

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN THE WINNING POST, MOORENDS ON TUESDAY 11th JUNE 2019 AT 7.15PM.

Present: Cllr. M.Houlbrook (Chair)

Cllrs. A.Brookes, J.Blackham, S.Durant, N.Etherington, D.Knight, A.Knott, and M.Phillips.
6 members of the public.

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

3419. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Cllr. C. Blackham – Illness

Cllr. A. Cuttell – Work

Cllr. C.Ellis - Work

Cllr. A. Jones – Personal

Cllr. J.Phillips - Illness

Cllr. R. Powell - Work

RESOLVED: That the apologies be accepted.

3420. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

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

Cllr. M. Houlbrook – Member of the Doncaster Planning Committee.

3421. MINUTES

Consideration was given to signing the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th May 2019.

Cllr. A. Brookes mentioned that the spelling was wrong for the Brooke's Trust (Minute 3407.2).

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

3422. MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

Peter Wailes of Abernant Homes raised concerns on Planning Application 19/01169/FUL – Change of use of industrial building (Class B2) to mixed use including vehicle repair and body shop with spray booth and office. He said that this is a retrospective application as it is already operating, the location plan doesn't give a representation of the nearby housing (it is not suitable due to the noise and emissions). He said that he would forward information to the Town Clerk. He said that he would like the Council to oppose this application.

3423. PRESENTATION FROM GWYNFOR THOMAS

Chief Inspector Gwynfor Thomas thanked Councillors for allowing him to present Neighbourhood Networks to them.

He explained that it was not a Police initiative but he was involved in bringing it out into the community in the role of facilitator and supporter. The focus is on community safety, tackling issues such as personal safety, vehicle theft, retail crime and antisocial behaviour. It's about linking people together to create vibrant and successful communities with a remit of creating Neighbourhood Watch, social inclusion, education, employment, training and diversionary activities for young people.

Chief Inspector Thomas mentioned Neighbourhood Networks in Leeds, Hull, Scotland and Mexborough. Hull Neighbourhood Network has charitable status and has employed two people. Mexborough had provided training and was represented by residents and business owners from the community and had already carried out the following projects: litter picks (including community skips), art on shop shutters, encouraging people to join the Neighbourhood Watch.

It was hoped that such a group would be set up in Thorne-Moorends, he could assist in directing people to funding opportunities.

The date and location of the first proposed Neighbourhood Network meeting was noted.

Chief Inspector Thomas was thanked for attending the meeting to give his presentation.

3424. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3424.1 Major Applications

i) 19/01363/FULM

Erection of new retail outlet following the demolition and reconstruction of 1 & 2 Market Place and 8 Silver Street (without compliance with condition 2 of planning application 06/00427/FULM, granted on 16/5/2018 – development in accordance with approved plans). (Being variation of condition 1 of planning application 19/02785/FULM granted on 05.02.2019). Subdivision in to 4 retail units and external alterations at 1 Market Place and 8 Silver Street, Thorne.

RESOLVED: No observations.

ii) 19/01334/OUT

Outline application for residential development of 7 houses (approval being sought for access and layout) on land adjacent 113 Kirton Lane, Thorne.

RESOLVED: Objection – not identified on the Neighbourhood Plan.

iii) 19/01339/PRIOR

Notification for prior approval for change of use of part of agricultural building to flexible use for within shops, financial and professional services, restaurants and cafes, business, storage or distribution, hotels, or assembly or leisure at Building C, Warp Farm, Moorends, Doncaster.

RESOLVED: No objections.

iv) 19/011140/OUT

Outline application for proposed residential development with matters of access and layout only (matters of appearance, landscaping and scale reserved) at Thorne Motor Company, Orchard Street, Thorne.

RESOLVED: No objections. Council supported in principal the Environment Agency report.

3424.2 Minor Applications

It was noted that the Clerk having previously authorised to deal with minor applications had dealt with the following applications which were not raised as contentious.

- i) 19/01335/FUL - Erection of extension to MOT bay at Fishlake Commercial Motors, Selby Road, Thorne.
- ii) 19/01252/FUL - Erection of 2 x pairs of semi-detached dwellings with car parking using existing access from Church Street, Thorne on land to the rear of 6 Church Street, Thorne.
- iii) 19/01241/ADV – Display of 1 non-illuminated banner sign at Unit B, Mount Pleasant Road, Thorne.
- iv) 19/01181/FUL - Erection of two storey side extension at 22 St. Michaels Close, Thorne.
- v) 19/01155/FUL - Erection of double garage to the rear of 9 Ashfield Avenue, Thorne.
- vi) 19/01085/COND – Consent, agreement or approval required by conditions 3,4,5,6,7 of planning application 18/02497/FUL on Land South of White Lane, Thorne.
- vii) 19/00903/FUL – Erection of new porta cabin toilet facility and new ramp/stair access at Delves Café, Selby Road, Thorne.

The following application was raised by a member of the public under Minute 3422 and was considered by the Council.

1. **19/01169/FUL** - Change of use of industrial building (Use Class B2) to mixed use including vehicle repair and body shop with spray booth and office.

Councillors were concerned about the effect of fumes from the spraying building which was close to the road and pavement (no pavement on the opposite side of the road) and in consideration of the concerns presented by Mr Wailes.

RESOLVED: Objection on the grounds that it is already in operation, that the locations plan doesn't give a representation of the nearby housing and it is not suitable due to the noise and emissions.

3425. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented the Councillors with copies of the balance sheets, expenditure payment list, bank reconciliation and statements to 30th April 2019.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

3426. YEAR END ACCOUNTS

The Clerk presented the Councillors with copies of the Financial Report to 31st March 2019.

One Councillor expressed concern on the values stated for some of the Council's properties, the Clerk explained that this was presented in accordance with financial legislation. The Clerk confirmed he would get full explanation as to the different method of presenting accounts and circulate copies to all Councillors.

A vote was carried out as to adoption of the Accounts. There was one abstention.

RESOLVED: That the Year End Accounts for the 2018/19 financial year be approved.

3427. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Clerk presented the Council with the Council's Annual Governance Statement Section 1 as part of the Annual Governance and Accounts Return 'AGAR'.

The Clerk explained that on page 4 of the Annual Governance Statement he had answered no to some of the check boxes as follows:

2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.

Answered: No – internal control measures were not adequately maintained last year but they are now. New measures and controls have been introduced and will be in place this year.

5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing the authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance to cover where required.

Answered: No – We have started looking at a risk policy and are currently working on it.

7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal & external audit.

Answered: No – Last year's audit indicated that we were not doing enough on risk assessment.

RESOLVED: That the Governance Statement be accepted.

3428. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS STATEMENT

The Council's Annual Accounts Statement (Section 2) was reviewed as part of the Annual Governance and Accounts Return 'AGAR'.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Accounts Statement be accepted.

3429. FORWARD FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCE PLANNING

The Clerk reported that it is prudent for any organisation including local authorities to plan ahead. Good forward planning demonstrated good governance and good financial management. It also helps to combat against unexpected problems and provides a plan that Councillors and Officers can work to. He explained that the process helps with annual budgeting in that it can identify costs that may arise in the future and help the Council prepare for those costs. Publicly it helps to demonstrate the direction the Council is heading in and the projects that it is planning ahead for.

The Clerk reported that it has been suggested that the Council's working group which was not formally appointed at the Annual Town Meeting take responsibility for this work and make appropriate recommendations to the Council and had prepared a draft remit stating:

- The Council Working Group ('the Group') shall consist of 5 members to be appointed by Full Council.
- The Group shall meet on a quarterly basis and provide a report to Full Council at the next suitable meeting of Full Council that follows the Group's meeting.

- The Group shall be tasked with developing proposal for submission to Full Council that addresses the following:-
 1. The immediate earmarking of Capital Reserves for appropriate existing and future works and projects.
 2. Developing a 3-5 year forward plan of the Councils activity, which shall include identifying significant maintenance works across the Councils sites and assets, and also projects to improve and enhance the Councils sites and assets.
 3. Identifying potential income streams to support new capital projects to improve and enhance the Councils sites and assets.

The Group shall have no power whatsoever to incur expenditure on behalf of the Council and shall serve only to make proposals and recommendations which must be approved by Full Council.

It was proposed and seconded that the following Councillors form the Council Working Group: Cllrs. J.Blackham, S.Durant, C.Ellis, M.Houlbrook and A.Knott.

Resolved that Cllrs. J.Blackham, S.Durant, C.Ellis, M.Houlbrook and A.Knott be elected to the Councils Working Group.

