

had no wish to involve his client or the Council in litigation and had written to give the Council a final opportunity to "put its hand in its pocket", sufficient to reimburse the complainant for all her expenses. He continued that, if the complainant went to Court, she would seek damages. In response to a request for full details of what was alleged to be breach of duty and negligence, the solicitor had stated that Counsel's opinion was based on the facts contained in the Ombudsman's report and relied on the correspondence with the Post Office and the failure to report the contents to the Committee.

The Clerk stated that it was the suggestion of the District Solicitor that the Committee should refer the matter to the Council's insurers for their attention as any claim for negligence should be dealt with by them.

Some members expressed the view that the Council should offer to make some payment to the person concerned and it was moved and seconded "That the Council pay all the expenses incurred by the applicant in this matter".

It was requested that voting on the motion be recorded as follows:-

For: Councillors Mrs. Brooks and Miss Graham.

Against: Councillors Cardus, Mrs. Carr, Cook, Mrs. Gallagher, Heseltine, Nicholson, Simpson, R.A. Stockdale, W. Stockdale, Swinglehurst and Tosney.

The motion was not carried.

It was further proposed and seconded "That the Council pay £700 to the applicant, being the expenses claimed in the complaint made to the Ombudsman".

It was requested that voting on the motion be recorded as follows:-

For: Councillors Mrs. Brooks and Miss Graham.

Against: Councillors Cardus, Mrs. Carr, Cook, Mrs. Gallagher, Heseltine, Nicholson, Simpson, R.A. Stockdale, W. Stockdale, Swinglehurst and Tosney.

The motion was not carried.

It was further proposed and seconded "That the Council pay £200 to the applicant as recommended by the Ombudsman in his report".

It was requested that voting on the motion be recorded as follows:-

For: Councillors Mrs. Brooks, Mrs. Carr, Miss Graham, Simpson and R.A. Stockdale.

Against: Councillors Cardus, Cook, Mrs. Gallagher, Heseltine, Nicholson, W. Stockdale, Swinglehurst and Tosney.

The motion was not carried.

Resolved - That no payment be made to the applicant and that any action for negligence or claim for damages be referred to the Council's insurers.

1149. AMENITY AREAS - SWAN STREET AND NEW STREET, CARLETON

The Clerk reported a letter (3/3/83) from the District Valuer and Valuation Officer stating that in his opinion, the value of the amenity areas at Swan Street and New Street, Carleton was £475 in total. However, it was understood from verbal discussions with the Clerk of the prospective purchasers, Carleton Parish Council, that the Parish Council was unlikely to be prepared to pay in excess of a total of £50 for both sites.

The Clerk stated that, if the Council wished to sell the land to the Parish Council at nominal value, they could so do with the consent of the Department of the Environment.

Resolved - That, subject to the consent of the Department of the Environment, arrangements be made for the two plots of land to be sold to the Parish Council for the sum of £50.

1150.

NOTICES OF MOTION

The Clerk reported that at Minute 936 consideration had been deferred of the question as to whether the mover of a notice of motion attending a Committee meeting in accordance with Standing Order No. 36 should or should not be given the opportunity of responding to the points made in the debate.

Resolved - That the mover of a notice of motion attending a Committee meeting in accordance with Standing Order No. 36, be given the opportunity of responding to points made in the debate.

1151.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Clerk submitted the first report of the County Council's Community Services Sub-Committee upon which this Council's observations were requested.

Resolved - That comments be made to the County Council on the above report as follows:-

POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

8th September, 1983

Present - The Chairman (Councillor Swinglehurst), the Chairman of the Council (Councillor Cook) and Councillors Mrs. Brooks, Cardus, Mrs. Carr, Carter, Mrs. Gallagher, Miss Graham, Howley, R.A. Stockdale and Tosney.

Apologies were received from Councillors Phillip, Simpson and Willey.

Part A - Matters for report

364.

ACCOUNTS

The Financial Officer submitted a report upon accounts totalling £4,439,253.74, which had been paid since the meeting on 22nd June, 1983.

365.

