

Minutes of the Meeting of the Property Committee of St Ives Town Council held in the Town Hall on Wednesday 22 February 2023

Present:

Chairman: Councillor C Smith

Councillors: J Tiddy, M Gleadow, M Mallool Wright

In attendance:

Town Clerk: M Price

Democratic Officer: S Rawlinson

PR46.00 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology was received from Councillors M King and P Pope (Personal) and Councillor M Burke (HDC commitment).

PR47.00 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

PR48.00 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Agenda Item PR53.00 – The Chairman of ACE Friends of the Corn Exchange and the organizer of Screen St Ives/member of St Ives Eco Action group addressed the Committee.

They wished to see solar panels fitted to the Corn Exchange during the construction of the new roof which, they believed, would be more cost effective.

The Eco Action Group were 100 percent in support of fitting solar panels which would reduce the use of fossil fuels, greatly reduce the energy costs of the Corn Exchange and possibly contribute surplus energy back to the national grid. Panels could be fitted sensitively on listed buildings and the agreement to their installation on Kings College was encouraging.

Agenda Item PR53.00 – Several representatives of the Corn Exchange Community Interest Company also addressed the Committee.

The Corn Exchange's utility bills had shown a 97 percent increase since September, primarily for electricity. It had been necessary to seek additional hirings in order that the increase could be met while still retaining subsidized rates for community groups.

The CIC board would be happy to delay the roof replacement if the installation of solar panels could be part of the refurbishment. The Board would offer its support and work with the Council to put forward a planning application.

The Chairman thanked all those addressing the meeting for their comments.

PR49.00 MINUTES

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Property Committee meeting held on 25 January 2023 are agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Chairman's
Initials

PR50.00 MAINTENANCE UPDATES**PR50.01 General Property and Maintenance Update**

The Town Clerk provided Members with a verbal update.

There was no change so far on Globe Place toilets. The ongoing problem with the Bus Station toilets was being progressed.

RESOLVED: that the report be received and noted.

PR50.02 Property Maintenance Schedule

The Town Clerk reported that all matters were up to date apart from the health and safety audit which would take place on 31 March.

RESOLVED: that the report be received and noted.

PR51.00 BUDGET

RESOLVED: that the budget report be received and noted.

PR52.00 DAMP PROOFING – TOWN HALL

The Town Clerk reported that quotations were still being received for the works. Out of five invitations to quote only one response had been received. He would continue to progress the matter. Dampbusters were scheduled to begin work in the last week of March.

RESOLVED: that the information is received and noted.

PR53.00 CORN EXCHANGE – SOLAR PANELS

Members were keen to progress the installation of solar panels on the roof and would be happy to work with the CIC, Ace, Eco Action, Civic Society and any other concerned groups on this.

The Town Clerk had received an update from Stockton Bradley which would go to Council. He would request a report from Councillor Kerr who had held initial discussions with HDC Conservation Officers.

RESOLVED: that a Recommendation be made to Council that consideration be given to the installation of solar panels on the Corn Exchange roof.

PR54.00 WARNER'S PARK PAVILION

The Town Clerk informed Members that the steel cage to the rear of the building had now been completed in order that the lean-to could be removed. It was expected that this would be carried out during the following week together with the installation of emergency lighting.

RESOLVED: that the information is received and noted.

PR55.00 SAFETY ISSUES

The urgent electrical works to the Corn Exchange had been started during the previous week and were continuing. A date would be set to commence works to the other buildings. He would report back on progress to the next meeting.

Chairman's
Initials

The grounds maintenance depot generator was currently safe with fumes dissipating outside the building. A Health & Safety audit was to be conducted at the end of March and the advice had been not to make any changes until the report and advice on how to proceed had been received.

RESOLVED: that the information is received and noted.

Chairman:

Dated: 22 March 2023

Chairman's
Initials