

MINUTES OF THE THORNE MOORENDS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 14 SEPTEMBER 2021 at 7.00pm at Coulman Road Pavilion, Coulman Road, Thorne

Present: Councillors Craig Ellis (Mayor), Susan Durant (Deputy Mayor), Ron Powell, Janet Phillips, Nicola Etherington, Allan Cuttell, Mark Houlbrook, Robert Porter and Keith Fox.

In Attendance: Karen Mann, YLCA Local Councils Officer; two members of the public and a press officer.

3706. APOLOGIES

The Mayor updated that apologies had been received from Councillors Joe Blackham, Carol Blackham, Martin Williams, Mark Phillips and Gwyn Ap Harri, for personal reasons.

RESOLVED that the apologies and reasons given be noted.

3707. DECLARATIONS OF ACCEPTANCE AND REASONS GIVEN

The Mayor declared an interest in planning application 21/00797/FUL.

The Deputy Mayor declared an interest in the Planning matters as she is on the Planning Committee at Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council (DMBC).

Councillor Fox declared an interest in item 20, Model Railway.

3708. MINUTES

The council considered the report of the extraordinary meeting held on the 27 July 2021.

RESOLVED to accept as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2021.

3709. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No questions were raised by members of the public.

3710. FINANCIAL REPORT

The RFO had provided a balance sheet, monthly payment schedule and budget review. Councillors raised questions, however as the RFO was not in attendance they could not be answered. The Local Councils Officer was asked to note the questions and send them to the RFO, for a response after the meeting.

RESOLVED that :

- i) The balance sheet be noted;
- ii) The payment schedule be approved, subject to clarification of invoices from British Gas and which building the invoice was referring to – ref 403101; and why there is a continuation of reimbursements for Amazon and Ebay in August; and
- iii) The Budget Review is deferred to the next meeting

3711. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Mayor updated that there were 12 applications and 9 decisions to consider. No major decisions only minor decisions. Nothing controversial, no appeals – permitted development predominantly.

RESOLVED that the planning applications be noted.

3712. TWEEN BRIDGE WIND FARM COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

A councillor representative for the benefit fund committee was required. The Mayor read out the report and work of the role. There would be a Foundation relevant Induction available. There are two town councillor appointments available with one current vacancy. The next meeting will be held on the 24 September via Zoom, and the appointment of the committee may change at the meeting. The committee may decide they do not want a Town Councillor on the committee. The Town Council will be notified after the meeting.

RESOLVED that Cllr Ellis be the nominated Town Council representative and the Clerk inform the Tween Bridge Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund Committee.

3713. ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING GROUP

The council received an update from the Chairman of the Working Group. The last meeting was held meeting on the 23 July at the Delves, it was a good opportunity to visit the newly opened café facility there and the available space for community meetings. It was also a chance to meet the fishing club members, who have since resigned. (Secretary and Treasurer).

Funding for the bore hole was a primary concern. The council had ringfenced £1k subject to securing funding from another source to add to the £1k. The Clerk was asked to contact the club, for an update on who are the new Chairman and Secretary of the Fishing Club. It was agreed that the relationship between the Fishing Club and Town Council needs to be developed. The dates of future meetings to be requested to ensure a Town Council representative is in attendance, to provide feedback to the council.

A further discussion took place regarding service costs and the drainage system. It was suggested that all EPC's are displayed in the future.

The forward plan has been well set up and it was felt that the goals would be achieved.

RESOLVED that:

- i) The update be noted;
- ii) The Clerk contact the Fishing Club for details of the new Chairman and Secretary and future dates of meetings;
- iii) A letter of thanks be sent to Tom Wilson and John Hall for their work on the committee; and
- iv) All EPC's are displayed in the future.

3714. WORK VAN AND MAINTENANCE MACHINERY

Council Van

The council had one small van. The Mayor updated that a longer wheel base, high topped transit van, would be better and safer. The budget for a van was £15,000.

The Clerk recommended that the council remain within the budget and a debate took place around the options. It was suggested that in the forward plan a hybrid vehicle be considered next time.

RESOLVED That the Clerk, Mayor and Deputy Mayor, be delegated the power to purchase a vehicle and the Operations Manager be in attendance to view the proposed vehicle as he would be the person predominantly driving it.

Woodchipper – a discussion took place regarding purchasing a woodchipper or continuing to hire the equipment, as and when necessary. The council suggested that the equipment is hired for a

week and the work is scheduled in the month of November, for example, with the grounds operatives available to do any work whilst the equipment was hired.

It was suggested that DMBC may have a woodchipper that could be used, free of charge. The Clerk would be asked to check this with DMBC. Also the Community Woodland may have a woodchipper – they could apply for funding to purchase one, if not as it was felt that it would be beneficial to have one.

RESOLVED that:

- i) The Clerk schedule the wood chipping work for a week (possibly in November), with operatives made available to complete the works;
- ii) The Clerk to contact DMBC and the Community Woodland to see if they could provide a wood chipper free of charge to the Town Council; and
- iii) The Clerk provide a report on the cost of hiring a woodchipper for the last couple of years, to ascertain if it would be best value to purchase the equipment or continue hiring the equipment.

Flail Mower – Town Council staff are not trained to use the DMBC mowers. The Town Council has to hire in contractors.

