



# BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

To: All Town Councillors  
Members of the Public & Press

Dorset Council Councillors

Dear Member

## **CORN EXCHANGE MEETING**

You are invited to attend a meeting with a Scheme of Delegation in place, which will be held **online** using Microsoft Teams on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.00 pm** to consider the following items.

Linda Scott-Giles  
Town Clerk  
10<sup>th</sup> May 2021

## **A G E N D A**

**The legislation introduced by the government, to allow for online meetings during the pandemic, ceased on 6th May 2021 and the facility to meet and make decisions using virtual meeting arrangements is no longer lawful. A Scheme of Delegation to the Proper Officer of the Town Council was therefore approved on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972), and – for full openness, transparency and democracy – Councillors will hold discussions in an online meeting to enable the Proper Officer to make informed decisions.**

Members of the public are invited to join the meeting by [clicking here](#). If, as a member of the public, you wish to speak in the Public Session, please notify the Town Clerk prior to the meeting via [admin@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk) or 01258 454500.

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, belief or disability), Crime & Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights.

All in attendance should be aware that filming, recording, photography or otherwise may occur during the meeting.

1. Public Session
2. Apologies
3. To receive any Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations
4. [Town Clerk's Report & Correspondence](#)
5. [To consider a request from the Town Museum for display of the bond doors](#)
6. To receive an update from Ingham Pinnock Associates

**Minutes of the Town Council and Committee meetings are available from Blandford Library, the Town Clerk's Office and at [www.blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk](http://www.blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk)**

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## **Town Clerk's Report & Correspondence**

Meeting with Historic England – IPA arranged a meeting with Historic England, architect, Malcolm Simmonds and council officers on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021, which IPA will update Councillors on at agenda item no. 7.

Town Hall Façade Lighting – The scaffolding was erected on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and the contractor started work on the architectural lighting scheme on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Invoices will then be sent to the Dorset Council so that the costs can be covered by the s106 funds committed to this scheme.

Lobby Glazing – Historic England has approved the final claim for this project and the balance of £1,000 has been paid.

Beam Detectors – The beam detectors had become faulty, so they have now been replaced with flame detectors. They have the added benefit of being lower down and are therefore easier to maintain.

## To consider a request from the Town Museum for display of the bond doors

The Town Museum is in the process of conserving the Bond Doors, which used to hang outside the museum (they are the two wooden doors to the right of the 'Museum Open' sign in the photo below). They are from the mid 1700's and, once the museum has conserved them, they are not sure where they can put them and have asked if the Town Council would be prepared to display them by hanging them in the Shambles.

The museum is not pressing for an answer as they need to do the conservation work first, which will take about a year. They have suggested that they could organise a plaque, detailing the history, and are of the opinion that they would hang against a wall, coming out about 7 inches. The two doors each measure 2.12m by 1.0m.



Upon receipt of this request, the Town Clerk advised that the council is not yet in a position to accept or decline the offer at this time. However, it is recommended that Councillors make a decision now to enable the museum the time to consider other options. The request was shared with Councillors by email and queries were raised over insurance cover as this would need to be included in the Town Council's insurance policy. Due to the current use of the Shambles, the Operations Manager has also highlighted the possible damage the doors will undergo with the weekly market.

Listed Building Consent would be required and Councillors will recall that one of the main objectives of the IPA / Malcolm Simmonds masterplan - which has secured positive endorsement from Historic England and Dorset Council - is to de-clutter the Shambles and remove unnecessary and intrusive additions such as the cupboards, service boxes. The aim is not only to re-establish some of the original purity of the design but also to reinstate the vista of the main entrance into the complex beyond, making it more inviting for users. To hang the doors in this space would go against this objective and it is unlikely that Historic England and the conservation officer would be minded to grant permission as they will not enhance the Heritage asset. The doors have no relevance to the Town Hall/Shambles or the Corn Exchange, that we are aware of, and it is probably not, therefore, an appropriate home for an isolated artefact.

Finally, were the Councillors minded to agree to the request, the works proposed for the building in due course would necessitate the protection and probably temporary removal of these doors which would be an added cost / complication and that should be taken into consideration.

It is therefore not recommended that the Town Council accepts the offer of the doors for display within the Shambles.

Linda Scott-Giles  
Town Clerk  
5<sup>th</sup> May 2021