



EYE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Town Hall Committee of Eye Town Council held at 7pm on May 28th as a remote meeting using Zoom

Persons attending Cllr Byles (Chair), Evitt, Hudson, Smith and Blake members of the Committee together with Cllrs Brandon, and O'Mard and Mrs W Alcock the Town Clerk

1. **Apologies** for absence Cllr Berry
2. **Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations** – none received.
3. **Public questions and Community Announcements** – none received.
4. **The Chair welcomed Cllr Brandon** who has decided to join the Committee.
5. **The Minutes of the previous Committee meeting held on 6th February** were considered and it was noted that the Town Hall was unlikely to hit its financial targets this year because of the pandemic.
6. **Review of Fees and Charges.** It was agreed unanimously that all fees and charges relating to the Town Hall should remain the same for the financial year 2020-2021 with the exception of events held in the Town Hall on New Years Eve. That evening is exceptional as New Year events attract a large number of people, involve the caretaker in more work than usual and the usually continue into the early hours of 1st January. There was a debate about the fee to be charged. It was noted the hospitality industry and the Town Hall are having a very difficult time financially this year because of the pandemic, that the overall costs in terms of caretaker's time are higher than a normal event. It was pointed out that a lot of people in Eye will be less well off this Christmas/New Year because of the impact of the pandemic on salaries and wages and therefore anyone organising a New Year's event will not be able to increase their charges. Finally **it was resolved unanimously** to increase the charge of renting the Hall over new year to £200 and that the Hall will be available to the hirer from 12.00pm on 31st December and 1st January so the hirer has plenty of time both to set up and to clean up after the event. It was also resolved unanimously that the services of the caretaker will be charged £12 per hour for any additional call outs. It was noted that the charges for the kitchen and the Licence will remain the same as last year.
7. **Insurance of the pictures in the Council Chamber and insurance of the Town Hall.** The new insurance premium was noted, and it was agreed by the Committee that a fresh valuation of the pictures should be obtained as the previous valuations were made prior to the pictures being vandalised. It was likely a new valuation of the pictures will result in a lower valuation and consequently no burglar alarm will be needed for the Council Chamber. It was also pointed out by Cllr Smith that this was

information needed to update the Council's Register of Assets. Cllr Evitt agreed to pursue the matter.

8. **The PWLB Loan** – The Committee noted that an application has been made by the Council to defer one instalment of the loan. If no deferral is given by the PWLB Board the money will have to come from the Council's reserves.
9. **Bookings of the Town Hall this year and the drop in rental income.** This was discussed and noted in Minute 5.
10. **The wedding to be held at the Town Hall on 11th July.** The Committee noted this event is still in the diary (although at this moment no wedding ceremonies are allowed)
11. **A future Chair of the Town Hall Committee.** The Chair announced that she had decided to step down as Chair in three months' time and invited the members of the Committee to choose a new Chair. The Chair agrees to continue as DPS for the rest of the financial year and will help any new Chair of the Town Hall Committee to carry out the duties of Chair.
12. **The next meeting of the Committee.** 25th June 2020.

The meeting ended at 8pm

Resolutions to Eye Town Council

1. To note the Minutes of the Town Hall Committee meeting held on May 28th
2. To resolve not to increase the Fees and Charges relating to the Town Hall in the financial year 2020-2021 with the exception of events held in the Town Hall on New Years Eve which will be charged £200 with the Hall available to any hirer from 12 pm on 31st December until 2nd January.