

The Meeting of the Desborough Town Council held at Marlow House, Gold Street, Desborough on Thursday 19 March 2009.

PRESENT

Councillors: Cllr M Tebbutt (Chairman), Cllr P Goodman (Vice Chairman), Cllr D Bindley, Cllr D Coe, Cllr I Hollinshead, Cllr P Malin, Cllr R Parker, Cllr D Soans, Cllr J Derbyshire, Cllr G Dixon

Clerk: Leigh Parkin

Also in attendance: Sgt T Hopkins (494), Mr G Reid and Ms V Reid, members of the public

6571	Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Dearing, Cllr B Humfrey – NCC County Councillor
6572	Declarations of Interest by Councillors Cllr Soans would not take part in any consideration of planning matters as he is on the Planning Committee at the Borough Council.

6573	<p>Chairman's announcements</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt has been invited to the Mayor of Corby's Civic Dinner to be held on 24th April 2009.</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt has also received an invitation from Desborough Town Outdoor Bowling Club to look at their new and modified facilities on 17th April 2009.</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt has received a letter from Loatlands School in respect of dog fouling along Harrington Road. People are picking up the dog waste in bags but then throwing the bags into the hedgerow. They have requested a bin to be situated by the school. Cllr Tebbutt reported the School's concerns to KBC who have been in touch with the School and are looking at the situation favourably. Cllr Goodman commented that a litter bin had been installed on the opposite side of the road about 6 months ago and that people are just being lazy by not crossing the road and using it. This bin is in addition to the ones requested for the Harborough Road and The Grange.</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt reminded everybody that a litter pick has been organised by the Town Council for Saturday 21st March 2009 as part of the National Stop the Drop Campaign. Everyone taking part are asked to meet at Mansefield Close Car park at 9.45am. There will be three groups situated at Buckwell Street, Rushton Road (high banking) and The Plens. Cllr Coe sent his apologies and said he would organise his own litter pick in due course. Cllr Tebbutt said that both Loatlands and Havelock Schools and St. Giles Church Scouts/Guides were keen to get involved and would be organising their own litter picks.</p>
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<p>6574</p>	<p>Desborough/Rothwell Urban Extension Area Action Plan – Position Statement and Site Specific Proposals Local Development Document - Issues Paper Consultation: Discussion on the Town Council response to these documents.</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt confirmed that both copies of the consultation documents are now available. Each Councillor is able to put their individual responses to KBC, however, it needed to be decided whether Desborough Town Council wishes to make a collective response.</p> <p>There was some discussion about the documents including ensuring that there is ‘connectivity’ between The Grange and the Town Centre, for example, the bridge across the railway.</p> <p>It was <u>AGREED</u> that a working party will meet on Monday 23rd March 2009 at 7.30pm to put together Desborough Town Council’s response to the documents. Cllr Tebbutt, Cllr Soans, Cllr Goodman and Cllr Coe will attend.</p> <p>Cllr Dixon asked how individual responses can be made. Cllr Tebbutt confirmed that the KBC consultation portal can be used www.consult.kettering.gov.uk/portal or written responses should be sent to Kettering Borough Council, Development Services (Planning Policy), Municipal Offices, Bowling Green Road, Kettering NN15 7QX.</p>
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Police report

Sgt Hopkins apologised for being late to the meeting due to a police incident in Corby.

Sgt Hopkins referred to the Desborough crime figures and commented that they were not too bad compared to where we have been in the past.

In respect to the robbery at Corals betting shop there is now a national discussion being held with Corals with regard to their security processes, for example, to bank each evening, tie their safes down etc.

There have been a number of distraction burglaries. It is known that this is a Leicestershire Group. PC Cotterell yesterday went in pursuit of three men who are now all in custody which is excellent work.

There have been a number of cases of criminal damage predominately on cars, including broken wing mirrors, scratched paintwork and slashed tyres. It is understood that this is a group of youths. The same situation has also occurred in Rothwell and is linked to the lighter nights.

There have been a number of cases where charity bags left for collection outside houses have been stolen.

There have been a number of violent offences and a racially aggravated offence where a snowball was thrown inappropriately.

Sgt Hopkins stated that crime is not where they want it to be, however, he feels the credit crunch is having an effect. The police do not have anymore CCTV cameras to issue at present. They will be collecting unused cameras. Cllr Goodman confirmed that Desborough Town Centre Partnership has 25 cameras and only 1 or 2 are being used.

