

## ROTHWELL TOWN COUNCIL

A Meeting of Rothwell Town Council was held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 9th September 2014 in the Market House, Market Hill, Rothwell.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillor R Wilson Councillor C W Cross Councillor Mrs K M Draper Councillor I F Jelley Councillor M E Jones Councillor Mrs L A Russell Councillor K D Sumpter	<u>Town Mayor</u>
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### 521 PRAYERS

Before the business of the Council commenced, the Revd Canon John Westwood said Prayers and mentioned the work of the Town Council, and Montsaye Academy and the Primary Schools at the beginning of the new academic year.

### 522 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillors Mrs Brown, Matthew, Mills and Mrs Talbot, and from County Councillor Hakewill and the Police.

### 523 COMMUNITY POLICING

#### Crime Figures

No Police Officers were able to be present, but we had received the figures for August which showed there had been 55 crimes during the month as follows:-

- Burglary dwelling - 9
- Burglary other - 12
- Criminal damage - 8
- Other offences - 1
- Sexual offences - 1
- Theft from motor vehicles - 3
- Theft/handling - 8
- Theft of motor vehicles - 1
- Violence offences - 12.

There were a lot of burglaries during August, but it was understood that someone is now in custody for these. Councillor Mrs Draper said that she had asked about the anti-bullying campaign for year 7 at Montsaye. The Police had let us know that this had taken place during the last term. It was AGREED the Clerk will ask if this is continuing this year, which PCSOs will be taking part and which teachers also have responsibility for this campaign.

### 524 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no questions from members of the public. As to maintenance issues, Councillor Sumpter reported that the key stone for the window at the top of Rothwell House Hotel has dropped and needs attention, and at BetFred Betting Shop there are buddleia plants growing out of the stonework.

We had checked the situation with No.36 Spencer Street, when the Borough Council confirmed the resident was only laying a patio floor, but there is a problem because water is now flowing from this surface into the garden of No.38 Spencer Street and making this damp. Councillor Jelley will take this up again with the Borough Council.

The hedge at the service road for Nos. 80 to 94 Harrington Road is growing right over the footpath in Harrington Road again. Councillor Cross wondered if this hedge needed to be there as it continually gives problems.

#### 525 REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Councillor Hakewill was not able to be present at this Meeting, but the Town Mayor had heard on Radio Northampton that there was a statement in Parliament that Northamptonshire was setting the way by having proposals to combine the emergency services and we had asked our County Councillor about this. Councillor Hakewill had E-mailed back referring to the recent joint Open Day by the Police and the Fire Service, and with the following information:-

"There are discussions on-going between the Police and Fire Services and indeed the Ambulance service "the blue light services". There was an enabling report to the NCC cabinet in July which paved the way for a more formal set of discussions between the Police and Fire Service in particular. There were no specific discussions about any particular stations or combinations of services. Thus there was as yet no discussion about services in Rothwell or Desborough. The principles of such decisions would be subject to public consultations locally and county-wide which to the best of my knowledge are not yet planned. The principles involved are essentially the joint use of premises to reduce overall costs and in Thrapston there was an opportunity to place the two services in the same building which was taken up in their unique location circumstances.

There is a general feeling that suitably trained Police Fire and Ambulance people can make less difference as to which service arrives first at for example at an accident or incident, with the Fire Service carrying defibrators ...

Media coverage has been about the government's desire to seek out savings by multiple use of assets as a principle."

The development site in Harrington Road was discussed, and in particular the fact that the build-out there is now very close to the access into this new development and this will affect drivers here. It was felt this area needs to be re-designed with perhaps a mini-roundabout installed here instead of the build-out or traffic lights. It was thought the area should be inspected, and perhaps the developers asked to pay for any highway works.

#### 526 MINUTES

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Jelley, **SECONDED** by Councillor Cross and **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th July 2014 be confirmed and signed.

