

## **Finance and Administration Committee – 9 March 2017**

### **Agenda Item FA1240/17**

#### **Renewal of the Parish Council Building**

##### **Introduction**

This agenda item concerns the creation of a Working Party to look into the renewal of the Parish Council Building.

##### **Background**

The current Parish Council building was erected on site in April 1993 and the current asset value is £46,685. (Note: the valuing of assets was required to be changed in 2010/11 from insured value to actual value).

The building consists of two prefabricated units joined together and has been the centre of Parish Council business since its erection. The life span of these types of prefabricated units from that era is in the order of 15 to 20 years.

As can be seen from the recent floor collapse in the toilet, the cracks appearing on the roof of the Chamber, the building is now, I submit, degrading to a point whereby repairs will not be cost effective or even possible.

It does not meet current insulation standards and does not provide either the Clerk or the other members of staff with suitable office, toilet, washing and changing facilities.

Other than the Clerks office and the main Chamber, there are no meeting rooms or other spaces available for Councillors to conduct meetings and storage space is also lacking.

The building is without a shadow of a doubt coming to the end of its life span and could already be considered as unfit for purpose.

##### **Proposals**

That, subject to Full Council agreement:

1. A working party be established with the brief to look into the renewal of the Parish Council Building on the site of the present building.
2. A figure of £5000 be taken from reserves and placed as a budget item for this working group with the intention of it being spent on the professional services of an architect to draw up plans (based on research from present Councillors, The Clerk, and Staff) for a new Parish Council building ready for submission to Three Rivers District Council planning committee.
3. That this working party should report back to Council with its proposals in time for the precept and budget considerations for 2018/2019. (i.e. October this year)

Signed and submitted by Cllr Mark Saxon  
Seconded by Cllr Jeremy Hollands