LOANS

The Financial Officer reported the following:-

(a) External Loan Debt - 25th August, 1983

	£
Mortgages	350,000
Public Works Loan Board	6,287,447
Temporary Loans	950,000
	<u>7,587,447</u>

(b) Temporary Loans

	£
Loans repayable within three months	700,000
Loans repayable within more than three months and less than twelve months	250,000
Temporary loan debt at 25th August, 1983	<u>950,000</u>
Current interest rates	9 $\frac{3}{4}$ % (10%)
Temporary investments	Nil (Nil)
Temporary loan limit	£2,260,000

366.

CAR LOANS

The Financial Officer reported that the following car loans had been granted:-

	£
P.5	- 1,750
F.17	- 2,747
F.41	- 3,695
T.9	- 3,850
T.22	- 2,336

367.

RATING(a) Rates payable at 12th August, 1983

	£.p.
Gross Rates due 1st April, 1983	6,929,220.27
Less Rebates, Reliefs and Adjustments	285,239.14
	6,643,981.13
Less Payments	3,415,741.70
Rates outstanding at 12th August, 1983	3,228,239.43

(b) Mandatory Relief - Section 40

The Financial Officer reported that 50% mandatory rate relief had been granted in respect of valuation No. 152/16.

368.

CONTRACT FINAL ACCOUNTS

The Financial Officer reported the following contract final accounts:-

	Final Value of work done	Original amount of contract
P.S. Turner (Constructions) Ltd. - 14 houses for sale at Town Head, Settle.	£238,659.45	£256,236.89
B.B. Kirk (Constructions) Ltd. - 21 bungalows at West Street, Gargrave.	£434,399.73	£410,867.62

369.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

The Financial Officer submitted comparative financial and general statistics for 1983/84 which had been prepared from information supplied to the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, and relating to the other district councils in North Yorkshire, and district councils with a similar population to Craven.

370.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT, 1982

The Financial Officer submitted a report explaining the provisions of the Local Government Finance Act, 1982, which was concerned with rates, block grant, borrowing powers, rate relief in enterprise zones and the establishment of the Audit Commission.

371.

AUDIT COMMISSION - APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL'S AUDITOR

Further to Minute 180, the Financial Officer submitted a letter (14/7/83) from the Audit Commission stating that, under the terms of the Local Government Finance Act, 1982, the Commission had to appoint auditors for local authorities, and confirming that Mr. D. Wilkinson, the District Auditor, had been re-appointed for the audit of accounts for the year ending 31st March, 1984. The appointment would be subject to annual review, but in normal circumstances it would be expected to run for at least five years. There would be no increase in the fee scales during the present financial year.

372.

LOCAL AUTHORITY REPLACEMENT LENDING

The Financial Officer reported a letter (16/8/83) from the Halifax Building Society enquiring whether the Council would wish the Society to consider taking over mortgages.

Resolved - That the matter be referred to the Housing Services Committee for consideration.

373.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TOWARDS COST OF LITIGATION

The Clerk reported that at Minute 206 it had been agreed that in the event of an approach being made by the Council concerned, financial assistance be given towards the cost of litigation in the case of R v. Eastleigh Borough Council, ex parte Betts and Betts. The appeal had been heard on 12th July and judgement had been delivered on 27th July. In a unanimous judgement the appeal had been allowed and it had been ordered that the Borough Council's costs in the Lords and the Court of Appeal be paid out of the Legal Aid Fund. Financial support would not, therefore, be required.

374.

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE(a) Conservation Volunteers

The Clerk submitted a letter (July, 1983) from the North Yorkshire Field Officer seeking a contribution from the Council towards the cost of setting up a training centre and base for volunteers at Kiplin Hall,

near Northallerton. The centre would be the home of the North Yorkshire region of the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers which had been established in 1971 as a registered charity and aimed to involve people of all ages in practical conservation work to benefit both wildlife and the public at large.

Resolved - That no contribution be made.

(b) Appeal in Memory of Keighley Fireman

The Financial Officer submitted a letter from the Telegraph and Argus stating that they had recently launched an appeal dedicated to the memory of Keighley fire hero, Jeff Naylor. The Council were asked to make a donation; all the money raised would go to the Fire Service's National Benevolent Fund, which was for the benefit of widows and dependants of firemen in the event of their being killed or maimed on duty.

Resolved - That a donation of £50 be made.

375.

