

## **MALTBY TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 26 November 2002**

Present were Councillors A D Crompton (Chairman), G S Bates, C Beaumont, C D Colley, Mrs M E Gannon, A Garner, D A Gayton, D M Kellam, J C Kirk, Mrs G U Mercer, Mrs A L Rushforth, G B Robinson, Mrs S N Robinson, B Slade, K A Smith, K F Stringer, and D Thorpe.

It was agreed that members and officers of Maltby Sure Start and members of the public could provide any information which would assist councillors in making a decision on the matters under consideration on the agenda.

The following issues were raised:

- Sure Start tabled draft plans for their proposed building
- Sure Start pointed out that the Town Council would be enabling a £0.75M scheme to proceed for the benefit of the people of Maltby
- Members of the public referred to the history of the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall, and commented on the merits and de-merits of acquiring the site

#### 200/02 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Russell.

#### 201/02 ACQUISITION OF LAND AT TICKHILL ROAD/WALTERS ROAD

Councillors G B Robinson and Mrs A L Rushforth (also Rotherham Borough Councillors) each declared a Personal Interest in the possible acquisition of the Edward Dunn site. After taking advice from the Monitoring Officer, they confirmed that they would act only as Town Councillors in respect of this acquisition, and would withdraw from any meeting of Rotherham MBC at which the issue was being considered.

The Clerk & Financial Officer made a presentation to the Town Council which summarised:

- the background to the Town Council's initial interest in acquiring the land and buildings now on offer
- the result of early discussions with Rotherham MBC with regard to acquiring the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall only
- several minutes which instructed him to negotiate on behalf of the Council
- the opportunities and risks in acquiring one of the few prime sites available in the Township
- the opportunities and risks in collaborative working with Sure Start and other agencies needing land in Maltby
- comments from Ilett & Clark Solicitors (the Town Council's solicitors) advising on proceeding with caution
- details of the current negotiations including valuations received from both Rotherham MBC, and Drewery & Wheeldon Surveyors acting on behalf of the Town Council

The Clerk & Financial Officer responded to questions from Councillors.

A discussion ensued in which several issues, both for and against the proposal, were considered.

**RESOLVED**: that (a) plots A and B marked on the attached plan be acquired by the Town Council (i) subject to contract, (ii) subject to a prior agreement Maltby Sure Start to occupy plot B, and (iii) subject to appropriate financial arrangements being in place, and (b) plot C marked on the attached plan be not purchased unless either the conditions can be re-negotiated or a third party can be found to take on the obligations required by Rotherham MBC.

A recorded vote was requisitioned, the outcome of which was:

Those voting in favour – Councillors G S Bates, C Beaumont, C D Colley, A D Crompton, Mrs M E Gannon, A Garner, D A Gayton, D M Kellam, J C Kirk, Mrs A L Rushforth, G B Robinson, Mrs S N Robinson, K A Smith, and D Thorpe.

Those voting against - Councillors Mrs G U Mercer, B Slade and K F Stringer.

202/02 APPLICATION FOR LOAN SANCTION

**RESOLVED**: that the Clerk & Financial Officer be authorised to apply for loan sanction in respect of minute no. 201/02 above.

A recorded vote was requisitioned, the outcome of which was:

Those voting in favour – Councillors G S Bates, C Beaumont, C D Colley, A D Crompton, Mrs M E Gannon, A Garner, D A Gayton, D M Kellam, J C Kirk, Mrs A L Rushforth, G B Robinson, Mrs S N Robinson, K A Smith, and D Thorpe.

Those voting against - Councillors Mrs G U Mercer, B Slade and K F Stringer.

203/02 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Town Council was arranged for 7.00pm on Wednesday 18 December 2002, in the Edward Dunn Memorial Hall, Tickhill Road, Maltby.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.