3430. ENVIRONMENTAL PROPOSALS

Cllr. Aimee Knott presented a report on the Environmental Development Initiative for Thorne and Moorends. "Tree of Life".

On 1st May 2019, the UK Government declared a climate emergency, Ros Jones, Mayor of Doncaster followed suit by announcing on 6th June that she intended to bring a climate emergency motion to full council in September.

Many vital animal and plant species are experiencing rapidly declining populations due to human input, with some being classified as 'at threat of extinction'. Cllr. Knott reported that she had spoken to various organisations such as Friends of Thorne Park, Friends of Thorne Community Wood in the search for suitable land to plant trees and flowers. A 'Tree of Life' project was proposed, whereby for every new baby born the family is encouraged to plant a tree. Around 210 new babies are born in Thorne and Moorends each year. The Woodlands Trust will provide enough free trees to support the planting for two years on this basis. Cllr. Knott reported that Sheffield had successfully introduced living walls scheme which encourages populations of bees, bats and butterflies and combating air pollution in the city.

It was suggested that a group be formed and a meeting be set up, Cllr. Knott could liaise with the Town Clerk, expressions of interest should be sought from those wishing to be a member of the group.

Regarding Climate Change it was determined that there was a need for the Council to look at its own environment policy.

RESOLVED: That expressions of interest be sought at the next Council meeting.

3431. NEW VEHICLE

The Clerk reported that a new van had been acquired and members kept up to date by way of email. A van (Peugeot Partner) was sourced locally from Key Cars although options from further afield were also considered. The cost of the vehicle was £7499 plus VAT. VAT will be recovered.

It had been identified that the Councils grounds team would benefit from a secondary vehicle (touched upon as part of the Council budget planning for this financial year). The rationale is that the staff currently confined to the Cemetery can be mobile and able to undertake and assist with the maintenance work across other Council sites.

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the arrangements for the replacement van be noted.
- 2) The Clerk along with the newly formed Working Group to investigate the acquisition of a second vehicle.

3432. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

The Clerk acknowledged that there had not been an update on the Neighbourhood Plan for a while, which was taking longer than envisaged and had been held back by the Clerk's workload. He reported that the Working Group had been meeting to identify how to move forward. There had been changes locally and it was considered that the plan may need to be relooked at and relaunch it. Previous consultation had been second to none, Councillors were eager to get it to where it needed to be.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

3433. UCI CYCLING EVENT UPDATE

It was reported that the UCI Cycling event was scheduled to go through Thorne on 27th September, there would be two races – one at approximately 9.10am and the next at 2.40pm.

The Clerk reported that it was the aim to get the community involved, promoting the event and getting schools involved (although some of the schools have indicated that they would be closing that day). Various options had been presented including a 'Fan Zone' in The Green which would also include a large TV screen.

Some of the Mayor's fund has been donated to the event. Doncaster MBC want to use Thorne and Moorends to see if they can encourage people to be more active. Leeds University are also providing support.

Friends of Thorne Park have said that they will plant up more areas and the Working Group would work with the Business Forum in decorating the town.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

The Chair was conscious of the time (8.55pm) and sought agreement to extend the meeting. This was agreed.

3434. 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.

3435. CASSON COURT

The Council own a piece of land near Casson Court. The Clerk reported that during his hand over from Chris Geeson he had met with the project manager to discuss proposed landscaping and footpath plans for the land concerned. The Clerk said that he was under the impression that the matter had been considered by the Council and consent had been agreed for the developers to landscape the site and install a footpath. He had been contacted by the project manager who had advised him that there had been an over spend on the project, that the developer could not complete the works planned, adding that he would try to persuade the developer to try to come up with an option to avoid leaving the land as it was. The project manager had recently contacted the Clerk with fresh proposals which he said he would refer to Council before confirming.

The Clerk reported that the work, carried out without consent, was less attractive than the original plans which involved some planting, landscaping and a meandering path across the land. Currently there is a straight path made of compacted aggregate with a row of bollards alongside it.

Concern was expressed by Councillors over these works and considered the increased liability should anyone fall, the area is not lit and the path material is not suitable.

RESOLVED: That the previous minutes relating to this matter be clarified and the landscape design be sent to Councillors to discuss at the next meeting.

End of meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.40pm.