

Knutsford Town Council

Town Clerk: Adam Keppel-Green

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Minutes of the Town Council meeting held 15th October 2019 In the Lower Council Chamber of the Town Council Offices

19/079 Present

Cllrs Malloy, Gardiner, Beswick, Coan, Dalzell, Forbes, Fletcher, Gray, Hamilton Coan, McCulloch, Nicholson, Power and Robertson.

In attendance: A Keppel-Green (*Town Clerk*)

19/080 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Abel and Houghton (personal business)

19/081 To receive declarations of members' interests

Cllr Gardiner declared a personal interest in 19/083 on the grounds of being a Cheshire East Councillor. Cllr Nicholson declared a personal interest in 19/083 on the grounds of being a trustee of Knutsford Heritage Centre. Cllr McCulloch declared a personal interest in 19/083 on the grounds of being a member of the committee of the Friends of Knutsford Heritage Centre.

19/082 Public Participation

A resident noted the importance of the building, suggested that the cost of its management would be high due to its Grade II Listing and noted that neighbouring towns operating similar buildings run them at a net cost. It was noted the Neighbourhood Plan highlighted the need for additional community spaces and questioned whether purchasing the property would be in addition to the council's existing assets or whether it would involve rationalising.

A resident expressed anger at the council considering purchasing an additional property and suggesting the council instead focus its attention on Knutsford Leisure Centre where Everybody Sport and Leisure was proposing to invest significant funds inappropriately.

19/083¹ To consider whether to bid to purchase Marshall House

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the public and press due to the commercial sensitivity of discussions.

It was **RESOLVED** to:

- a) Lodge an expression of interest in purchasing the property
- b) Instruct a preliminary surveyor's report to provide an indication of works required

¹ Cllr Power arrived during the discussion of this item.

- to the building
- c) That a report looking at all options be prepared to enable a decision to be made

It was **RESOLVED** to readmit the public and press.

19/084 To note date of next meeting

The date was noted.

F E N A L