

The Meeting of the Desborough Town Council held at Marlow House, Gold Street, Desborough on Thursday 17th December 2009.

PRESENT

Councillors: Cllr M Tebbutt (Chairman), Cllr P Goodman (Vice Chairman), Cllr G Durward, Cllr D Bindley, Cllr I Hollinshead, Cllr D Coe, Cllr P Malin, Cllr M Dearing, Cllr J Derbyshire

Clerk: Leigh Parkin

Also in attendance: PCSO J Breeze, Mr D Lane – Community Services KBC, Ms R Collins & Mr R Marlow – Development Services KBC, Revd P Seaton-Byrne and members of the public.

<p>6694</p>	<p>Chairman’s announcements</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt reported that he had attended the following meetings/events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21/11/09 – Opened and attended the Northamptonshire Ladies Branch British Legion AGM at St. Giles Community Centre; • 27/11/09 – Desborough Gala Night and Christmas Tree Festival; • 03/12/09 – Engaging with the Community Seminar; • 05/12/09 – Opened URC Fete; • 08/12/09 – Attended Christmas Concert at Havelock Infants School; • 15/12/09 and 17/12/09 – Attended Christmas Concerts at Havelock Junior School; • 09/12/09 – Annual Roads Conference with MGWSP. <p>Cllr Tebbutt wished everyone a Happy Christmas and Prosperous & Peaceful New Year. Cllr Tebbutt welcomed Revd Paul Seaton-Burn to the meeting.</p>
<p>6695</p>	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Soans. It was <u>RESOLVED</u> to approve the apologies for absence received.</p> <p>Cllr B Humfrey, County Councillor also gave her apologies.</p>
<p>6696</p>	<p>Declarations of Interest by Councillors</p> <p>None</p>

6697	Police Report PCSO Breeze went through the crime figures for November 2009. The Town Council were also made aware that there had been two distraction burglaries the day before in Rothwell where the assailants posed as Police Officers. In one case £100 was stolen and in the other identification was stolen. PCSO Breeze is to check whether the Police have any 'stop door to door sales person' signs. Cllr Bindley reported that there are a lot of forged £20 notes in the Town. There is no Queen's head in the watermark.
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The Rothwell & Desborough Urban Extension Area Action Plan: Proposed Submission

Cllr Tebbutt agreed with members of the Town Council present to undertake agenda items 8 and 9 earlier in the meeting due to adverse weather conditions allowing representatives from KBC to leave the meeting after their presentations.

Ms R Collins & Mr R Marlow – Development Services, KBC, attended the meeting to give an update on the Action Plan.

KBC will be consulting upon this Plan from Monday 7th December 2009 to Monday 1st February 2010. This is the final version of the AAP ahead of formal submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination. The statutory purpose of the consultation is to seek comments regarding the ‘soundness’ of the Plan, rather than individual detailed objections into its content. All documents can be viewed and comments can be made via KBC’s online consultation portal: <http://consult.kettering.gov.uk/portal>. All the documents are available to view at Desborough, Rothwell, Burton Latimer and Kettering Libraries.

Ms Collins outlined the process that must be followed before the Action Plan can be fully adopted by KBC and provided copies of the consultation guidance notes.

Cllr Tebbutt asked if the Action Plan can be referred to when commenting on planning applications as it has previously been submitted to the KBC Planning Policy Committee.

Ms Collins commented that the Action Plan has ‘no material weight’ until the Inspector’s report adopts it. However, as the Action Plan has been endorsed by the Planning Policy Committee any subsequent planning applications should be inline with the document.

Cllr Tebbutt asked about the site selection for the housing development. Ms Collins talked through the reasons for this decision.

A discussion was held about the provision of the footbridge between the Grange Housing Estate and Desborough Town and how this cannot be delivered through the existing s.106 agreement relating to the first stage of housing development on the Grange. It was stated that connectivity from Desborough North should be a requirement of the new development of 700 houses.

It was highlighted that references to the country park had been changed to greenspace. Ms Collins explained that KBC have an ‘Open Space’ Policy which is split into 7 categories. KBC are currently working with CJC in respect to the transfer of the land so that the Country Park can be delivered from the Grange development s. 106 Agreement. It was **AGREED** to invite Valerie Hitchman, Head of Community Services at KBC to discuss the process to date.

Cllr Tebbutt thanked both Ms Collins and Mr Marlow for attending the meeting.

