

AGENDA ITEM No 4(b)

MINUTES of the Meeting of the **PROPERTIES COMMITTEE** held at the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **TUESDAY** the **8th April 2014** at **6.30pm**

- PRESENT**
- Councillor Mrs S Bailey (Chairman)
 - Councillors E Sanders, J Sellis, E Sherrell, Mrs J Whitcomb
 - Councillor H Smith (Mayor)
 - Councillor J Sheldon (Deputy Mayor)
 - Councillor Mrs A Johnson
(Chairman - Finance & General Purposes Committee)
- IN ATTENDANCE** Town Clerk, General Manager, Assistant to the Town Clerk.
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419. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors C Rogers and B Trew.

420. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

421. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of the Properties Committee held on Tuesday 25th February, 2014 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

422. SERVICE REPORTS

The Committee received the following Managers' Reports:-

a) **Works Department Report**

The Committee considered the report of the General Manager and Works Manager (Appendix 1) arising from which it was:

RECOMMENDED THAT Council agree the transfer of unspent budget from 2013/2014 to the 2014/2015 financial year in respect of the following capital projects:-

- i. Cost code 109.4807 – new Works Depot procurement;
- ii. Cost code 109.4812 – Duke Street re-pointing;
- iii. Cost code 109.4805 – Cemetery soak away;
- iv. Cost code 109.4813 – Cemetery Abbey Walk re-surfacing;
- v. Rundle Room refurbishment.

Noted That in the discussion arising from consideration of the above, particular reference was made to progress in connection with Orders for the control of dog fouling/related matters, works in the vicinity of the BMX play area and the appreciation of the Mayor to all those involved in the organisation and delivery of the Civic Ball 2014.

b) **Pannier Market Report**

The Committee considered the report of the Market Reeve (Appendix 2) arising from which reference was made to a successful application made by the Tavistock Bid Company Limited (securing a place as finalists in the 'Coach Friendly Destination of the Year Award 2014').

Noted That reference was further made to the success of arrangements for the compaction and selling on of re-cycled cardboard waste.

c) **Town Hall Report**

The Committee considered and received the report (Appendix 3) of the Town Hall Manager.

Following consideration of the fore-going the Committee further considered and received the Service Plan up-dates for 2013/2014 in respect of the Works Department, Town Hall and Pannier Market (Appendices 4-6 refer).

423. Tavistock Townscape Heritage Initiative (Stage 2 Bid)

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk in connection with the above (Appendix 7), with particular reference to :-

- The implications of the scheme for land in Council ownership, more particularly the critical buildings and areas listed as falling within the public realm;
- Such other improvement works as the Council might wish to consider undertaking/funding alongside the progression of the THI Scheme;
- How best the Council might proceed in relation to its role, as Landlord, where appropriate.

RECOMMENDED THAT the Council, at its meeting on the 15th April 2015

- a) Authorise investigations to identify the potential cost of improvement works for the Pannier Market and Butchers Hall (with regard to insulation) and the Pannier Market (with regard to more energy efficient doors).
- b) Confirm, in principle, the Council's support for the public realm proposals for Council land, more particularly to endorse the re-surfacing of the Pannier Market surround and the reduction of the number of car parking spaces in the Guildhall Car Park (to either 19 or 21 spaces - the final scheme detail to be determined in due course).

Noted That in the discussion arising from consideration of the above, particular reference was made to a range of factors including appearance, safety, a preference for railings over hedge surround, the balance to be struck between amenity and income etc.

URGENT ITEM

In the interests of expediting the business of the Committee, the Chairman agreed to take the following item as a matter of urgency.

424. TAVISTOCK MUSEUM - SIGNAGE

Copy correspondence from Tavistock Museum (Appendix 8) had been received seeking the consent of the Council for the erection of a sign over the entrance to the Tavistock Museum.

RECOMMENDED THAT the Council accede to the request.

Noted That the planning aspects of the proposal had previously been considered by the Plans Committee of the Town Council.

425. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, and having regard to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted which involved the consideration of legal matters and/or the financial and/or business affairs of persons other than the Council, it was:

RESOLVED THAT the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting for the following item of business.

426. REQUEST FOR CONSENT TO THE SUB-LETTING OF COUNCIL OWNED PREMISES (CONFIDENTIAL – by virtue of relating to the financial or business affairs of persons other than the Council).

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk and associated correspondence in connection with the above.

Arising from consideration from the above and, with due regard to the importance attached to securing the best interests of the community over the longer term, it was:

RECOMMENDED THAT the request be declined and the previous decision of the Council re-affirmed, namely that :-

- a) The Council would be prepared to accept the surrender of the lease upon the basis of receipt of payment in respect of the outstanding term in full; or
- b) A satisfactory re-negotiation of the terms of the leases for other premises (should this option be progressed such negotiations to be on a without prejudice basis with the final decision on the matter being reserved to Council).

Chairman_____

Date _____

The Meeting closed at 7.11pm