LAND AND PROPERTY

(a) Land at rear of 9/12 Goodenber Crescent, Bentham (8/1b)

The Clerk reported that at Minute 568(b)/81-82 it had been reported that an area of land at the rear of 9/12 Goodenber Crescent, Bentham had been offered to Bentham Town Council for recreational use, but that the Town Council had not accepted the offer. This Council, had, therefore, authorised negotiations for the sale of the land to the adjoining land owner. The District Valuer had conducted protracted negotiations with the owner's agents, but had now reported that he was closing his file on the matter as the purchaser was not keen to proceed.

Resolved - That the land be offered for sale on the open market.

(b) Amenity Areas - Swan Street and New Street, Carleton

Further to Minute 1149/82-83, the Clerk reported that the Secretary of State for the Environment had consented to the sale of land at Swan Street and New Street, Carleton, to Carleton Parish Council for amenity purposes at a price of £50. The consent was given on the condition that the Council made a contribution from the General Rate Fund to the Housing Revenue Account. The Parish Council had indicated that they wished to proceed with the sale.

The Financial Officer reported that the District Valuer had recommended a price of £475 for the sale of the two plots of land and that the contribution required to be made by the General Rate

Fund to the Housing Revenue Account would be £50 per year for the next 60 years. However, he would examine whether it was possible to make a lump sum payment to the Housing Revenue Account and, if so, would arrange for this to be done.

Resolved - That the Financial Officer be authorised to make the necessary contribution from the General Rate Fund to the Housing Revenue Account in respect of the sale of this land.

(c) Former Crosshills Depot

Further to Minute 1320(b)/81-82, the Clerk reported that terms had been agreed for the sale to Aire Valley Commercial of (a) an additional section of the former depot building; (b) the access road, subject to reservation of a right of way for access to the Council's remaining property; and (c) an area of land to improve the junction of the access road with Keighley Road. The agreed price in respect of all three areas was £12,000 and the sale was proceeding.

(d) Land at Bay Horse Yard, Skipton

The Clerk reported that, as part of the review of landholdings, the Council had agreed to offer this land for sale to the adjoining owners who had expressed an interest in it (Minute 537(c)(5)/80-81 refers). For over two years the District Valuer had been endeavouring to agree a price but, had finally in a letter (7/7/83) reported his negotiations as abortive because he could not recommend acceptance of the offer made by the adjoining owners.

Following a report by the Clerk, it was

Resolved - That the District Valuer be asked to resume negotiations with the adjoining landowner.

(e) Land at Engine Shed Lane, Skipton

The Clerk reported that the District Valuer's report had now been received in respect of land at Engine Shed Lane, Skipton. The valuation was £16,400 and the sale to Craven Recovery Services was proceeding.

376.

FUTURE OF THE SETTLE TO CARLISLE RAILWAY

Further to Minute 197(7), the Chief Planning Officer submitted a report setting out the latest position regarding the future of the Settle to Carlisle railway. At a meeting convened by Cumbria County Council and held at Settle on 28th June, 1983, Councils had been asked to consider the following points:-

- (a) Local authorities should not accept that closure of the line was inevitable; nor should they wait until a formal proposal for closure had been published by British Rail.
- (b) Local authorities should agree, in principle, to invite the co-operation of British Rail to examine in depth the possible development of the line. This should involve local Members of Parliament, Government Departments and other appropriate agencies in order to examine (i) all possible sources of outside funding to restore structures on the line; (ii) potential future use of the line; (iii) possible support from public and private sources for its operation; and (iv) the potential for associated tourist developments.
- (c) Representatives present should take back this proposal to their own local authorities for agreement and suggestions as to how progress was now to be made.

The Chief Planning Officer stated that the first of these points had been overtaken by events following publication of British Rail's five year plan which envisaged that parts of this line would close and it would discontinue as a through route; to date he was not aware that any closure notice had been published. The County Councils, in particular Cumbria and West Yorkshire, were playing an increasingly active role in the fight to save the line and this seemed logical as they had statutory responsibilities in respect of public transport.

A re-convened meeting of the one held in June under the auspices of Cumbria County Council would be held in October at Settle and this Council were entitled to be represented.

