



RYDE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICER REPORT

Committee:	FULL COUNCIL
Date:	1 NOVEMBER 2021
Title of Report:	APPLEY TOWER PROPOSAL
Report from:	LISA DYER – TOWN CLERK
Context:	FORMAL AGREEMENT OF PROPOSALS PRESENTED TO FULL COUNCIL AT THE MEETING HELD ON 7 OCTOBER 2019
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1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At the Full Council meeting held in October 2019 Natural Enterprise presented a proposal to Ryde Town Council regarding the redevelopment of Appley Tower as the building had been closed to the public for some time and in need of extensive repair.

The plans outlined working as a partnership with Natural Enterprise, the IW Council and Ryde Town Council, as well as grant funders to ensure the future of the building and bring it back into use. The Council was supportive of this approach and agreed that Natural Enterprise develop a viable plan to save the building and report back to Full Council once a viable project and preparatory work had been undertaken.

At the time of the presentation in October 2019 Ryde Town Council agreed to the proposal pledging £40,000 match funding towards the project. At the time it was unclear whether the IW Council would commit any funding to the project. The IW Council's agreement to match funding was necessary for the project to go ahead, and this funding has now been secured.

The funding of the proposal was outlined in the Council's Corporate Plan adopted in September 2020. It was agreed that that working with Natural Enterprise to bring the Tower back into use mitigated against any risks associated with Ryde Town Council owning the building and ensured the future of one of Ryde's most iconic buildings without the Town Council having to fully fund the renovations.

2. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council has £40,000 in the 2021/22 budget for this project. Due to the time taken to develop the proposals it is suggested that if the project doesn't complete in 2021/22 financial year that the funds are earmarked in reserves until the funds are required.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- i. That the Town Council agree to the proposal as outlined in Natural Enterprise's presentation to secure the future of the building.**
- ii. That the Town Council formally agree to committing £40,000 to the project and earmark this sum in reserves if not required by the end of this financial year.**