

The Meeting of the Desborough Town Council held at Marlow House, Gold Street, Desborough on Thursday 16th June 2011.

PRESENT

Councillors: Cllr D Soans (Chairman), Cllr A Matthews (Vice Chairman), Cllr D Coe, Cllr J Pearce, Cllr M Watson, Cllr J Watson, Cllr R Sawford, Cllr J Derbyshire.

Clerk: Leigh Parkin

Also in attendance: Representatives from Stagecoach: Mr S Burt – Managing Director, Mr C Simes, Commercial Manager and Mr B Hadden, Operations Manager.

1	<p>Chairman’s announcements Cllr Soans read a letter of appreciation received from Mrs Goodman, former Chairman of Desborough Town Council.</p> <p>Cllr Soans reported that he has undertaken the following actions since the last Town Council meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns about the Rushton Road Trout Farm have been referred to the Head of Development at KBC; • The Head of Development at KBC is to arrange for Planning Training for Town & Parish Councillors; • 04/06/11 – greeted members of the Royal British Legion at their 100th Anniversary celebration; • 11/06/11 – attended the Pocket Park Work Day. <p>Cllr Soans confirmed that Cllr Derbyshire has been dealing with the concerns raised by the Football Club in respect of their planning application.</p>
2	<p>Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Dearing, Cllr M Tebbutt and Cllr S Clayton. It was RESOLVED to approve the apologies for absence received. Apologies were also received from the Police.</p>
3	<p>Councillor Declaration of Acceptance of Office It was confirmed that the Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form had been signed by Cllr J Derbyshire, witnessed by the Clerk, prior to the meeting.</p>
4	<p>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, however, he would continue to Chair the meeting during the Planning agenda item.</p>
5	<p>Police Report No report received.</p>
6	<p>Stagecoach The representatives from Stagecoach had been asked to attend the Town Council meeting to discuss concerns with regard to changes to the No. 18 bus service and the potential to provide a Corby/Desborough bus service.</p>

Chairman

Date

Concern has been raised by the Town Council and members of the public on the following issues:

- It is difficult to catch the No. 18 bus as the loop to include Rushton Road and Dunkirk Avenue has been stopped and the No. 19 bus is not frequent enough to link to the No. 18 service.
- The current bus services are not always on time;
- What difference stopping the No. 18 loop through Rushton Road/Dunkirk Avenue has made to the service;
- Desborough Community Development Trust (DCDT) has recently carried out a bus survey which has established a need by members of the public in Desborough and surrounding areas for a bus service to run between Desborough and Corby. Town Councillors were provided with a copy of the survey results. In addition it was identified that people from local villages, such as, Wilbarston have difficulty accessing services included doctors and dentists in Desborough when using the bus.

Stagecoach explained that following recent Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) funding cuts they entered into negotiations with NCC and agreed a phased programme of service changes starting in the Desborough/Kettering area from 8th May 2011. One of the changes has been to the No. 18 bus which was previously supported by the Local Authority. To ensure that the No. 18 bus can run as a commercial service the number of buses used on the route has been reduced from 3 to 2 and the route amended to accommodate this change. Consideration was given to amending the route in Market Harborough however Leicestershire County Council is continuing to support this part of the route.

The No. 19 bus from Kettering to Desborough was previously increased in frequency (supported by external funding) from 20 minutes to 15 minutes. This however has not been a success with only a 3% increase in passengers.

The Stagecoach representatives recognised that the bus service previously run between Desborough and Corby did not work. However, with the improvements to Corby Town Centre and college students wishing to travel to the Tresham Institute this may now enable the route to become a commercially viable service.

Stagecoach representatives advised that concerns about the No. 17 route between the villages, which is an NCC route, should be sent in writing to the NCC Public Transport Department.

Stagecoach made the following suggestions for implementation from September 2011 to try to provide a solution to the issues raised:

- To reduce the No. 19 bus service back to 20 minutes with two of the buses travelling along Dunkirk Avenue. One of these buses would extend its' journey to travel from Desborough through to Corby via Rushton and the other to the Grange Estate;
- The third bus will continue to stop at Hilltop;
- To try to ensure that the No. 19 service along Dunkirk Avenue is timed to better connect to the No. 18 bus with the aim of a maximum 10 minute waiting time;
- It is proposed to run the bus service to Corby on an hourly basis throughout the day. Further work will need to be undertaken to ascertain the times the bus will start and finish which will take into consideration shift patterns of workers on the industrial estates and students at Tresham Institute. A service will be provided on a Saturday with the frequency to be confirmed but no service to be run on a Sunday.

