

C3 ITEM 34

**Rye Town Council**

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**From:** "PrincipalsPA" <PrincipalsPa@Hastings.ac.uk>  
**To:** "Rye Town Council" <townhall@ryetowncouncil.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 25 May 2010 15:31  
**Subject:** RE: Lion Street site, Rye  
Dear Richard

Whilst I am happy to supply the Town Council with the information requested, I am afraid that I cannot do so at this stage. This is because the College finance team have undergone a significant restructure and we have only recently appointed a finance director, coupled with the fact that we are in the middle of the following:

Managing the new build cash flow  
Co-ordinating the finances for the £97m new build  
Preparing the autumn accounts for 09/10  
Preparing a draft budget for 10/11 to make significant savings.

Whilst I recognise that this may be a priority for Rye Town Council it is not for me. I have to prioritise Sussex Coast College Hastings and therefore the above must take precedence.

I will of course forward you the information once the College is in a more stable position. I can assure you that at present we have no plans for the Centre, especially as the Library will not be moving until December 2010 at the earliest.

Yours sincerely

Sue Middlehurst  
Principal

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Rye Town Council  
**To:** PrincipalsPA  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 07, 2010 2:54 PM  
**Subject:** Lion Street site, Rye

Dear Sue

The Town Council recently considered the discussion on this matter at this year's Rye Town Meeting.

Members resolved to support the proposal passed at that meeting that 'Rye Town Council should engage in constructive efforts to safeguard the area so designated [FE Centre] for the benefit of the local community'.

In pursuit of this resolution I have been asked to contact you requesting the information following for the FE Centre for the financial years 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09:

**a) total revenue** – including lettings, notional income from College's own activities, income (if any from ESCC).

**b) total expenditure** – including on site staff costs, caretaking and cleaning, heating and lighting, routine maintenance, allocation of central or other off site costs.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Richard Farhall  
Rye Town Clerk

Richard Farhall  
Clerk to Rye Town Council  
Town Hall  
Rye  
East Sussex  
TN31 7LA

Date: 17 May 2010

Our ref: IRD/RYE0011

Your ref:

Dear Richard,

## **RYE ALLOTMENTS**

As instructed I have been pursuing the possibilities of a transfer, statutory or otherwise of the land at the two sites or some other kind of lock on the use of the land.

The District Council's view is as follows:

- (a) the land is owned by the District Council and its use is unfettered
- (b) the District Council has power to provide non-statutory/temporary allotments and proposes to continue to do so
- (c) it accepts that the Town Council is the allotments authority under the Allotments Acts in respect of Town Council area
- (d) it will not agree to the fettering of that land through covenants
- (e) it will agree to the grant of a long lease to the Town Council which would include covenants not to use the land other than as allotments
- (f) the leasehold proposal would assure residents by the imposition of a double lock on future disposals
- (g) if the Town Council wishes to secure a freehold transfer of the sites it would have to demonstrate that more can be achieved through this route rather than the grant of a lease which has been offered
- (h) the District Council is not obliged to do anything about the ownership of the sites
- (i) the District Council is nervous that certain elements within the Town Council are seeking the land for future development opportunities which could accrue equally to

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the District Council particularly through the medium of the Local Development Framework.

Nothing which the District Council has stated comes as any surprise and reflects my advice to you. The long lease proposal (subject to the terms) represents a sound way forward and secures the site for another 100 plus years. The Town Council needs to be clear about its objectives and what is in the best interests of its taxpayers.

I have prepared forms of restriction and I propose to test the water by making the application in respect of the South Undercliff site first.

Yours sincerely

Ian Davison  
Hedleys Solicitors LLP  
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