

**Minutes of the meeting of Desborough Town Council  
held online by Zoom on Monday 8 March 2021**

Councillors present: L Burnham (Chair), S Draycott, J French, G Holmes, I James, B Keys, D Larmour, J Read, P Rogers, P Sawford, and J Watson.

Also present: Kettering Borough Councillor: M Tebbutt,  
Rothwell Town Council: Cllr C Brown, Cllr K Field, Cllr J Hakewill, Mrs P Page  
Northamptonshire County Council: Cllr A Matthews  
Desborough Town Council: G Thomson (Town Clerk),  
and three members of the community.

**150./20 CHAIR'S WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting and made procedural announcements and introductions. She explained that the Borough Councillors for Desborough, Desborough's County Councillor, representatives from Rothwell Town Council, and representatives from both NCC Highways and from Persimmons had all been invited to attend the meeting. She thanked those who had been able to attend.

**151./20 TO CONSIDER AND IF SO RESOLVED TO NOTE OR APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Town Clerk reported that no apologies for absence had been received.

**RESOLVED that:-  
the report be noted.**

**152./20 TO NOTE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS**

No declarations of interest were made.

**RESOLVED that:-  
the report be noted.**

**153./20 TO NOTE OR CONSIDER ANY REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

*To note any requests for dispensation for Councillors with an interest to be allowed to speak which have been considered by the Town Clerk in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Council's Scheme of Delegation, and to consider any such applications not yet determined.*

The Town Clerk reported that no requests had been made.

**RESOLVED that:-  
the information be noted.**

**154./20 TO HEAR REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC NOTIFIED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING**

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

*Note: no decisions can be made in response to matters raised under this item.*

The Town Clerk reported that no requests to speak had been received.

**RESOLVED that:-  
the report be noted.**

**155./20 TO DISCUSS THE FORTHCOMING ROAD CLOSURE OF THE B576 BETWEEN GLEBE FARM AND THE ROUNDABOUT AT GREENING ROAD AND DESBOROUGH ROAD, ROTHWELL (05/04/2021 TO 18/04/2021)**

The Chair introduced the discussion and outlined the situation with the developers of the Rothwell North housing development and their contractors having received a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) enabling the full closure of the main route between Desborough and Rothwell to be completely closed for a two-week period. She drew attention to the disruption this would cause to residents, to Montsaye Academy, and to the Rothwell Medical Centre & Pharmacy.

It was noted that following representations, the route of the diversion had been corrected to match the approved route for construction traffic (along the B576 and Harborough Road to the junction with the A6 (near Hermitage Road)). It was suggested that notwithstanding the official diversion route, many smaller vehicles would use Braybrooke Road instead causing more congestion.

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

It was noted that the purpose of the closure was to allow the construction of the junction and the laying of services. It was reported that the developer had stated that it was not possible for the work to be carried out without completely closing the road. It was explained that the County Council could move the TTRO by a week either way and that if it was brought forward by a week into the Easter holidays then it would cause less disruption to the school.

A general discussion ensued on the effects on school and other busses, the length of notice which had been given of the closure, when the Town Councils had become aware of the TTRO, the safety of pedestrians at the existing works, and the access arrangements for residents of the development. It was noted that weekend and night working did not seem to have been considered but would cause less disruption than the current plans.

Following a full and wide-ranging discussion it was

**RESOLVED that:-**

**the Town Clerk write to the developer and the County Council demanding that:-**

- (i) for any and all future road closures affecting this site, the community be given as much notice as possible, and that Desborough Town Council be notified directly before any TTRO is granted;**
- (ii) the beginning of the TTRO be brought forward by one week to coincide more closely with the school's half term holiday and the end of the TTRO be brought forward by one week to keep the closure as short as possible;**
- (iii) in recognition that the closure is for two complete weeks 24/7 the developer should ensure that actual works take place 24/7 with day and night working to reduce the closure time further;**
- (iv) in the event that it is not possible to bring forward the works at this notice, my Council wishes the TTRO to be rescinded and the works rescheduled for the school summer holidays, which are currently scheduled to begin around 23 July 2021;**
- (v) a copy of the letters be provided to Rothwell Town Council and to the Rothwell North Working Party for information.**

**The meeting closed at 19:46**

**Signed by the Chair: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Chair: \_\_\_\_\_**