<p>6699</p>	<p>Play Builder Opportunities</p> <p>Mr David Lane, Senior Community Services Officer, KBC recapped on the background to the proposal to apply for Play Builder funding in respect of the current play area along Rushton Road as discussed at November's Town Council meeting. He went through the initial application form he proposes to submit by the deadline of 10th January 2010.</p> <p>Mr Lane explained that the consultation process is very important and that local residents had this week been hand-delivered letters explaining the proposal. If local residents are not supportive of the new play site it will not be pursued.</p> <p>A discussion was held in respect of other possible sites within the Town. Mr Lane explained that to make an application KBC must own the land it is proposing to develop.</p> <p>If the preliminary application is successful Mr Lane will be asking the Town Council for their ideas about play equipment as well as widening consultation to local schools, youth groups etc.</p>
<p>6700</p>	<p>Representations from members of the public</p> <p>There were no representations from members of the public.</p>
<p>6701</p>	<p>Minutes of Town Council meeting held on 19 November 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 amendment:</p> <p>Minute 6690.1: The date was amended to read 6th February 2010 and not 2009.</p>

6702	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>Minute 6686: KBC has confirmed that it will send two members of the Street Cleansing Team to clear leaves in identified areas within Desborough as well as the Council's Street Sweeper to deal with any gullies that need clearance.</p> <p>Minute 6686: The Merry Christmas sign has been located in the Co-Op garage next to the old Drapery Store. KBC are to collect the sign. Cllr Coe offered to unlock the garage for KBC.</p> <p>Minute 6688: The Clerk is to write to Mr J Conway, KBC with regard to the repairing the sign at the top of Havelock Street.</p> <p>Minute 6690.2: Cllr Tebbutt reported that he had attended the Annual Roads Conference with MGWSP. He had met the Area Manager and Community Liaison Manager responsible for Desborough. The Area Manager confirmed that he wishes direct contact to be maintained between the Town Council and himself. He is to undertake a walk around Desborough.</p> <p>Minute 6692.7: Cllr Coe reported that both the Business Premium and Business Reserve Accounts were set up following a recommendation from the Internal Auditor. The Business Reserve Account requires 12 months notice to withdraw funds and the Business Premium Account 2/3 months notice.</p>
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County Councillor's Report

Cllr Humfrey sent her apologies for absence but provided the following report through the Clerk:

- Cllr Humfrey has noted the Town Councillor's comments in respect of her report in November 2009.
- Cllr Humfrey has provided the Clerk with posters for the new Judo courses starting in January which will be displayed in the Town notice boards.
- The Young Fire Fighters course is to start in May 2010 and is being co-ordinated by Mr S Davis, Watch Manager, Desborough Fire Station. The course is to be run for 12 youths over six weeks, held 09.30-12.30 on Saturday mornings. It is intended that the local police will also be involved in the course. There will be a pass out parade on the last session in which the participants will display their skills in front of their families. Cllr Humfrey is providing funding for the course from her Empowering Councillors Fund.
- Cllr Humfrey's main work for Desborough this month has been on Road Adoption. She has been talking with Developers and Anglian Water. There is now NCC Scrutiny of the problems with Developers who do not move from Section 38 to Section 104 without which NCC cannot adopt the roads until Developers get Anglian Water's recommendation. There are many roads with only Section 38 throughout the County of which there is now a list.

Cllr Tebbutt reported that he is currently involved with a new Young Detectives Scheme being set up for year 5 students at Havelock Junior School.

Cllr Coe commented that the road works currently being undertaken along Union Street have resulted in quite a number of roads being closed for access only which he feels is excessive.

