

**REQUISITION OF CABINET DECISIONS (Item 11, 26.10.11)**

**Review of Community Halls**

We the undersigned, Cllrs' Clarence Barrett and Keith Darvill, hereby requisition the Cabinet Decision made on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2011 in respect of the 'Review of Community Halls' on the following grounds:-

A) That the Cabinet Report dated 26<sup>th</sup> October 2011 did not provide adequate and detailed information to facilitate an informed opinion on the proposals for the future of Community Halls referred to in the report. The report should have set out in detail inter alia the following:

- 1) the capital cost of refurbishing each hall (paragraph 1.5 of the Report alludes to this but fails to explain);
- 2) the current income and expenditure budgets for running each of the halls;
- 3) the breakdown as to how the proposed revenue budget savings (£60k in 2012/13 and £107k in 2013/14) will be achieved;
- 4) the approximate market value of capital receipt should Dukes Hall be sold and information as to whether the proposed sale includes the adjoining car park;
- 5) the future plans for the Old Windmill site and the approximate resale value of the land upon which it is sited;
- 6) the future of Cottons Hall should a lessee not be found;

B) There is an absence of information about the consideration given (if any) to an alternative strategy of refurbishing the Halls without having to sell Dukes Hall.

C) There is an absence of information about the past and possible improved/alternative marketing strategy that could be adopted to promote the use of Community Halls.

D) There appears to be little or no consultation with the existing users regarding the proposals and a lack of information about the timescales involved.

E) There remains uncertainty about the future of New Windmill and Tweed Way if lessees are not identified and contractual arrangements entered into. Recommendations 4 and 5 of the Report state that a further report will come back to

Cabinet if lessees are not found, but paragraph 4.1 states that the halls will close if no lessees are found.

F) There appears to be inadequate support and planning and an absence of assurances provided to the existing user groups at Dukes Hall who may have to relocate.

G) Recommendation 7 in the Report indicates that existing bookings will be protected –however it does not state whether this protection extends to regular bookings as well as one-off bookings.

Cllr Clarence Barrett  
Leader of the Opposition  
Residents' Association

Cllr Keith Darvill  
Leader of the Labour Group