

REPORT ON A MEETING OF THE POLICY, DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE & STAFFING COMMITTEE HELD AT 7.00PM ON TUESDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2005 IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, THORNE.

Present: Cllr. M. Holt-Taylor (Chair)

Cllrs. P.Best, M.Ball, J.Cresswell, F.Dallas, M.Oldknow, P.Richardson, N.Walsh, C.Williams and M.Williams.

826. APOLOGIES

There were apologies from:

Cllr. I.Edwards - illness

Cllr. J.Martland – personal

Cllr. R.Walker – illness

RESOLVED: That the apologies be accepted for attendance purposes.

827. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

828. THORNE MOORENDS COMMUNITY RADIO

Councillors heard a presentation from the Project Officer:

- *The 28 day trial had been carried out in July/August 2005 had been very successful from the broadcasting point of view and had brought forward promises of business support for the permanent station. It had also attracted a number of volunteer broadcasters.*
- *The committee wished to continue for a permanent (5 year) licence to start October 2006. This would require long term funding which was being pursued.*

Councillors were very supportive of the project and suggested a widened output to include environmental subjects.

RESOLVED: That the Council supports the plans for the continuation of the project and would provide administrative and payroll support to the project as required.

829. THORNE HATFIELD MOORS

Councillors heard a presentation from a Consultant working for English Nature on the future of the English Nature Reserve.

Now that the future of the Moors had been secured English Nature were commissioning a feasibility study as to the way the resource can best be managed. The Consultant was working on the Community engagement part of the study and was seeking views on in particular:

- *Access*
- *Visitor facilities*
- *Education opportunities.*

Councillors stated that:

- *They were committed to the development of the Moors as a visitor attraction.*
- *A focal point was needed such as a visitor centre near Moorends.*
- *More effort should be made to publicise the Moors at the Airport, Humber Ports etc.*
- *An education facility was required for school visits etc.*

RESOLVED: That the Council write to the Consultant forwarding their views and that Councillor's individual comments would also be welcomed. The Council wished to continue to be included as a local stakeholder in all planning and a consultation matters.

830. MINUTES

Consideration was given to signing the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5th July 2005.

It was noted that:

Item 788 – Wyke Gate Road – chase up rent from DMBC.

Item 96 – arrange discussions with English Nature regarding ways of improving Jones Cable.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be signed.

831. COULMAN RECREATION GROUND IMPROVEMENTS

The Clerk gave a report as follows:

- a) A successful meeting had been held with the FA on 16th September when the FA conditions for the Council to be the applicant for funding had been agreed.*
- b) It was understood that planning permission had been granted.*
- c) That as soon as a budget price for the new building was available then the application could be submitted to the FA.*

RESOLVED: That the report be accepted.

832. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Consideration was given to the Statement of Accounts Payable to 30th September 2005, Vouchers 152 to 186.

RESOLVED: That the Accounts Payable be approved.

833. 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 financial matters.

834. FENCING WORKS

Consideration was given to quotations received for fencing at:

- i) Moorends Welfare Tennis Courts*
- ii) Wyke Gate Road Recreation Ground*
- iii) Peel Hill Motte*

RESOLVED: That the following quotations be accepted:

- i) Moorends Welfare Ground Tennis Courts
Darfen £5651.00 + VAT**
- ii) Wyke Gate Road Recreation Ground
Darfen £8790.00 + VAT**
- iii) Peel Hill Motte
ASC Fencing £13400 + VAT**

This expenditure (MPA 1976, S19) would be met from Capital reserves.

835. MARKET PLACE

It was reported that the Council had negotiated a final settlement with the contractor whereby £10187.93 was retained by the Council to carry out the necessary remedial works. It was recommended that this was the best possible result for the Council.

RESOLVED: That the account be settled, see Voucher 176.

End of meeting.