6704	<p>Borough Councillors' Reports</p> <p>Cllr Dearing reported that he had attended the Planning Committee at KBC earlier in the week. At the meeting there was much discussion with regard to the East of Kettering Application.</p> <p>Cllr Dearing has had continued discussions in respect of play provision at the top of Braybrooke Road. KBC do not own this area of land.</p> <p>Cllr Dearing has been approached by members of the public concerned about the recent planning application in respect of Linley Drive (KET/2009/0732 – Minute: 6708.11). It is understood that the houses have been sold to Bedford Pilgrims Housing Association. Cllr Dearing has spoken to a number of the Rothwell Town Councillors in respect of problems they have experienced with a Housing Association. Cllr Dearing read out a suggested letter he had written to be sent on behalf of Desborough Town Council to KBC and the Bedford Pilgrims Housing Association. It was <u>AGREED</u> that the letter should be sent.</p> <p>Cllr Derbyshire reported that she had attended an NHS Conference at the Kettering Leisure Village about improving health in Northamptonshire. Cllr Derbyshire picked up a number of reports and useful contact information which will be placed in the Desborough Town Council file situated in Desborough Library.</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt had attended the North Northants Joint Planning Committee. A detailed presentation was given on the Strategic Plan approved by the Secretary of State last year which needs to be immediately reviewed. Cllr Tebbutt will e-mail a copy of the presentation to the Clerk.</p>
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6705	<p>Clerk's report</p> <p>The Clerk has sent all correspondence required after the last Council Meeting.</p>
6705.1	<p><u>Pocket Park (Minute 6690.1):</u> The Clerk updated the Town Council of the status of the complaint received from a member of the public reported initially at the meeting in November. The Clerk will discuss the complaint at the next Pocket Park Volunteer Group meeting being held on 12th January 2010 and provide a further report to the Town Council for consideration.</p>
6705.2	<p><u>CPRE Northamptonshire's Stop the Drop Campaign – 2010:</u> The Town Council <u>AGREED</u> to organise a litter pick on Saturday 17th April 2010 between 10am and 12 midday. The Clerk is to write to local schools, scouts/guide groups within the town to invite them to join the litter pick.</p>
6705.3	<p><u>Road Sign Improvements:</u> The Clerk has received a letter from Courtney Claunch, Volunteers Coordinator at NCC who has been given a small budget (£250,000) to improve road signs and markings throughout Northamptonshire. Cllr Tebbutt, Highways Representative, is to undertake a survey of Desborough to identify existing road markings that have faded or disappeared and road signs that need attention.</p>
6705.4	<p><u>Christmas Lights 2009/10 – Grant Offer Letter:</u> KBC has allocated a grant of £2,450 as a contribution to the cost of purchasing, installing and maintaining Christmas lights in Desborough for the 2009 season. The Town Council <u>AGREED</u> to accept the Grant and to abide by the conditions of the offer.</p>
6705.5	<p><u>7.5t Awareness Campaign:</u> The Town Council <u>AGREED</u> that the boards would be dropped off and collected from Cllr Tebbutt's house. Cllr Tebbutt will organise for the boards to be put up and taken down.</p>
6705.6	<p><u>The Rothwell and Desborough Urban Extension Area Action Plan: Proposed Submission:</u> Refer to minute 6698.</p>
6705.7	<p><u>KBC Budget Consultation Meeting:</u> KBC will be holding a Budget Consultation meeting at 7.00pm on 21st January 2010 in the Council Chamber, Municipal Offices, Bowling Green Road, Kettering. The meeting will provide an opportunity to be briefed on the Council's budget position, key issues and timescales. If you would like to attend the event please contact Anne Ireson either by telephone on 01536 534398 or via e-mail anneireson@kettering.gov.uk.</p>
6705.8	<p><u>Correspondence File:</u> This month's file contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desborough Town Council Standing Orders • Monthly Parish Crime Report and Detection Rates • NCALC Update November – December 2009 • KBC Forward Plan and Work Programme: 17th Nov 2009 to 31 Mar 2010 • Marlow House Newsletter Dec 2009 – Jan 2010 • 2010 Wildlife Training Workshops

6706	Community reports
6706.1	<p>Town Centre Partnership: Cllr Goodman stated that the general feeling is that the Gala night had been much nicer this year with a good atmosphere which was helped by many of the shops opening late. There was a problem with the road closure for the second year running. A letter sent during the postal strikes had not been received. It costs £50 to apply for a road closure and then KBC charge £150 for the hire and erection of the ‘road closure’ signs.</p> <p>Two late night shopping events have taken place with many of the shops taking part. Issuing free raffle tickets to shoppers at the first evening was successful.</p> <p>A TCP meeting is to be held in early 2010 to discuss next year’s Gala and late night shopping events.</p> <p>A complaint has been received in respect of the Desborough Christmas Lights. The complainant is to be encouraged to join the TCP.</p>
6706.2	<p>Civic Society: Cllr Hollinshead reported that the Heritage Centre expansion had gone very well.</p>
6706.3	<p>Twinning: Cllr Goodman is looking to attend the trip to Poland in June 2010.</p>
6706.4	<p>Youth: Copies of the report from Mr James Putt, Chairman of the DYC Management Committee were distributed. A copy of the report will be placed in the Desborough Town Council file held in Desborough Library.</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt reported that he had been approached by St. Giles in respect of running a ‘drop-in’ centre within the town. Cllr Tebbutt is to investigate whether the old housing office could be made available.</p> <p>The Clerk is to provide Revd P Seaton-Burn with contact details for Mr James Putt.</p>

