

## Press Release

### North Street Premises

At a Full Council meeting on Tuesday 17 October 2023, Ilminster Town Council voted not to pursue the purchase of the North Street Council offices from Somerset Council.

The Town Council had been offered the building by Somerset Council as part of its devolution of assets. Whilst it could have been an opportunity for the town council to acquire the building it was felt by Members that the condition of the building would have required a large amount of public funds to bring it to a standard that would see it useable by the community. During the recent community consultation the community largest response indicated that people did not think the council should purchase the building.

Over the next few months the Town Council will be looking at its priorities for the coming years and is keen to help the community in as many varied ways as it can either directly or indirectly. There is a desire to provide some youth provision for the young people in Ilminster as well as to support those who are finding it difficult as a result of the current cost of living crisis.

The Town Council is aware that there are a number of organisations that would like the building for their own use. These organisations are encouraged to contact the Town Council for assistance should they acquire the building in their own right.

With Somerset Council facing increasing financial difficulties the Town Council also recognises the need to set aside financial provision should it be required to assume responsibility for some of the services that Somerset Council currently provide.