HORAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Jackie Cottrell

Jackie Cottrell – Clerk

Minutes of the Extraordinary Full Council Meeting held on WEDNESDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2026 at 7.30pm to 8.09pm in the Horam Centre

In Attendance: Councillors Graham Knight, Andy Billings, Sue Lane, Virginia Roberts, Daniel Johnston, Jane Trott, Gary Brockhurst, George Poole and Jenny Howells

Also in Attendance: Horam Club Rooms Charity Trustee Bob Bowdler
The Clerk

PUBLIC SESSION

Mr Bowdler spoke as a trustee on behalf of the Horam Club Rooms Charity. The charity had resolved to sell the Horam Centre; the sales particulars had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting. The property would be advertised on the open market imminently. He stated that the charity understood the importance of the parish council having a public office in a prominent position in the high street. The charity would like the council to consider the purchase of the building and would look favourably on any offer received.

The charity was not aware of any potential repair works and the business rates were up to date. The charity had equal shares in the building with two other property owners and maintenance contracts were in place. The lease was in order.

The charity would disperse their funds to local groups and organisations in the form of grants which they envisaged would take several years. Mr Bowdler stated that the parish council may wish to apply for a grant themselves from the charity in the future.

Mr Bowdler confirmed that whilst a date had not been set for the property to go on the market, he reiterated the importance of the council to register their interest as soon as possible.

Members asked several questions regarding accessibility, taxation, funding sources and alternative options for the charity.

1005/09/26 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Sadler – Health reasons
Cllr Webb – Absent

RESOLVED Cllr Sadlers apologies.

1006/09/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Cllrs Poole, Brockhurst & Poole – Personal Interest

The Council thanked Mr Bowdler for his time.

1007/09/26 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC BY RESOLUTION –To consider whether to exclude the Press and public from the meeting during consideration of the following items pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reasons of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

RESOLVED to remove press and public at 7.43pm.

1008/09/26 TO CONSIDER THE STATEMENT TO THE PARISH COUNCIL RECEIVED FROM THE HORAM CLUB ROOMS CHARITY

The council discussed in detail the options available to them.

RESOLVED to request that the Horam Club Rooms Charity consider the option of the parish council becoming the sole trustee of the charity. The existing funds held would be dispersed by the charity. The parish council would run the charity as is and continue to pay rent. Any surplus funds would be dispersed in the form of grants to the community.

RESOLVED that if the sole trusteeship was not an option the council would like to acquire the building on the proviso that they can use their CIL funds and other available grants.

To**: All Members of the Parish Council:** Councillors: Andy Billings, Jennifer Howells, Graham Knight, Sue Lane, Virginia Roberts, Ann Sadler, Jane Trott, Jonathan Webb, Gary Brockhurst, Dan Johnston and George Poole

Copy to: Councillors Greg Collins & Diane Gould District Council Ward Members for Horam and Punnetts Town and Councillor Stephen Potts, East Sussex County Councillor