#### 527 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY

##### Dog Exercise Area

Copies of the Report of the Site Meeting held on 13th August 2014 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was **AGREED** that the Report be approved and adopted. The residents of Kingsley Road did not want the area near their houses, and it was felt by this Meeting that the other residents on the eastern side of Greening Road Park would not want this either.

It was AGREED to inform the Borough Council that we do not feel there will be agreement to have the dog exercise area on the eastern side of the Park, but we would be grateful if we could have signs put up asking people to pick up their dog mess and put this in the bins provided because of the children playing here.

#### Town Centre Partnership

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 20th August 2014 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was MOVED by the Town Mayor, SECONDED by Councillor Sumpter and RESOLVED that the Report be approved and adopted.

#### Church Walk Footpaths

It was thought the Borough did accept responsibility for our Church Walk footpaths because they had installed the collapsible bollard to allow their cleaning machine to go right along the path instead of having to try and turn this round. The Clerk had received confirmation that the Borough Council is responsible for the Church Walk footpath in Kettering at the side of that Parish Church from London Road down to the Market Place, but thought the Borough must also be responsible for the Church Walk path (but not the wider road) behind the Court and the Police Station down to the Borough car park. Councillor Jelley looked at the plan and confirmed the Borough did have responsibility for these. It was AGREED write to District Law, and Shirley Plenderleith and Brendan Coleman at the Borough and send them a copy of the plan with the paths marked in red.

As to painting the railings round the closed Churchyard, our resident is not longer able to complete this work because his generator has broken, so it was AGREED to ask the Borough Council when they will be able to complete painting the railings.

#### Recycling Bins

An E-mail had been received from Rachel Grattan, the Borough Waste Education Officer, that she has looked at the Community Centre and did not think there would be an issue with them emptying the bring banks from there, as long as they had a key to the gates. They have also been in touch with the company that supply the bring banks about having some better locks, which they are now going to try out. This will not stop flytipping completely (which would probably be a problem at the current site whether the banks were there or not) but it would stop people forcing open the lids to dump stuff in the bins, which leads to other people dumping around them because they cannot fit their recycling in. When the locks arrive they will clear the site and monitor it for a few weeks to see if the situation improves, and if it does not then they will progress to moving them to the Community Centre site.

It was AGREED to ask the Borough if they could empty the banks more often in the meantime.

#### Bus Shelter, Desborough Road

The Borough is waiting for a cost from one of their Sub-contractors to replace the missing and damaged slate tiles on the bus shelter at the bottom of Desborough Road. The work will be undertaken once this is received.

#### Sports Facilities, Well Lane Recreation Ground

The Town Mayor reported that the goal posts are now up for the football pitch, and apparently the Red Lion are already playing there.

E-mails from Councillor Jones had been circulated and another was available at this Meeting about having cycling facilities in Rothwell. Councillor Jones suggested there could be a Working Party set up to look at this.

Councillor Jelley said there is already a Committee looking to provide a skateboard/BMX track in the area, possibly on land currently owned by Bovis. Unfortunately there needs to be more volunteers because really Mrs Joyce is the only one of the parents still active on the Committee. An E-mail had been received from Mrs Joyce that they are quite frustrated that nothing much is happening yet despite them attending various Meetings over the last two or three years, especially as to the s.106 Agreement by Bovis. She understood there are funding projects in relation to cycling and wondered if these would help with the BMX track. She also suggested that the old overgrown track at the bottom of Well Lane Recreation Ground could be looked at again as this just needs to be cleared.

Councillor Jones has also been in touch with Jackie Brown, the County Sport & Physical Activity Manager, and with Mark Evans from the Kettering Cycling Club about using the Community Centre and Well Lane Recreation Ground for cycling activities and perhaps moving their headquarters here. They want to include everyone, including young children. Councillor Jones has also invited Montsaye Academy to attend.

