
Urgent Decisions Committee

MINUTES of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, ME10 3HT on Thursday, 2 July 2026 from 5.30 pm - 5.51 pm.

PRESENT: Councillors Lloyd Bowen (Vice-Chair), Tim Gibson (Chair), Hannah Perkin and Julien Speed.

PRESENT (VIRTUALLY): Councillors Tony Winckless and Dolley Wooster.

OFFICERS PRESENT: Lisa Fillery, Tim Neal and Emma Wiggins.

OFFICERS PRESENT (VIRTUALLY): David Johnson.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mike Baldock, Richard Palmer and Ashley Wise.

159 **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

The Chair outlined the emergency evacuation procedure.

160 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

161 **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

Resolved:

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business of the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Schedule 12A of the Act:

3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information). See note below.

162 **Acquisition of an Asset**

Relevant officers introduced the report and outlined the recommendations.

Members were invited to ask questions and provide comments. These included:

- Requesting detail on the current value of the asset;
- seeking clarity on the scope of purchasing parameters;
- information on the long term budgetary implications; and
- impact in terms of Local Government Reorganisation.

Officers advised:

- The proposed asset price was considered to be reflective of the current value given economic conditions;
- purchasing parameters would be set between the Head of Place and Head of Legal with the Section 151 officer with full consideration of the budgetary position;
- in time, this acquisition would be cost neutral to the budget; and

- The asset would transfer to any successor authority as part of Local Government Reorganisation.

Resolved:

- 1. To delegate authority to the Head of Place, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and Head of Legal, to negotiate and agree the acquisition of the asset detailed in the exempt report, subject to:***
 - ***satisfactory completion of due diligence and title investigation;***
 - ***an independent Red Book valuation; supporting the agreed purchase price;***
 - ***the terms being within parameters to be agreed with the Section 151 Officer.***

Chair

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All minutes are draft until agreed at the next meeting of the Committee/Panel