Mr Graham Reid, member of the public, raised concerns in respect of vandalism of vehicles especially along Nicholls Street and New Street. He suggested that the police carry out foot patrols in the evening. Sgt Hopkins reported that his team have confirmed that they are walking around the town at night, however, Sgt Hopkins is to revisit the issue. Sgt Hopkins explained that there is a problem with the lighting in some areas when using CCTV cameras, however, the police will look to work with residents.

Cllr Coe commented that he felt the robbery at Corals was down to poor security. He asked whether Sgt Hopkins was happy with the police response time. Ms Vikki Read, member of the public, said that she had made the initial call to the Police at 4.37am however, it was a considerable period of time before the Police arrived and the vehicle which had driven into the front window of Corals had already driven off with the safe. Sgt Hopkins confirmed that the response time from a Police car from Corby was 8 minutes. He explained that all the vehicles that

<p>6576</p>	<p>Representations from members of the public</p> <p>Mr Reid and Ms Reid had both been asked to speak during the police report.</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt reported that he had received a letter from a member of the public in respect of works to the roads/pavements in Desborough by Northamptonshire County Council. It was <u>AGREED</u> that Cllr Tebbutt will reply to the letter in conjunction with the Clerk.</p>
<p>6577</p> <p>6577.1</p> <p>6577.2</p> <p>6577.3</p> <p>6577.4</p>	<p>Minutes of Town Council meeting held on 19 February 2009</p> <p>The Minutes of the Town Council meeting on the above date were <u>unanimously approved</u> and signed as a true record of the meeting with the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minute 6563 – Paragraph 4 – A sentence was added to the end of the paragraph to say; Cllr Bindley suggested that in view of this fact, astroturf may be more appropriate. <p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>Minute 6558 – Mr Mould, Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, has confirmed that SMART Water lasts approximately 10 years.</p> <p>Minute 6559.1 – The Clerk’s e-mail to Mr D Wilkinson, Head of Environmental Care at KBC with regard to stencils on the footpath re: dog fouling has been forwarded to Ms S Plenderleith, Head of Environmental Health at KBC.</p> <p>Minute 6564 – It was agreed by the Chairman that the minutes should remain unaltered. The page has now been signed and dated.</p> <p>Minute 6570.7 – a letter has been sent to Mr Hammond, Deputy Chief Executive at KBC copied to Mr J Conway, Head of Housing.</p>

6578

County Councillor's Report

Cllr Humfrey sent her apologies and provided a written report:

Cllr Humfrey confirmed that she was at an alternative Desborough meeting to arrange Wildlife Trust Open Days this summer on the Millennium Green (30 May) and Tailby Meadow (20th June). Cllr Humfrey suggested that the Town Councillors might like to visit these events.

Cllr Humfrey's attendance at NCC meetings over the past month have included:

- A day long conference on Emergency Planning with approximately 300 attendees including all services. Special reference was made to fire, flood and terrorist attacks with recent horrific examples given in the South East.
- A day long conference on Support for the Third Sector (i.e. Voluntary Organisations) again with approximately 300 representatives. It is important to note that the present Northamptonshire County Council will not be reducing its financial help for the Voluntary Sector in the coming year.
- Cllr Humfrey is on a working group on Voluntary Sector Grants concerned with devolving funding to district councils and making sure that spending is effective via contracts.
- The working group investigating how to achieve better pupil attainment has continued together with some interviewing of secondary school head teachers.

Cllr Humfrey's service on the Development Control Committee has included site visits to:

- A proposed huge omnivorous indoor recycling plant in Corby which will create renewable energy. This will draw waste from a 30 mile radius which will include Desborough. Much was said by Cllr Heggs (Corby) and Cllr Humfrey about HGVs taking wrong routes.
- An outdoors recycling area near Lowick which converts grey bin greenery and cardboard to rich top soil. This was a working new plant and Councillors who attended in part went to see if proposed surrounding landscaping had been put in.

One of Cllr Humfrey's matched funding arrangements under the Empowering Councillors Scheme has changed a little. This has happened because Persimmon did not want a bridge over the Ise onto what they say is their land on the Rothwell side. The Environment Agency will therefore get rid of the weir instead of repairing it and improve the river and its meanders in Tailby Meadow. Their grant funding for Desborough will now be £50,000 and not £37,000.

Cllr Coe requested that Cllr Humfrey provide a typed report that can be easily

6579

Borough Councillors' Reports

Cllr Soans attended the KBC full council meeting on 19th February 2009. The last planning meeting scheduled was cancelled.

Cllr Soans highlighted that the Planning Department and Committee at KBC will soon be extremely busy. They will soon be dealing with a planning application for 5,500 houses as part of the East of Kettering Development. This is the biggest development KBC has dealt with and therefore needs to be handled correctly.

