

Minutes of meeting of Hay Town Council held in the Council Chambers at 10.00am on 15th February 2019

Present: Cllr T Stedman (TS) Cllr A Powell (AP) Cllr F Howard (FH)
Cllr J Prothero (JPr) Cllr S Morris (SM) Cllr J Hall (JH)
Cllr H Davies (HD)
Cllr R Goleworthy (RWG) joined the meeting at 10.30 am

Apologies: Cllr J Pearson (JP) Cty Cllr G Ratcliffe (GR)

In Attendance: N Lewis (NL) N Burdekin (NB)

2229. Declarations of Interest & Code of Conduct.

TS - Hay Woodland Group, Hay in Bloom
AP - HADSCAL, The Warren, Hay Woodland Group
JP - BBNP Local Access meeting, Herefordshire Local Access Forum, Powys Local Access Forum
SM - The Warren, Cubs and Scouts Leader 1st Hay Scouts, Explorers
FH - HADSCAL, Cheesemarket Trustee, The Warren, & Proposed Cycleway, Walking Festival
RWG - HADSCAL, The Warren, niece is working on the Kingdom Project, Trustee of the British Legion, the Buttermarket
SM - The Warren, Cubs and Scouts Leader 1st Hay Scouts, Explorers
JPr - Hay in Bloom
JH - Employed by the Swan Hotel, Walking Festival

2230. Old Library Building

TS began the discussion by saying that it had been suggested at the previous Full Council meeting on 4th February 2019 that instead of HTC buying the Old Library using the £200,000.00 Shire Reserves, HTC instead asks for the Old Library in lieu of the money. FH thought that this would work from a business plan point of view. SM asked if the building would be for a community hub or for council offices. It was agreed that the building would be for HTC, Dial-a-Ride and also be used as a community hub site, with possibly one additional office depending on space. It would need to be on a Freehold basis, not a lease. TS and FH confirmed that the land would also come with the building.

On this basis, FH proposed that HTC submitted an Outline Business Plan to Powys CC to be given the Old Library Building in exchange for the £200,000 Shires Reserve funding. The business plan to include offices for HTC, Dial-a-Ride, possibly one additional office and the remaining space to act as a community hub. TS seconded the proposal. *No objections from other Councillors. RWG declared an interest as the Old Library land backs onto his land.* TS agreed to put in this outline business plan to Powys CC.

NB was asked to contact Powys CC regarding a possible site visit for Cllrs to inspect the building.

NL raised the issue of costing up maintenance and repairs to the building. NL added that he has costings from 2 years ago, with the costs identified at over £100,000, although virtually none of the work has actually been undertaken.

2231. Vacant Council Offices

NL explained that one office on the top floor of Council Offices will be vacant from August 2019, and asked the question as to whether Councillors have any objections to the office being leased. TS, AP and FH said that they had no problems with new leases being issued, so long as they are on a 12-month basis.

NL added that the Registrar Room will be free for use from 1st April 2019 and asked Cllrs if they would be happy for NL and NB to move from the current office on the first floor into the Registrar's Room. This would enable HTC to carry out repairs to the current office and also would enable the Registrar's Room to be used for more Council meetings. There is the added advantage that HTC could then hire out the current office room, with expected rent being between £2,500 and £2,800 if fully occupied.

Councillors were generally positive about this suggestion.

2232. Planning

(a) Planning Applications for Comment

(i) Application Ref: - **19/17036/FUL** - Radnor House, Church Street, Hay-on-Wye Hereford HR3 5DQ - *Erection of one-storey tabernacle building to be used as an extension to an existing bed and breakfast business*

Cllrs were opposed to this application along the following lines: FH asked how this development would fit into the BBNP's LDP. The proposed holiday accommodation is very big. There is no reasonable access for emergency services. The only access will be the footpath running to the rear of Hay Café which belongs to Powys CC. If this corrugated building is allowed, then this will set a precedent for others to start building in their gardens, too. RWG added that there is no parking. AP said he had serious reservations based on the above points.

NB was asked to put in an objection from HTC based on:

The property is within a Conservation Area

Access across Powys CC footpath

Lack of reasonable access for emergency services

No allocated parking

Would set a precedent for others to build in their gardens.

2233. Rosa Lynas – "School Strikes for Climate"

At 10.45 am, Rosa Lynas, a pupil from Fairfield High School, arrived outside the meeting. TS, JH, AP and JPr left the meeting to talk to Rosa about her strike aimed at declaring a Climate Change

2234. Date and time of next meeting

Monday 4th March 2019, 6.30 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.30 am.

Signed:  Date: 4th March 2019