6707	Financial report				
6707.1	<u>Insurance cover for the Pocket Park:</u> The Town Council <u>APPROVED</u> the revised insurance schedule to include the Pocket Park volunteer activities and personal accident cover for volunteers. The Clerk is to investigate whether the Gala Night is covered by the Town Council’s current insurance schedule.				
6707.2	<p><u>Proposed Budget 2010/11:</u> At November’s meeting the Chairman requested all Councillors to consider both budget proposals presented by the Clerk and Cllr Coe for discussion at December’s meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk identified a number of ‘Key Issues’ for Desborough Town Council to take into consideration when discussing the proposed budget. Members of the Town Council identified the Council’s core expenditure and a prioritised ‘wish list’ for expenditure.</p> <p>Cllr Coe raised concern about the cost of becoming a Quality Council and that he felt the Council was going in the wrong direction. He highlighted that the proposed expenditure is greater than the KBC grant and that the Council ought to live within its means.</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt confirmed that the Town Council should look to match expenditure to income.</p> <p>It was <u>AGREED</u> that at January’s meeting version 3 of the proposed budgets be presented to the Town Council to be considered for final approval with the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Town Council’s income will not include a precept. • No money will be allocated to NCALC Membership and the identified projects. At present a meeting is being set up with Danny Moody, Principal Officer, NCALC, to discuss a possible NCALC membership deal for the A6 Towns. The Clerk asked the Town Council to consider where it would receive professional support and guidance from in respect of a range of issues including legal developments if it is not a member of NCALC. • Funding for identified projects will need to come from external sources if they are to proceed in 2010/11. The projects will have an unspecified timescale for completion. • The Clerk is to continue to undertake 10 hours of work per week. It was <u>AGREED</u> that the Clerk is to regulate her workload so that she is not working in excess of her paid hours. • Reserves at the start of the financial year 2010/11 are to include the carry forward from the Community Account. 				
6707.3	<p><u>Accounts for Payment:</u> The following payments were <u>APPROVED</u> for payment:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="352 2045 1426 2067"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="352 2045 539 2067">Cheque No.</th> <th data-bbox="547 2045 730 2067">Amount</th> <th data-bbox="738 2045 834 2067">Payee</th> <th data-bbox="842 2045 1426 2067">Reason for Payment</th> </tr> </thead> </table>	Cheque No.	Amount	Payee	Reason for Payment
Cheque No.	Amount	Payee	Reason for Payment		

6708	<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>
6708.1	<p>KET/2009/0664 –8 Church View Road, Desborough – Full Application: Outbuilding No objection.</p>
6708.2	<p>KET/2009/0596 – Eckland Lodge Business Park, Desborough Road, Braybrooke, Desborough – Full Application: Demolition of existing agricultural buildings and erection of office buildings within B1(a). Formation of new vehicular and pedestrian access, parking areas, and associated landscaping</p> <p>Desborough Town Council is fully supportive of this proposal which significantly contributes to the aims of the 'North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy' in particular:</p> <p>Policy 8, Delivering Economic Prosperity, paragraph 6, states 'Diversification of the rural economy, in particular through the conversion of buildings within settlements to economic re use'.</p> <p>Visually the buildings appearance will contribute to the approaches to Desborough, adding to an improving character. Small business start ups will provide much needed facilities and contribute to bringing valuable jobs to the locality.</p> <p>This application should be determined by the Full Planning Committee and not subject to officer delegated approval.</p>
6708.3	<p>The following documents were attached with Desborough Town Council's comments to KBC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report by Cllr D Coe, Desborough Town Councillor • Letter from Desborough Town Council to Ms C Harvey, Head of the Planning Department at KBC dated 17th April 2009 (<i>previously circulated to Councillors</i>)
6708.4	<p>KET/2009/0668 – 12 Peaslands, Desborough – Full Application: Single storey rear extension No objection.</p> <p>KET/2009/0549 – Infinergy Limited, New Albion Wind Farm, Towns Close Farm (land at), Rushton – Full Application with EIA: Erection of 7 no. wind turbines (100m high to the tip of a rotor blade in a vertical position). Provision of crane hardstanding, control building, substation, underground cabling, temporary construction compound, widening of the existing site access, new site access tracks and permanent 65m high anemometer mast.</p>

	<p>THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.38 PM</p> <p>..... CHAIRMAN</p>
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Chairman

Date