The Chief Planning Officer also reported notification of a seminar organised by the Pennine Heritage Network to be held at Hebden Bridge on Saturday, 24th September, 1983. It was entitled "Pennine Railways: How People Can Help Promote Local Rail Lines" and attendance would cost £5 per delegate, including refreshments.

Resolved - (1) That Councillor Swinglehurst represent the Council at the re-convened meeting at Settle in October.

(2) That Councillors Mrs. Gallagher and Howley be authorised to attend the seminar at Hebden Bridge on 24th September but that this be not regarded as approved duty.

377.

AMUSEMENT WITH PRIZES PERMIT
18A SWADFORD STREET, SKIPTON

The Clerk reported that he had received an application for a permit under Section 34 of the Gaming Act, 1968 for the operation of amusements with prizes machines at 18A Swadford Street, Skipton. These premises

had been granted planning permission, on appeal, to use the ground floor as an amusement centre.

The Clerk stated that since 1974, the issue of permits for amusement machines had been dealt with by him under delegated powers. However, all the permits which had been issued since 1974 had been in respect of one or two machines in premises such as cafes where the amusement machine was incidental to the main use of the premises. As this was the first application to the Council for a permit in respect of premises to be used wholly or mainly for the provision of amusements by means of machines, the application had been brought to the Committee for determination.

Details of Schedule 9 of the Gaming Act, 1968 which dealt with the issue of permits were reported and the following options were open to the Committee:-

- (a) To approve the application and grant a permit.
- (b) To invite the applicant or his representative to attend a meeting of the Committee where he might speak in support of his application.

It was reported that the Planning Committee had asked that this Committee be informed of their strong opposition to the granting of a gaming permit on the grounds of disruption to the environment and amenity of the area.

Resolved - That the applicant or his representative be invited to attend a special meeting of the Committee to be held on Tuesday, 4th October, 1983 at 7 p.m. where he may speak in support of his application.

378.

ANIMAL WELFARE AND ANIMAL CHARTER

The Clerk reported that the London Borough of Islington had adopted a policy statement on animal welfare and animal charter and had written to all local authorities urging them to take similar action. They had asked to be informed of any action taken. The documents enclosed with the letter were held in the Clerk's Department and could be seen upon request.

379.

STANDING ORDERS FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTRACTS

The Clerk reported that a revised edition of "Model Standing Orders for Local Authority Contracts" had been published. Draft Standing Orders based on the revised model would be submitted to a future meeting.

380.

CONFERENCES(a) Association of District Councils' Annual Conference

The Chairman of the Council and the Clerk submitted a report upon the Annual Conference of the Association of District Councils held at Scarborough from 29th June - 1st July, 1983.

(b) Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Annual Conference

The Financial Officer submitted a report upon the Annual Conference of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy held at Eastbourne from 7th - 9th June, 1983.

381.

LOCAL OMBUDSMAN - COMPLAINTS(a) 8 George Street, Skipton

The Clerk reported that the Annual Report of the Commission for Local Administration in England for the year ended 31st March, 1983, had been published. The following was an extract from the report of Mr. Pat Cook:-

"Eight further reports were issued during the year because I was not satisfied with the action taken by authorities on critical reports, either to redress the injustice caused by their maladministration or to take administrative steps in order to avoid similar criticism in future. I record with regret that even after such further reports three authorities (Craven District Council, Newark District Council and Salford City Council) failed to take satisfactory action. As recorded already, I do not favour some system of statutory enforcement for a Local Ombudsman's findings; but do understand the mounting pressures for such a system if some authorities still refuse to respond positively to independent and impartial criticism.

That undesirable possibility can increase when a critical report is considered first by the committee whose actions are criticised rather than by, say, the more detached Policy and Resources Committee (during the year the North Yorkshire County Council have switched commendably to initial consideration by a detached group of senior members, not the service committee under criticism)."

(b) Residential Development off Wharfeside Avenue, Threshfield

Further to Minute 446/82-83, the Clerk reported that notice had been received from the Local Ombudsman of a complaint regarding the Council's decision to take no action concerning an access between Badger Gate and High Bank, Threshfield.

382.

