

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL  
HELD ON FRIDAY 18 AUGUST 2017 AT 7.00 PM IN THE TOWN HALL**

**PRESENT:** The Town Mayor Councillor F R Carr  
The Deputy Mayor Councillor C M Brimecombe  
Councillor J R Carr  
Councillor D W Gallichan  
Councillor A J V Grant  
Councillor M Jones  
Councillor B L Kotkowicz  
Councillor R J Parry  
Councillor J A Rowlands  
Councillor S Zalot

**The Town Clerk was in attendance**

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor G Evans-Jones

**The Town Mayor took the Chair**

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**21.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest

**22.0**

**TO ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SPECIAL FINANCE AND PLANNING  
COMMITTEE OF BEAUMARIS TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 14 AUGUST 2017**

It was proposed and seconded that the recommendations of the Special Finance & Planning meeting be adopted.

A member said that he would be voting against since he did not know why a Human Resources Consultant was needed by the Council. He believed some Councillors had much more detailed knowledge. He understood there had been complaints but thought that these should be dealt with 'in house'; instead the matter had gone public. If there was proof of wrongdoing then the matter should go to the Standards Committee,

*7.04 pm Councillor S Zalot joined the meeting*

A member said that the resolution made at the Committee meeting was for Ellis Whittam to be engaged as HR Consultant as well as enquiring of prices from other companies. He understood £2,000 could be spent without going out to tenders, as stated in the Standing Orders.

The Town Clerk said that several proposals were made at the meeting. The first was indeed to appoint Ellis Whittam as HR Consultant, but then questions arose as to the need to go out for competitive prices. An argument was put forward that all other Councils in the area used Ellis Whittam and so they should be engaged. However, there was no suggestion as to how much this would cost. Earlier in the week, at a meeting with the Administrative Assistant, he had discussed the matter with the Chairman of the Committee and they had agreed that several prices were needed. His normal practice was to obtain quotes if the cost of a service exceeded £1,000. With this in mind, he had contacted several local Councils to get an approximate cost of the HR service. The Councils he originally contacted said they did not use an HR Consultant. Later, when he spoke to Ellis Whittam directly, they mentioned that they did provide a service but for only three Councils in the LL postal area. These were Holyhead, Prestatyn and Llangefni. The cost of their service would depend exactly on the requirements of the Council. Llangefni Council paid £1,600 per year for a multiple-year contract. His enquiry suggested that the annual charge could exceed £4,000 per annum.

The Town Mayor said that he had asked the Administrative Assistant to obtain two prices, but this had not happened. The Town Clerk said he had only heard about this earlier in the day but the Administrative Assistant had not had time, also he had not seen the Council's resolution requesting prices.

A member said he believed Councillors agreed to engage Ellis Whittam. Even if they did this, competitive prices could still be obtained.

The Town Mayor stated that Standing Orders indicated that tenders were only required if expenditure exceeded £2,000. In contrast, a member referred to Financial Regulations. These came into place in 2016, and required Council to obtain value for money in all purchases.

A member stated that he understood that the SLCC engaged Ellis Whittam, and asked if they was likely to be a conflict of interest. Others did not feel that there would be a conflict and a vote was called for.

The Town Clerk said he wished to know exactly what the Town Council wanted the company to do. Advice was available on Health & Safety issues, disputes and employment regulations. A member said that all these issues should be included. It was suggested that the cost would then be greater than £2,000. A member stated that in his view the company should be approached, it should be explained there had been a complaint and Council wished to know how to tackle it. The Town Clerk should have a meeting with the company and if there was a charge for the visit then this should be paid. After this, Council could then evaluate the way forward. The Mayor stated that he felt the Deputy mayor and the Chairman of the Audit & Personnel Sub-Committee should be present at the initial meeting with the company.

It was proposed and seconded that Ellis Whittam be appointed as HR Consultant as a matter of urgency. The Town Clerk should invite the company to a meeting where the Deputy Mayor and Chairman of the Audit & Personnel Sub-Committee would also be in attendance. At a vote, the proposal was passed by a majority

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**Town Mayor**  
**Councillor F R Carr**

**Date** .....