



# BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

To: All Town Councillors  
Members of the Public & Press

Dorset Council Councillors

Dear Member

## **CORN EXCHANGE MEETING**

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Town Council which will be held in the **Corn Exchange**, Market Place, Blandford Forum on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 at 7:00pm** to consider the following items. This meeting will also be available to view online using Microsoft Teams [using this link](#).

Linda Scott-Giles  
Town Clerk  
15<sup>th</sup> May 2023

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

Prior to consideration of the following Agenda, there will be a democratic quarter of an hour, which may be extended at the discretion of the Committee, during which time members of the public may speak. During the course of the meeting, members of the public and our elected representatives from the Dorset Council may indicate they wish to speak, and, at the discretion of the Chairman, and with the approval of the Members, they may be allowed to do so on points of information only. The Committee may on occasion invite members of the public to comment on specific issues where points of information or their particular knowledge on a subject might prove of benefit to the Committee. 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. Disabled access is available. 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. [Minutes of the Corn Exchange Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023](#)
5. [Town Clerk's Report & Correspondence](#)
6. To receive an update from Ingham Pinnock Associates and the Design Team
7. Confidential

The public and press may be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity might be prejudicial to the public interest as per the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

- 7.1 [To approve fees for the next phase of the project](#)

**Minutes of the Town Council and Committee meetings are currently available from 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

**Public Works Loan Board** – At the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022, it was PROPOSED by Cllr L Hitchings, SECONDED by Cllr White and AGREED unanimously that the Town Council authorises the commencement of a loan application to the Public Works Loan Board to enable the project to go forward. This action will be carried out once the loan amount is known and (hopefully) interest rates have come down. A discussion was recently held with the Town Clerk of Swanage and the Chief Executive of the DAPTC, Neil Wedge. He confirmed that there is a large backlog and scrutiny for large PWLB applications is tighter and therefore, the more data/support and knowledge provided the more this will help applications. Neil Wedge added that, 'Community engagement is a critical part of the borrowing approval submission to DLUHC, so it is imperative that your councillors know what the community think.'

**Coronation Events** – It was wonderful to see the Corn Exchange full and bustling over the Coronation weekend of events.

**Planning Application** – Prior to the last extension to the deadline, the Planning Authority sought a further extension to P/FUL/2022/06707 and P/LBC/2022/06710 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023. This is to allow for the receipt of the comments of the Conservation Officer, of the Council, the possible submission of any necessary details and the processing of the applications. The architect is seeking an update on progress and will report back to the meeting.

## Agenda item 7.1

### To approve fees for the next phase of the project

#### **Background**

At the Town Council Corn Exchange meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021 it was resolved that:

**The Town Council approves the fee proposal for the next phase of budget to planning using funds of £181,000 from the Corn Exchange budget line 1105 (Expenditure Authority: Localism Act 2011 s1-8) to cover the professional fees for the following members of the design team; architect, quantity surveyor, structural engineer, M&E engineer and surveys, to include the following steps:**

#### **Report**

Councillors are aware that this phase of the project has been completed and this report is to seek approval for the fees to progress the project to the next stage (RIBA stage 4), undertaking the contractor procurement and securing funding.

#### **Financial implications**

The estimated fees for taking the project to the conclusion of the next stage as outlined above is £TBC. This value will be in line with standard industry percentage applied to RIBA Stage 4.

#### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that Councillors approve expenditure for the fees, if the figure is received prior to the meeting or presented in full at the meeting, using funds from Corn Exchange budget line 1105 (Expenditure Authority: Localism Act 2011 s1-8).

Jon Goodenough  
Operations Manager  
15<sup>th</sup> May 2023