PUBLICATIONS

The Clerk reported that the following recent publications had been placed in the Members' Room:-

Your Local Ombudsman - Report for the year ended 31st March, 1983.
North Western Gas Consumers' Council - Annual Report 1982-83.
North Eastern Gas Consumers' Council - Annual Report 1982-83.
Local Authorities and Racial Disadvantage. Report of a Joint Government/Local Authority Association Working Group.
Yorkshire Electricity Consultative Council - Annual Report 1982-83.

Part B - Decisions for confirmation

383.

REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE

The Committee considered the remaining recommendations in the Review Sub-Committee minutes submitted at Minute ~~359~~ and printed on pages 2/138 - 2/142. 360

Resolved - That the report of the Review Sub-Committee be approved and the remaining recommendations contained therein (with the exception of Minute (4) which was dealt with at Minute ~~359~~) be adopted. 360

384.

SKIPTON HIGH STREET SETT PAVEMENTS SUB-COMMITTEE

The Clerk submitted minutes of a meeting of the Skipton High Street Sett Pavements Sub-Committee held on 31st August, 1983, and printed on pages 2/158 - 2/160.

The Clerk reported that, since the meeting of the Sub-Committee, the Chief Environmental Health Officer had given further consideration to the matter and a copy of his recommendations, as amended by the Management Team, were submitted. It was suggested that these be adopted in place of the recommendations at Minute (4) of the Sub-Committee. Also submitted was a set of draft trading conditions printed at Appendix B to these minutes.

Resolved - (1) That the report of the Skipton High Street Sett Pavements Sub-Committee be approved and the recommendations contained therein adopted with the exception of the recommendations at Minute (4), which be replaced by (2) below.

(2) That the recommendations of the Chief Environmental Health Officer, as amended by the Management Team, be adopted as follows:-

- (a) That the Council are concerned at the deterioration of standards and conditions in the High Street, Skipton, and as a result are prepared to take the initiative to try to improve the situation.
- (b) That the co-operation of all frontagers be sought in order to achieve a satisfactory conclusion to this vexed, complex and worsening problem.
- (c) That to this end the Council recognise the need to state their opinion as to what they would like to see in the High Street and their views are summarised as follows:-
- (i) Trading on the setts to be limited to ~~three~~ ^{four} days per week namely Mondays, Wednesdays, ^{and} Saturdays. _{Fridays}
- (ii) Trading to be organised and managed on a proper basis in accordance with a set of conditions and practices similar to or based upon those already agreed by the Council as draft licence conditions under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1982, and printed at Appendix B to these minutes. (Draft Trading Conditions).
- (iii) Outside trading hours and on non-trading days, no evidence of any kind of trading to be visually apparent and all trading equipment, ancillaries and resulting "proceeds" to be absent, and the setts to be generally utilised for no other purpose than parking and delivery etc.
- (d) That as failure to come to some acceptable agreement with relevant parties will result in further deterioration in standards and increasing public concern about the present situation, the Council hope that a satisfactory agreement can be reached by no later than 31st March, 1984.
- (e) That, failing any agreement by 31st March, 1984, the Council will consider the various options open to them under current legislation or, as an alternative, may be prepared to consider acting as controlling/administering authority (within the limits of their statutory powers) to ensure that the objectives of the Council are achieved.

(Councillor R.A. Stockdale declared an interest in this matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.)

385. RATE LIMITATION AND REFORM OF THE RATING SYSTEM

The Financial Officer submitted a report upon a Government White Paper setting out proposals for the reform of the rating system in

the context of local government finance as a whole. The most important reform was the proposal to introduce legislation giving the Government powers in England and Wales to curb excessive rate increases by individual local authorities, and providing a general power to be used if necessary. The Government had already announced their decision that rates should remain for the foreseeable future as the main source of local revenue for local government. The report outlined the proposals contained in the White Paper under the headings of selective limitation scheme; the general limitation scheme; non-domestic revaluation; precepting; non-domestic rate-payers; rates on empty property; and minor rating reforms.

The Financial Officer stated that the proposals had produced a strong, adverse reaction from the Association of District Councils as it was asserted that the plans represented State intervention in local affairs on a scale unprecedented in this country. In this connection, Association of District Councils' Circulars 123/83 and 125/83 had been circulated to members setting out the Association's opposition to the proposals.

Resolved - (1) That the Council oppose the proposal to introduce a general control over the rates of local authorities.

