

**Minutes of an Urgent Meeting of the Town Council held at the Town Hall, Rye, on Monday 24 November 2008**

**PRESENT** Councillors Granville Bantick, Jonathan Breeds, John Breeds (**Deputy Mayor**), Brian Elliott, Lorna Hall, Sonia Holmes, Jo Kirkham, Paul Osborne, Frank Palmer, Ian Potter, Shaun Rogers, David Russell, Mary Smith, David Wright

**IN ATTENDANCE** Richard Farhall - Town Clerk; Andy Hemsley – *Rye Observer*; 4 members of the public

*The meeting commenced at 7.18 and was chaired by the Deputy Mayor.*

**80 APOLOGIES**  
Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs Bernardine Fiddimore, David Russell and Sam Souster (**Mayor**).

**81 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**  
There were no disclosures of interest.

**82 PROPOSED CHARITABLE TRUST**  
Although the agenda item was to consider the appointment of up to six individuals as trustees of the proposed Heritage Centre Charitable Trust and to consider any other pressing matters relating to its formation, the Clerk advised that former Rye Christmas Lights Festival organiser, Peter Cosstick had suggested that RTC might like to consider contracting with him to manage the Heritage Centre on a profit share basis. Not having to employ a FT manager could mean that RTC bidding for the Rye TIC contract (2009-12) was a viable proposition.

*At this point Cllr Osborne declared a personal interest as a Member of the authority offering the TIC grant.*

Cllr Osborne suggested that RDC would be more inclined to work with a 'known' operator – such as RTC – rather than a new organisation (such as the trust proposed).

Cllr Potter observed that the Heritage Centre Working Group had not ruled out a TIC remaining on the premises and that Peter Cosstick's proposal did not necessarily prevent the creation of a HC trust in the future.

**RESOLVED 1 To defer facilitating the setting up a Heritage Centre charitable trust.**

**RESOLVED 2 To consider Peter Cosstick's proposal in more detail at a future meeting – including whether RTC should bid for the new Rye TIC contract.**  
Clerk

**83 URGENT ITEMS**  
There were no urgent items to consider.

*The meeting ended at 7.41.*

Date ..... Chairman .....