

Southwold Town Council
**Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Town Council of Southwold,
held via Zoom at 6pm on Monday 21st December 2020**

PRESENT: Councillor I Bradbury – Town Mayor
 “ D Beavan
 “ Ms E A Betts
 “ S Flunder
 “ Mrs P Goldsmith
 “ Mrs J Jeans
 “ M Ladd
 “ M Rowan-Robinson
 “ J A Windell

Also present; 4 members of the public, and the Town Clerk.

1. **Apologies:** *To receive apologies for absence.*
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Jordan.
2. **Declarations of interest:**
 - a) *To receive any declarations of Personal Interest regarding the agenda.*
There were no Declarations of Personal Interest.
 - b) *To receive any declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests regarding the agenda.*
Nil.
 - c) *To note the decision of the Town Clerk regarding requests for dispensations relating to this agenda.*
Nil.
 - d) *Councillors to be reminded of the requirement for them to individually update their Register of Interests as appropriate.*
The Town Mayor reminded members of their legal requirements to update the Register of Interest online.
3. **Matters from members of the public in respect of the item on the agenda.**

Police Station Site

A member of the public advised that they felt that the public consultation on zoom had gone well and that Councillors would appear to be interested in placing a bid for the site. The resident asked whether monies might be able to be raised by share option? The Town Mayor responded that Councillors had not made any decision as to whether to make a bid for the site and that this needed to be the first consideration.

A resident expressed concern that the project had little evidence of public support, little evidence of need, and concern that any building would follow the front of town designs which the electorate do not like.

The Town Mayor advised that the pro bono draft designs provided as part of the research into the site and its potential, were not by the architects who had carried out the front of town designs.
4. **Exclusion of Public and Press:** *Pursuant to section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is proposed that, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following;*

Cllr Windell asked whether it would be possible to have a discussion about whether a bid should be made for the site in public?

Members were advised that as any discussions about a bid would involve figures/costs which are all considered commercially confidential at this stage, then the matter could not be discussed in public at this stage.

On the proposal of Cllr Jeans, seconded by Cllr Goldsmith it was agreed with 7 in favour and 2 against that, due to the commercial confidentiality of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following;

To consider, and if agreed, approve a bid to purchase the Southwold Police Station Site.

All members of the public left the meeting.

Resolution 1 - After full discussion it was AGREED with 8 in favour and 1 against to open up negotiations to make a bid for the Southwold Police Station Site.

Resolution 2 – It was resolved to approve starting negotiations as per details in confidential Police site report 21/12/2020.