

**REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN THE WINNING POST, MOORENDS ON TUESDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2020 AT 7.00PM.**

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

Cllrs. J.Blackham, S.Durant, C.Ellis, N.Etherington, D.Knight, A.Knott, J.Phillips, R.Powell.

6 members of the public.

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

**3511. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from:

Cllr. C.Blackham - Illness

Cllr. A. Brookes – Previous commitment

Cllr. A. Cuttell

Cllr M. Phillips - Holiday

Cllr. R. Porter – Work commitment

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

**3512. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

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

Cllr. D. Knight – Declaration of interest in item 5 Council Vacancy as both applicants are known to him.

**3513. MINUTES**

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

Page 4487 - It was noted that Cllr. Houlbrook is no longer a member of the Doncaster Council Planning Committee and that his name should be removed from the Declarations of Interest and Dispensations.

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

**3514. MATTERS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

There were no matters raised.

**3515. COUNCIL VACANCY**

Two applications had been received for the vacant position, from Stephen William Heptinstall and Michael Richardson.

Stephen William Heptinstall was proposed and seconded.

A vote was taken with Stephen William Heptinstall receiving the majority of the votes.

**RESOLVED: That Stephen William Heptinstall is elected as a Town Councillor. Stephen Heptinstall was welcomed to the Council and signed and read out his declaration. Cllr. Heptinstall then joined the other Councillors at the table.**

**3516. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

There were no Major Planning Applications to discuss.

There were four Minor Planning Applications which the Clerk had been delegated authority to deal with.

**RESOLVED: The report was noted.**

**3517. FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Clerk circulated the Financial Report to the end of December which included the Summary Balance and the Payment List. He reported that the budget was essentially on track.

Cllrs sought clarification on some of the payments made on the Payment List including the amount of electricity used at Coulman Recreation Ground – it was agreed that the usage would be looked at with a view to making savings.

**RESOLVED: That the Financial Report be noted along with the comments made.**

### **3518. BUDGET 2020/2021**

The Clerk reported that the government had historically provided grants to Local Councils to help reduce the overall Council Tax burden on the local tax payer. These grants have been slowly reducing in value in recent years and for 2020/21 the grant will disappear completely.

The Clerk said that he had accounted for a 5% increase in Staffing costs for the next financial year, as it was unclear as to what the National Agreement on Pay for Public Sector staff will be agreed at.

The Cemetery income was less this year than had been forecast and consequently budget forecasts for the next financial year have been scaled back.

The loss of a tenant at the Winning Post has meant that rental income from the building is forecast to be much less than the previous financial year.

The Council's overall insurance costs have risen due to a combination of claims and reviews of actual insurance needs.

Council discussed ways to reduce the deficit, they considered the effects on the Council Tax bands of a 3% and 5% increase.

Band/Ratio	0% increase	3% increase	5% increase
A - 6/9	£75.57	£77.83	£79.35
H - 9/9	£113.36	£116.76	£119.03

Cllrs. were of the view that the Council shouldn't rely on taking money out of capital reserves for items that are arguably revenue costs.

It was noted that the Council now had a full-time Town Clerk and as it was trying to build an accountable Council and improve facilities and so the precept would need to be increased.

The Clerk advised that the Council needed to formerly earmark the reserves, to demonstrate why it is holding reserves although he did provide a breakdown of the various capital projects he is aware of that have been mooted or already agreed.

It was proposed and seconded that a 5% increase in the precept for 2020/21 be accepted, this was supported unanimously.

**RESOLVED: That the Precept be increased by 5% for the 2020/21 financial year and that the projects which the Clerk had suggested may be funded by Capital Reserves should remain as Revenue costs.**

### **3519. BANK ACCOUNT SIGNATORIES**

The Clerk reported that the signatories for the CCLA and Nat west Bank needed to be updated and that old signatories needed to be removed.

**Resolved: That the authorised Signatories in the current mandate for the accounts detailed in section 1.3 be changed in accordance with section Authorised Signatures. And the current mandate will continue as amended.**

### **3520. DOG FOULING PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER CONSULTATION**

The Clerk reported that Doncaster MBC is looking to renew the current Dog Fouling and Dog Control Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) which is due to expire in February 2020, for a further 3 years and asked for comments on the proposed PSPO.

Councillors considered this to be an important document and thought that as a Council we could provide more dog waste bins on our sites, also that copies of the order could be put on the Council's website and Facebook page.

**RESOLVED: That the Public Space Protection Order be supported for renewal.**

**3521. MOORENDS FLOODLIGHTS**

The Clerk updated members on developments in relation to the project to aid in a decision being made as to how to progress the project on the latest information.

Northern Powergrid as the electrical undertaker originally proposed a route for the new supply at a cost of approximately £12500 plus VAT. They then sought to carry out some of their own works and use the site to support those works and essentially combine their works with our works which brought the cost of new supply down to around £5000. Upon investigation Northern Powergrid discovered that their proposed route was not viable.

The Clerk reported that quotes had been received for a new route for the 100kva supply and the quote is now £23358.92, an increase of over £10000. An option for a smaller 85kva supply has been put forward at a cost of £8700. This will still provide the increased ampage and power for the floodlights.

Members were asked to consider if they are happy with the smaller capacity supply at a much smaller cost or stick to the 100kva at the higher cost.

**RESOLVED: That the quotation for the 85kva supply be accepted and that the project be progressed.**

**3522. CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk reported

- That a new Police Inspector had been appointed for the Thorne area. The Mayor has suggested that she be invited to a meeting to discuss growing concerns about crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Planning was underway to deliver some of the ideas for VE Day Celebrations.
- The Mayor's Community Grant Fund was still inviting applications.
- An Operations Supervisor had been appointed to take charge of the grounds maintenance and cleaning operations.
- Fire Risk assessments had been undertaken across the main Council buildings. Some works to improve fire safety have been identified for which quotes will be sought and reports presented to Council.
- Councillors were reminded that should they require any training to let the Clerk know.
- The proposed developers of Bradholme had declined to meet the Council in a public forum.
- A request to carry out metal detecting across Council land had been rejected on the basis of Health and Safety factors. Concerns over holes in the ground and the fear that it may encourage other detectorists are factors in the decision.

**RESOLVED: That the Clerk's report be noted.**

**3523. 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.**

**3524. WAREHOUSE**

The Clerk reported that quotations had been received for enhanced security options following the warehouse break-ins. The quotes were reviewed and considered.

**RESOLVED** to appoint relevant contractors to erect a new secure compound outside the warehouse, repair the existing roller shutter and add a further security door.

**End of meeting.**