

MELTHAM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4 JUNE 2018

Present: Councillor Haigh (Chair), Councillor Bampton, Councillor Buchanan, Councillor Butterfield, Councillor Keighley, Councillor Lyons, Councillor Maxfield, Councillor Noon and Councillor White.

PUBLIC SESSION: A representative of Meltham Memories attended to provide insight into the potential event in the park. It was noted that there would need to be a budget for the event. The Council had already discussed the type of event that it wished to put on in the park at previous meetings. The representative confirmed that something family orientated with a musical element and activities would attract families in her view. It was noted that licences would need to be applied for. The representative confirmed that the cost of large marquee was likely to be in the region of £1000.00. Councillors reiterated that one of the main drivers for the event had been to consult with users of the park regarding its future use and development. After some discussion it was agreed that there was insufficient time to organise an event of this size for this August and the Council should seek to plan for next year. The Properties, Administration and Finance Committee were to proceed with planning this event and it was suggested that a working group be established of the Clerk, those councillors who wished to be involved and representatives of community groups who wished to be involved. In the meantime it was agreed that the Council should have a stall at the Meltham Memories event and that some leaflets would be produced to hand out at the event.

The representative from Meltham Memories was thanked for her attendance and insight into running an event of this type.

18/124 NOTICE OF THE MEETING

Taken as read.

18/125 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Brook and Councillor Wrathall

18/126 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

18/127 ADMISSION TO THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That the item to discuss proposals for the future of the Town Hall be held in private as it would divulge commercially sensitive / confidential information.

18/128 MELTHAM TOWN HALL

The Chair summarised where he understood the negotiations were up to regarding the possible purchase and lease of the Town Hall and reiterated the need to ensure that all Councillors had all the relevant information in order to make an informed decision and understand the risks involved. It was noted that the Council had previously passed resolutions to appoint a valuer and a solicitor and this had been done. The valuation had been passed to Kirklees Council who had decided that they needed their own valuation. The power of the Council to dispose of property was discussed and the advice from the solicitor on this point was reviewed. Due to issues around the Energy Performance Certification (EPC) it was noted that it may be necessary to enter into an agreement in advance of any lease agreement with

the Council's partners. Any agreement would still place the responsibility on the Council's partners for the cost of council tax, insurance and utilities and would also oblige the Council's partners to bring the property up to the required EPC standard. It was reported that the Council were waiting to hear if Kirklees Council would accept the Town Council's business case. The Clerk advised that a full written risk assessment should be undertaken before any decisions to purchase and dispose were made and reiterated that this was a requirement of the Council's financial regulations. It was noted that formal resolutions on the possible purchase and disposal might be needed shortly and it was agreed to keep the extra ordinary council meeting on the 11 June in the diary for the time being. It was suggested that Councillor White and Councillor Haigh meet with the Clerk the following day to draw up a list of questions for the surveyor and solicitor to inform the risk assessment.

18/129 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS:

Pursuant to section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press leave the meeting during consideration of the following: -

As determined under Agenda Item 4.