

MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Marlborough Town Council held on Monday, 26th-November, 1990 in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Marlborough at 7.00 pm

P R E S E N T

Councillor A. V. Gray
Councillor M. P. Cooper

Town Mayor
Deputy Town Mayor

Councillor L.H.Bulley
Councillor Mrs.H.A.Castle
Councillor S.R.Dobson
Councillor Mrs.J.C.Evans
Councillor J.N.Fogg
Councillor C. M. Green
Councillor R.S.Notton
Councillor I.J.Perryman
Councillor Mrs.L.M.Ross
Councillor D.I.Smithers
Councillor J.S.T.West

Mr. A. W. Skittrall

Town Clerk

234/90

PRAYERS

The meeting commenced with Prayers, said by the Town Mayor - Councillor A. V. Gray.

235/90

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs.O.L.Delyle-Turner, Mrs.J.M.A.Goodfellow and Mrs.J.E.Western.

At this point, Councillor S. R. Dobson proposed, seconded by Councillor Mrs.L.M.Ross and RESOLVED unanimously that the Public and Press be asked to leave the meeting, due to the fact that Confidential Matters were to be discussed under Section 100 of the 1972 Local Government Act.

236/90

NO. 132 HIGH STREET, MARLBOROUGH - MINUTE 197/90(b)

Following the Resolution passed by the Finance and General Purposes Committee, the Town Mayor - Councillor A. V. Gray reported that he had approached the owners of No. 132 High Street and although they were looking for a purchase price in excess of £350,000.00, they had agreed with him to settle for a figure of £335,000.00 for this unique building which dates back to the 17th century. A survey of the building had revealed that repairs were needed, possibly in the region of £85,000.00.

Referring to Counsel's opinion, the Mayor said that it was in order to purchase this property for the benefit of the town and lease it to a Charitable Trust for use as a museum.

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236/90

NO. 321 HIGH STREET, MARLBOROUGH - MINUTE 197/90(b) ctd

A debate ensued and the consensus of opinion was strongly in favour of purchasing the building with members of the Town Council serving on a Charitable Trust. Councillor C.M.Green felt that money should be spent on the building to make it weatherproof as soon as it is purchased, to protect the Council's investment. Councillor J.N.Fogg had misgivings about the nature of the Trust but supported the restoration of the upper floors and the eventual return of the 'Vicar's Library' to Marlborough, which he felt could be exhibited in any museum.

Summing up, the Town Mayor said that advice had been taken from the District Auditor and Counsel and he could see no reason why the Council were not able to purchase the property for the benefit of the people of Marlborough.

Proposed by Councillor S.R.Dobson and seconded by Councillor Mrs.J.C.Evans and RESOLVED by 10 votes to one (Councillor R.S.Notton voting against) and Councillors L.H.Bulley and C.M.Green abstaining, that we purchase No. 132 High Street, Marlborough for £335,000.000 for the benefit of the people of Marlborough, including cultural purposes.

The meeting ended at 8.11 pm