

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD TUESDAY, 27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2006 7.30PM**

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Present:	The Mayor	Cllr M G Ford
	The Deputy Mayor	Cllr J W Doyle
	Councillors	R J R Baker MBE
		R M Bodle
		J K Fox
		P E Freeman
		J Groom
		J Leach
		Mrs S M Nunn
		S W Nunn
		J J Reed
		C T Sampson
		A D Stacey
		V F Starling
	Town Clerk	Mrs J M Markwell
	Deputy Clerk	Mrs S D Porter

**904. To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs C D Bond (work commitment), Mrs P M Dean (family commitment), C Pyatt (prior engagement), Mrs P A Roberts (holiday) and S C Teverson (family commitment).

The apologies were accepted.

**905. To receive Members Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**906. To discuss the acquisition of the Town Hall (confidential item)**

**Proposed – The Mayor Cllr Ford      Seconded – Cllr Sampson**

**‘To invoke Standing Order 5a, that in the view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest, that the public and/or the press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.’**

**All in favour**

**Proposed – Cllr Fox**

**Seconded – Cllr Sampson**

**‘That having given careful consideration to the advantages and disadvantages of once again owning and managing the Downham Market Town Hall, having sought relevant professional advice, that the Council endorses the view that we now proceed to formalise the acquisition by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007, subject to satisfactory heads of terms being agreed between the Borough Council and the Town Council.’**

**All in favour**

**Proposed – Cllr Fox**

**Seconded – Cllr Groom**

**‘That the Working Party duly informs the Leader of the Borough Council of our decision so that the special expenses element to Town Council of £54,100.00 be removed from next years Borough Council charges in time for their deliberations in December 2006.’**

**All in favour**

The Mayor, Cllr Ford, closed confidentiality and resumed the meeting.

The Mayor, Cllr Ford, would contact Mr Dobson inviting him to carry out a joint press release regarding the transfer.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.02pm.