

HALLS REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Halls Redevelopment Committee held on 21 January 2010 Meeting commenced at 6.00 pm

Present Chairman: Cllr Taylor,
Cllrs J Capel, P Davies, Mrs H Evans, Mrs M Hammon, Ms L Hazell,
Ms J Richardson, R Slater and P Wallis.

Officer: Mrs J Holmes

1337. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs P Adams, Ms S Collins, D Pepler, Mrs P Plant and P Kelly.

1338. 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.

1339. Public Forum

No member of the public was present

1340. To receive the minutes of the meeting of 10 December 2009.

The minutes of the meeting were signed as a true record by Cllr Taylor

1341. To receive the minutes of the site meeting held on 17 December 2009

The minutes of the site meeting were noted. Copies of future site meetings to be forward to all councillors when they are received in the office.

1342. To receive an update on the building works.

At the site meeting, the Council was informed that, due to the recent bad weather, the contractors are claiming 33 days lost. Agreement has to be reached that this figure is correct and the contractor is endeavouring to make up lost time. The estimated completion date is now 2 June 2010 but this is also dependant upon the weather.

- Agreement on the final location of the AV equipment and CCTV cameras is close to being resolved.
- It was agreed that an extra "floor" box would be required in the centre back wall of the main hall.
- In reply to a specific enquiry, the Council was assured that no Council action or inaction was the cause of any delay.
- It was noted that consideration of the "fitting out" of the building should now commence..
- It was noted that the requirement for the ground source heating and the cooling system to be separated for grant purposes meant that there was a need for some adjustment to actually fit the appliances into the space. If the Council is successful in obtaining the grant, it is anticipated that the grant would exceed the cost of the additional works.

1343. To receive an update on the finance for the building

It was noted that although we have a number of enquiries , no firm bookings have been taken to date because of

- a] the uncertainly of the opening date and
- b] no decision yet taken on the hire charges

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It was AGREED that the next meeting of the Hall Redevelopment Committee would consider the hall hire charges. The Council would, at the end of February, consider an appropriate date from which to commence to accept bookings.

Members were informed that funds had been transferred from the Newbury Building Society into the Co-operative Bank account; and that the first tranche of the loan from the Public Works Loan Board had been requested.

6.35 pm Cllr Ms Hazell joined the meeting

1344. To review the updated business plan

Cllr Capel informed members that as the completion date had been set back it had altered the figures in his business plan. He had too much nebulous information at the present time and was therefore not in a position to offer an updated business plan for comment to the meeting.

- It was noted that the staffing arrangements [inc proposed salary] still needed to be finalised, so that an advert could be submitted.
- Information on Wedding Fairs was required from Cllr Ms Richardson

When this information is available he would be able to complete the updated plan

7.05 pm Cllr Ms Richardson left the meeting

It was suggested that the Facilities Manager should be asked to contribute to the decision making for the halls furnishings

1345. To consider the future operation of the hall in view of the financial advice

In view of the advice from NALC [National Association of Local Councils]; members AGREED that the new premises should be under the direct control of the Parish Council

7.25 pm Cllrs Mrs Hammon and B Slater left the meeting

1346. To consider various items raised by members of the public and consider what response should be made

After the last meeting of the full Council a number of questions had been raised with Cllr Taylor by a member of the public who had been present. The Clerk had prepared a statement, see appendix, outlining answers to specific questions

It was AGREED

- a. That the information contained in the statement should be used to answer any further enquiries.
- b. Cllr Taylor would use the information and respond directly to the questioner

Items for discussion at the next meeting

- To seek to agree a schedule of charges
- To seek to agree the title and job specification for the vacancy
- To seek to agree the advert and interview timetable

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 7.45 pm