

DEREHAM TOWN COUNCIL

23rd January 2024

At a meeting of the **Markets & Buildings Committee** held at Dereham Memorial Hall on **Tuesday 23rd January 2024** upon the rising of the Planning committee.

Present: Councillors S Green (Chairman), C Coleman, H King, L Monument and R O'Callaghan.

Also present: Councillors P Duigan and P Morton, Town Clerk Tony Needham and Deputy Town Clerk Jillian Barron.

1. **To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor H Clarke.

2. **Declaration of Interest.**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **To consider block booking requests which include gaps during the hire period.**

The committee were made aware of situations where hirers of the Memorial Hall block book the hall but on the days when they are not using it their equipment is left in situ preventing the hall from being hired out to other potential hirers.

The committee were minded to recommend that if the Memorial Hall cannot be hired out due to equipment being left in the hall, then the hirer whose equipment it is should pay hire charges for those days. The matter would be raised with Dereham Theatre Company and brought back to the next committee.

It was recommended that other venues be approached to understand how they would deal with the problem of gaps and brought back to committee.

4. **To consider an update to the schedule of damages payable by hirers of the Memorial Hall.**

The committee recommended the Terms of Hire for the Memorial Hall be updated to include a deposit of £250 to cover the cost of returning the lighting rig to "set rig" if this is not done so at the end of the hire and £50 for not returning the sound desk to 'pre-hire set up'.

5. **To consider Memorial Hall rates for individuals raising money for charity.**

The committee recommended that if the hirer of the hall is a non-resident, then they should not get a discounted rate even if the event is for charity.

6. **To consider disposal of the Clavinova electronic piano.**

The committee recommended the Clavinova electric piano be disposed of either by selling or if that fails then donating to a Dereham charity/good cause.

7. **To discuss potential future activities.**

The committee discussed potential future activities.

Chairman