

**REPORT OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, THORNE ON TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2003 AT 7.00PM.**

**Present:** Cllr. R. Walker (Chair)

Cllrs. P.Best, A. Brookes, J.Cresswell, V.Fellowes, M.Holt-Taylor, R.Lees, D.J.Martin, J.Martland, M. Oldknow, P.Richardson, N.Walsh, C. Williams and M.Williams.

**216. APOLOGIES**

Apologies had been received from Cllr. F.Dallas - Holiday.

**RESOLVED: That these apologies be accepted for attendance purposes.**

**217. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Cllr. Cresswell stated that he would leave the room for Staffing Matters as a relative worked for the Council.

**RESOLVED: That Cllr. Cresswell's proposed action be approved.**

**218. MINUTES**

Consideration was given to signing the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2003.

**RESOLVED: That the minutes be signed.**

**219. MARKET TOWNS INITIATIVE**

**219.1** Consideration was given to a letter from the MTI Project Manager dated 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2003 giving details of the proposed town guide together with costings. All Councillors had been given a draft of the guide which was thought to be good. A number of small points were raised and it was agreed that these would be put to the MTI Manager. Some concern was expressed about possible wastage of guides where they were delivered with the free papers especially outside the immediate area and the MTI Project Manager would be asked to look into this.

**RESOLVED: That the Guide, together with the necessary match funding be approved (LGA 1972, S142).**

**222.1** Consideration was given to the overall table of MTI projects.

**RESOLVED: That the Councils contribution to the projects listed in the table be approved.**

## **220. PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS**

### **220.1 Moorends Community Centre**

Immediate works were:

- Provision of fencing to perimeter of car park.
- Rendering.
- Cleaning front elevation.
- Repairs to roof.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- i) That tenders be sent out as soon as possible.**
- ii) That regeneration money would be sought for the extension and internal refurbishment required.**

### **220.2 Moorends Welfare Ground**

It was reported that:

- Painting of the grandstand was nearly complete.
- Planning permission had been sought for the fence to No. 1 pitch and junior changing rooms.
- Motorcycle barriers were being ordered and that it was intended that the large gate would be locked at all times when not actually being used. It would be necessary to inspect the perimeter fence weekly and repair damage regularly.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- i) To go out to tender for the fencing and motorcycle barriers as soon as possible.**
- ii) To seek regeneration funding to rebuild the pavilion.**

### **220.3 Thorne Memorial Park**

It was reported that there had been good progress with the fountain aerator having been installed and new flower beds planted. Another aerator had been ordered and the hedge was about to be lowered. The railings would be painted and the war memorial area improved in the Autumn.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- i) That the report be accepted and necessary expenditure approved (Public Health Act 1875 and War Memorials Act 1923).**
- ii) To seek regeneration funding for improvements to the footpaths, provide edgings etc.**

## **221. STANDING ORDER 58**

Consideration was given to the implementation of 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 public and press be asked to leave.**

**222. TOWN CENTRE**

**222.1** It was reported that the sale of the land between St. Nicholas Road and King Street was nearing completion.

**RESOLVED: That this completion should be by the end of September.**

**222.2** It was reported that interest had been shown by parties interested in acquiring the land and property adjacent to the Market for mixed use.

**RESOLVED: That the Agent be instructed to draw up an offers letter by mid September. It was noted that any sale would be subject to planning permission which would take some time.**

**222.3 Coulman Bungalow** – A discussion took place with Comet Transport, occupiers of the Coulman Bungalow. It was acknowledged that Comet had carried out a large number of improvements but that utility bills were becoming a burden on the Council. (It was understood that Comet had offered to pay their own utility bills in future.)

**RESOLVED: That, subject to Comet Transport confirming their offer to pay utility bills, the rent should remain at £20.00 per week.**

**224. STAFFING MATTERS**

It was recognised that many staff contracts had not been updated for some years and that consideration should be given to doing so. In additions arrangements would need to be put in place to cover for the retirement of staff no. Z019 at the end of the year. The Clerk recommended that any advice should be obtained as to the proper procedures that should take place.

**RESOLVED: That these matters be referred to the Policy Committee who could consider setting up a staffing sub committee.**

**End of meeting.**