

MINUTES of the meeting of the TOWN COUNCIL held in the Queen Elizabeth School on the 26th January, 1984.

PRESENT: Councillor B.P. Doherty (Town Mayor);
Councillors Mrs. E.C. Conway, R.T.D. Hughes, J.H. Lewis,
W.R. Looker, Mrs. J.M. McCartney, Mrs. M.L. Middlemiss,
C.W. Parcell, Mrs. C. Parker and A.T. Sursham.

Apologies for absence were presented on behalf of Councillors C.F. Dalleywater, M.J. Honkinson, J.M. James, C. Parker and B.R. Walsh.

TOWN MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In expressing good wishes for councillors' and the Town Council's endeavours in 1984, the Town Mayor announced:

- a) that he had taken pleasure from representing the Town Council in a visit to Hinchingbrooke Hospital at Christmas, and from a similar seasonal visit to the Chestnuts Old People's Home;
- b) that a number of functions would fall to be undertaken in February, and
- c) that the proposed Civic Supper would be held at the Black Bull on Saturday 17 March, 1984 at 7.30 p.m. for 8 p.m. which, it was hoped all town councillors and their consorts would be able to attend. Details of the cost have still to be notified.

83/102 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th December, 1983 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor, subject to - in relation to Minute 83/92

- i) the deletion of the capital letter A and bracket in line 7 of the preamble, the deletion of the third word and all words thereafter in line 8 as far as and including the capital letter B and bracket in line 9;
- ii) the addition of the words "amounting to £4,000" after the word "expenditure" in line 9;
- iii) the deletion of the word "leased" and the substitution therefor of the word "dedicated" in part iv) of the second paragraph; and
- iv) the addition of the word "etcetera" at the end of resolution b).

Arising from the Minutes it was agreed and/or noted :

- a) that the subject of an increase in the Mayoral Purse be formally considered at the next meeting;
- b) that no written report had been required of the Town Councillors who had comprised the working party dealing with the Godspa request for financial aid;
- c) that the Town Councillors involved had properly obtained dispensations to speak on the subject of Minute 83/92;
- d) that the necessary co-operation of the P.T.A. had not been confirmed with respect to the Playscheme;
- e) that Minute 83/96 correctly reported the information given during the discussion of the subject therein described;

- f) that the two remaining town entry signs were being prepared; and
- g) that the traffic using the Muir Housing development was arriving and departing via Roman Way estate roads.

83/103 QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL - EXTENSTONS.

Mr. David Stokes, Architect, attended to present an interim report in connection with proposals of the District Council to re-site the public conveniences on their present location. which factor, it was considered might adversely affect the character of the development to be carried out by the Town Council. The Town Council concurred that the District Council's proposals were detrimental to their view of the eventual redeveloped School Hill, having been led to expect that the public conveniences would be relocated elsewhere. Thereupon it was

Resolved.- a) that the District Council be informed of the Town Council's strong objection to the public conveniences being redeveloped on School Hill in the face of a preferable location on Mill Yard; and

b) that the planning application for the extension and additions to the Queen Elizabeth School be made as previously agreed.

83/104 QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL - CONDITIONS OF HIRE/USE.

The Town Council gave detailed consideration to draft conditions of use/hire and booking form prepared by the Queen Elizabeth School Management Committee and, subject to

- a) the use of the phrase "hirer and/or user" where appropriate and
- b) the prohibition of smoking within the building in its present state, it was

Resolved.- that the Conditions of Hire/Use as now submitted be approved.

83/105 QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL - CARETAKER.

The Town Council were informed of the increased use being made of the premises and the consequent problems for Councillor Lewis who had undertaken responsibility for key holding for nearly two years. In addition, the difficulty of identifying a similarly conveniently located member of the Town Council was described. However, the Town Clerk reported the outcome of an approach to a public-spirited nearby resident who was prepared to undertake the responsibilities of key holding and caretaking duties attached to the use of the building. Whereupon, the Town Council recorded their appreciation of the responsibilities undertaken by Councillor Lewis and

Resolved.- that Mr. J.G. Brown of 25 Post Street be appointed to undertake the key holding and caretaking responsibilities for the Queen Elizabeth School under the direction of the Town Clerk and that a weekly payment of £5 be made in return for the services.

83/106 QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL - REMISSION OF CHARGE FOR USE.

An application was made by 2nd Godmanchester Brownies for a remission of the charges for the use of the School on Mondays from 5.45 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. The Town Council were informed that the Brownies had no funds at the present time.

Resolved.- That the charge for the use of the School by 2nd Godmanchester Brownies be waived for three months.

83/107 RECREATION GROUND - BYELAWS.

The Town Council gave consideration to the making of more up-to-date Byelaws and in that connection made a comparison between the contents and format of Home Office Model Byelaws series Xa and those existing made on the 7th January, 1963. Thereupon it was

Resolved.- that the Secretary of State be asked to approve new byelaws based on the Home Office Model, incorporating Clauses 7 and 10 of the current Byelaws and including a provision for regulating the use of metal detectors.

83/108 ST. ANNE'S LANE SITE. Marketing.

The Town Clerk reported that a number of enquiries had been received about the disposal of the site off St. Anne's Lane including an offer by a firm of estate agents to market it. In this latter connection the Town Clerk had requested a quotation on the fees the estate agents would charge, in response to which a quotation of 2% of the sale price had been received. The Town Council proceeded to debate the merits of the offer and upon the proposition that the offer made by the estate agents be accepted being put to the vote, it was declared LOST. Thereupon, the Town Council re-affirmed their decision to market the site as recorded in Minute 83/97 with a view to receiving offers by the 31st March, 1984.

83/109 REQUEST FOR GRANT. JACK AND JILL PLAYGROUP

A request by the Playgroup for financial assistance was submitted wherein it was noted that the Group used the Godspa premises. In the light of financial assistance already being given to Godspa, which, it was considered, indirectly assists other users of the premises, the Town Council

Resolved.- that the request for financial assistance be not acceded to for the reasons given above.

(Councillor Mrs. Conway here left the meeting).

83/110 ENVIRONMENTAL TROPHY AWARD.

Consideration was given to nominations for the above award which was sponsored by Huntingdon Rotary Club and it was considered that both the Godspa development and an enhancement project undertaken at Cow Lane were suitable for submission. However, as the closing date for entries was the 31st March, 1984, the Town Council agreed that further consideration should be given to the subject at the next meeting.

83/111 INTER-VILLAGE SPORTS COMPETITION

In giving consideration to the request for entries for the 1984 Competition the Town Council had regard to the problems encountered in 1983 in providing full teams for all the required events, and

Resolved.- That no team be entered in the 1984 Inter-Village Sports Competition.

83/112 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to the following applications whereupon it was

Resolved.- that the Director of Planning be informed that the Town Council recommend as follows:-

- (a) enlargement of sales area - Causeway Newsagents

APPROVE

- (b) gymnasium at Unit 31, Roman Way Industrial Estate

APPROVE

- (c) removal of existing piers and gate, replace by central gate and side wicket gates. St. Mary(s Church, Chadley Lane.

REFUSAL - the proposal would have an adverse effect upon the character of the existing entrance.

83/113 ACCOUNTS

Resolved.- that the following payments be approved. -

Thos. Fattorini Ltd. - pendent for Mayoress' regalia	£202	58
John Smith & Sons - church clock maintenance 1983	53	76
S.S. Motors (Fuels) Ltd. - heating oil, Queen Elizabeth School	142	50
J.A. Davie - salary and expenses	118	67
Inland Revenue	37	50
Petty cash	30	00

The Town Council clarified their decision with respect to the grant to Godspa in that it was the intention to meet the expenses of works up to a value to £1,000 in the current year and a further £1,000 in the ensuing year.

83/114 COUNCIL PHOTOGRAPH

The Town Mayor explained that Councillor Mrs. McCartney's proposed absence in the near future might prevent her presence in the photograph of Council Members if it was to be taken outside in April, whereupon the Town Council agreed that endeavours should be made for the photograph to be taken on either the 17th or 22nd March, 1984 in the Town Hall. It was noted that former Councillor Rev. J.P. Young and the present Vicar would be invited to be included in the respective photograph.

83/115 COUNCIL AGENDA - ORDER OF BUSINESS

In response to a proposal that consideration should be given to a means of avoiding occurrences which militated against prompt conclusion of business the Council agreed that the Town Mayor in conjunction with the Town Clerk should arrange the order of business accordingly.

Town Mayor