

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN THE WINNING POST, MOORENDS ON TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 7.00PM.**

**Present:** Cllr. M.Houlbrook (Chair)

Cllrs. J.Blackham, A.Brookes, S.Durant, C.Ellis, D.Knight, A.Knott, J.Phillips, M.Phillips and R. Porter.

10 members of the public.

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

**3454. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from:

Cllr. C. Blackham – Personal

Cllr. A. Cuttell – Work

Cllr. A. Jones

Cllr. R. Powell - Work

**RESOLVED: That the apologies be accepted.**

**3455. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

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

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

Cllr. J.Blackham – on the Local Development Plan item, he said that he would withdraw from the room for this item.

**3456. MINUTES**

Consideration was given to signing the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

Cllr. D. Knight referred to Minute 3451 (Account Dispute) saying that all assets should be recorded in the Asset Register

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

**3457. MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

A resident of South End, Thorne raised concerns over the Bradholme Development adding that her family has a fishing lakes business nearby, this service is used by local disabled and elderly residents. A development on Bradholme would create pollution and would potentially damage her fishing lake, it would compromise wildlife and birds and other ecology in the area.

Councillors said that they would take these points into consideration.

A resident of Selby Road, Thorne said that in October 2018 an objection had been put in regarding the Bradholme Development for use as employment land. It was her view that the Council should object to the proposed development on Selby Road for the same reasons. It would be preferable for units on Capitol Park, Coulman Road and Thorne Colliery site to be used for development.

**3458. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**3458.1 Major Applications**

i) **19/02095/PD** – Mobility scooter store and associated works at 10 Queen Elisabeth Court, Queen Street, Thorne.

**There were two abstentions.**

**RESOLVED: No objections.**

ii) **19/01782/SCRE** – Request for screening opinion for Proposed development at Gateway 180 – to include employment space (B1(c) B2 and B8) with ancillary office space, including necessary earthworks, construction of access roads, landscaping and flood risk and drainage works at Bradholme Farm, High Levels Bank, Thorne.

Councillors were advised that this site was withdrawn from the latest draft of the Local Plan and that the developers were still pursuing the grant of planning permission.

**There were two abstentions.**

**RESOLVED: That the Council insist that Doncaster MBC perform an Environmental Risk Assessment**

iii) 19/01704/FUL – Erection of detached house and associated infrastructure at 75 South End Thorne.

**There were two abstentions.**

**RESOLVED: No observations.**

iv) 19/01692/FUL – Demolition of 1 and 3 King Street, Thorne and erection of 12 apartments and 2 commercial units on the ground floor.

Councillors felt that development of the area was long overdue and supported the development.

**There were two abstentions.**

**RESOLVED: No objections.**

v) 19/01004/FUL – Demolition of existing storage buildings and the development of 2 self-contained studio flats (Re submission of planning application 18/01/01490/FUL) on land to the rear of 157 Marshland Road, Moorends.

**There were two abstentions.**

**RESOLVED: No observations.**

### **3458.2 Minor Applications**

It was noted that minor applications were included on the agenda for noting only; Council had already given devolved power to the Clerk to consider minor applications on behalf of the Council.

i) 19/01938/FUL – Installation of drop kerb at 55 Marshland Road, Moorends.

ii) 19/01808/FUL – Erection of extension to front of attached garage at 6 Kings Court Road, Thorne.

**RESOLVED: No observations.**

### **3459. FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Clerk reported that the proceeds of the sale of land near the market place had now been received. He presented the Councillors with copies of the balance sheets, expenditure payment list, income and Statements of Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019.

It was reported that the accounts are now produced in-house and would be up-to date for the next Council meeting.

Councillors requested a list of the codes, allocated to various properties and used in the accounts, to accompany the accounts.

**RESOLVED: That the report be noted.**

### **3460. VE DAY 2020**

It reported that the events committee were seeking funding for this event.

Councillors discussed that an event had been held at Moorends Community Centre previously and are of the opinion that they had found a formula that works. It was suggested that two events be held, one in Thorne on the Friday and one in Moorends on the Saturday night. Entertainers etc. needed to be booked in advance, hence the need to know how much funding they had. The Centenary event had been a success and the Council had worked in conjunction with the Royal British Legion.

Some Councillors were of the opinion that it would be a dereliction of duty not to recognise this milestone; the budget should enable a good event to be put on.

**RESOLVED: That a budget of £5000 be allocated to the VE Day Celebration Events in Thorne and Moorends.**

### **3461. A18 SPEED LIMIT REQUEST**

Correspondence had been received seeking support to reduce the speed limit and introduce no overtaking on a dangerous and accident prone section of the A18 (High Levels Bank) near Thorne.

Cllr. Blackham said that he had visited the site with the Highway Agency, dialogue had been held with the Police who had indicated that they would not enforce a speed restriction.

