



Newmarket

T O W N C O U N C I L

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Memorial Hall Regeneration Committee
held on Tuesday, 11th March 2008 at 6.30 pm at the Memorial Hall, Newmarket**

Attendance :

- Councillor C Turner
- Councillor W Burch, Town Mayor
- Councillor K Bovill
- Councillor W Hirst
- Councillor G Jaggard
- Councillor Jefferys

Also Present: Isabelle Barrett - Town Clerk, Rosemary Foreman – Minute Assistant, Councillor R Fletcher, Mr G Lambton

Minute	Action by
<p>M/08/03/1 <u>APOLOGIES</u> Apologies were received from Mr Henry Martin.</p>	
<p>M/08/03/2 <u>DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS & CONSIDER UPDATE OF REGISTER OF INTEREST</u> None noted.</p>	
<p>M/08/03/3 <u>TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 12th FEBRUARY 2008</u> Councillor Turner signed the minutes of the Memorial Hall Regeneration Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 12th February 2008, as a correct record.</p>	
<p>M/08/03/4 <u>MATTERS ARISING</u> None noted.</p>	
<p>M/08/03/5 <u>AN INVITATION TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO PUT QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS OF NOT MORE THAN 3 MINUTES DURATION RELATING TO ITEMS LISTED IN THE PUBLIC PART OF THE AGENDA ONLY</u> No members of the public were present.</p>	
<p>M/08/03/6 <u>CO-OPTION OF MR G LAMBTON TO THE MEMORIAL HALL REGENERATION COMMITTEE IN AN ADVISORY ROLE (Standing Order 42.2)</u> After discussion, the Committee made the following recommendation:</p> <p><u>M/08/03/6.01 Recommendation</u> That, in accordance with Standing Order 42.2, Mr G Lambton be co-opted to the Memorial Hall Regeneration Committee in an advisory role.</p> <p>Minutes of the Memorial Hall Regeneration Committee held on 11th March 08</p>	Town Clerk

M/08/03/7

TO DISCUSS CRITERIA FOR A LOAN FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS BOARD

The Committee noted the information received from NALC regarding the Borrowing Approval System and Councillor Turner highlighted the following points:

- 1 Councils should only apply for borrowing approval when they were fully ready to do so, for example, when planning permission had been obtained.
- 2 Borrowing approval would be required.
- 3 The amount borrowed should not be less than £5 multiplied by the number of local government electors for the area of the council.
- 4 The council should have a realistic budget (this must be reasonably affordable, taking account its effect on the council's precept) for the servicing and repayment of the debt.
- 5 The amount an individual council would be authorised to borrow would normally be limited to a maximum of £500,000 in any single financial year for any single purpose.
- 6 Councils must determine the period within which the money borrowed would be repaid.

Councillor Turner also drew attention to the information regarding the duration of loans and fees payable in respect of advances. Councillor Burch recommended that the loan should be for a period of not more than 20 years.

M/08/03/8

DEBRIEF FROM MEETING HELD WITH SCC OFFICER FRANCES BEDDING

Mr Lambton outlined the discussions which had been held with SCC Officer Frances Bedding regarding raising funds to meet the cost of refurbishing the Memorial Hall. Ms Bedding had advised that the costs of structures and refurbishing were no longer a priority for receiving grants and NTC should therefore focus on raising funds for the new activities and outcomes of the refurbishment. NTC must demonstrate the need for the refurbishment by conducting consultations, gaining ideas, producing an action plan, proving the need and showing the benefits to the community etc. Ms Bedding also advised talking to other towns, such as Framlingham, who had done similar projects to see how they raised the money. The Committee noted that it had taken Framlingham 12 years to raise their funds.

Councillor Burch reported that he had received no information regarding the meeting with Ms Bedding and said it should have been arranged through the Town Clerk and all Councillors should have been notified. Councillor Burch advised that it was inappropriate that a resident should be permitted to arrange a meeting that involved a Committee of the Council and its members.

After discussion, the following recommendations were agreed:

M/08/03/8.01 Recommendation

That SCC Officer Frances Bedding be asked to identify the appropriate officers at Framlingham and Town Clerk and Councillor Turner visit them for advice on how to raise funds.

Town Clerk

The Committee agreed that the Council should look at refurbishing the hall in the nearer rather than distant future. The Committee therefore agreed to investigate what options were available at the £500,000 mark.

Town Clerk

M/08/03/8.02 Recommendation

That Committee members each draw up a list of priorities which need to be carried out to refurbish the Hall for a maximum cost of £500,000, the final list for submission to the John's Practice to be agreed at the next meeting.

Town Clerk

M/08/03/8.03 Recommendation

That the Energy Saving Trust be asked to carry out a free consultation on ways to improve sustainability of the Hall.

Cllr Bovill/Town Clerk

M/08/03/9 SECURITY ISSUES RELATED TO THE MEMORIAL HALL

After discussion, it was agreed to look at security issues as part of the refurbishment project.

M/08/03/10 UPDATE ON SCHEDULE OF REPAIRS

Town Clerk advised that no quotes had been received for roof repairs.

After discussion, it was agreed that the current contractors should inspect the fire alarm system at a cost of £200.

M/08/03/11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 15th April 2008 at 6.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 7.33 pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____