

Minutes of a meeting of the Sandwich Town Council Assets Management Committee held on 3rd December 2019, in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, Sandwich, at 6pm.

Present: The Mayor, JE Franklin (in the chair)
AC Broun
Mrs D Carter
AE Fox
AK Heaven
WP Staple

Officer: Miss L. Fidler (Minutes)

Cllrs DR Friend and MJ Lintott were also in attendance to observe the meeting.

01.11.19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Bragg (personal commitment) and Cllr Holloway (work commitment). Apologies were received after the meeting from Cllr Ms Felton (work commitment).

02.11.19 DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT INTERESTS

No declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests or other significant interests were made.

03.11.19 CATTLE MARKET PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Councillors considered a report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk, with a proposal relating to the future of the Cattle Market conveniences.

RECOMMENDATION: The Cattle Market Public Conveniences should remain shut until April 2020 at the earliest. The 2020/2021 budget will inform their future after that. Members of the public are invited to use the Guildhall's downstairs public conveniences instead.

Cllr D Carter joined the meeting.

04.11.19 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

(i) It was AGREED that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.

(ii) **COW LEAS MEADOW:** Councillors considered the questions contained within a written report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk, regarding the future of Cow Leas Meadow. It was recommended that this item be considered confidentially due to the private business proposal contained therein.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(a) The whole/part of Cow Leas Meadow should not be considered for disposal.

(b) The future of the site will be reconsidered in February or March 2020 when Dover District Council's work at the site has progressed.

(iii) FORMER EAST KENT ROAD CAR COMPANY PROPERTY:

Councillors considered a written report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk, regarding the history of this property and a proposal from the current owner. It was recommended that this item be considered confidentially due to the inclusion of two private business proposals within this report.

RECOMMENDATION: The owner of the Former East Kent Road Car Company property will be informed that the Council/Trustee would be interested in acquiring this property should the owner wish to gift it to the Council/Trustee.

(iv) FISHERGATE: Councillors received a progress report from officers regarding enquiries at the Fishergate and consider if the proposed steps to establish a future business plan are adequate. It was recommended that this item be considered confidentially due to the inclusion of two private business proposals within this report. Cllr Staple reported that he had met with Mrs A Hollobon-Baxter, HR & Project Manager, and supports the actions being taken, and he has volunteered to talk with the Council's solicitor about the proposal to "lease" (or similar) the property to Sandwich Toll Bridge Fund.

RECOMMENDATION: Cllr Staple will work with officers to expedite the Lease enquiry with the Council's solicitor, and holiday rental using Airbnb will be included in the business plan options paper for consideration.

05.11.19 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 20th January 2020 at 6pm in the Council Chamber Guildhall. A visit to St. Peter's Day & Social Hall (the Fitness Connection) and the Empire Cinema will be arranged for 9th January 2020 commencing at 10am.

Summary of Recommendations:

Minutes	Action	Member/Officer to complete	Update/record of completion
03.11.19	<p>The Cattle Market Public Conveniences should remain shut until April 2020 at the earliest.</p> <p>The 2020/2021 budget will inform their future after that. Members of the public are invited to use the Guildhall's downstairs public conveniences instead.</p>	<p>TC</p> <p>RFO</p>	
04.11.19(ii)	<p>a) Inform enquirer that the whole/part of Cow Leas Meadow will not be considered for disposal.</p> <p>b) The future of the site will be reconsidered in February or March 2020 when Dover District Council's work at the site has progressed.</p>	<p>TC</p> <p>TC</p>	
04.11.19(iii)	<p>The owner of the Former East Kent Road Car Company property will be informed that the Council/Trustee would be interested in acquiring this property should the owner wish to gift it to the Council/Trustee.</p>	<p>TC</p>	
04.11.19(iv)	<p>Cllr Staple will work with officers to expedite the Lease enquiry with the Council's solicitor.</p> <p>A holiday rental using Airbnb will be included in the business plan options paper for consideration.</p>	<p>TC</p> <p>HRPM</p>	