

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE OTTERY ST MARY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2019 AT 6.00PM THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE OLD CONVENT, 8 BROAD STREET, OTTERY ST MARY

PRESENT:- Mayor Councillor Bartlett (North Ward)
 Deputy Mayor Councillor Carter (Town Ward)
 Councillors Dobson, Edwards, Giles, Holmes, Pang and (Town Ward)
Pratt and Harding (Tipton St John Ward)

OTHER PERSONS PRESENT:- The Clerk

PRAYER

The Clerk read the Council Prayer

19/03/26

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Faithfull

19/03/27

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND RECEIPT OF REQUESTS FOR NEW DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPIS) DISPENSATIONS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

The following declarations of interest were made:-

Cllr Giles	Item 16 (Heritage Society and the Museum Fire Doors) and Item 10 (Re-Use Credit Scheme) as he had a personal interest in RIO
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19/03/28

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 (PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED): TO AGREE ANY ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER THE PUBLIC AND PRESS HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED

It was **RESOLVED** that Items 6, 8 and 11 be discussed in Confidential Session due to commercial sensitivity.

19/03/29

TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION

There were no members of the public present

19/03/30

TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING OF 4th MARCH 2019 (MINUTE REFS 19/03/01 – 19/03/25), AND TO APPROVE THE SIGNING OF THE MINUTES BY THE MAYOR AS A CORRECT RECORD

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 4th March 2019 (MINUTE REFS 19/03/01– 19/03/25) were presented, approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record

19/03/31

TO CONSIDER AND (IF APPROPRIATE) APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM THE HERITAGE SOCIETY FOR THE COUNCIL AT ITS OWN COST EITHER TO REPLACE/REFURBISH THREE INTERNAL DOORS IN THE MUSEUM TO ENSURE THAT THEY WERE FIRE SAFETY COMPLIANT

The matter was discussed in Confidential Session due to commercial sensitivity

Mayor`s Initials.....

19/03/32

UPDATE ON THE POLICE RENT REVIEW PROPOSALS

The Clerk advised that Graham Hughes had previously advised that the rent recommendation would be submitted to the Police's Resources Board meeting on 5th March for a decision. The Clerk had not heard anything further from Graham Hughes despite sending him two reminder e-mails since the date of the meeting

19/03/33

CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FROM TENANT AT THE STATION TO RENEW HER TENANCY ON THE SAME TERMS AS PER EXISTING

This item was discussed in Confidential Session

19/03/34

UPDATE ON THE LISTING OF COMMUNITY ASSETS AND FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF OTHER PROPERTIES FOR LISTING

Cllr Pratt was of the opinion that the two Tipton St John properties (namely the Golden Lion and the Village Store) should not be considered for listing as they were currently functioning businesses and it would be too premature for them to be listed. Cllrs Harding and Faithfull disputed this, as they considered it was better to submit applications for both properties for listing now, rather than wait until the situation of either of them altered. The Deputy Mayor was of the view that in the first instance and as a matter of courtesy, the business owners should be consulted prior to any applications being submitted by the Council

After much debate it was **RESOLVED** that applications in respect of the following properties namely:-

McColls

Football Ground, Butts Road

Land of Canaan Recreational Ground

The Former Old School, Yonder Street

Sure Start Centre (Rear of the Council Offices)

Tipton St John Village Store (Opp the Golden Lion Public House)

Golden Lion Public House

be submitted to EDDC for consideration as listing as community assets. Cllr Pratt voted against the proposal and the Deputy Mayor abstained from voting. The Clerk reminded members that she had already partially completed the necessary application forms some months ago to submit to EDDC, however she was unable to complete the forms as she had still not heard from members (apart from one) as to the reasons for listing. She emphasised again, the need for the information, in order for her to be able to fully complete the application forms, which she could then submit to EDDC for consideration .

