

AXMINSTER TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE OLD COURTHOUSE COMMITTEE
AND THE BUILDINGS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

HELD AT 4.30 P.M. ON MONDAY, 26TH JANUARY 2015 AT THE GUILDHALL.

1. **PRESENT:** Cllr. J.W. Walden (Town Mayor), Cllr. G.S. Godbeer, P.G. Hayward, R.W. Jordan, A.T. Moulding and Cllr. Mrs. Spiller and the Town Clerk. No members of the public or press.

2. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Cllr. D.R.H. Hull (Deputy Mayor), Cllr. Mrs. S.L.N.Leat, Cllr. L.A. Rowe.

CLLRS. G.S.GODBEER, P.G. HAYWARD, R.W. JORDAN, A. T. MOULDING AND MRS. S.R. SPILLER EACH DECLARED A PERSONAL INTEREST AS BEING MEMBERS OF THE AXMINSTER GUILDHALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

CLLRS. HAYWARD AND WALDEN EACH DECLARED AN INTEREST AS BEING FRIENDS OF AXMINSTER TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE.

3. **PUBLIC FORUM:** None.

4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS HELD ON 18TH MAY 2014 AND 2ND JANUARY 2015:** these minutes, were signed by the Chairman.

5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OLD COURTHOUSE HELD ON 19TH MAY 2014;** in respect of the Old Courthouse Garden, Cllr. Godbeer said that the gardener had requested that some funds be allocated for renewing some of the planting. Agreed.

The gardener will be asked to cut back the ivy where it is coming over from an adjacent property. The Town Clerk will contact the owner of a different adjacent property regarding ingress of ivy from there.

6. **MATTERS OF URGENCY:** None.

7. **UPDATE ON PROGRESS WITH PROGRAMME OF BUILDING AND OTHER WORKS:**

THERE BEING NO MEMBERS OF THE PRESS OR PUBLIC PRESENT, QUOTES WERE CONSIDERED AT THE RELEVANT POINTS IN THE FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS.

a) Old Courthouse:- a programme of work has to be agreed to deal with problems of damp penetration on the rear wall of the Arts Cafe. A sum has been included in the budget for the next financial year to enable a study of access to the upper storeys of both the Old Courthouse and the Guildhall to be undertaken. Cllr. Moulding said that it might be worth contacting Axminster Heritage as they were looking into the installation of a lift there. Cllr. Jordan asked whether either the District Council or the County Council had a dedicated Access officer but was informed that this was not the case.

The Town Clerk said that there had been no notification that there would be any changes in the existing tenants.

A letter will be sent to Axminster Arts thanking them for their observations regarding access to the upper storey at the Old Courthouse and drawing their attention to the need to ensure that the covered bandstand complies with all relevant current Health and Safety regulations.

b) Guildhall:- dishwasher for kitchen – the equipment will be funded from the Guildhall Fund Raising reserve. The installation and future maintenance will be funded from the regular Guildhall budget. The right hand of the two sink will be removed and the remaining sink and stand adapted to take the dishwasher under a draining board.

Public address system:- three different options had been considered by both the Town Council and the Guildhall Management Committee. Cllr. Moulding, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Spiller proposed that the option for an £882 system be taken up. Agreed. Cllr. Hayward and Cllr. Walden will install it. It was felt that any group wishing a more complex system could hire it in but that most regular users would cope better with a basic system which was not too complicated and was less likely to be mis-used.

Guttering:- Cllr. Walden, seconded by Cllr. Hayward, proposed that the repair/adaptation of the mismatched drain pipes over the flat roof by the disabled toilet be carried out as detailed by the contractor for the sum of £xxxx

Closed Circuit Television:- following the need to replace a defective camera it became evident that modern technology could produce a better quality of picture and it was agreed that the existing cameras should all be replaced and two additional ones installed in the main hall. The Town Clerk will ask the installers to quote for doing this work.

Lights – the Town Clerk will contact the company advising on this.

c) Cemetery:- the Cemetery Chairman said that the process of obtaining quotes to provide an electrical supply to the new storage area was on-going. On the advice of one of the local contractors Western Power Distribution had been asked to give their advice as they would be able to identify where the nearest supply could be sourced.

d) Allotments:- three quotes, ranging from £xx to £xx had been obtained. Cllr. Walden, seconded by Cllr. Hayward, proposed that the quote in the sum of £xx be accepted. The Deputy Clerk will advise the contractors.

Cllr. Walden, Chairman of the Amenities Committee, took the opportunity to mention that it had been necessary to get another skip as the result of fly tipping.

e) Amenities:- Cllr. Walden reported that all the bus shelters had been painted in Persian Green. There was discussion regarding the replacement of damaged panels in the bus shelters at Gamberlake. All panels will be replaced with the toughest possible polycarbonate glazing at the thickness appropriate to each bus shelter. Cllr. Hayward will undertake the measuring, sourcing and cutting of the polycarbonate.

Signed Date