



Fairford Town Council

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON Thursday 26th May 2016

Present: Cllr Sanford Cllr Dallow Cllr Roberts
Cllr Harrison Cllr Dudley Cllr Winney
Cllr Lear Cllr McKinley Cllr Bowen

In attendance: Vanessa Lawrence(Clerk), Roz Capps (Deputy Clerk)
and approx. 50 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Boulton, Hing, Cllr Hill

2. Minutes of Annual Town Meeting 2015

It was agreed to approve the Minutes of the meeting held in May 2015. All in favour.

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Report from the Mayor of Fairford -

Cllr Sanford, duly re-elected for her second year as Chairman & Mayor read her report. This will be published in the Annual Report. Following her report, Cllr Sanford read a statement which was handed to reporter from the Wilts & Glos Standard for publication. The Statement expressed her concerns about yet another application to develop houses in Fairford (Horcott), and how the infrastructure of the town is not able to cope with this. She asked if those present would consider ways of tackling issues relating to infrastructure for discussion at the end of this meeting in the Open Session.

5. Presentation of Citizen of the Year and Geoff Chick (Young Citizen of the Year) Award and the Albert Alder Award for 2016

Presentations were made for the above Awards:

Citizen of the Year Award - 4 nominees were received from which Mr & Mr Cully were chosen as the winner of this year's award for their work with the Christmas Lunch for those on their own and their work with the church and T.S. Raleigh.

Albert Alder Award - 2 nominees received of which Jasmine Beach was selected as the Winner, for her work in clearing litter in Fairford.

Geoff Chick Bursary Award - 2 applications received. Both candidates, Jillian Smith and Freya Mizon received the awards to help them in their Gap Year working abroad for various charities.

6. Presentation to winners of the Photographic Award

Cllr Roberts presented prizes to the winners in the various categories for the Photographic Competition.

The winners and runners up of the Focus on Fairford photo competition were announced by Cllr Chris Roberts at the Annual Town Meeting held by Fairford Town Council on Thursday 26th May.

The winners received a huge enlarged and mounted print of their winning photo and a cash award and the runners up received a slightly smaller but enlarged and mounted print of their photo. The prizes were sponsored by Business West and Fairford Town Council.

The judges, Ian Mean from Business West; Peter Paredes from Paredes Photography and Fairford Town Mayor were amazed at the very high standard of the entries.

Junior categories:

10 finalists were selected – 5 from the Primary Schools in Fairford, Meysey Hampton and Swindon and 5 from the Secondary Schools with Coln House School sweeping the board in the Secondary School category.

The runners up:

Primary Schools

Emily Doherty aged 11 (2 photos)

Laurie Goodlad aged 6 (2 photos) from Swindon school

Secondary Schools (all from Coln House School)

Jordan Ashford (2 photos) aged 12

Jack Rickards aged 13

Chloe Martin aged 14

Adult category:

10 finalists were selected in this category also.

The runners up:

Nick Bennett

Ian Gillett

Gordon Hart

Damien Graham (2 photos)

Judy Higgins (2 photos)

Sarah Landafont

Courtenay Mudd

The winners:

Adult category: Gordon Hart of Fairford

Secondary category: Jordan Ashford aged 12 from Coln House School

Primary category: Bertie Campbell aged 7 from Meysey Hampton School

All photos to be displayed over the Festival weekend in the Farmor Room.

7. Reports from Committees

a) Planning - Cllr Dallow reported on the planning committees activities over the past year. The report to be published in the Annual Report.

b) Works & Community (formerly Facilities & Highways) – In the absence of the Chairman, the Deputy Clerk read the report, which will be published in the Annual Report

c) Finance - Cllr Dudley reported on FTC's finances over the past year. The report to be published in the Annual Report.

