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| Committee | FULL COUNCIL |
| Date | 18 July 2022 |
| Agenda Item | 5c |

Clock on Halstead Library

Planning permission has been received to allow the positioning of a clock on the Halstead Library, as a commemoration of the Queen's platinum Jubilee. Fixings must be made through the mortar and not the brick. Listed Buildings consent recommendations must be followed.



This clock, as shown on the planning application, to purchase and install in good working order £4300

Recommendation: that HTC approves the purchase and fixing of an appropriate clock.

Sarah Greateorex

Sarah Greateorex Town Clerk

2 Monklands Court
Halstead
Essex CO9 1AB

9 July 2022

Dear Cllr Mrs. Pell

Commemorative plaque and clock at Halstead Public Library

The Town Council now has its Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent for the installation of these things. I objected to both applications. Among my concerns was the damage the Council's work would do to the evidence of the 19th century entrance canopy. My concern was shared by the County Council's Historic Buildings Consultant and the District Council's specialist officer (copy of both opinions enclosed). As a result of these forebodings strict conditions have been applied to the Listed Building Consent.

No doubt the District Council will ensure that the planning conditions are adhered to. Certainly, I will also want to see that requirements imposed regarding the installation of the clock and plaque have been exactly complied with.

Although the Council has its permissions there is no compelling need to proceed with the purchase and installation. I believe that the clock will not be regarded by local people as a commemoration of the royal jubilee. Rather, it will be seen as a monument to the Town Council's lack of planning and corporate disrespect for a historic building in its ownership.

The Town Council's worrying treatment of a heritage building is not limited to the clock. The County Council and the District Council shared my concerns about the unattractive clutter festooning your building. They have both emphasized the need to re-evaluate and remove unnecessary signage. In this respect the Town Council has often criticized other applicants for planning permission when they have proposed unsympathetic changes to historic buildings. Now, under the Town Council's care, the library building has one of the busiest and abused facades in the town.

Please act on the advice given by the Principal Authorities and remove all unauthorized and redundant accretions on the Library.

Yours sincerely

R. C. Richmond

Cllr Mrs J. Pell
Town Mayor
Halstead Town Council