**WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD ON THURSDAY 12TH MARCH 2015 AT 7:00PM IN WICKHAM MARKET PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Present: Cllr Dick Jenkinson (Chairman) Cllr Margaret Blackall

Cllr Alan Biddle Cllr Robin Cooke Cllr Mike Hawes Cllr Nigel Meadows

Cllr Brian Nobbs Cllr Patrick Roper Cllr Michael Roseveare Cllr Edna Salmon

There were 33 members of the public in attendance

**Welcome by the Chairman**

1. **To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ridd, Pizzey and Wright

1. **To receive Councillors Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

* 1. **To consider any Dispensations**

There were none.

**3. To receive a presentation/report from Wickham Market Village Hall Restoration**

**Group regarding the future of Wickham Market Village Hall and to decide which route should be taken and which organisations should be included within the project**

The Chairman ***closed the meeting*** and welcomed Colin Owens to the meeting.

Colin Owens gave a presentation regarding the future of Wickham Market Village Hall and the options available.

A member of the public stated they felt the flat roofs to the existing Village Hall could be replaced with pitched roofs with added solar panels. Colin Owens stated the purpose of tonight’s meeting was to create a Village Hall Rebuild Committee as the new build had proved to be the preferred option. Margaret Holland confirmed there was no insulation within the existing Village Hall.

Peter Holden raised concerns regarding a new build and stated he felt that restoration works to the Village Hall could still be possible.

Dick Griffiths stated he felt the rebuild option may not be possible due to the large amount of funds having to be raised and in which case there would have to be restoration works carried out.

Terry Peake asked if a rebuild took place where would it be sited and that he felt the Archive Centre should be included. Colin Owens gave details of the preferred site for the proposed Village Hall including details of the proposed layout. Colin Owens stated that as a result of the public consultation held it was agreed the Football Club should be included and since then they have agreed to be included but with the following conditions:-

1. Availability of club facilities must be retained during the project execution i.e. no demolition until after rebuild.
2. The Football Club facilities must be entirely separate from the village hall facilities i.e. an extension built on to the end of the village hall.

Colin Owens confirmed the Restoration Committee had considered these conditions and concluded that while it might be possible to meet the first one, the second one contradicted the principle of an integrated building with some shared facilities. It would simply be a new football club building and therefore not within the scope of the Village Hall Restoration Committee. The Committee fed back to the FC this reasoning and offered that if the FC wanted to raise funds and project manage a new football club building in parallel with the new village hall then it will be happy to work alongside them but as the Restoration Committee felt these provisions were unacceptable it was agreed the FC would not be included within the project.

Colin Owens provided details regarding the recent Youth Survey carried out by Mr Tony Ellam and confirmed as a result of this it was agreed a dedicated flexible space would be considered to become a Youth Hub for the youth.

Cllr Hawes raised concerns regarding the statement within the survey stating that there was no provision for 16-20 year olds and confirmed the Boys Brigade takes members up until they are 18 years old.

Terry Peake stated that he felt even if a Youth Hub was implemented this would not take away the problems on The Hill and resolve this issue.

Colin Owens invited Phillip Tallent to speak on behalf of the Archive Centre. Philip Tallent stated the Parish Council had been given further information regarding the Archive Centre’s inclusion within the project. He provided background information regarding the Archive Centre and the updating of records held. Philip advised as a result of the recent Town Team survey carried out 72% had said they felt the Archive Centre should be included within the rebuild project.

Colin Owens thanked Philip Tallent for his comments and provided information regarding grant applications for the project and stated the pros and cons of including the Archive Centre which would be an additional £110,000 for them to be included. Colin Owens stated that in his opinion the Archive Centre should not be included within the project as he felt that they did not seem to be prepared to change their mode of operation into a manner in which would attract grant funding.

Margaret Holland stated the Village Hall Restoration Committee’s view was that the Archive Centre should be included but could possibly be sited within an alternative location such as the Library.

Terry Peake stated he felt the Archive Centre was very important and therefore they should be included and that they should also have a safe depository area within the new Village Hall.

Mr Rob Rose stated he felt the Archive Centre fundraising should not be separate from the Village Hall rebuild and that it should all be part of one project. Margaret Holland confirmed there were separate grants available for Archive Centres and agreed with Mr Rob Rose that fund-raising should be a combined effort as there were 2 distinct funding streams available, some relating to Community Projects and some specifically to retention of Archive.

Bryan Hall stated over the last 50 years Wickham Market has developed vastly and therefore the building needs to last for the next 50 years. He made reference to the Riverside Centre and stated he felt the PC/WMRC needed to ensure to aim to provide a flexible design for the new build of WMVH. Bryan Hall stated that as Lehman House was due to close they he felt maybe this could be possibly be developed to house community aspects relating to Wickham Market.

Cllr Salmon asked what the Archive Centre’s preferred option would be. Philip Tallent confirmed the Archive Centre would prefer to be included within the new build but had raised concerns regarding the future control of the Archive Centre to which he gave details.

Philip Tallent provided recommendations on the amount of area needed if they were to be included within the project.

Colin Owens provided details regarding the proposed fundraising for the project and confirmed that to obtain grants a business plan would need to be put in place.

Colin Owens gave details of the proposed governing document to be implemented in order to manage the project within the oversight of the Parish Council once approved.

Jo Jones Clerk/RFO gave advice regarding the proposed governing document.

The Chairman thanked Colin Owens and the members of the public for their comments and ***reconvened the meeting***.

The Chairman advised that whilst considering these recommendations the Parish

Council should be reminded they can only be implemented if there are sufficient

volunteers with the relevant experience in place to take the project forward.

The following resolutions were undertaken by the Parish Council:-

It is recommended that the Parish Council

* 1. Agree the establishment of a Wickham Market Village Hall New Build Committee (VHNBC) – This was **Unanimously Approved** by the Parish Council.
  2. Agree the Terms of Reference and structure of the Village Hall New Build Committee as proposed in the Report - Terms of Reference - This was

**Unanimously Approved** by the Parish Council

* 1. Draft a specific governance document for the financial control and management of the New Village Hall Project – The Chairman stated he did not feel the Parish Council should be responsible for the funds raised. Cllr Biddle stated this document must be put together by the various legal bodies such as LCPAS and the Internal and External Auditors and Hillary Slater, SCDC. **Approval** was **Unanimously Approved** by the Council.

It was agreed this document would ensure the Parish Council met its legal and other responsibilities and will include robust risk management arrangements. Within clear controls it would also identify the appropriate delegated authority to the VHNBC.

* 1. Consider and decide if the Archive Centre should be an integral part of the new Village Hall – There was a formal vote and **5 members were in Favour and 4 Against. The Chairman had the casting vote and voted in Favour of the Archive Centre being included within the project. Result of the vote - 6 in Favour, 4 Against.**

1. **Open public session**

There were no further comments from the members of the public present.

1. **Any other matters arising**

There were none.

There being no further discussion or comments/questions from the members of the public the Chairman formally closed the meeting at 8:55pm

Signed: Dated: