

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COULMAN PAVILION ON TUESDAY 10th DECEMBER 2019 AT 7.00PM.

Present: Cllr. M.Houlbrook (Chair)

Cllrs. A.Brookes, A.Cuttell, S.Durant, C.Ellis, D.Knight, A.Knott.

3 members of the public.

The Safety procedures in case of fire were explained to all present.

3498. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Cllr. C.Blackham

Cllr. J.Blackham

Cllr. N.Etherington

Cllr. J.Phillips – Illness

Cllr M. Phillips

Cllr. R. Powell - Work

RESOLVED: That the apologies be accepted.

3499. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllr. A. Brookes – Agenda item 12 relating to Citizens Advice Bureau.

Cllr. S. Durant – Member of the Doncaster Council Planning Committee.

3500. MINUTES

Consideration was given to signing the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10th December 2019.

It was suggested that all bank details are blacked out on reports before they are circulated.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be signed and accepted as a true record subject to the amendment.

3501. MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

There were no matters raised.

3502. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3501.1 Major Applications

- i) **19/02685/FUL** – Erection of a single dwelling with integral garage on Land rear of Moorends British Legion and Comrades Club, Marshland Road, Moorends.
Concern was expressed regarding flood risk to the location.

A vote was taken on the observation that the risk of flooding be raised. There were two abstentions

RESOLVED: Observations be raised on the grounds of flood risk.

3501.2 Minor Applications

- i) 19/02866/PDE - Erection of single storey extension to rear at 22 Oakmoor Road, Moorends.
ii) 19/02804/FUL - Change of use of first floor living accommodation to self-contained flat and installation of additional ground floor rear exit door at 10 King Street, Thorne.
iii) 19/02795/FUL – Erection of two storey side extension at 3 Newholme Drive, Moorends.

RESOLVED: No observations.

3502. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk circulated the Financial Report to the end of November.

The monthly payment list was circulated and the following points were raised:

- What were the charges to Blaze Fire Safety for? Supply and replacement of fire extinguishers.
- British Gas – were the charges quarterly or monthly? They vary for each site.
- Could the use of energy be monitored in the Moorends Pavilion.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted along with the comments made.

3503. BUDGET 2020/2021

The Clerk reported that the support grant will drop to zero in this financial year meaning a significant loss of income. The Council needed to decide how to address this loss of income.

Reference was made to a previous budget where an increase was made to accommodate the possibility of multiple elections and it was questioned where this money had gone. The Clerk said that it was still in the Council's accounts.

It was agreed that realistically the Council needed to wait to see the outcome of the election scheduled for 12th December 2019.

The Clerk gave a detailed explanation of many of the updated figures and his rationale for the changes.

Councillors were invited to email the Clerk with suggestion they wished to include in the budget.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted and that the budget would be discussed again at the meeting held on 21st January 2019.

3504. FORWARD PLAN

The Clerk reported that the Forward Planning Working Group meeting held on 21st October 2019.

Cllr. Ellis was the Chair and he reported verbally that the focus was on the Clerk and Council, Neighbourhood Plan, continued improvements in Governance and Health and Safety. They would forward the following: Delves Project, changing facilities at Toll Bar, South Parade Toilets and Park Café improvements. An audit of the Council's assets would be carried out. There was the VE Day Celebrations.

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for January/February 2020.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

3505. WAREHOUSE

The Clerk reported that the Warehouse had suffered two breakins in previous weeks. Nothing had been stolen on the first break in but on the second a ride-on mower and trailer were stolen and the roller shutter was damaged beyond repair. A metal security barrier was installed in front of the warehouse door. This proved to be no deterrent with locks quickly broken through. Police enquiries are underway and an insurance claim has been progressed.

The Clerk reported that Doncaster MBC store their machinery in the warehouse and he was in discussion with them as to whether they could make a contribution towards the security via a reduction in business rates.

Proposals to build a compound area in front of the warehouse was discussed and quotations were being sought for all options. Members were asked to consider if there is a wish to enhance security and further what level of cost they are willing to incur.

The Clerk reported that there had been calls for enhanced CCTV provision across all Council sites to help combat growing anti-social behaviour issues that are becoming ever more frequent and resulting in repeated damage to Council property.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk seek some indicative costings for various options both for the warehouse and CCTC and report back to Council in due course. Costs can be considered alongside the budgeting process for the next financial year and given consideration by the future planning working group as it develops its priorities for projects and considers the funding for each of those projects.

3506. CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported that:

- The Christmas Light switch on event held on Friday 29th December in the Market Place, and the Moorends Christmas Service on Thursday 5th December had been successful.
- He was awaiting a response regarding the Bradholme application.
- The damage to the Peace Garden wall was going to be carried out by Doncaster College.

- The Mayors Community Grant fund was inviting applications.
- The Office opening hours over the Christmas period and that Staff Training was scheduled for 3rd January 2020.
- Should Councillors have any training needs then they should advise the Clerk.
- There had been a resignation from one former Councillor and there would be an opening for co-option in January 2020.
- Harworth Estates had asked to meet privately with the Council and views from members were sought on how to approach the meeting.
Councillors said that as a Council they needed to be transparent and wondered whether the meeting could be open to the public.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

3507. STANDING ORDER 10a xi – EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

Consideration was given to the implementation of Standing Order 10 a xi (Exclusion of Press and Public) in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted

RESOLVED: That Standing Order 10 a xi is invoked due to consideration of confidential matters.

3508. CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The Clerk reported that the CAB had occupied the premises on Browns Lane for many years and pay £1 per annum rent. Council pay their service costs (electricity is paid by CAB). The Council has a duty to get best value from its assets. The building is in a terrible condition and needs some major works. Despite extensive searches no records of any formal lease have been found.

It was agreed that the CAB provide a valuable service to the community of Thorne and beyond. As Landlord the Council have duties to ensure that the building is in a suitable tenable condition, especially in the absence of any other repair arrangements detailed in a lease.

Councillors considered the service provided by CAB as pivotal and were concerned as to the condition of the building and wondered if an alternative building could be offered whilst building work is carried out.

There was one abstention to the resolution.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk opens a formal dialogue with the CAB to establish what terms and arrangements could be agreed to both help them continue but also ensure the Council is able to demonstrate best value whilst also having opportunity to undertake essential maintenance works that are needed to ensure the core asset value is preserved and to discuss options for location whilst the works are carried out for temporary use.

3509. WINNING POST GARDENS

The Clerk reported that the Company who had expressed an interest in acquiring the land have withdrawn that interest recognising that their times of operation for the land would cause complaints from the neighbours.

Council may wish to make the land available for sale and seek interest from adjoining landowners wishing to extend their gardens.

The other focus is to get the land cleared of the growth which has become uncared for and has caused complaints from neighbours.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk arrange clearance of the land in house.

3510. COULMAN BUNGALOW

Quotations had been sought for repairs to the roof of the Coulman Bungalow and varied in price from £3870 to 11,950 (inc VAT).

Councillors felt that more clarification was required and the Clerk was asked to go back to the lowest quotation and request breakdown of the works proposed. If the quotation says what works we want carrying out then it should be brought back to the next Council meeting.

End of meeting.