There were also a further four properties namely:-

Alfington Village Hall

Escot Village Hall

Kings School Playing Fields

The Leisure Centre

These were all charity properties and although there was no reason as to why community asset applications could not be made, Nick Wright from EDDC had advised, that the disposal of any charity property was subject to a strict criteria under charity law and that this should be taken into account when considering the listing of them as community assets. Cllr Giles was particularly concerned about the King's School Playing Field and advised that this was the only facility for Kings to use for sports such as rugby, football and athletics (albeit it was not ideally sited). It was extensively used in June for the school Sports Day. In addition to school use, it was used extensively by West Hill Wasps (who had three teams) for football matches on Saturday mornings.. It might well be thought to be at risk of development pressure.

After some discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the aforementioned four properties **should not** be considered as listing as Community Assets in view of them all being charity properties

19/03/35

TO CONSIDER THE RE-USE CREDIT SCHEME INITIATIVE

Cllr Giles spoke about the Re-Use Credit Scheme and that Recycling in Ottery ('Rio') was a fantastic facility. Rio obtained funding from DCC through the re-use credit scheme. DCC was currently

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carrying out a consultation regarding the Scheme which consultation provided three options:- Option 1 - to discontinue the scheme; Option2 – DCC to continue to fund the scheme with modifications and Option 3.- to continue the scheme under current arrangements. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council's preference was Option 3 and the Clerk would submit this response

19/03/36

TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

One issue raised under this item was discussed in Confidential Session (the Council's Internal Auditor) due to commercial sensitivity

Cllr Edwards mentioned the appearance of some of the shops in Mill Street and that she believed that work would be carried out at some point to improve them

Mayor's signature: **Date:**.....

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 1ST APRIL 2019 AT 7PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE OLD CONVENT, 8 BROAD STREET, OTTERY ST MARY

19/03/37

FIRE DOORS AT THE MUSEUM

Following a Fire Risk Assessment of the premises, the Assessor, Hedley Richie had advised of the requirement for three fireproof doors. The Clerk had sought to obtain three quotes but only two had been received from companies specialised to do the work. One quote was for three complete new doors and the other quote was to refurbish the existing doors; the latter quote being considerably cheaper. Advice had been sought from Mr Richie regarding the cheaper option and he had advised that the specification looked good to him. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the cheaper quote. The question of who was to pay for the door was also discussed. It was understood that the actions of the Heritage Society in opening up a closed section of the museum had resulted in the requirement for the provision of fire doors. Cllr Pratt advised that the lease made it clear that any alterations to the building by the tenant should have to have the consent of the landlord in the first instance. Cllr Dobson reported that it appeared that there was a problem with the chimney which he believed was a matter for the Council to deal with. He advised that the building was very damp as the Heritage Society refused to put any heating on whilst it was not being used. The Council was currently awaiting a report from the Heritage Preservation who had previously carried out the damp proof works, and it was **AGREED** that a meeting should then be set up, with some of the trustees, to reach agreement regarding the door costs and to discuss the damp issues. Cllr Giles left the room whilst this item was discussed.

19/03/38

CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FROM TENANT AT THE STATION TO RENEW HER TENANCY ON THE SAME TERMS AS PER EXISTING

It was **RESOLVED** that the tenant renew her tenancy for a further year on the existing terms

19/03/39

INTERNAL AUDITOR

Cllr Bartlett advised that the Council's Internal Auditor had advised today that due to a serious illness he would no longer be able to carry out the Council's Internal Audit for this or future years. The Council was saddened to hear this news, particularly as the auditor had always carried out a good and thorough job and was a very pleasant chap. The Clerk was aware that the Auditor carried out audits for a number of councils in the area and as auditors were in short supply she was aware that there would probably be a mad rush by these councils to find replacements, particularly as year- end was imminent. She had therefore contacted various persons for quotes which she had obtained and which were then discussed. One of the quotes was for an auditor who had come highly recommended and who was willing to take on the Council's audit. Her quote was cheaper than that of the auditor, who was now indisposed. It was **AGREED** in principle to accept her quote although as this matter was not an item on this meeting's agenda, it was further **AGREED** that it would need to be ratified at the full Council meeting on 1st April

The Meeting ended at 18.37pm

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