Cllr Soans raised concern that he has received an e-mail to say that as this is election year he will not be receiving any ward initiative funding. Cllr Tebbutt confirmed that monies needed to have been spent by the end of February or could be carried over after the County Council elections have taken place in June.

Minute: 6564.1 – Cllr Derbyshire has met with Mr Lee at the Desborough Town Football Club. The Football Club are to hold a fund raising event at the Conservative Club in Desborough on 7th April 2009 where they will auction football memorabilia which has been donated from Clubs around the country. Non-members will be charged £1 which will be given to the Football Club from Desborough Conservative Club.

Cllr Coe was congratulated for the success of the recent Race Night held at the Services' Club to raise funds for the Football Club.

Cllr Derbyshire and Cllr Dixon attended the Northamptonshire County Council Spring Conference. They reported back on the main issues discussed at the meeting:

- Northamptonshire Children & Young people's plan 2009 – 2012.
- Clerks – it is viewed that Clerks may take over 2/3 parishes and make a career of it.
- Precepts – examples were given as to how some councils use precept money. It was highlighted that Councils can use NCC Central Purchasing to ensure best buys.
- Quality Councils – Cllr Dixon felt that Quality Status is a must for Desborough Town Council and that he feels that we meet a lot of the criteria already. One of the key elements is for the Clerk to achieve the professional qualification.
- Website Development – There may be sources of funding for the development of a website which can be investigated.
- Working together – a case study was given of where all tiers of Councils are working much closer together. Cllr Tebbutt confirmed that Wellingborough and Kettering Borough Councils have a joint Licensing Committee, Legal Team and Auditors. It was reported at the A6 Towns Forum that Northants County Council have sub-contracted some of its street scene to KBC.

6580	<p>Clerk's report</p> <p>The Clerk's report had been circulated and gave details of:</p>
6580.1	<p>The Clerk had sent all correspondence required after the last Council meeting.</p>
6580.2	<p>Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils (CALC): It was <u>AGREED</u> by a majority vote that Desborough Town Council will join CALC with effect from 1st April 2009 for a period of 12 months. A review of membership will be carried out in 9 months to look at whether membership should continue for a further year. Cllr Coe abstained from voting on this matter.</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt reported back from the Northamptonshire Larger Councils Partnership meeting he attended on Wednesday 11th March 2009. At the meeting he gained an understanding of how Billing Parish Council (similar size to Desborough) operates and what services they undertake and what they precept for.</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt confirmed that KBC will be commencing consultation with Town & Parish Councils in relation to future funding arrangements from 1st April 2010.</p> <p>A discussion was held around the importance for Desborough Town Council of becoming a Quality Council. It was <u>AGREED</u> that the Town Council will hold a separate meeting to look at how we work towards becoming a quality council.</p> <p>Cllr Derbyshire and Cllr Dixon both requested to attend the 'New Councillors' course run by Northants CALC.</p>
6580.3	<p>Review of Desborough Town Council Policies and Procedures: The Policies and Procedures were <u>ADOPTED</u> by the Council.</p>
6580.4	<p>Parish Emergency Planning: Cllr Goodman and Cllr Derbyshire will attend one of the NCC Parish Emergency Planning Seminars to be held on 11th May 2009 at the Council Offices in Thrapston at 6.30pm.</p>
6580.5	<p>Site Specific Proposals Local Development Document – Issues Paper Consultation, March 2009: KBC have commenced consultation on this paper which is a key document that will form part of the North Northamptonshire Local Development Framework.</p>
6580.6	<p>Pocket Park (Minute 6567.6): The Clerk gave an up-date from the Desborough Pocket Park Volunteer Group.</p>
6580.7	<p>Desborough Recreation Ground – Playground improvements: Concerns were received from a member of the public in respect of the new slide installed at the Recreation Ground play area between the higher and lower levels. KBC are investigating the height of the exit of the slide.</p>
6580.8	<p>Letter from Cllr Seery, Cabinet Member for Transport & Highways, NCC</p>

