

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ALDEBURGH TOWN COUNCIL  
SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON MONDAY 22 JANUARY 2018 AT 7.20 PM IN THE MOOT HALL**

Present: Cllr Palmer took the chair.

Committee Members Present:

Cllr Bond      Cllr Cox  
Cllr Harris    Cllr Kiff  
Cllr Osben    Cllr Walker

There were three members of the public present.

**1. Apologies:** Cllrs Digby and Oxyby. Cllr Fellowes was absent without apology.

**2. Approval of Previous Minutes**

The draft Minutes of the Services Committees meeting held on November 27 2017 were **APPROVED** without amendment by a show of hands. The Minutes were duly signed.

**3. Matters for Discussion-SCC, SCDC and Police**

The Town Clerk told the Committee she would be circulating proposals to reduce the number of ward councillors following the amalgamation of SCDC and Waveney District Councils.

**3.1 Museum Update**

Cllr Fox gave the Committee a lengthy report on the implications of the Museum Redevelopment Project on the Moot Hall and the Council Chamber and asked for support for a number of suggestions. On the interior of the building, she explained that plans for one large Council table had proved impractical and the Museum Design Team was now proposing five identical-size tables and matching chairs which would provide gravitas for Town Council business and flexibility for civic occasions. The Design Team had suggested installing benches in the Public Gallery, said Cllr Fox. There was also a plan to resite a wall in the lobby to its original position to create greater space in the hallway. Outside, she explained, two metal signs, one with an integral bench, were planned, together with a handrail fitted to the external staircase.

Councillors did not greet these plans with universal approval. They welcomed the decision to change the configuration of the Council table but rejected the idea of benches in the Public Gallery. Cllrs Worster, Cox, Kiff and Harris all called for matching chairs around the table and in the Public Gallery, a view shared by the majority. Plans to resite the wall in the lobby did not receive any support, with many councillors strongly opposed.

Councillors supported the idea of a handrail on the external staircase and called for it to be made from seasoned oak to match the stairs. Plans to install two metal signs, one with an integral bench, in the close vicinity of the Moot Hall met with a mixed reaction. Cllrs Worster, Walker and Osben said they did not like the material and Cllr Jones said it was a waste of money to integrate a bench into one of the signs.

Cllr Fox cautioned against changing the material of the signs, explaining that Historic England had been asked for advice and they had already approved the design. She would, however, consult the Design Team about removing the integrated seat.

The Town Clerk told the Committee she was in discussions with solicitors about the terms of the lease with the Museum and that discussions about rental payments were on-going. Cllr Worster complained that the artists impressions of the exterior of Moot Hall were misleading and asked for scale drawings of the signs so that their impact could be clearly seen. He felt that further discussions on the proposed lay-out of the Council Chamber were needed.

The Town Clerk asked for a series of resolutions to clarify the Committee's position on a number of issues.

**RESOLUTION to APPROVE** the installation, as illustrated previously, of two external signs indicating the Moot Hall on Moot Green was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Harris and **SECONDED** by Cllr Kiff.

**In favour 7**

**Against 0**

**Abstentions 0**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**RESOLUTION to APPROVE** the installation of a seasoned oak handrail for the external staircase of the Moot Hall was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Worster and **SECONDED** by Cllr Bond.

**In favour 7**

**Against 0**

**Abstentions 0**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**RESOLUTION to APPROVE** the provision of five identical tables and matching chairs for the Council Chamber and the Public Gallery was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Harris and **SECONDED** by Cllr Cox.

**In favour 7**

**Against 0**

**Abstentions 0**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**RESOLUTION to APPROVE** in principle the wording of a revised lease between ATC and Aldeburgh Museum, subject to further discussions was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Harris and **SECONDED** by Cllr Kiff.

**In favour 7**

**Against 0**

**Abstentions 0**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no proposer for plans to resite the wall in the Museum lobby or to install wooden benches in the Public Gallery in the Council Chamber.

### **3.2 Highways**

There was nothing to report

#### **4. Committee Finance Business**

There was no Committee Finance Business.

#### **5. New Services Committee Business**

Cllr Palmer told the Committee that a decision on a War Memorial conservation grant was still pending and advised members that a retail outlet in the town was organising a beach clean in the Spring. He said that he would be circulating committee members with a list of projects to be considered for the forthcoming year.

Cllr Worster asked whether the provision of two new defibrillators for the town would be accompanied by an increase in trained first-aiders. The Town Clerk pointed out the cost of the defibrillators included training in their use.

**There was nothing further to discuss and the meeting ended at 8.35pm.**