

HALLS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Halls Committee held at 10 am on Friday 6 June 2008

Present Chairman: Cllr M Cole
Cllrs P J Adams; M Bird, P Davies, M Taylor and S Tilbey
Also present Cllr John Capel
Terry Platt and Pawel Czarnomski, TPA Design Company Ltd
Andre Wattley, Carless and Adams Partnership

Officer: Mrs Janet Holmes

ACTION

558. Apologies for absence

An apology was received from Cllr B Slater

559. Declarations of interest

Members were asked to declare any personal interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting.

560. Public Forum

No members of the public were present

561. Minutes of the Halls Committee Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2008 were signed as a true record by the Chairman.

In view of the confidential nature of the following items, councillors resolved that pursuant to Sect 12 of the Public Bodies {Admission to Meetings} Act 1960 as applied by Section 100 of the Local Government Act of 1972, members of the public and press were excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

562. Building works

1. To receive an update from the architects and quantity surveyors

Cllr Cole referred to the letter received from the South Bucks District Council planning authority. It was noted that Mr Tony Franklin had no objection to the original plan but that comments had been made with regard to the materials being used.

Mr Platt informed the meeting of the difficulties in getting a response from South Bucks District Council. Two months for a response to the first letter, and one month for a response to the second letter. The Conservation Officer appeared to be happy with the size and scale but discussions were still taking place on the detail.

2. To discuss the final design both internal and external

Councillors reviewed the amended design, which took into account the comments of the planning officer. Councillors expressed themselves happy with the revised external appearance. It was also agreed that TPA should liaise with the relevant professionals for the size required for the bar area and bar cellar.

A seating plan showing possible variations of table usage in the main hall would be produced.

There would still be scope for fine tuning of the internal arrangements

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It was noted that the more consultation was held with planners; the less objection there would be to plans; the less money that would need to be put into a risk contingency fund.

AGREED that TPA submit another plan for consideration to South Bucks District Council within the four-week period. During this time work would continue on the full planning application
Cllr Tilbey agreed to urge the Chairman of District Planning Committee to review the plans as soon as possible.

Terry Platt, Pawel Czarnomski and Andre Wattley , then left the meeting

3. To review the marketing and financial package

Cllr Capel distributed papers which form part of the feasibility brief he has prepared. Discussions had been held with a representative from Haines Watts (the company who perform the internal audit of the Council's accounts) who specialises in hotels and clubs etc. Mr Collins had agreed to review the feasibility brief to see if the projections were viable or not. Cllr Capel then explained his figures, in detail, to the members

Clerk to contact Carless and Adams for a timetable of when they would expect stage payments to be made in the forthcoming months

Clerk

563. To consider further actions the Council should take

Meetings

1. Proposed by Cllr Taylor seconded by Cllr Adams.

AGREED that the Halls Committee would recommend to the Finance and General Purpose Committee that the feasibility study is sound and should be accepted

2. AGREED that an additional meeting of the Finance and General Purpose Committee be called for Monday the 16th of June at 6.30 pm to consider the recommendation

3. AGREED that an additional, confidential, meeting of the Full Council be called for Monday the 16th of June at 7 pm to consider and discuss the planning application and feasibility study

3. AGREED that the normal meeting of the Full Council be called for Monday the 16th of June at 8 p.m.

564. To consider what actions the Parish Council should take next

1) Hall Closure

It was agreed that the Council continue with its plans to close building from the 31st of July 2008. An application will be made to the Valuation Officer to have the premises reassessed into separate hall and office premises.

Clerk

The Parish Council will continue to operate its office administration from Windsor Lane until a demolition date is decided. This will enable various items to be removed from the Hall and stored or disposed of.

It will not be possible to use any part of the Hall during this period.

Arrangements have been made for Full Council meetings to be held in the library.

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2) Future office accommodation

No decision has been made with regard to future accommodation. This will be considered again, closer to be demolition date.

3) Information to the public

A press statement will be made and information released to the public when a planning application has been submitted.

Cllr Cole informed the meeting that he would be attending design teams meetings as an observer

565. Date of next meeting

no date was set at the next meeting

There being no other business the meeting closed at 12.00 am