



Petworth Town Council

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**AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF PETWORTH TOWN COUNCIL TOOK PLACE
ON MONDAY 8th JULY 2019 AT 7.00PM IN THE PETWORTH TOWN COUNCIL
OFFICE, THE OLD BAKERY, GOLDEN SQUARE, PETWORTH**

MINUTES

PRESENT

Cllr S. Atkins	Cllr P Hewlett
Cllr R. Booth	Cllr C. Kemp
Cllr D. Burden	Cllr M Peet
Cllr A. Copus	Cllr J. Scallon
Cllr H. Desai	Cllr E. Singleton
Cllr N. Fox	Cllr C. Sproson
Cllr J. Fynes	Cllr J. Thorpe

Also present were Louise Steele, Locum Clerk and Andrew Carrington, adviser to the Council

There were no members of the public present

101/19 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman requested that mobile phones should be turned off and advised that the meeting would be recorded for the purposes of the minutes. He pointed out the fire escape route.

102/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr C Smith.

103/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors declared no disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item of business on the agenda.

104/19 NATWEST BUILDING

Councillors discussed the potential purchase of the former NatWest Bank premises to be used as Town Council offices. A written offer was made, subject to contract, subsequent to the Full Council meeting of 20 June 2019 (Minute 98/19 (f) refers) and the estate agent had requested that all interested parties submit bids by email before midday on Tuesday 9 July 2019.

Councillors reflected on their decision of 20 June and reported all the positive feedback that had been received from residents since the decision to offer to purchase the former bank premises had been publicised in the press and social media. Councillors were reminded to capture all that positive

feedback as evidence to support an application for a loan from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) should the Council's offer be successful.

Councillors heard further description of the title being offered for sale.

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and upon the proposal of Cllr Singleton, seconded by Cllr Scallon, the Council RESOLVED to exclude the public and press from the meeting at this point prior to continuing consideration of this item by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, ie commercially confidential matters.

The detail of the remaining discussion is recorded in a confidential minute which is not for publication until after the negotiations to which it refers have been concluded by the completion of the sale of the building concerned, whether that sale is to the Town Council or another party.

The following decisions are matters immediately in the public domain:

Upon the proposal of Cllr Hewlett, seconded by Cllr Scallon, the Council RESOLVED to withdraw its initial offer for the purchase of the premises and replace it with another offer subject to contract and survey.

The Council RESOLVED to create a Sub-Committee consisting of Cllrs Copus, Hewlett, Kemp and Sproson and asked that it meet (if required) on Tuesday 9 July, Wednesday 10 July and on any other date it might consider necessary and report back to the Full Council meeting scheduled for 18 July 2019. The terms of reference of that Sub-Committee are specified in the confidential minute.

Meeting closed 20:12.

Signed
Chairman

Date.....