



RECREATION AND PROPERTIES **COMMITTEE**

You are summonsed to attend a meeting of the Recreation & Properties Committee at the following, place and date.

Date: 26 May 2009

Time: Immediately following the Planning Committee Meeting

Venue: Council Chamber, Town Hall, Devizes

Enquiries: 01380 722160

The Town Mayor (Councillor Leighton)

Councillors: Mrs Burton Callow Mrs S Evans
Gudgeon Hopkins Parsons
Smith A R Taylor Mrs Winchcombe

AGENDA

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

To elect a Chairman of the Committee for the municipal year 2009/2010.

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

To elect a Vice Chairman of the Committee for the municipal year 2009/2010.

3. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record and authorise the Chairman to sign the minutes of the meetings held on the 28 April 2009, which have been circulated with the agenda.

4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

5. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

To receive any disclosure(s) of interest by a Councillor or an officer in matters to be considered at this meeting, in accordance with provisions of Sections 94 or 117 of the Local Government Act 1972 or the National Code of Local Government Conduct.

6. REPORT FOR DECISION – VENUES REDECORATION PROGRAMME

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee agrees and accepts the schedule and costs for the redecoration of the Corn Exchange and considers options for further redecoration of venues utilising the balance of the budgeted funds for 2009/10.

Purpose of the Report

To provide the Committee with details of the costs and schedule of works to redecorate the Corn Exchange and to suggest options for improving other areas within Venues, given the level of budget allowed for this year.

Background

The total budget allowed for redecoration of venues for 2009/2010 is £25,000. In order to maximise and increase usage of the Corn Exchange and Town Hall, and therefore income from hiring, the venues need to be improved and brought to a suitable standard to attract new business.

The improvements have been prioritised according to business need and specifications provided. Three quotations have been obtained for each piece of work from local contractors, with no single contractor being awarded the entire contract.

For the Corn Exchange, the work will be scheduled thus:

Phase 1 - Nightclub

Painting

£4700 – Contractor to work flexibly over 14 days with confirmed completion date of 15 August 2009. Considerable time has been taken to choose colours to reflect the nature of the nightclub and current trends. All painting will be carried to an agreed specification.

The work has been discussed in detail with Venues Supervisor and Venues Booking Administrator in order to cause minimal or no disruption to business.

Flooring

£ 6015.65 – new hardwood flooring will be fitted around the bar, and the existing carpet will be replaced with new. Contractor to work in cooperation with painting contractor, Bar Franchise Manager and Venues Team to ensure adherence to completion date.

Total cost for Nightclub: £10715.65

Phase 2 – Foyer of Corn Exchange

Painting

£4000 - Painting is to agreed specification, paint colours as existing.

Phase 3 - Ceres Hall

Painting

£4275 - Painting is to agreed specification, paint colours as existing.

Total cost of refurbishment: £18990.65

The above works do not include improved lighting in the Nightclub, furnishings which are to be funded through the bar franchise. Neither does it include replacing the Foyer carpet nor curtains, or the refurbishment of the Ceres Hall floor, as the cost of this work will exceed the remaining £6,000 left in this year budget.

Giving the limited funds left in the current budget, officers will look at all other areas and determine how best the budget can be spent to maximise visitor impressions of the Town Hall and Corn Exchange, which will hopefully be turned into additional income.

Through the venue audits, which are now being carried out on a weekly basis, other work, including redecoration of the Town Hall staircase, Council Chamber and repainting of the Assembly Room may be included in the budget recommendation for 2010/11.

Options Considered

Three quotations have been sought for each piece of work and each has been considered with regard to minimising disruption of business.

Implications & Risks

Financial and Resource Implications

Officers are not aware of any financial or resource implications, given that the recommended work is within budget.

Legal Implications and Legislative Powers

Officers are not aware of any legal implications. The Local Government Act 1972 S144 provides power to provide and encourage the use of facilities.

Environmental Implications

Officers are not aware of any environmental implications.

Risk Assessment

There is a risk that not completing the recommended works to the Corn Exchange will reduce the projected potential income from the venues, especially if the work in the Nightclub is not completed to schedule.

Crime and Disorder

Officers are not aware of any issues the Council should consider under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder act 1998.

7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At the Chairman's discretion, members of the public attending the meeting will be allowed to ask questions, make a statement or address the Council upon a matter of concern to that person which is relevant to the Council. A time limit of 5 minutes per person will be permitted, but this may be extended at the Chairman's discretion and a maximum period of 20 minutes has been allocated by the Council for this item of business.

TOWN CLERK