

CABINET

6 APRIL 2021

Present: Councillors Forward (Chair), Barnett, Batsford, Chowney, Evans, O'Callaghan and Rogers

330. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Councillor Fitzgerald

331. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None received.

332. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st March 2021 be approved as a true record.

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February 2021 be approved as a true record.

333. HASTINGS LIFEGUARD CONTRACT

The Marketing and Major Projects Manager submitted a report to update cabinet on the performance of the RNLI ('Royal National Lifeboat Institution') operated beach lifeguard services in Hastings for the last four years and to recommend that a new contract is awarded for the next three years.

Cabinet discussed how the 'RNLI' provides an expert service. It was mentioned that as well as saving lives the lifeguards have been talking to and educating beach users. It was highlighted that the 'RNLI' supply their own equipment at their expense and fund the management structure for the lifeguard service. The Chair agreed that the RNLI provide an excellent service.

Councillor O'Callaghan proposed approval of the recommendations, seconded by Councillor Rogers.

RESOLVED (unanimously):

1. That HBC enter into a new three year contract with the RNLI for the RNLI to provide a beach lifeguard service at Hastings for the 2021 – 2023 (inclusive) seasons and they are appointed without going through the competitive tendering procedures.
2. That authority is delegated to the assistant director of regeneration and culture or her nominee to conclude the necessary legal agreements.

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Reasons:

Because the RNLI is able to provide a better service at better value than we can provide in-house.

334. URGENT ITEMS (IF ANY)

The Chair explained there is an urgent item regarding 2-12 Battle Road.

335. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED (unanimously) that the public be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the items of business listed below because it is likely that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of “exempt” information as defined in the paragraphs of schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 referred to in the relevant report.

The live stream was ended and the meeting proceeded in private session.

336. 2 - 12 BATTLE ROAD - DANGEROUS STRUCTURE

The Assistant Director Housing & Built Environment explained to the Cabinet the latest position regarding the proposed demolition of the dangerous structure in Battle Road and urgent temporary safety work to be undertaken to ensure any further movement is restricted.

Councillor Forward proposed approval of the recommendations, seconded by Councillor Barnett.

RESOLVED (unanimously):

- 1. The Chief Finance Officer (having considered the report from the Assistant Director Housing and Built Environment together with the accompanying evidence and witness statement) deems that the safety and corporate risks highlighted in the report require that urgent action is taken to remove the temporary safety provision in place at 2-12 Battle Road and that the emergency demolition of the structure is completed . In these circumstances, the Chief Finance Officer considers that the use of the tendering process would be unreasonable.**
- 2. In accordance with paragraph 16.1 h of the Financial Operating Procedures, the Chief Finance Officer is reporting use of the tendering exemption waiver to Cabinet.**
- 3. Cabinet agree that the recommended budget is allocated from the General Reserve for the demolition and associated costs.**

(The Chair declared the meeting closed at. 6.46 pm)