(2) That the Council are of the opinion that the proposal, whereby separate notices will be required to be issued showing the amount levied by the rating authority and by each major precepting authority, should be amended so as to permit the rating authority to give this information on a single page re-designed rate demand note.

(3) That the proposal to extend from seven to 28 days the period for taking enforcement action after the issue of the rate demand notes, be opposed.

(4) That the Council consider that the following minor rating reforms should be made:-

(a) The situation whereby any increase in rateable value of £30 or less on domestic property may not be taken into account until a revaluation has taken place should be abolished.

(b) Where there is a change in the rateable value of property the Council should be able to apply the new rateable value with effect from the date when the change occurred.

386.

AIREDALE HEALTH AUTHORITY
ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Further to Minute 196, the Clerk reported that consultation papers from the Airedale Health Authority regarding proposals to vary arrangements for the provision of health services at Airedale General Hospital, Ilkley Coronation Hospital, Skipton General Hospital and Raikeswood Hospital, Skipton, had been circulated previously to all members of the Council. The Council's comments were requested on the proposals contained in the paper by no later than 23rd September, 1983.

A member reported that local doctors had objected strongly to some of the proposed changes in the Skipton hospitals on the following grounds:-

- (a) Convenience and service to patients would suffer.
- (b) Partial closure (of the Casualty Department at Skipton General Hospital) brought the closure of the whole hospital nearer.
- (c) The saving of £43,482 by the closure of the Casualty Department was strongly disputed.
- (d) It had not been substantiated that closure of the Casualty Department would be beneficial to patients generally.
- (e) The declared policy of the National Health Service was to take medical services to the patients rather than vice-versa.
- (f) The reorganisation of beds between Skipton General and Raikeswood Hospitals was misconceived. It was considered that this could have been proposed for the sake of administrative convenience and compliance with guidelines, rather than to maintain the excellent service the community now enjoyed.

After discussion, it was

Resolved - (1) That the Council support the views of the local doctors and that representations be made accordingly to the Airedale Health Authority.

(2) That the Council are of the opinion that adequate provision should be made in the Skipton hospitals for both general practitioner and pre-convalescent beds.

387.

EUROPEAN ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES - REVIEW

The Clerk reported that the Boundary Commission had made provisional recommendations for the review of European Assembly Constituencies. Under the proposals the Skipton and Ripon

Parliamentary Constituency would be included with the Parliamentary Constituencies of Hartlepool, Langbaurgh, Middlesbrough, Redcar, Richmond (Yorks), Stockton North and Stockton South in the European Assembly Constituency of Cleveland and Yorkshire North. Representations with regard to the proposals had to be made by 28th August, 1983. However, after consulting the Chairman of the Committee, an objection had been lodged but no grounds of objection had been stated. Unless the Council wished to withdraw the objection, it would be necessary to specify the grounds of objection and consider authorising representation at the local inquiry which might be held.

The objections made to the Boundary Commission by Harrogate and Middlesbrough Borough Councils were reported.

Resolved - That, in view of the wide geographical, social and economic differences between the Counties of North Yorkshire and Cleveland, the Council object to the inclusion of the Skipton and Ripon Parliamentary Constituency in the proposed new European Assembly Constituency of Cleveland and Yorkshire North and support the view of Harrogate Borough Council, that the whole of the Harrogate District should be contained within one European Constituency; to achieve this it is suggested that the Skipton and Ripon Parliamentary Constituency be transferred into the York European Constituency and that the Scarborough Parliamentary Constituency be transferred into the Cleveland and Yorkshire North European Constituency.

388.

RAIL CARDS

The Financial Officer reported a letter from British Rail stating that the cost of Senior Citizens' Rail Cards had been increased from £10 to £12 (£5 to £6 for Awayday Cards) with effect from 19th June, 1983. The present position was that the Council were given a 25% discount on the purchase of the cards which gave a cost to the public of £8 (including 50p administration) for the Rail Cards and £4 (including 25p administration) for the Awayday Cards. The current stock of old cards had been exhausted in August and, after consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, a small supply of cards had been purchased at the new price. As an interim measure, the price had been fixed at £10 (including £1 administration) for the Rail Card and £5 (including 50p administration) for the Awayday Card.

