

Motion submitted by Councillor Tierney
Concerning works to a damaged building in Wisbech

“On 22nd April 2022, a building in Wisbech Town Centre, the original Cashino, unfortunately burnt down in a fire. Since then, whilst scaffolding has been erected, the building remains in a burnt-out state and has not yet been brought back in to use. The burnt-out building holds a key location in Wisbech Town Centre and its poor state is having a detrimental effect on the outlook of the town and its ongoing business.

The Council believes:

- (1) It is reasonable to expect that the building should be brought back in to use as soon as possible.
- (2) The effect on the town of this building remaining in its damaged state is significant.
- (3) That some preparation works have been done by the owner and that meetings are forthcoming with Fenland District Council officers to discuss this matter.

Officers have delegated statutory authority to require action to be taken in certain circumstances however to avoid this becoming a requirement, Council requests:

Fenland District Council officers to work with the building owners to expedite the important repairs that will put the building back in good order as early as possible.

Where this is not achievable, Officers are asked to consider exercising their statutory powers and assess the options for enforcement action if a planning application is not forthcoming in the next few months to ensure that the Council has taken all possible action to achieve a positive outcome.”