RESOLVED: That

- i) The Flail Mower be discussed at the next Environmental Working Group meeting, to identify areas to maintain;
- ii) The Clerk to contact DMBC to train the Town Council staff as their vehicles are kept in the Town Council compound, free of charge; and
- iii) A report is provided to the Environmental Working Group, along with an update from DMBC regarding training staff on the Flail Mower.

3715. THORNE COMMUNITY WOOD

A discussion took place regarding the land transfer, which will cost £300 in legal and transfer fees. It was felt that DMBC should pay this fee, along with a donation for the upkeep of the land, for possibly 5 years from the date of the asset transfer.

A discussion continued regarding the ownership of the land. Land registry will show who owns the land.

RESOLVED that the Clerk contact DMBC to request that they pay the £300 transfer fee and request a donation, towards the upkeep of the land, subject to clarification on the ownership of the land.

3716. TRAMPOLINE REPAIR

The Moorends play area has not suffered that much with damages to the play area. The trampoline has been set on fire on occasions. The cost to replace the trampoline is £7k. A discussion took place about the equipment guarantee and if the council completed the works, whether this would void the guarantee. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the contractor to find out about the guarantee. Also, the Clerk to ask the length of the guarantee for the equipment. The trampoline has been made safe, for now.

It was suggested that the council look at a variety of inclusive equipment – to invite the parents to shortlist or ask the children what they want, contact the schools at Thorne and Moorends.

RESOLVED that

- i) The Clerk seek clarification regarding the guarantee and provide an update to the council;
- ii) The Clerk provide a selection of inclusive equipment for the council to consider; and
- iii) The shortlist of equipment be shared with the local school children via a consultation process before providing equipment.

3717. ANGLING CLUB

It was suggested that the footpath for the Angling club be deferred to the next Environmental Working Group meeting. The footpath could connect to Transpennine Trail. It was felt that this needs a proper site assessment, recreational path strategy that may link into transpennine way, on the side of the canal.

RESOLVED That this item be deferred to the next Environmental Working Group meeting, to provide a full plan, identify the need within the Working Group and then include it into the Forward Plan.

Cllr Holbrook left the meeting at 8.07pm.

3718 GREEN TOILETS

A request had been received, from a member of the public, for a key to the disabled toilets, out of hours. A discussion regarding possible Anti-Social behaviour, safety issues, cleaning and Health & Safety matters took place.

It was noted that there is a facility for people suffering from Cancer, to have a card or an App on their mobile phone, that can be produced to shops to ask that the person be allowed to use their toilet facilities.

RESOLVED that :

- i) The open and closing times of the Green Toilets remains as it is now: 9am 5pm;
- ii) A key is not provided to the resident, however a letter will be sent to make the resident aware of the cancer card and App to show to any shop/venue to give access to toilets anywhere at any time;
- iii) Notices, about the Mobile App and Card, be placed in the toilets, on the internal and external areas, and on the council's website; and
- iv) The Mayor provides a press release about the App and Card facility.

3719 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP

The council need another member to join the Working Group. Councillor Fox volunteered to join Working Group

RESOLVED that Councillor Fox be a member of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group and the date of the next meeting be provided to Councillor Fox.

3720 COUNCIL INSURANCE

The council agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

RESOLVED: That a review of the council insurance position take place at the next council meeting.

3721 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED That the motion to exclude the press and public be approved.

3722 WINNING POST

A request from the resident tenant at the Winning post had been received, for a new kitchen. A discussion took place regarding inspections of the property as well as a replacement kitchen. It may be possible to apply for a Decent Homes Grant and the Clerk would be asked to see if this was available to the Town Council.

Forward planning for the property needs to take place with a review of the needs of the tenant, every 12 months. An insurance review every 12 months, to include the inspection regime, for the tenanted property. To provide an inspections checklist of all areas of the property.

RESOLVED that

- i) The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Clerk be delegated to source a new kitchen, and liaise with the tenant with regards to installation;
- ii) A full audit of the flat, internal, and external to be completed as soon as possible;
- iii) The Clerk to complete a 12 monthly inspection of the property and feedback any defects/repairs to the council; and
- iv) The Clerk to identify a budget and further information on whether a Decent Homes Grant is available.

3723 CLUB THORNE CIC LEASE

The council felt this matter should be dealt with at a separate meeting and the Mayor called an Extraordinary meeting to discuss the lease. All paperwork to be posted to all councillors prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED that an Extraordinary Council Meeting takes place to discuss the Club Thorne CIC Lease, to be held on Wednesday 22 September 2021, at 7.00pm in the Assembly Rooms, Thorne.

3724 CAB OFFICES

CAB had made a request to store the furniture in the property when they leave. Council discussed the request. It was felt that CAB was very successful for the Thorne/Moorends area and there is still a demand for its services, and it is hoped that CAB will continue in the area. There would be a charitable rate charge in the future for renting the buildings.

RESOLVED that

- i) CAB be asked to remove the furniture at the end of September, for insurance purposes;
- ii) CAB to provide dates of future pop in sessions for the area; and
- iii) Future rental of buildings be charged at the charitable rate.

3725 MODEL RAILWAY

There was no attached report provided. It was noted that it is not a model railway but a miniature railway. It was agreed that any derailments need to be reported to the council.

RESOLVED that

- i) Model Railways be discussed at the next Future Working Group meeting, to then report back to the Council;
- ii) The Model Railway group be asked for a copy of its valid insurance documentation; and
- iii) Any derailments are reported to the council.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.