He also reported a letter (15/4/83) from British Rail stating that a new type of rail card, similar to that for senior citizens, was available for disabled persons. The cost was £12 and the Council would again receive 25% discount. Confirmation of disablement would be carried out by the Post Office and the Department of Health and Social Security.

British Rail had now indicated that they were prepared to increase their discount to the Council from 25% to 50% provided the Council made no charge to the recipient. It might, therefore, be possible to offer to the public the choice of whether they would like a rail card free of charge or whether they would wish to take up their issue of bus tokens instead. The financial aspects of applying this policy would be that the Council would make a saving of £2 on each rail card issued in place of bus tokens.

The Financial Officer pointed out that to introduce the above scheme would involve more administrative time than at present but he would report back on any difficulties which might arise.

Resolved - (1) That the Council agree the new price for Senior Citizens' Rail Cards of £10 and £5.

(2) That the new scheme for the issue of rail cards to certified disabled persons be implemented.

(3) That, where the recipient so requests, a rail card be issued free of charge in place of bus tokens, but that in cases where the recipient requests both a rail card and bus tokens, a charge of £10 be made for the rail card.

389.

CRAVEN DISTRICT BOUNDARY - ADDINGHAM

The Clerk reported a letter (27/7/83) from Addingham Parish Council referring to the scheme and proposals of Otley Town Council to link the communities of mid-Wharfedale by the forming of a new Mid-Wharfedale District Council in North Yorkshire. Addingham Parish Council had long held the view that Addingham should have been within the Craven District and asked for the Council's comments.

The Clerk stated that the Management Team had considered this matter and wished to point out that a major review of county and metropolitan boundaries was expected to be started in 1984, and that the Council might wish to consider undertaking a more comprehensive review of its boundaries.

Resolved - That the Council would welcome Addingham into the Craven District in the event of any approach to the Boundary Commission being successful.

390.

POLLING STATION - COWLING

The Clerk reported that the Parish of Cowling was divided into two polling districts, i.e. F.A. (Cowling Part 1) and FB (Cowling Part 2). The polling station for Part 1 used to be at the County Primary School, but this had changed a few years ago to the nearby

Parish Church Hall. The owners of the Church Hall had given notice that the premises would not be available for future elections as they were to be sold. Cowling Parish Council had been consulted and did not favour a return to using the primary school. They had suggested that the Village Institute, which was the polling station for Part 2, should be used for both polling districts. The Parish Council's view was that this arrangement would be acceptable to the electors in the Part 1 polling district.

Resolved - That Cowling Village Institute be designated as the polling station for both FA (Cowling Part 1) and FB (Cowling Part 2) and that the two polling districts be merged into one.

391.

A.65 SETTLE AND GIGGLESWICK BY-PASS

The Clerk reported that notice had been received that a public inquiry was to be held to consider the proposed route of the A.65 Settle and Giggleswick By-pass, alterations to side roads, public footpaths, bridleways and private accesses, and any alternative routes suggested by objectors. The inquiry would start at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 22nd November, 1983, in St. John's Methodist Church Hall, Church Street, Settle. As the Council had requested an inquiry when they had considered the matter previously, they were asked whether they wished to appoint a representative(s) to attend the inquiry and, if so, what point of view was to be pursued. Previously the Council had decided to request the public inquiry but had not adopted either of the conflicting recommendations of the Development Services Committee (Minute 1074/82-83) and the Planning Committee (Minute 1112/82-83).

Resolved - That the Council support the "green" route for the proposed Settle and Giggleswick By-pass and that they be represented at the inquiry by Councillors Cook and Miss Graham, together with an officer adviser appointed by the Chief Planning Officer.

(Councillor Mrs. Brooks declared an interest in this matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.)

392.

REFRESHMENTS AT MEETINGS

The Clerk reported that at the Council Meeting held on 5th July, 1983, a member had suggested that refreshments be available in the form of tea and coffee at evening meetings.

The member concerned stated that she did not expect refreshments to be served but would be grateful if members could be permitted to bring along thermos flasks to Committee meetings. The Chairman stated that he could see no objection to this.

Resolved - That refreshments be not served at evening meetings.

B. D. Dinglehurst
Chairman.