

WHITEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 13th December 2018

Present: Councillors G Roberts (Chairman); Councillor Forster; Councillor Hayes; Councillor Gill; Councillor Kane; Councillor O’Kane; Councillor Lowrey; Councillor Rayson; Councillor Walmsley

M Jewell Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

V Gorley Trainee Assistant Town Clerk

Kevin Murphy from West Cumbria Mining

1177/18 **Apologies For Absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Maudling

1178/18 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Roberts declared that he was a member of Cumbria County Council

1179/18 **Public Participation**

There was no public participation

1180/18 **To consider the Amendments to the West Cumbria Mining**

Application

The Council previously supported the planning application from West Cumbria Mining.

The Council considered a report from West Cumbria Mining and heard a presentation from Kevin Murphy from West Cumbria Mining on the amendments to planning application no 4/17/9007. Following a discussion it was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Hayes that the application and the amendments be endorsed and that the Council continue to support this application because of the area’s history and the benefit to the local economy.

RESOLVED – That the amendments to planning application no 4/17/9007 be supported by the Town Council and that the Cumbria County Council be informed.

1181/18 IN PRIVATE

Prior to the following items of business the Chairman moved the following Resolution

That in view of the special or confidential nature of the business about to be transacted it is advisable in the public interest that the public and or press be instructed to withdraw.

RESOLVED – That the public and press withdraw from the room

1182/18 Office Accommodation

The Council discussed a structural surveyors report with regards to office accommodation.

Following a discussion it was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor Lowrey that the building be purchased but that firstly the Clerk be asked to contact the Estate Agent to ask if there could be a reduction of £10,000 in the purchase price because of the cost of the repairs/improvements necessary to the building. If the answer is no then an offer be made to purchase the building at the asking price. A vote was taken and 7 Councillors were for the proposal, 1 Councillor was against and 1 Councillor abstained.

RESOLVED – (i) That the building be purchased but that firstly the Clerk contact the Estate Agents to ask if there could be a reduction of £10,000 in the purchase price because of the cost of repairs/improvements necessary to the building. If the answer is no then an offer be made to purchase the building at the asking price.

It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by Councillor O’Kane that the Clerk be authorised subject to financial regulations to employ a local solicitor to deal with the conveyancing of the building.

RESOLVED – (ii) That the Clerk be authorised subject to financial regulations to employ a local solicitor to deal with the conveyancing of the building.

Councillor Rayson left the meeting at this point and did not return

1183/18 Staff Pay Increase Report

The Council considered a report on staff pay increases for 2019/2020

It was proposed by Councillor Gill and seconded by

Councillor Lowrey that the pay increases in recommendations 2 (i) and (ii) of

the report be approved.

RESOLVED – That the pay increases in recommendations 2(i) and (ii) of the report be approved.

The Meeting closed at 7.10pm

Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen J. ...", written over the printed name "Chairman".