6581	Community reports
6581.1	<p>Town Centre Partnership: Cllr Goodman reported that the TCP have been waiting to hear from KBC in respect of possible future developments within Desborough Town Centre. A meeting will be organised in the near future.</p> <p>The current Desborough Town Centre Feasibility Study being undertaken by KBC ends on 31st March 2009.</p>
6581.2	<p>Civic Society: Cllr Hollinshead reported that Desborough Civic Society is still collecting Desborough recipes for a Desborough Recipe Book. Town Councillors are welcome to submit recipes.</p> <p>There will be a presentation of Illustrated Prints of the ‘AR TARN’ to be held on Saturday 4th April 2009 at 11am at the Desborough Heritage Centre. Poems by Peter Lee, with illustrations by John Blackwell. All are welcome.</p> <p>The next Civic Society meeting is to be held on Monday 30th March 2009 at 7.30pm. The theme of the meeting is ‘A Victorian Magic Lantern Show’ from the Fred Moore Collection at Kettering. The meeting is to be held at the Concorde Lounge, Desborough Conservative Club.</p> <p>It was noted that the Concorde Lounge at the Conservative Club can be booked by anybody. Bookings are not restricted to Club members.</p>
6581.3	<p>Twinning: A copy of the Twinning Newsletter was circulated to Councillors. Jill Freeman had contacted the Clerk with regard to the Belgian Visit from 1st to 3rd May 2009. At present they are having difficulty in accommodating a family of 4. If anybody is able to help they should contact Jill Freeman directly.</p>
6581.4	<p>Youth: No report had been received.</p>

6582 Financial report

6582.1 Year end (31st March 2009) Income/Expenditure analysis

The Clerk distributed a revised analysis taking into consideration the amended Christmas Lights invoice received from KBC.

Year end (31st March 2009) Income/Expenditure analysis

Bank balances @ 1st March 2009

Account	£
Community Account:	8799.17
Business Premium	1652.44
Business Reserve	2806.96
Civic Ball	90.58

TOTAL 13349.15

Outstanding Expenditure (March 2009)

Xmas lights	2875.00	
NCC Empowering County Cllr Fund*		650.00
Salary & Expenses (March)	442.99	
HM Customs & Revenue	108.60	
Hall Hire	35.00	

TOTAL 4111.59

Outstanding Income (March 2009)

VAT return	183.75
VAT return Xmas lights	375.00

TOTAL 558.75

Expected bank balances @ 31st March 2009

Account	£
Community Account:	5246.33
Business Premium	1652.44
Business Reserve	2806.96
Civic Ball	90.58

TOTAL 9796.31

Notes:

*£650 was paid into the Community Account as part of the NCC Empowering

<p>6583</p>	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>The following applications have been received and comments made under delegated procedures or to be made at the meeting:</p>
<p>6583.1</p>	<p>KET/2009/0067 – 26 Westmoorland Drive, Desborough – Full Application: Conversion of and front extension to garage to form habitable room. Lack of connectivity to existing house seems somewhat odd. Proposed new front elevation appears to visually just brick up the doorway giving a mixed visual message when viewed from the roadway. Unusual planning application as garage stands behind the house via car port. Brickwork should try to match existing. Seems like a mini housing project.</p>
<p>6583.2</p>	<p>KET/2009/0028 – 21 Oakwood Close – s.73 Application: Condition 9 of KET/2003/0127, convert garage to habitable room. No information is given on existing accommodation, so it is difficult to see the extra provision and how they interact. Concern over adequacy of parking once the garage is lost.</p>
<p>6583.3</p>	<p>KET/2009/0087 – 72 Breakleys Road, Desborough – Full Application: Two storey side and single storey rear extensions. No objection.</p>
<p><u>Notices of Approval received:</u></p>	
<p>6583.4</p>	<p>KET/2008/0092 (Minute 6554.2) – Desborough Youth Centre, Paddock Lane, Desborough – Full Application: Replace existing flat roof with pitched. KBC have granted permission for the above application.</p>
<p>6583.5</p>	<p>KET/2008/1036 – Woodside, Stoke Albany Road, Desborough – s.73A Retrospective Application: Storage facility and erection of security fence. KBC have granted permission for the above application.</p>
<p>6583.6</p>	<p>KET/2008/0945 (Minute 6554.3) – 56 Union Street (land adj), Desborough – Outline Application: 1 no. detached dwelling and associated vehicular access. KBC have granted outline permission for the above application.</p>
<p>6583.7</p>	<p>KET/2008/1042 (Minute 6570.3) – 7 Chelmorton Vale, Desborough – s.73A Retrospective Application: Single storey rear extension. KBC have granted permission for the above application.</p>
<p>6583.8</p>	<p><u>Appeal Decisions received:</u></p> <p>(Minutes: 6475 - 19th June 2008 & 6513.2 - 16th October 2008) APP/L2820/A/08/2085488 – 28 – 30 Breakleys Road, Desborough, Northants NN14 2PT – (KET/2008/0472) Full Application: Single storey dwelling. The appeal has been allowed and planning permission granted.</p>

	<p>THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.30 PM</p> <p>..... CHAIRMAN</p>
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Chairman

Date