Councillor Mrs Russell referred to the E-mail from Mrs Joyce and the fact that Bovis have not complied with their s.106 obligations. Councillor Jelley has spoken to the Borough Senior Finance Officer to find out what has happened above the Bovis s.106 Agreement. There are also the developments in Harrington Road and on the former Football Club site and there is to be a s.106 Officer who will look after all these donations. Councillor Jones said the British Cycling Association put half the money towards the velodrome and perhaps they would also help to fund the work here. This would have to be a Go-Ride Club for children.

Councillor Jones and Neil Holland from the County Council have ridden round Rothwell to see where it might be possible to put cycle paths. They went from Columbus Crescent to Well Lane Recreation Ground and then up Manor Park into Squires Hill. It was not possible to cross the A6 into Wales Street so they looked at Gordon Street and Jubilee Street to go over to Evison Road as it does not look possible anywhere else. For someone living in the north-east of Rothwell, Mr Holland said there would need to be two crossings. As to the Football Club site, we have suggested construction traffic could use Fanny Joyce's Lane.

The Town Council has previously suggested a change of priorities for the roads at Fox Street so traffic would have to give way coming up Kettering Road. Councillor Cross agreed that it will be essential to have a road north of the town.

Councillor Jones is in contact with Steven Edwards, the Borough Community Services Officer, and there will be a Meeting at the Community Centre at 6.00 pm on 24th September to bring all partners together. There is also a Town Centre Partnership Meeting at 7.30 pm that evening but Councillors can go on to that. There needs to be enough people who know what they can or cannot do.

It was believed the Red Lion now has a Football club which will be playing on the Well Lane pitch so anything would have to be compatible with that use. Councillor Jones thought cycling should take precedence over a pub football team. However, the goal posts are now up again and a lot of people had been upset when the football pitch was no longer used. Councillor Jones said there will be a report at the next Meeting as to what happens on the 24th.

Town Plan

We have not heard anything further about progress on the Town Plan. The Clerk will send Councillor Jelley the E-mail addresses of Mr and Mrs Gibson and he will contact them.

BID Scheme

Councillor Jelley has enquired at the Borough Council about this and they have spoken to Mo Aswat. Collette Lilley is now back from maternity leave and will look into this further.

Derelict Lane

Councillor Sumpter said that Mark Cox is aware of who owns the old garages at the top of Tresham Street. Members will check who now owns the land half way up Tresham Street.

Medical Centre

Councillor Jelley has spoken to NHS England to get a report on the procedures at Rothwell Medical Centre.

Town Improvements

Councillor Jelley had brought a letter which came to him from the Borough Council, and Mrs Alderton from Australia was complaining that the town does not improve, in particular the pavements and the roundabout at the entrance to the town. She felt the town should be made much more attractive especially with the history we have here.

Councillor and Mrs Wilson are looking after the garden in front of the Library, but this is a lot of work for them. It has been reported that Stephen Chester carries out this type of work and there is finance in the Rothwell In Bloom Account to pay for a scheme.

It was AGREED to write to Stephen Chester and ask for advice and quotes on the following:-

- (1) we can supply some membrane which could be put on the Library garden, and then some bark needs to be put down which we believe the Borough Council will supply. We then need to plant this up with shrubs which will last and some seasonal plants.
- (2) we would like some troughs planted up and placed at the entrances to the town, in front of the existing town signs in Kettering Road and Desborough Road.

Gala Committee

It was AGREED that there would be a Meeting of the Gala Committee at 7.30 pm on either 23rd or 30th September, depending on which is best for Councillor Mrs Talbot who is Treasurer of this Committee. It was subsequently arranged that this would be on 30th September. Mr Ray Davis has asked if the Gala Committee would like the Army Cadet Band to play at the Gala and this was AGREED.

528 HIGHWAYSCarriageway Repairs

We had received details of the streets in Rothwell where carriageway repairs are to be carried out and this gave the dates work would start. They have not yet lifted the drain covers but it is a different contractor which does this work.