8. Report from County Councillor

County Cllr Theodoulou reported as follows: -

- **Year end figures** - were correct and the books balanced
- **Reserves** - were moved to cover losses in key areas i.e. care for adult and vulnerable children. The Council are looking at ways of handling the key areas in the future and are talking to the NHS regarding Adult Care. This is proving difficult due to budgetary constraints. Unless dramatic changes are made in the way we handle the problems with the older population, GCC cannot see a way of providing services and Central Government must intervene.
- **Roads** - problems with potholes in the road have been dealt with using a different method of repair. Rather than just filling in the holes, work is completed by using strips of tarmac, which is proving to be more effective.
- **Incinerator** - Last year saw the approval of the Javelin Park Incinerator after 2 judicial reviews. Work is due to start in June/July 2016.
- **Air Balloon** - £1million has been accepted by Highways England for the Air Balloon project, but it will be several years before this project is completed.
- **Active Together Fund** - Last year this fund was used to the benefit of Fairford, helping many organizations in the town. This fund is now closed.

9. Report from District Councillors

Cllr Stephen Andrews reported as follows:

- o **Boundary changes** - At the start of 2015 the Boundary Commission split the wards in Fairford so that we now have Fairford South and Fairford North wards. District Cllrs Coakley and Andrews to cover Fairford South and Cllr Beccle to cover Fairford North.
- o **Responsibilities** - District Cllr. Coakley is appointed to the Cabinet at CDC

District Cllr Beccle has been appointed as Vice Chair of the Planning Committee at CDC.

District Cllr Andrews is appointed to Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

- o **Developments** - Whilst the District Cllrs objected to the developments that have taken place in Fairford, they were overruled, one on Appeal to the Secretary of State, albeit that Grampian conditions have been issued on this particular development. There is huge pressure for further development.
- o **Local Plan** - this has been worked on throughout the year and has gone through the consultation period and it is hoped will be approved by the end of the year. This will be a great defence against further inappropriate developments.
- o **Flooding** - not as severe as in previous years, with defences proving successful, although there are still issues relating to surface water which are being dealt with.
- o **Holding costs down** - i.e. Green bins.

District Cllr Beccle reported as follows:

- o **Broadband** - Have been endeavouring throughout the year to improve services in the area. £500k has been provided which has been matched by GCC.

10. Report from the Police - PC Stewart Liddle Peters reported as follows:-

- Crime figures reported 22% reduction in crime overall.

Violent crime down 47%

Assault with injury down 62%

Theft down 10%

Criminal Damage down 58%

However drugs offences increased in the year. Areas where offences take place are being monitored with a view to improving policing in these areas.

11. **Speedwatch** – not as busy in Fairford as in other areas.

Working closely with RAF Fairford, who are also happy to help out with any incidents.

- Members of the public asked questions relating to Police coverage in the area and PC Liddle Peters reported that the area covered is large covering from Moreton in Marsh to Tetbury with only 4 police officers covering the Cotswold area at night, which is high in comparison to other areas.
- Members of the public asked about the lack of police vehicle patrolling
- PC Liddle-Peters said that this was due to lack of resources
More information on Policing can be found on the Glos. Constabulary website.

12. **Report from RAF Fairford** - None available

13. **Report from Fairford Community Centre – Margaret Bishop**

As reported in the Annual Report

14. **Report from the Palmer Hall –**

None

15. **Report from NDP Group- Richard Harrison**

As reported in the Annual Report

16. **Report from League of Friends** – Mr Graham Hewitt reported as follows:

The League of Friends does not focus on Fairford Hospital alone. The Hospital is a very important facility for outpatient appointment services with approx 6000 + appointments. The League has a strong commitment to it. The League focuses on local community spending £75k last year on health issues, such as palliative care where 37 patients have been looked after. An agreement is in place with Prospect Hospice. The League also operates a voluntary drive scheme for hospital appointment covering 700 drives a year. £12k has been spent on counselling services. A lunch club is run very week for the frail and elderly which costs approx. £12k to run. They also fund the Young at Heart club at Beaumont Place, which is a dementia led project and provides respite for carers. There is strong support in the Community raising between £16 - £19k a year. The Charity shop in Lechlade raises approx. £16k a year. Financial details are available on the League’s website. The biggest problem is that there are not enough volunteers to help out.

17. **Report from Community Connexions -**

As reported in the Annual Report

18. **Open Session**

An open session was held for any questions.

There being no further matters, the meeting closed at 8.30pm

.....Chairman

.....2017