

**Minutes of the Town Meeting
held in
The Mayors Parlour
on
Tuesday 7th May 2019**

Minutes:

Present: Cllrs: Jay (Mayor) Grant (Deputy Mayor), Parnes, Cooper, Bleakley, CClr Ian Hudspeth, WODC Civil Engineer Anthony Holdsworth, and some 40 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr P. Redpath, T. Redpath, Rasch, U. Parkinson, M. Parkinson, Cllr Poskitt had notified she would arrive late.

The Mayor: chaired the meeting and thanking those attending and also Cllr Parnes for agreeing to take the minutes and stated the whole purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Oxfordshire County Council's 'decision' to demolish the Woodstock Library sited in Hensington Road.

Cllr Parnes gave a short overview of the situation to date.

Cllr Hudspeth addressed the meeting stating that the construction of the Library building was not the best and there had been problems since the mid 90s which had to be monitored over the years and had slowly worsened; and the decision to demolish the building had not been made lightly. He also outlined the temporary facility now being housed in the Oxford and County Museum Park Street Woodstock.

Cllr Grant: asked why the building had not been repaired right from the start rather than monitor and let it deteriorate further.

Cllr Bleakley: asked if the OCC had the building insured

Neither of the above questions were answered.

WODC Civil Engineer Anthony Holdsworth then addressed the meeting stressing the dangers of the building stating that it was built in 1985 using an inferior construction method and was of poor design.

Mr Jonathan Madden (resident of Woodstock) circulated a paper summarising the history of the proposed demolition of the Library and proposed the following motion.

Motion Proposed by Mr Jonathan Madden – Seconded by Mrs Beryl Ware (resident of Woodstock)

That Oxfordshire County Council retains ownership of the Hensington Road site, and that efforts are made to keep the site for the future benefit of the community of Woodstock and Surrounding Villages

Vote: nem con

There were 3 non voters present

The Mayor closed the Meeting

Approved at Annual Town Meeting held on 26.04.22