

GOOLE TOWN COUNCIL

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of meeting held on 7th April, 2022.

PRESENT: Councillors Flynn (In the Chair), Bailey, Bottomley, Cooper, Handley, B Jeffreys, D Jeffreys, Moiser, Raspin, Turner and Walker.

OFFICERS: Mr B. Robertson (Town Clerk)

PR2138 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Boatman, Harrison, Marshall, Penn Vause and Whitehead.

PR2139 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND THEIR NATURE

There were no declarations of interest

It was **RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded for the following item under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act) 1960 in that it contains commercial or personal information as defined under the Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12A the divulgence of which may be detrimental to the Council.

PR2140 TO DISCUSS THE COMMENTS MADE BY THE CCTV OPERATOR AND THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER DURING THE LAST CCTV WORKING PARTY MEETING

Councillor Handley gave a brief synopsis of the meeting during which remarks were made regarding the alleged lack of reporting by the media of crimes committed by the migrant community during a period of heightened tension due to a large influx of migrants. The Police and Crime Commissioner had taken exception to the comments and threatened that he and his police officers would leave the meeting if they persisted.

Discussion took place with regard to the potential early termination of the Council's contract.

The Town Clerk advised that he had serious concerns that if this course of action was to be pursued, the Council would be the subject of a protracted and costly legal action, which it might lose since the remarks might have been misconstrued and in any case were made in a private meeting. He added that two police officers present did not comment on what could have been deemed to be a criminal offence. He suggested that if the Council disagreed with his advice then they could seek an independent legal opinion.

Councillor B Jeffreys cautioned against any legal action, which posed an enormous financial risk to the Council and suggested that with only 11 months of the contract to run it would be prudent to enter into discussions with the East Riding of Yorkshire Council under the Towns Deal programme.

Councillor Turner **PROPOSED** that the CCTV Working Party be given delegated responsibility to discuss with the East Riding of Yorkshire Council the possibility of becoming part of the group of Councils using their monitoring services and report its findings to a future Policy and Resources meeting and enter into discussions with the current provider regarding the potential early termination of its contract.

This was **SECONDED** by Councillor Handley.

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Meeting concluded at 8.55pm