They started with High Hill Avenue so that this road was done before the start of term at Montsaye Academy. The Mayor spoke to the contractors when they were dealing with this road and asked them to put any spare tarmac on Crown Lane, as we have received complaints about the potholes in this private road and some of this has now been done.

#### Tresham Street

The double yellow lines have not yet been put at the bottom of Tresham Street, and if this is not done shortly we will ask again for a date when this will happen.

### 529 PLANNING

#### Planning Committee

A Planning Committee Meeting was convened and Councillor Sumpter, as Vice-Chairman of this Committee reported that the following Approvals had been received:-

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| KET/2014/0378 | 5 New Street - Outbuilding roof.                        |
| KET/2014/0425 | 4 Balfour Drive - Extension with porch.                 |
| KET/2014/0443 | Rothwell Infant School - Replacement windows and doors. |

The following Application had been received and the Town Council's observations agreed as stated:-

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| KET/2014/0566 | 7 The Maltings - Gazebo in rear garden.<br>No objection. |
|---------------|--|

The Borough had sent an E-mail querying the Town Council's observation of "No objection" on KET/2014/0483 for extensions at 23 Columbus Crescent as they felt a slightly smaller extension over the garage would be more appropriate for the area. It was AGREED that the Town Council agreed with this and the comments were amended accordingly.

We had been re-notified on application KET/2007/0461 for Rothwell North because amended or additional plans/information had been submitted and the papers for this were at the Library. The Planning Committee would need to submit any comments by the 28th/29th September.

Councillor Mrs Draper said there was an advertisement in the local paper about proposed development at the Anaerobic Digester. It was subsequently ascertained that this seems to be a re-application for removal of Condition 23 (waste catchment area) which was originally refused. The Town Council had not objected to the original application, provided there was a condition that all heavy lorries must use the A14 and the A6 bypass and not take a short cut through Rothwell.

Councillor Sumpter referred to the fact that an application was re-submitted for the lorry park and he wondered if the developers at Harrington Road have been informed. Councillor Mrs Russell thought it was worth getting in touch with Morris Homes or to ask Councillor Hakewill.

### 530 MATTERS OF BUSINESS

#### County Association of Local Councils

Details had been circulated from NCALC about the next Meeting of the Larger Councils Partnership, the Annual General Meeting, and forthcoming training courses. No-one was able to attend any of these.

There was also a communication from Giving Time Project about an event to give a free briefing to help Parish Councils improve recruitment of candidates for elections in 2015. It was AGREED to take no action here.

#### Polling Districts and Places

Notification had been received that the Borough Council is conducting a review of polling districts and polling places used for elections within the area of the Borough and the existing Kettering Parliamentary Constituency. Some Members of the Town Council had heard that the Borough might not use the Methodist Church because this is in the wrong Ward, but they felt that as it is in the town centre and near the border of the two Wards this is convenient for people living in Tresham Ward. Using the Methodist Church and the Community Centre as the two polling stations also means that there is no need to close the Infant School which is very disruptive and it was AGREED to write to the Borough Council to this effect.

### 531 FINANCIAL REPORT

#### General Statement

The Clerk submitted a written statement as attached. It was MOVED by Councillor Jelley, SECONDED by Councillor Sumpter and RESOLVED that the statement be approved and adopted and the following amounts paid:-

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Goods or Services</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mrs C E Mackay	Clerk's Salary	£583.60
H M Revenue & Customs	Tax (3 months)	£208.40
Inter County Cleaning Services	Cleaning Market House	£36.00
Cash	Petty Cash	£40.00

#### HM Revenue & Customs

There is the new legislation regarding pension schemes and although it will not affect the Town Council there is still the need to register, and to do this we need a secondary contact. It was AGREED that Councillor Sumpter would be named as the second person.

### 532 ADMISSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was AGREED that the Press and Public be asked to withdraw.