to be told it was the land owner's responsibility as the deposit was on private land not the roadside. Councillors were unsure of who the landowner might be and there had been a further deposit of a bicycle on top of the rubbish.

Clerk to contact enforcement/environmental health to secure a resolution to this issue

#### **10. Any other business:**

None declared

#### **11. Correspondence:**

All shared electronically ahead of the meeting, no items for discussion.

#### **12. Date of next Meeting:**

7:00pm Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at **7:40 p.m.**