Minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council held on
Tuesday 16th January 2018
at 7.00pm in the Council Chambers at Quorn Village Hall

Present:
Cllr Andrew Brown  Cllr Joanna Clarke  Cllr Dennis Marchant
Cllr Ken Brown  Cllr Jane Hollingworth  Cllr Roger Price
Cllr David Cawdell  Cllr Gary Hughes - Chair  Cllr Carolyn Thornborow
Also in attendance – BCllrs David Slater and Richard Shepherd, County Councillor Hilary Fryer and Parish Clerk Christina Gibbs

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<td>18/016</td>
<td>Apologies</td>
<td>Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Harrison and Jones.</td>
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<td>18/017</td>
<td>Declarations of Interest</td>
<td>The Chair reminded members to declare any interests in the items on the agenda at this point or as the meeting progressed. Cllr A Brown declared an interest as Chairman of the Old School Charity.</td>
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<td>18/018</td>
<td>Minutes of the last meeting</td>
<td>The Chair invited members to suggest any corrections to the minutes. Phil Child wished for his name to be recorded in the minutes rather than him being identified as a former member. With no further corrections suggested it was proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true account of the meeting. RESOLVED: that the motion be carried.</td>
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<td>18/019</td>
<td>Public Participation</td>
<td>Three members of the public wished to speak. Geoffrey Smith, resident of the village and former Local Government Officer had reviewed the background to the project. He was grateful for the information that had been provided to explain more about the proposals. He felt that the public had not been properly informed and that some of the information should not be confidential. He felt that the Council would be right to use its reserves to bring the building back into use and suggested that it should seek grants for further improvements. A resident said that he lived in the village for over 30 years and questioned the Council’s methods for advertising its meeting. He stated that the summons for the meeting was not on the notice board. The Clerk confirmed that the summons was on the notice board and on the village website as per the Council’s statutory obligations. Byron Chatburn said that there was no understanding of the costs to operate the west wing. He felt that the perceived risk of the funding being claimed back was a red herring. He urged Council to take into account the suggestion of Ivan Bexon to form a project group to review the project. He felt that hasty decisions made on piecemeal proposals would not be in the best interest of the village.</td>
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A resident questioned whether the small brick extension to the side of the building was to be demolished which she hoped was the case because she considered it an eyesore.

18/020 Supplementary information relating to resolutions

18/020 Business Plan

Cllr K Brown explained the figures in the business plan and said that it was the best information that the Project Team had based on the running costs of the village hall.

Cllr Price thanked the Project Team for the business plan. He questioned the increase in the expenditure figures set down and it was explained that an element for inflation had been included.

It was confirmed that members had submitted questions to the Project Team which had received answers.

Cllr Price referred to the answers and asked further questions about the strategic plan, public consultation and finance. Cllr A Brown said that there was no need for a strategic plan to decide whether to fix the brick work of the building if a new roof had been installed.

Cllr Price called for more detailed information about the works on the task list previously circulated.

Cllr K Brown explained that the reserves would cover the works under the new roof to bring the building back into use but that there would need to be public consultation about further expenditure to modify the building to accommodate the library’s requirements.

Cllr Cawdell explained further that the reserves would provide a space for the library but it would not be to the standard that it required, ie, replacement windows and structural alterations.

It was confirmed that there would be public consultation about any further expenditure and a strategy going forward.

Cllr Price called for a formal apology to the public for the conduct of members at the last meeting.

The Chair proposed that a formal apology be made to the public.

RESOLVED: That the motion be carried.

18/021 Resolutions

18/021a That Council authorises expenditure for the works as set down in Addendum 1 of the Old School Project Team’s report.

Cllr Cawdell seconded the proposal.

Cllr Marchant wished to make it clear that the Council would not go further than the £100k expenditure and that there would be a public consultation prior to further expenditure.

The Chairman confirmed that that was the case.

Cllr Marchant thanked Cllr K Brown for the explanation.

Cllr K Brown said that, as the Chair of Finance, he must address the Council’s liability of £200k and that there were no guarantees that the terms of the funding agreement would not be enforced.

Cllr K Brown pointed out that, if the project proceeded, the Council would be getting hard and fast data that would inform future business plans.
Cllr A Brown explained that grants from Tarmac are administered through the Derbyshire Environment Trust (Landfill Tax) which is governed by HMRC.

Cllr Price felt that Council must look at the project as a whole and not just because of the threat of funds being reclaimed. He questioned the feasibility of delivering the project in accordance with the published programme.

Cllr Brown felt that all the information necessary had been given and that, if the project proceeded, the Project Team could demonstrate to DET that progress was being made, which would mitigate the risk. He proposed that the motion be put.

**RESOLVED:** That the motion be carried with Cllrs A Brown, K Brown, D Cawdell, J Hollingworth and G Hughes in favour, Cllrs Marchant and Price against and Cllrs Clarke and Thornborow abstaining.

Cllr Hollingworth wished to thank the Project for their hard work in taking the project forward and felt that, although it had been a difficult decision to take, the facility would be an asset to the village.

Cllr Clarke explained that she abstained because she felt that she did not have sufficient information to make a decision.

The Chairman called for the public to come forward and help with the project going forward.

18/021b That Council agrees in principle and subject to final legal drafting, to enter into a lease for the operation of The Old School Tea Room, as set down in Addendum 3 of the above report.

Cllr Cawdell seconded the motion

**RESOLVED:** That the motion be carried with Cllrs A Brown, K Brown, D Cawdell, J Hollingworth, and G Hughes and C Thornborow in favour, Cllr Marchant against and Cllrs Clarke and Price abstaining.

18/021c That, to facilitate the speedy execution of the work described in Addendum 1, the Old School Project Team be given delegated spending powers as set down in the remit at Addendum 4 of the above report.

Cllr Cawdell seconded the motion.

Cllr Clarke called for the remit to be worded in line with the other spending committees with regard to Revenue and Capital budgets. Cllr K Brown explained that there was no Revenue budget to consider.

Cllr Marchant asked for confirmation that only members would have voting rights on the Old School Project Committee.

This was confirmed.

**RESOLVED:** That the motion be carried with Cllrs A Brown, K Brown, D Cawdell, J Hollingworth, C Thornborow and G Hughes in favour and Cllrs Clarke, Marchant and Price against.

18/022 **Correspondence**

18/022a The Chairman thanked the public for their correspondence and said that those that had requested a response would be answered. He confirmed that the need for a Public Works Loan had gone away and that the project would proceed based on the resolution taken earlier in the meeting.
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<td>Cllr Clarke called for a webpage to be created on the Quorndon website for news and for regular posting to be put on notice boards. She pointed out that the public is always welcome to Council meetings and that they should not hesitate to come along and ask questions.</td>
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<td>Cllr Cawdell called for the schedule of meeting be put on the notice board.</td>
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<td>Cllr Marchant felt that Council needed to look at its methods for communicating with the public.</td>
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<td>Cllr Hughes pointed out that the Annual Parish Meeting is generally very poorly attended and invited members of the public to come along and raise issues for discussion.</td>
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<td>Cllr Price called for his proposal for an independent feasibility study to be commissioned for the Old School Project. The Clerk agreed to put the matter on the agenda for the next meeting.</td>
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<td>The Chairman closed the meeting by thanking the public for attending and said that he hoped that they saw a Council that was working on their behalf.</td>
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18/023 Date of next meeting
6th February 2018

Meeting closed at 20.21