

**BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL**

**DRAFT**  
Subject to confirmation

**Minutes of the Corn Exchange Meeting**  
**Held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 7:15pm in the Corn Exchange**

**PRESENT**

Cllr C Stevens – Chairman of Council	Cllr L Hitchings
Cllr S Hitchings	Cllr N Lacey-Clarke
Cllr H White	Cllr R Carter
Cllr P Clark	Cllr L Lindsay
Cllr A Cross	Cllr C Jacques – late arrival 7:19pm

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Town Clerk	Operations Manager
Ross Ingham (Ingham Pinnock Associates)	Nicci Brown

**IN ATTENDANCE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

Cllr B Quayle	Cllr R Holmes
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**8. PUBLIC SESSION**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**9. APOLOGIES**

Cllr H Mieville – Vice Chairman of Council	Cllr E Bray
Cllr K Herbert	Cllr P Osborne

**10. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

None had been submitted.

**11. MINUTES OF THE CORN EXCHANGE MEETING HELD ON 23<sup>rd</sup> MAY 2022**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr Cross and AGREED unanimously that the Minutes be APPROVED and SIGNED.

**12. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE**

The planning application for the loft hatch has been submitted by the architect.

7:19pm – Cllr Jacques arrived.

**13. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM INGHAM PINNOCK ASSOCIATES (IPA)**

Ross was in attendance to update Councillors on progress with the project. He talked through each section of the interim plans, explaining the different areas in further detail, and updating on the comms/consultation work as well as the funding applications that have been submitted.

Cllr Lacey-Clarke asked that the rear of the stage is made as accessible as possible. A discussion was held on the loss of office/storage space in the office area the necessary lifts would cause and the approximate costs to create this, which are £150,000. Ross recommended a disabled access audit is carried out to determine what possibilities there are and estimated that this would cost between £3,000 and £5,000.

**13. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM INGHAM PINNOCK ASSOCIATES (IPA) (CONT)**

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Lacey-Clarke, SECONDED by Cllr Carter and AGREED unanimously that

**A disabled access audit is carried out, after seeking quotations, with delegated authority given to the Chair of Council, Chair of Finance & Staffing Committee and Town Clerk to select a contractor using funds from the Corn Exchange Capital Projects budget line (1105) (Expenditure Authority: Localism Act 2011 s1-8).**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

Ross highlighted that the previous cost report for the project was produced in 2021 and, since then, the construction industry has experienced significant, abnormal levels of inflation. He noted that Councillors should therefore expect the cost of the project to increase and that further thought and discussion would be needed to mitigate this either through making savings or accessing further funds or a combination of the two.

**14. TO APPROVE THE INTERIM PLANS FROM DESIGN STAGE TO PLANNING STAGE WITH FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY**

The paper was noted (See Appendix A).

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Carter, SECONDED by Cllr Cross and AGREED unanimously that

**The Town Council approves the interim plans from design stage to planning stage with further details to follow prior to submission to the planning authority. This is subject to amendment pending receipt of the access audit report and council consideration of its contents/recommendations.**

**ACTION: TOWN CLERK**

The meeting closed at 8:24 pm.

**SIGNED .....**

**DATED .....**