

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN THE WINNING POST CENTRE, MOORENDS ON TUESDAY 11th DECEMBER 2018 AT 7.15PM.

Present: Cllr. S.J.Durant (Chair)

Cllrs. J.Blackham, C.Ellis, N.Etherington, M.Houlbrook, D.Knight, A.Knott.

9 members of the public.

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

3333. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Cllr. C. Blackham – Illness

Cllr. A. Cuttell – Work commitment

Cllr. A. Jones – Illness

Cllr. J. Phillips – Illness

Cllr. M. Phillips - Illness

Cllr. R. Porter – Work commitment

RESOLVED: That the apologies be accepted.

3334. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

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

3335. MINUTES

Consideration was given to signing the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13th November 2018.

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

3336. MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

No matters were raised.

3337. THORNE MOOR - CONTAMINATION CONCERN

A presentation was received regarding concerns over the potential contamination of Thorne Moor from a proposed development of a waste treatment plant being Planning Application number 18/03711/CM of East Riding. Councillors were informed that English Nature and the Drainage Boards had been contacted with regard to the concerns. The closing date for comments on this application is 4th January 2019.

Councillors agreed that the Council would write to the Planning Authority to express its own concerns over the development in light of the information given in the presentation.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk forwards the Council's concerns to the Planning Authority over the proposed development with particular regard to potential contamination from the development of Thorne Moor.

3338. THORNE COMMUNITY WOOD

Representatives of Friends of Thorne Community Wood gave the Council a presentation on the work of the group and its future aims and objectives. Craig Nicholls explained that they respond to the needs of the site and hold four public events each year to interface with the public, local businesses and schools. As a voluntary group they do not have a regular income relying on grants and funding to finance Insurance, fuel, PPE costs and were looking for assistance following the ending of a long term revenue grant which they have previously benefited from. The group was seeking approximately £700.00 per annum to help with their running costs.

The Clerk reminded members that the site belongs to the Town Council and without the Friends group the Council would have significant maintenance costs on the site to cover the work the group does.

RESOLVED: That the Council support the Friends of the Community Woodland in identifying future needs, potential funders and support the group with appropriate funding for which the Clerk will budget for the 2019/2020 financial year.

3339. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Town Clerk explained that he had split the Planning applications for the period 13th November into major and minor applications.

1. Major Applications**1.1 18/02869/FUL**

Single storey rear extension, 32 Lock Lane, Thorne.

RESOLVED: No observations.

1.2 18/0844/FUL

Erection of a single storey rear extension (4.0m x 8.25m) being resubmission of previously approved application 18/01020/FUL granted on 01.06.18 with addition of side door to extension.

(Retrospective) at 4 Kingfisher Way, Thorne.

RESOLVED: No observations.

1.3 18/02843/MAT

Alterations to CCTV coverage of site, being an amendment to 14/01554/FULM granted on 20.04.15 at Solar Farm at Former Colliery, Grange Road, Moorends.

RESOLVED: No observations.

2. Minor Applications

None received.

3340. TREES

The Clerk reported that the Council is responsible for the maintenance of a large number of trees across multiple sites. Trees represent a significant risk as far as health and safety is concerned and should be subject to routine inspection and maintenance procedures. He reported that the Tree Safety Survey and Report was last conducted in Autumn/Winter 2016. Trees are a common cause of complaint from adjoining residents, the Council has a duty to manage trees under the Occupiers Liability Act and where necessary take appropriate action to address any trees requiring work in order to mitigate them causing harm to persons or property. A number of tree related issues had already arisen. The Clerk reported that there did not currently appear to be a dedicated tree management budget in place and recommended that the 2019/2020 budget includes appropriate tree maintenance budgets.

RESOLVED : That the report be noted.

3341. DONCASTER MINING STATUE

A request had been received advising that Heritage Doncaster are raising funds on line via Doncaster Councils crowd funding site Spacehive to permanently commemorate miners and their families.

Suggestions of what contributions could pay for include:

- £300 would pay for the words of a local colliery to be cut into the pavers around the sculpture that will be located in Doncaster Town Centre in the Waterdale area.
- £1200 would pay for the final bronze portrait of an ex-miner.
- £3000 would pay for an interpretation board that will share quick read codes to allow visitors to use a smartphone to watch videos of local people telling their stories,

The Clerk advised that there was no budget for this. The Mayor offered to donate £300 from the Mayor's fund and Councillors thought that the Council should also make a £300 donation.

RESOLVED: That £300 is donated from the Mayor's fund and £300 be donated from the Council.

3342. EXTERNAL AUDIT

The Clerk reported that he had received the Final External Auditor Report and Certificate 2017/18.

Two points had been raised:

- 'Information in Section 1 of the AGAR is inconsistent with the information in the AIAR. In Assertion 5 of the Annual Governance Statement you responded "yes" indicating the council assessed significant risk; however as was reported in the Annual Internal Audit Report, we are aware that you failed to do so, and should have answered "No" to Assertion 5 of the AGS.'
- 'In the completion of the Annual Internal Audit Report, and their detailed report, the Internal Auditor has drawn attention to significant weaknesses in relation to risk assessment, budgeting and fixed asset register. The smaller authority must ensure that action is taken to address these areas of weakness in a timely manner.'

The Clerk reported that these issues will not arise again and that the Audit for 2018/19 will result in a healthier report due to measures that the Clerk will implement that will improve the governance and risk management processes.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

3343. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented the financial report in an alternative format to previous reports and explained how the information was presented.

RESOLVED: That the report is noted and the Clerk commended for his work.

3344. 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 be invoked due to consideration of confidential matters.

3345. COULMAN BUNGALOW

The Clerk reported that the premises had recently been vacated and discussions needed to begin over the building's future.

He reported that the property had been inspected and found to be left in a reasonable condition. It was recommended that the Council seeks an appraisal of the building and land, it is under a duty to achieve best value from its assets and an independent assessment will help to evidence what the best value option may be. It was recommended that the Clerk in consultation with the Mayor develop an appraisal brief and seek quoted for the appraisal accordingly. The Clerk, in consultation with the Mayor, to assess appropriate means of funding the appraisal in terms of the budget from which the funds are sourced to pay for the appraisal. Full Council to review the appraisal and make further decisions.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk's report be noted and the item be brought back to the next meeting of the Council for further discussion.

End of meeting.