



Waveney Local Office
London Road, Halesworth
Monday 12th December, 2022 at 6.00pm
Held in the Day Centre
Minute Book ref No 83

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN THE DAY CENTRE

Present: Councillors;

Annette Dunning (HTC & SCC), Peter Dutton, Anne Fleming, Keith Forster, Keith Greenberg, Rosemary Lewis (Chair), Joyce Moseley, Maureen Took, David Wollweber (Vice-Chair).

In Attendance: Nick Rees (Town Clerk), District Cllr Alison Cackett, 3 members of the public.

Minutes

- 1) **Apologies:** Cllr Dunning and Cllr Wagner.
- 2) **Declarations of interest:** None.
- 3) **Transfer of Assets:** To consider the revised offer from East Suffolk Council for the Transfer of Assets (documents provided) prior to the Cabinet Briefing on December 14th, 2022 in preparation for submission to the Cabinet meeting on the 3rd January, 2023.

Cllr Forster expressed concerns about the condition of the London Rd Building and the associated costs with getting into a serviceable condition. He also felt that the Town Council should insist that East Suffolk Council should undertake all the repairs identified by the engineer's condition report undertaken. It was agreed that ESC had not undertaken any maintenance for several years but it was not worth spending a significant amount on the building as it was intended to be a temporary solution until the new Community Building was built. The debate continued but then the following proposal was made and it was then **RESOLVED**, 8 in favour and 1 against (Cllr Forster) that the Council approved the transfer of assets and the resolution was in two parts as follows;

Part one; that Halesworth Town Council approves the Asset Transfer from East Suffolk Council in accordance with the figures relayed to HTC from Emma MacFarlane and seeks that the figure (£16k) for proposed Demolition and the figure (£25k) for refurbishment of the London Rd building is combined under one heading for general maintenance and improvements of the London Rd Building and is made available in the first year without any caveats as to its use and that the whole offer and acceptance is subject to legal agreement of the final contract.

Part two; that HTC requests that ESC undertakes emergency maintenance of the London Rd Building in the interim period until handover, highlighted in the recommendations made by the engineer's condition survey so that it is in a serviceable condition as there has been no ongoing maintenance of the building for many years.

Cllr Greenberg stressed that the two comments about combining the demolition and refurbishment costs and the request for the emergency maintenance were not conditions but it was hoped that ESC would agree to these requests. It was also noted, following a comment from Cllr Goldson regarding the CIL funds for the Dairy Farm site, that the Community Hub project was not linked or dependent on any agreement or otherwise of

the Transfer of Assets. The Council would proceed with the consultation and the planning for the project regardless of ESC's pending decision on the Transfer of Assets.

- 4) **Items for the Website/Noticeboard/Newsletters/Library:** The Clerk raised the matter of the recent SAC survey of parishes on ESC's Planning Process, which had been very critical of some aspects of the planning system. One ESC officer had taken offence at comments made by a Town Councillor on this subject and it was agreed that the Clerk would write to clarify that the criticisms made by HTC and the majority of parishes, that had taken part in the survey, were of the system not the individual officers.
- 5) **Accounts for Payment:** The following accounts were approved for payment.

4941 Sandy Lane Nursery – Trees (Open Spaces Act 1906 – ss9 & 10)	976.25 + vat
4942 Viking – Stationery (LGA 1972 s111)	20.35
4943 Micropress – December NP article	120.00 + vat

The meeting was closed at 7.30pm