

REPORT ON A MEETING OF THE POLICY, DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE & STAFFING COMMITTEE HELD AT 7.00PM ON TUESDAY 9th JANUARY 2007 IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, THORNE.

Present: Cllr. R.Walker (Chair)

Cllrs. P.Best, A.Brookes, C.Dallas, F.Dallas, I.Edwards, M.Holt-Taylor, J.Martland, M.Oldknow, P.Richardson, C.Williams and M.Williams.

1142. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from:

Cllr. J. Cresswell – personal

Cllr. C. Taylor-Hatem – personal

Cllr. N.Walsh – personal

RESOLVED: That the apologies be accepted for attendance purposes.

1143. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following declarations of interest were made:

Cllrs. C.Williams, M.Williams and R.Walker – personal interest in the item relating to possible boundary changes as DMBC Councillors.

Cllr. M.Oldknow – personal interest in the item relating to a pedestrian crossing on Church Balk as a director of Trinity Academy.

RESOLVED: That these declarations of interest be accepted.

1144. MINUTES

Consideration was given to signing the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 31st October 2006.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be signed.

1145. POSSIBLE BOUNDARY CHANGES

Mr T. Machin from DMBC Electoral Services addressed the Council on the progress of the review of Parish and Town Councils, which his department had carried out.

- The review of Thorne-Moorends Town Council had been initiated by the Doncaster MBC Elections Capital and Finance Committee.*
- It was noted that the Thorne-Moorends Council had not wanted a review and had consistently voted for Thorne and Moorends to stay together.*
- The review had included public consultation by writing to every household but the results were inconclusive; only 45 replies had been received.*
- DMBC were proposing to continue the review at some time in the future with further consultation.*
- The residents of Waterside (which was the oldest part of Thorne) did not wish to be in Stainforth-Moorends Ward.*

There were anomalies on Selby Road where it appeared that houses nearer to Moorends were in Thorne Ward and vice-versa.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the Town Council wished for the review to be concluded at this point since it was clear that the vast majority of electors were happy with the status quo.**
- 2) That DMBC be asked to consider putting Waterside back into Thorne Ward and to sort out the anomalies on Selby Road.**
- 3) That Mr Machin be thanked for his presentation.**

1146. POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL OF POST OFFICE SERVICES

A letter had been received from Doncaster MBC requesting support for their lobbying campaign to keep post offices open.

RESOLVED: That the Council write to Doncaster MBC pledging the full support of Thorne-Moorends Town Council to Doncaster's campaign to keep post offices open.

1147. PEDESTRIAN CROSSING – CHURCH BALK

Trinity Academy had expressed concern about safety issues caused by traffic and parking on Church Balk particularly at the beginning and end of the school day.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council support the idea of having a pedestrian crossing and/or reducing the speed limit to 20mph.

1148. STANDING ORDER 58

Consideration was given to Standing Order 58 in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted.

RESOLVED: That Standing Order 58 be invoked to allow Councillors to consider confidential matters.

1149. 2007-08 BUDGETS

Consideration was given to the estimates for 2007-08. It was noted that the precept would be fixed at the next meeting of the Council.

RESOLVED:

- 1. That the budget be prepared on the basis of costs for 2007-08 at 3.6% above the expected outturn on 31st March 2007.**
- 2. That no increase be made in the Council's charges except for the Cemetery which would be increased by 2.5% and those charges that normally were increased annually by inflation.**
- 3. That an allowance be made in the budget for possible legal costs.**

1150. STAFFING MATTERS

Consideration was given to the notes of the Staffing and Finance Working Group, which met on Friday 5th January 2007.

1. Staff member E009

RESOLVED: That the implications of the application be deferred pending independent advice.

2. Staff member A034

RESOLVED: To discuss returning to a payment for actual hours worked plus bookings with the staff member concerned.

3. Mobile Phones

RESOLVED: To continue to closely monitor calls.

4. Supervisor

RESOLVED: To advertise the position internally, initially for a three-month period renewable monthly. (Three spinal points).

End of meeting.