

Minutes of the Meeting of the **PUBLIC BUILDINGS**  
**BEST VALUE WORKING GROUP** held at the  
**Town Hall, Swanage** on **Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2002**  
at 2.00pm.

Present:-

Councillor A.H. Miller – Chairman.  
Councillor Mrs. C. Gainsborough  
Councillor J. Roscoe

Also in attendance:-

G. Brookes      Operations Manager (left 3.15pm)  
A.J. Leeson      Town Clerk  
K. Wells      Outside Representative (left 3.15pm)

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for their inability to attend the Meeting were received from Councillor Suttle (Town Mayor) and Councillor Mrs Wheeldon (Deputy Mayor).

2. **REVIEW OF ACTION PLAN – TOWN HALL & ANNEXE**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Wells, the Council's nominated electrical contractor.

In accordance with Minute 2.21) of the meeting held on 2/4/02, Mr Wells was invited to provide details of the difficulties in undertaking the electrical repairs, as prescribed by the Council's surveyor.

Mr Wells provided technical details of the limitations of the existing electrical installation. Details were given for consideration of a staged approach in upgrading and rewiring the Town Hall.

Further details were provided in respect of the Town Hall Annexe.

After a lengthy discussion, it was AGREED:-

To instruct Mr Wells to provide a written specification for further consideration.

3. **MINUTES OF MEETING – 2<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2002**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2002 were noted as a correct record.

Arising from Minute 2.4f) Councillor Mrs Gainsborough wished to clarify the proposal for the removal of the partitioning in the area of the main reception at the Town Hall. It was noted that the materials would be stored and partly reinstated, as deemed necessary following a trial period.

The Chairman in reference to Minute 2.6g) requested that clarification be given regarding conditions contained within the leases related to the Railway Station buildings.

**Town Clerk to investigate matters related to the arrangements made for insurance and business rates.**

4. **REVIEW OF QUESTIONNAIRES**

The Clerk presented details of the survey of residents. It was noted that 60 responses, representing a return rate of 40%, had been received.

The significant observations were recorded as follows:-

**Town Hall Buildings**

95% of residents supported the view that the buildings be retained and the existing facilities upgraded.

93% of respondents believed that greater use and income should be sought through private function hire.

77% of responses supported the free use of the facilities to other designated public service organisations.

88% of residents expressed the view that the Council should not sell the buildings in order to provide alternative modern offices and meeting rooms.

87% of respondents did not support an option to relocate the Tourist Information Centre into the Town Hall buildings.

The Town Hall was used or visited by 50% of residents surveyed.

5. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting be held on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2002 at 9.00am.

The meeting was closed at 4.15pm.

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