



DAWLISH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

*Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held at The Manor House, Dawlish on **Tuesday 9th February 2010***

Present:

Cllr. Mrs. J. Bush
Cllr. H. Clemens
Cllr. Mrs. P. Bloomfield
Cllr. Mrs. C. Payne
Cllr. Mrs. R. Prowse
Cllr. F. Tullis
Cllr. D. Collins (*from 6.50p.m.*)

In attendance:

Mr. John Winchester, Town Clerk

The Town Clerk informed Members present that both the Town Mayor, Cllr. G. Wills, and the Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Mrs. H. Humphries, were suffering illness and had tendered their apologies for the meeting. It was therefore necessary for Councillors present to select a Chairman for the meeting from amongst those present.

It was RESOLVED unanimously by the Members present that Cllr. Mrs. R. Prowse should chair the meeting.

With Cllr. Mrs. R. Prowse in the chair

The meeting was opened by Cllr. Mrs. R. Prowse at 6.31 pm.

156. Apologies

Members present received apologies from the following Councillors:

- Cllr. Mrs. M. Mugford who was recovering from an operation and unable to attend

- Cllr. Mrs. H. Humphries, Deputy Mayor, who was recovering from an operation and unable to attend
- Cllr. W. Protheroe who had another commitment
- Cllr. G. Wills, Town Mayor, who was suffering illness.
- Cllr. Mrs. H. Wills who had a work commitment
- Cllr. A. Turpin who had a family commitment
- Cllr. G. Price who had another commitment

RESOLVED unanimously by the Members present and voting that the apologies be accepted by the Council.

157. Dawlish Town Council's response to Parish Poll called for 4th March 2010

Members present considered a draft flyer. Minor amendments were made and it was RESOLVED unanimously that this should be used by the Town Council to state its case for the parish poll to the electors of the parish. **TC157**

Councillors further unanimously RESOLVED that the following actions should be taken:

1. Town Council staff can be employed in order to distribute the flyer throughout the parish.
2. Town Council staff negotiate an advert with the Dawlish Post in that paper urging parishioners to vote 'No' on the 26th February 2010.
3. Town Council staff negotiate an advert with the Dawlish Gazette in that paper urging parishioners to vote 'No' on the 3rd March 2010.
4. Town Council staff to investigate whether copies of the flyer could be inserted into the newspapers and delivered to electors in that fashion,
5. Town Council staff should ensure that all pubs, cafes, tourist information, library, surgeries, dentist surgeries and supermarkets throughout the parish have copies for members of the public to access.

The meeting closed by the Chairman, Cllr. Mrs. R. Prowse at 7.00p.m.

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 Cllr. Mrs. R. Prowse
 Chairman

A Parish Poll has been called for by Electors in the Parish to decide the future of The Manor House.

**YOUR
VOTE
COUNTS**

THE MANOR HOUSE, DAWLISH



The Manor House is Grade II Listed and is home to Dawlish Town Council. It is also open for hire by the public. This beautiful building is nearly two hundred years old and was never designed to be used as a community centre: disabled access is limited

and it is difficult to incorporate modern facilities where Grade II restrictions apply. When repairs are needed, specialist craftsmen often have to be employed at considerable cost, where an ordinary householder would be able to choose a cheaper alternative.

PARISH POLL

What you need to know about the Parish Poll on 4th March 2010

Who can Vote? Any person on the Electoral Roll for Dawlish can take part in the Parish Poll. This includes Electors in Cofton, Cockwood, Holcombe and Dawlish Warren as well as the town of Dawlish. *Find out if you are a registered elector by calling Electoral Services on 01626 361101*

Where can I Vote? The Poll will take place on **THURSDAY 4TH MARCH 2010** **between the hours of 4.00p.m. and 9.00p.m.** at the following locations:

- The Manor House, Old Town Street.
- Cofton Village Hall, Cockwood
- Holcombe Village Hall, Holcombe

What will I be voting for? The question you will be asked is: *“Should the Town Council be required to keep the Manor House as Council offices and for the benefit and use of the parish of Dawlish, and commit to a full programme of repairs and maintenance? Answer: Yes or No.”*

How should I vote? To help you decide on whether you should vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’ some facts about the Manor House and its funding are set out overleaf.

Some facts for you:

- The Manor House is open for 84 hours per week and used for 43.75 hours per week. Even when the building is empty it still has to be heated and cleaned and the rates and water charges paid.
- Last year it cost £70,150 to keep the Manor House open. Income was £40,542.54.

The short-fall of £29,607.46 was paid for entirely from Dawlish Council Tax.

- The building is used by 19 groups who use the building weekly (for a maximum of 4 hours at a time), 9 who use it on a monthly basis and 31 other groups who use the building from time to time.



Dawlish tax payers have subsidised these user groups to the tune of £29,600 before any maintenance or improvements are done.

The Town Council has already stated it will carry out a study of the Manor House to explore the best ways to manage the building and the best way forward for both Council Tax payers and users of the facilities.

If you vote 'No':

- you will be saving the Council Tax payers of Dawlish from unlimited expenditure on the Manor House for an unlimited time.
- You will be ensuring that your elected Town Councillors are able to make the best use of the money you pay in your Council Tax for the facilities provided for the whole of the Parish of Dawlish and
- you will be enabling the town of Dawlish to move forward into the 21st century by providing first class facilities for future generations as part of the town regeneration.

If you vote 'Yes'

- As a Council Tax payer you will have voted to fund all the repairs and renovations to The Manor House even though you may not use it. The question asked in the Parish Poll ***does not set any limitations on the amount you will be asked to pay*** and ***does not set any limitation on how long you will have to keep on paying*** for repairs and maintenance to the building.

This document has been produced by Dawlish Town Council , The Manor House, Old Town Street, Dawlish EX7 9AP. Tel: 01626 863388
email:townclerk@Dawlish.gov.uk website: www.dawlish.gov.uk