

We put forward the following motion for examination at the extraordinary meeting.

This Council recognises that the proposals of this administration as regards Delapré tea rooms are inadequate on a number of levels, and recognises the failure of this administration to consult adequately with the local community.

This Council notes the huge local and town wide interest in this issue, and acknowledges the significant anger with the administration regarding their handling of it.

Council further recognises that proposals to relocate the tea-room to “dog poo alley” and to reduce the seating from 130 to 28 would make the tea-room unviable, forcing its closure. We further recognise that according to the charity commission’s website, where accounts are lodged, the tea rooms made a profit last year, despite statements to the contrary.

Council affirms its thanks for the hard work of the local community and the membership of Friends of Delapré Abbey over a number of years, and recognises that without their input the heritage lottery bid would not have been successful, and resolves the local community and FoDA members will be fully included and meaningfully consulted with regards to developments and changes to Delapré Abbey.

Council further resolves to honour the promise to offer the FoDA tea room a rolling lease in their current location, including access and provision for seating in the walled garden, up until the time work makes the location uninhabitable. During this period, Council will ensure there is a suitable alternative provision prepared for the tea rooms during the works. Council resolves that in this context, “suitable” must be signed off by a free vote of the *members* of FoDA.

Sincerely,

Brendan Glynane

Roger Conroy

Mick Ford

Dennis Meredith

Sally Beardsworth