

**Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting for Desborough held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014 in the Downstairs Meeting Room, Marlow House, Gold Street.**

**PRESENT**

**Councillors:** Cllr Coe (Chairman), Cllr A Matthews, Cllr D Soans, Cllr D Howes, Cllr M Tebbutt, Cllr R Sawford, Cllr J Watson, Cllr M Watson, Cllr J Pearce, Cllr J Derbyshire, Cllr B King, Cllr M Dearing

**Clerk:** James McKechnie

**Also in attendance:** Cllr A Matthews, Northamptonshire County Councillor, PCSO Firth Mr R Martin Path Warden and members of the public.

<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Chairman’s Announcements</b> The Chairman welcomed all those present and confirmed the health and safety/housekeeping issues for the building.</p> <p><i>First of all, I should like to introduce our new Town Clerk – Mr J McKechnie who comes to us from Weldon. So welcome to Desborough James and I hope our stay will be a happy one.</i></p> <p><i>I’d like to welcome Deputy Mayor Cllr J Derbyshire.</i></p> <p><i>Secondly, It is now 40 years to the Month since the last meeting of the Desborough Urban District Council, and as I reported at our last meeting this was Chaired by Donald Marlow.</i></p> <p><i>Then followed the first meeting of the Desborough Town Council, which incidentally means that I have served 40 years on the Town Council!</i></p> <p><i>Two weeks ago I was on Radio Northampton informing their listeners of the concern of the lorries going back and forwards from the Trout Farm.</i></p> <p><i>Again two weeks ago Desborough was placed firmly on the map with the International Women’s Cycle Race. After leaving Oundle, Desborough was the first town of the lengthy race, and I was proud of the Town with the attendance and the effort of displaying flags of the various countries.</i></p> <p><i>Lastly, Upon my return from a short break in London, I received various phone calls and emails with regards to illegal advertising for the European Elections. I am not going to name names so to avoid being accused of being political, but these were massive signs erected on the A6 highway, and the agent for the guilty party should have known better.</i></p>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b> – None Received
<b>3.</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> None were received for this meeting.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Minutes of Annual Town Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013</b> The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Matthews and seconded by Cllr Tebbutt – <b>Agreed</b> ).
<b>5.</b>	<b>Report of the Town Council</b> The Chairman gave a report for 2013/14: “I am going to be brief, first I should mention the loss to the Town Council by the death of Philip Maylin.  We had a funny old year perhaps due to a funny old Chairman.

	<p>There are many ongoing items that are still to be resolved through no fault of our own.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Trout Farm</li> <li>2. Incinerator</li> <li>3. Hawthorns – Right to Build</li> <li>4. Neighbourhood Plan</li> <li>5. Tesco</li> <li>6. Queen Street</li> </ol> <p>During the year we had our funding stopped by the Borough Council, which gave us no alternative but to raise a precept, so we can continue to function.</p> <p>Again during the year the Revive Café opened, and now together with the Bistro and the Ritz, who will soon open a grill and Tapas Bar, Station Road is becoming alive again, with the Heritage Centre and the Community Trust shop also enjoying many visitors.</p> <p>I would like to close by thanking all the Councillors for their best behaviour, and not giving me any aggro, and I would also like to thank all the organisations in the Town who strive to make Desborough a better place to live in”.</p>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Accounts for year ended 31 March 2013 and 31 March 2014</b></p> <p>It was reported that the accounts for year ending 31 March 2013 had been adopted by the Town Council and audited by both the internal and external auditors. The accounts for year ending 31 March 2014 had been adopted by the Town Council (Minute: 15.3 – May 2014), are to undergo internal audit and then to be submitted to the external auditor.</p>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>County Councillor report 2013/14.</b></p> <p>Cllr A Matthews – Report was received last month.</p>
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>Borough Councillor Reports 2013/14</b></p> <p>No reports were received.</p>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Reports from Local Charities</b></p> <p>Desborough Town Lands and Loake’s Charity – Cllr Coe and Mrs Goodman are the Town Council representatives to this Charity. Cllr Coe reported that a meeting of the Town Lands and Loake’s Charity had taken place on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2014. It was agreed at the meeting that with a bank account balance of £1,736.07 - £436.07 is to be held in the account for emergencies, £300 will be given to Town Welfare and £1,200 will be given to Marlow House.</p>
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Reports from Local Organisations</b></p>
<b>10.1</b>	<p><b>Desborough Path Warden</b> - Mr Bob Martin, Desborough Path Warden, handed out a written report which was noted. A copy of this report will be placed in the Desborough Town Council file held in Desborough Library.</p> <p>Cllr Coe asked for a correction on UC13/16 to read East not West, which was agreed. It was also asked who was responsible for the hedgerows. Mr Martin confirmed that it was the landowners who were responsible.</p> <p>Cllr Coe thanked Mr Martin for his Path Warden report.</p>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Representations from Members of the Public</b></p> <p>There were none.</p>
	<p><b>THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7:22 PM</b></p> <p>..... <b>CHAIRMAN</b> ..... <b>DATE</b></p>