

FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

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www.faringdowntowncouncil.gov.uk

Clerk: Sally Thurston



Minutes of an Extra Finance & Audit Committee meeting held on Monday 30th January 2017 at 6.30pm in the Old Town Hall, Faringdon.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Andrew Marsden (Acting Chair)
Jane Boulton
Al Cane
Julie Farmer
Mike Wise

In Attendance: Sally Thurston, Town Clerk
Rebekah Pugh Deputy Town Clerk
Mel Lane, Sensory Garden Project Manager

1/2/17 Apologies for Absence
*Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllrs.
Steve Leniec and Angela Finn*

2/2/17 Declarations of Interest
None were made at this time

3/2/17 Minutes of Last Meeting – Monday 9th January 2017
The minutes were signed as a correct record.

4/2/17 Items for Information

5/2/17 Public Speaking Time
No members of the public wished to speak at this time.

6/2/17 Public Question Time
None received.

7/2/17 Willes Close Triangle

- a) Members received and considered a draft 25 year lease to the Sensory Garden Project on the land known as The Willes Close Triangle. The following amendments were proposed and AGREED:
- i. A rent of £1 per annum be applied
 - ii. A break clause be added allowing the lease be terminated if the project had not gone ahead within 2 years in order to protect both the Council and the Project should the Sensory Garden not go ahead for any reason.

The clerk will ask the Council's solicitor to action these amendments after which the draft lease should be returned to this Committee for discussion.

Additionally, members were happy with the 25 year term but, following advice from OCC that a term of over 7 years could be seen as a disposal of the property, it was proposed and AGREED that this advice be investigated fully to determine if any further action is needed.

- b) Members considered the question of issuing an interim letter of intent as requested by the Sensory Garden Project to enable the Project to seek further funding and assist in achieving charitable status.

It was proposed and AGREED that this Committee recommends to Council that, after appropriate legal advice, it issues a letter with the following conditions:

- i. that all the terms of the draft lease apply equally to the letter of intent;
- ii. and subject to further investigation of the possible breaching of the covenant in the transfer deed which refers to open space by the construction of a building to be used as a café on part of the land