

Minutes of the Harworth & Bircotes Extra Ordinary Meeting held 26th October 2018 in the Town Hall, Scrooby Road, Bircotes.

Present: Cllr Evans (Chair), Cllr James, Cllr Flynn, Cllr Robinson, Cllr Gratten, Cllr Jones and Cllr Smith
Others: Mrs Davies (Officer)

Public session for members of the public to comment on the agenda items below: no members of the public present.

16666 To receive any apologies for absence

Apologies received and approved from Cllr Dean and Cllr Durdy.

16667 To receive any declaration of interests in any item on the agenda

No declaration of interest received.

16668 To receive reports and consider obtaining borrowing approval from the Secretary of State for works to the Town Hall

The Officer went through the procedure the Council has gone through with regard to the independent investigations of problems with the Town Hall, the tender process and then consideration of the independent tender report to the appointment of the chosen contractor.

The Officer then explained that at this meeting that the Council is required to consider obtaining borrowing approval from the Secretary of State; to enable funding for repairs to the hall.

Firstly, the Officer went through the following documents/information with the Council.

1. The District Council is prepared to loan the Town Council £100,000 to be repaid over a five year period at an annual interest rate of 3.15%
2. The Officer circulated a copy of a draft budget for the 2019/20 year which the Councillors went through line by line with the Officer; and discussing where savings can be made in order to ensure repayments can be made (reducing the risk of not being able to repay the loan) and bringing work back in house. Once the repairs have been carried out; the hire income will start to increase back to the previous levels
3. The Officer asked the Council to consider if it wished to increase the precept impact on residents to cover repayment of the loan. The Council does not wish to increase the precept and impact on residents. The current precept paid by residents will remain the same. The Council is able to request an increase in the actual precept funds due to the increase in new houses being

built which alters the band D formula; without any impact on residents

4. The Officer reported that the solicitor confirmed that the Council was correct in not informing residents on the reasons why the building has problems or possible claims it could make. This would have opened up libellous claims being made against the Council. Residents have been informed that work is going to take to the hall via the newsletter
5. The Chair gave an update on the recent meeting with the solicitor regarding the possibility of making a claim to recover costs of these repairs; subject to confirmation with the insurance company

After considering the above points; Cllr Robinson proposed that the precept impact on residents does not increase and to approve making a borrowing approval application to the Secretary of State; this was seconded by Cllr Flynn and resolved by the Council.

16669

To consider applying for a loan from the District Council

The Officer discussed the application to the District Council for a loan of £100,000 at 3.15% interest towards the work on the Town Hall. Cllr Barns proposed to approve the above loan application; this was seconded by Cllr Robinson and resolved by the Council.

Following the above discussions; the Officer went through the above points she had raised and the responses given by the Council for the minutes. Cllr James proposed that the above minutes are to be approved and the Council is happy for the Chair to sign the above minutes as a true record and the borrowing approval forms; this was seconded by Cllr Jones and resolved by the Council.

16670

Time and date of the next scheduled Town Council meeting

The next Town Council meeting will be held on Monday 26th November 2018 at 7pm in the Town Hall, Scrooby Road, Bircotes, DN11 8JP