

EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WITNEY TOWN COUNCIL

Held on Wednesday 21 October 2015

At 7pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall

Present:

Councillor J S King (Chairman)

Councillors:	S E Bartington	A D Harvey
	A K Beames	D S T Enright
	C Brown	T J Morris
	H W Chirgwin	L M Price
	B J Churchill	C E Reynolds
	P J Dorward	D Temple
		C K Woodward

Officers:	Town Clerk	Democratic Services Officer
	Responsible Financial Officer	

493 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for their absence were received from Cllrs J M Doughty and H B Eaglestone.

494 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllrs B J Churchill and C K Woodward declared an interest in the item on the Corn Exchange as they were trustees on the Witney Corn Exchange Trust.

495 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

RESOLVED: That in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, and as extended by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public, including the press, be excluded from the meeting because of the commercially sensitive and confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

496 **LANGDALE HALL**

Members received and considered a verbal report from the Town Clerk on the sale of the Langdale Hall. There had been significant progress and it was hoped that the sale would be completed by Spring 2016.

Cllrs B J Churchill and C K Woodward left the meeting.

497 **CORN EXCHANGE**

The Council received and considered the confidential report of the Town Clerk and the Council's property agent Mr Peter Barefoot of Alder King regarding the Heads of Terms for a lease to the Witney Corn Exchange Trust.

Members discussed the Heads of Terms which had been negotiated between the Town Council and the Trust at the most recent working party in September. A member felt that

they were acceptable to the Town Council and proposed that they were approved. Further discussion took place and the member amended his proposal that the Council approve the Heads of Terms to include the balance of the capital receipt from the sale of the Langdale Hall being set aside and earmarked for the future maintenance and repair of the Corn Exchange, as part of the landlord obligations per the lease.

Members voted on the proposal. 10 members voted in favour, 2 voted against and 1 member abstained. Cllr J S King requested his vote be recorded – he voted against the proposal.

RESOLVED:

1. that the confidential reports of the Town Clerk & the Council's Property Agent, Mr Barefoot of Alder King be noted;
2. that the Heads of Terms as presented at the meeting be agreed by the Town Council;
3. that the balance of the capital receipt from the sale of the Langdale Hall be set aside and earmarked for the future maintenance and repair of the Corn Exchange as part of the landlords obligations per the lease.

Mindful that the Corn Exchange was being offered to the Trust on a peppercorn rent, the Town Clerk suggested that members might like to ask for the Annual Town Meeting to be held in the Corn Exchange at no cost to the Town Council. Members thought this was a good idea.

Cllrs B J Churchill and C K Woodward re-entered the meeting.

498 **WEST WITNEY SPORTS SUB-COMMITTEE**

Members received and considered the confidential minutes from the West Witney Sports Sub-Committee held on 13 October 2015.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the West Witney Sports Sub-Committee held on 13 October 2015 and the recommendations therein be approved.

499 **STAFFING MATTERS**

The Council received and considered the confidential verbal report of the Personnel Sub-Committee held earlier in the evening.

RESOLVED: that the verbal report of the Personnel Sub-Committee meeting held earlier in the evening be agreed and the recommendations therein be approved.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Chairman