



Premises and Regeneration Committee

Minutes of a Meeting held on Wednesday 25 March 2008

Present were Councillors Mrs C Stringer (Chairman), Councillors M V Ainsworth, Mrs J M Andrews, Mrs B Fuller-Ainsworth, Mrs J Madden, P Scholey and B Slade

In attendance – Mr D J Morton (Clerk & Financial Officer), Mrs S J Bailey (Assistant Clerk & Financial Officer) and 11 members of the public and 1 press.

P91/07

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Councillor Mrs L Laird speaking as a member of the public asked why Councillor M V Ainsworth was sat on the committee when he had not signified his wish to do so at the beginning of the municipal year. The Clerk & Financial Officer was asked to check the standing orders and confirmed that it was in order for Councillor Ainsworth to serve as an ex-officio member of the committee.

P92/07

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs K E Usher.

P93/07

DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

Councillor Mrs B Fuller-Ainsworth and Councillor M V Ainsworth declared personal interests in agenda item numbers 6, 8, and 10, and prejudicial interests in agenda item 9.

P94/07

COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman read out a letter from Maltby Lilly Hall Junior School congratulating the council on a successful Civic Service. They asked if they could have a copy of Mr Smith's speech as it was of great interest to the children.

The Chairman was handed a letter from the Zion Youth Club asking the council to clarify who would be responsible if a child was injured when using the kitchen at the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall whilst other users were making a hot drink. The Clerk & Financial Officer said that suspending use of the kitchen ought to be considered if the matter could not be resolved in any other way and to the satisfaction of all users.

A note from Councillor Mrs K E Usher was handed to the Chairman by Councillor Mrs J Madden.

P95/07

NOTES FROM THE USER GROUP MEETING HELD FRIDAY 14 MARCH 2008

The notes of a user group meeting held on 14 March 2008 were received and discussed.

RECOMMENDED: that (a) the minutes of the user group meeting be confirmed and (b) the Clerk & Financial Officer seek quotations to install a path from the storage containers to the rear of the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "B. S. S.", is written at the bottom of the page.

P96/07 PROVISION OF PUBLIC TOILETS

The Clerk & Financial Officer had received a letter from Rotherham MBC stating that they need written confirmation of the Town Council's requirements for land upon which to build a public toilet.

RECOMMENDED: that the Clerk & Financial Officer (a) express an interest in acquiring land on Coronation Park for the purpose of building a public toilet and (b) obtain the price for the land for sale on the High Street situated next to the Co-op.

P97/07 STORAGE ARRANGEMENTS AT THE EDWARD DUNN MEMORIAL HALL

Councillor M V Ainsworth and Mrs B Fuller-Ainsworth declared a prejudicial interest in this item and left the room.

Councillor P Scholey said that as the council was losing revenue because RMBC and Age Concern were leaving the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall it and was necessary to attract additional revenue. There were three opportunities at hand 1) charging for storage, 2) increasing the rent or 3) building a bar to attract bookings. The Chair said that she had been approached by a group wanting to purchase storage. Councillor Mrs J M Andrews said that the storage containers had cost a lot of money and now a path was required so she agreed with the options put forward.

RECOMMENDED: that the Clerk & Financial Officer bring a proposal to the next meeting of the committee regarding this matter.

P98/07 OPERATION OF EDWARD DUNN MEMORIAL HALL

The Chairman said that now the work at the front of the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall was finished it was time to look at refurbishing the front of the building. The front doors and windows needed replacing.

The Chair read out a letter from the Zion Church regarding the health and safety issues referred to item P94/07 above. The Clerk & Financial Officer re-stated the council's policy that no one group had sole use of the kitchen. He said that each user of the hall was responsible for completing its own risk assessment and suggested that the council reply to the letter along the lines that the youth club is responsible for its own health and safety policies and practices, and also that they do not have sole use of the kitchen. Councillor M V Ainsworth, speaking as a member of the Zion Church, said that the intent of the letter was not being correctly interpreted.

RECOMMENDED: that (a) the comments of the Clerk & Financial Officer regarding the use of the hall kitchen be noted and (b) the Clerk & Financial Officer will write to the Zion Youth Group along the lines indicated above.

P99/07 PUBLIC SQUARE

The Clerk & Financial Officer announced that the contractors had finished the front of the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall for the time being and the wall and rockery will be removed in approx 8 weeks time when the gas pipe has be redirected. This will then give additional car parking space.

P100/07 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

None

P101/07 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting to be 23 April 2008 to be held at the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall at 7.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm

