

CABINET

Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on Monday, 4 September 2023 at the Council Chamber - Council Offices at 10.00 am

Committee

Members Present:

Cllr W Fredericks (Deputy Chair)	Cllr T Adams (Chair)
Cllr H Blathwayt	Cllr P Heinrich
Cllr A Varley	Cllr L Withington

Members also attending:

Cllr C Cushing, Cllr N Dixon, Cllr A Fitch-Tillett, Cllr J Toye and Cllr L Vickers

Officers in Attendance:

Chief Executive, S151 Officer, Monitoring Officer, Estates & Assets Strategy Manager and Democratic Services Manager

Also in attendance:

Public

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr L Shires
Cllr A Brown
Cllr C Ringer

45 ROCKET HOUSE BUILDING, CROMER - REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND ENERGY IMPROVEMENT WORKS

The Chairman introduced this item. He welcomed the members of the public in attendance and apologised in advance that most of the discussion would be in private session due to commercial sensitivities. He explained briefly that the building was suffering extensive corrosion to the steel frame along with extensive damp issues. The full extent of the problem had not been fully determined but the deterioration had happened more quickly than anticipated. Although the possibility of claiming some of the cost for repairs from the principle building contractor had been explored, a considerable amount of time had passed and the initial building contractor was no longer operating.

There were a number of issues that needed to be considered – including net zero targets, EPC ratings and accessibility issues relating to the lift. He said that it was of historical importance that the RNLI museum was able to continue to operate from the building but the Council had no obligation regarding this. The other tenant in the building had been extremely successful and supported local employment and contributing to the visitor offer. He concluded by saying that external funding options would need to be considered, alongside the other options that were set out in the confidential papers.

It was proposed by Cllr T Adams, seconded by Cllr W Fredericks and

RESOLVED to pass the following resolution:

“That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to the Act.”

That the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure for the following reason – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). The appended reports contain commercially confidential information.

The meeting went into private session at 11.02am.

Members considered the information contained within the confidential papers. *The meeting returned to public session at 11.39am.*

The Chairman thanked everyone for their input. He said that there had been a detailed and thorough discussion about the various options and issues and the potential impact on the tenants.

Members had agreed that a further report should be presented in due course on the potential options and there would be a further confidential discussion to once there was an update on the technical issues.

It was proposed by Cllr T Adams, seconded by Cllr P Heinrich and

RESOLVED

1. To consider the options detailed in the exempt appendix A and to advise officers as to which is the preferred option, or priority of options following a further confidential briefing on the technical issues affecting the site and building.
2. To request a further report to be presented to Cabinet in due course on the preferred option or options.

Reason for the Decision:

To respond to the need for essential repairs, maintenance and energy improvement works to the building.

46 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

47 EXEMPT MINUTES - AGENDA ITEM 15 ROCKET HOUSE BUILDING, CROMER - REPAIRS, MAINTENANCE AND ENERGY IMPROVEMENT LEVELS

This minute is exempt for the reasons stated by the Chairman during the public session.

The meeting ended at 11.40 am.