

Reduction in Chamber Hire charges

Historically, all hirers of the Chamber were allowed to use the kitchen facilities and they were given a key to the main office to get to it. However, this meant they could also get access to the computer and shared drive with the data contained on it.

Following a General Data Protection Regulation audit in 2020, the Council was advised it had to secure the aforementioned computer to prevent access by third parties.

Hirers can no longer use the kitchen but those renting the Chamber for private functions are still being asked to pay the hourly rate set of £18.

Town Hall officers have looked at alternative options such as moving the computer into one of the locked offices, but this is not possible without a financial outlay.

The Chamber is now hired infrequently, perhaps twice a year, for private functions so there will not be a significant decrease in income.

As a reminder, community groups still book the chamber regularly, but they do not pay a hire charge.

RECOMMENDATION: The hourly rate for hire of the Chamber is reduced from £18 to £10 as the kitchen facilities are no longer accessible to hirers.