

REPORT ON A MEETING OF THE POLICY, DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE & STAFFING COMMITTEE HELD AT 7.00PM ON TUESDAY 12th APRIL 2005 IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, THORNE.

Present: Cllr. R. Walker (Chair)

Cllrs. M.Ball, P.Best, A.Brookes, I.Edwards, M.Holt-Taylor, J.Martland, M.Oldknow, P.Richardson, N.Walsh and M.Williams.

718. APOLOGIES

There were apologies from:

Cllr. J. Cresswell – Personal commitment

Cllr. F. Dallas – Personal commitment

Cllr. V. Fellowes – Business commitment

Cllr. C.Williams – Personal commitment

RESOLVED: That the apologies be accepted for attendance purposes.

719. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

720. MINUTES

Consideration was given to signing the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8th March 2005.

Under item 700 it was reported that the applicant had confirmed his wish to take up the rental of the piece of land and the Mayor confirmed that he had been given one months rent free to fence it.

RESOLVED: That this course of action be approved and that the minutes be signed.

721. DMBC INDEPENDENT PARISH RENUMERATION PANEL

Consideration was given to the report of the above group dated 16th March 2005.

RESOLVED: That the Council did wished to continue it current policy whereby no payments were made to members.

722. GRASSCUTTING EQUIPMENT

Consideration was given for tenders for grasscutting equipment. (These had been received by fax due to the urgency of the matter.)

Tender documents had been sent out to three suppliers and the quotations received for £3400, £3350 and £3090 all plus VAT.

RESOLVED: That in the interest of best value the lowest tender of £3090 from RBM Agricultural be accepted, (PHA1875, S164).

723. ANNUAL AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS TO 31ST MARCH 2004

It was noted that the accounts had been signed off by the external auditor HLBAV Audit on 31st March 2005. There were two recommendations relating to the level of the Fidelity Guarantee and updating Financial Regulations.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Return as audited together with the auditor's recommendations be accepted by the Council.

724. 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 and the press and public be asked to leave.

702. TOWN CENTRE LAND AND PROPERTY

725.1 Market Place Site - *It was reported sale to be completed in the next few days.*

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

725.2 *Consideration was given to a report from the Council's Agent in respect of the King Street site where a new offer of £550,000 had recently been received. The buyer confirmed that the offer was unconditional (other than ground investigation) and that a non-returnable deposit of £25000 would be paid on exchange of contracts with completion by the end of August 2005. If completion did not take place by this time the deposit would be forfeited to the Council.*

RESOLVED: That in accordance with our Agents advice the new offer be accepted subject to a non returnable deposit of £25000 being lodged and papers signed within fourteen days.

End of meeting