

# FARINGDON TOWN COUNCIL

## Minutes of an Extraordinary meeting of the Finance & Audit Committee held on Tuesday 28 July 2009 in the Council Chamber, the Corn Exchange, Faringdon

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. S. Leniec (Chairman)  
Mrs. M.J. Barker  
Mrs. J. Boulton  
Ms. J. Farmer (from Min. No. 69/09)  
A.V. Hickmore  
A. Marsden  
D. Price  
Dr. M. Wise

**In Attendance:** The Town Clerk

### **63/09 Apologies for Absence**

No apologies were received.

### **64/09 Minutes of last meeting : 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2009**

The Minutes were signed as a correct record.

### **65/09 Matters Arising & Action List**

The Chairman proposed that this item be deferred to the next ordinary meeting, and this was seconded and CARRIED.

### **66/09 Public Question Time & Public Speaking Time**

There were no members of public present and no questions had been received.

### **67/09 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were made.

### **68/09 Willes Close Triangle**

The Chairman explained that, following the circulation of the Title Document at the recent R&OS Committee meeting, it was noted that a clause within the document seemed to indicate that the Council had a right of access to the land through Willes Close. Further investigation by Cllr. Boulton had revealed two of the residents of Willes Close had claimed a 'ransom strip' across the land where the access should be. Cllr. Leniec suggested that Council needed legal advice on their rights, following which Council could decide what further action, if any, would be taken. The Clerk had obtained a verbal estimate of costs from Darbys Solicitors, for the work required to determine the Council's rights, in the sum of £300. Cllr. Dr. Wise proposed that the estimate be

accepted, which was seconded and CARRIED. The Clerk was asked to fund the expenditure either from the current year's budget or, after consultation with Cllrs. Wise and Leniec, to be taken from reserves.

### **69/09 Corn Exchange Telephone System**

Members received advice from the Council's IT advisor regarding the replacement of the existing telephone system. Cllr. Wise presented various queries and, following consideration, Cllr. Price suggested that a survey should be carried out of the Council's needs and a specification drawn up based on the outcome of the survey before embarking on the significant level of expenditure suggested. Cllr. Price offered to carry out a survey with a view to retaining the existing equipment and the cost options for the next 3 years. Cllr. Price proposed that the Clerk be delegated to make the final decision, based on the survey and, in consultation with Cllrs. Leniec and Wise, and this proposal was seconded and CARRIED.

### **70/09 Data Backup Systems**

Members considered various options for data backup suggested by the Council's IT advisor, which ranged from the purchase and set up of USB hard disks for each computer to using automatic off site backup service providers.

Cllr. Wise supported the use of USB hard disks, but presented various queries regarding implications with Microsoft Licensing and whether more than one disc image could be stored. It was proposed, seconded and CARRIED to purchase and install four USB hard disks at a cost of approx. £650 provided satisfactory answers to Cllr. Wise's queries were received.