Other Councillors were of the opinion that the Town Council should support and lobby the powers that be to make our roads safer.

**Resolved:** That the Council contact relevant authorities to lobby and support the suggested reduced speed limit request to improve road safety.

**Cllr. J. Blackham** left the meeting for the following item.

### **3462. LOCAL PLAN**

It was reported that Doncaster MBC had prepared the Publication Version of the Doncaster Local Plan and were inviting comments from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August to 6pm on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019. The Local Plan will be examined by an independent inspector appointed by the Secretary of State, whose role it is to assess whether the plan has been prepared in accordance with the Duty to Cooperate, legal and procedural requirements and whether it is “sound”.

Councillors said that Thorne and Moorends had been ‘isolated and neglected’ and felt that more investment and support was needed, Thorne-Moorends Town Council had tried to do its best for the residents of Thorne and Moorends, and has one of the biggest Neighbourhood Plans, it had listened to members of public.

**RESOLVED:** That the Local Plan be supported along with the comments raised by the Council.

**Cllr. Blackham** re-joined the meeting.

**Cllr. Knight** left the meeting at 8.20pm.

### **3463. HM LAND REGISTRY**

The Clerk reported that following some recent land transactions involving Land Registry documents (including sale of land lying to the North East side of Silver Street Thorne and land on the North Side of Bridge Street, Thorne) Council is asked to confirm its signatory arrangements. In the absence of a common seal, it is a requirement that 2 signatories are required to execute Land Registry documents such as Transfer Deeds. Those signatories are then independently witnessed.

**RESOLVED:**

**That any two Councillors be authorised to execute Deeds on behalf of the Council.**

### **3464. UCI ROAD CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIP**

The Clerk reported that the UCI Road Cycling Championship event was imminent (27<sup>th</sup> September) with the first race coming through Thorne at 9.10am and the second following at 2.40pm. Councillors were updated with the progress so far – infrastructure in place, decorations up around the Town. It was hoped that the event would be successful; the Town would be creating a legacy, a little piece of history.

**Cllr. Knight** re-joined the meeting @ 8.25pm.

**Resolved:** That the report be noted.

### **3465. 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.

### **3466. THORNE MEMORIAL PARK CAFE**

The Memorial Park Café is let to a private tenant who operates a catering business from the premises.

To comply with requirements of Environmental Health the tenant needs to upgrade the kitchen and provide better ventilation and extraction. There is also the need to carry out some essential electrical works.

It was reported that the tenant had acquired kitchen units, the interim Clerk had promised to cover the extraction requirements so the Council will need to honour this. Including the electrical work, the plan is to co-ordinate all works to be undertaken at the same time to minimise any disruption to the business.

The Clerk had obtained quotations for the electrical work which varied between £1000 and £3000 but are very different specifications. The Clerk reported that one of the quotes was from a commercially savvy electrician and the other a more domestic focused electrician who each had different views on the work that is necessary.

**RESOLVED: That the Clerk be delegated to arrange for an extractor fan fitted and arrange for the electrical work to be carried out to a standard that will future proof the building.**

### **3467. WINNING POST GARDEN**

The Clerk reported that the garden at the Winning Post was previously maintained by a community group. Since that group had ceased to exist the land had become severely overgrown and uncared for and causing complaints from neighbouring residents. Clearance of the site would require heavy machinery beyond what the Council is able to deliver in house, quotations were being sought for clearance.

The Clerk reported that there had been historic and recent expressions of interest from people interested in acquiring the land. The land also has a small amount of knotweed growing on it which is undergoing treatment.

Another suggestion was from a current hirer was for them to add to their lease to clear the land to enable them to park vehicles.

It was proposed that the local residents be asked for their views on the use of the land before a firm decision is made. There was a desire to ensure local residents are not prejudiced by any changes.

**RESOLVED: That the Clerk report back to the Council regarding the views of the local residents.**

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

### **3468. STAFF STRUCTURE**

The Clerk reported that a ground staff member had recently handed in their notice following a period of sick leave. The Council is currently served by 5 grounds operatives, one of who is on long term sick. He reported that there is some cover for the staff being provided by one of our relief caretakers. He reported that the vacancy created allowed an opportunity to consider options for the role and allows for changes to be made to the role without need for internal restructuring consultation.

The appointment of an operations manager/supervisor who can manage grounds staff/cleaning staff and building operations day to day. They will be the eyes and ears on the ground with managerial responsibility and would enable the Clerk to focus on managing and delivering projects. A proposed job description was circulated.

**RESOLVED: That the vacancy be used as an opportunity to recruit an Operations Manager. Recruitment to be in house to begin with and then if the vacancy is not filled in house, an external recruitment exercise be undertaken.**

**If the recruitment in house is successful there will remain a vacancy for a Grounds Operative for which an external recruitment exercise will be undertaken.**

**End of meeting.**

**The meeting ended at 9.10pm.**