	<p>Cllr Coe commented that he had responded, as agreed at the last Town Council meeting, to the recent NCC ‘Have Your Say’ consultation on proposed changes to public transport and bus subsidies. Cllr Coe was encouraged by the suggestions made by the Stagecoach representatives and would welcome further consultation with the Town Council on the fine tuning of the proposal before September. Cllr Coe raised the issue that if you catch the bus to Market Harborough at the Desborough Library stop at 9.29am you cannot use a bus pass. If you walk to the next bus stop (Oak) and catch the bus at 9.31am then you can use your bus pass.</p> <p>Cllr J Watson asked the Stagecoach representatives to also take into consideration journeys made to the minor injuries clinic in Corby when deciding the frequency and start and finish times of the buses to be run between Desborough and Corby.</p> <p>Stagecoach highlighted that with the amount of change they are currently undertaking across Northamptonshire and Warwickshire they feel it is unlikely they will be able to undertake an intensive advertising campaign, such as a leaflet drop, until October/November. Initially new timetables will be published and posters displayed. The DCDT offered to support Stagecoach in undertaking leaflet drops.</p> <p>Cllr Sawford asked about whether the electronic information displays provided on many of the buses will be extended to the No. 19 service. Stagecoach representatives confirmed that the Real Time Information System on the buses is provided by NCC and Stagecoach make a financial contribution to the running costs. NCC is currently changing suppliers and it is likely that the No. 18 and No. 19 buses will be included.</p> <p>Cllr Soans thanked the Stagecoach representatives for attending the meeting, listening to the concerns raised and providing suggestions as to a way forward.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Representations from members of the public</p> <p>Cllr Derbyshire reported that she had received an email from a member of the public in respect of builders and general public who are depositing significant amounts of waste and rubbish within the Desborough Greenspace. In addition KBC is failing to adequately empty the dog and rubbish bins in that area. A further complaint was also received by the Town Council from a member of the public in respect of the dog bins being full in the Pocket Park. It was RESOLVED to write to Mr B Coleman, Head of Environmental Services at KBC as a matter of urgency. The letter is to be copied to Mr M Hammond - Deputy Chief Executive KBC, Ms J Beckett – Deputy Chief Executive KBC and Ms V Hitchman - Head of Community Services KBC.</p> <p>It was noted that the Dog Waste Bin at the end of Green Lane/Arthingworth Road was taken away for repairs about 3 weeks ago but has not come back yet.</p> <p>Cllr Soans stated that he had received an email from a resident of Federation Avenue requesting the provision of residents parking be considered. Cllr Soans will pass this request to the relevant department at KBC for consideration.</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Minutes of Town Council meetings held on 19th May 2011</p> <p>The Minutes of the Town Council meeting on the above date were unanimously approved and signed as a true record with one amendment: Page 4, Minute No. 12, paragraph 1, last sentence: Linley Drive was amended to Oak Tree Close.</p>

9	<p>Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minute 11 (May 11) – Cllr Humfrey, NCC County Councillor, has confirmed a request to cut back the trees along Dunkirk Avenue, Rushton Road, Harrington Road, Rothwell Road and those obscuring traffic lights has been sent to NCC. Cllr Coe noted that the trees along Dunkirk Avenue have been cut in time for the Carnival. • Minute 12 (May 11) – Cllr Coe noted that the mechanical road sweeper has been along Dunkirk Avenue and the Desborough Town Football Club building is now going up. • Minute 13.1 (May 11) – Mrs Goodman is co-ordinating the stewards at the Carnival. • Minute 13.3 (May 11) – Cllr J Watson reported the on-going problem with the tree and footpath outside Nos. 41 and 43 Alexandra Avenue should be dealt with between 4 to 6 weeks.
10	<p>County Councillor No report received.</p>
11	<p>Borough Councillors</p> <p>Cllr Derbyshire reported that she had received a letter of concern from Desborough Football Club in respect of their planning application. Cllr Derbyshire has been in contact with the Planning Department at KBC who confirmed that planning permission was granted for the rebuild of the clubhouse subject to a condition requiring the materials to be approved. The colour of the initial materials presented to the Planning Department was not acceptable and alternative samples were requested. The Planning Department do not anticipate that this will be an on-going issue. Cllr Coe stated that there is a lot of different brick work along Braybrooke Road. Reference was made to the Football Clubs' previous 'Buy a Brick' campaign.</p> <p>Cllr Derbyshire has received a complaint that the new Rushton Road play area is being taken over by teenagers in the evening. Damage has been caused to the Park, as previously reported to the Town Council, including vandalism to the straps on the mobility swing. The Police have been informed of these concerns and will monitor the situation.</p> <p>Cllr Soans reported that he has attended the following meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23/05/11 – Planning training refresher course • 24/05/11 – KBC Planning Committee which included the refusal of permission for planning application KET/2011/0016 – Mr & Mrs Smith – Stoke Albany Road, Desborough – Full Application: Change of use from agricultural / paddock to Mobile Home Retirement Park. Formation of access roads, parking and sewage treatment plant. • 25/05/11 – Traveller Forum which has been set up by KBC to meet every month. Cllr Derbyshire is to chair this Forum. • 06/06/11 – Kettering Old Grammar School Benefits Committee. <p>Cllr Dearing had sent a written report which was read to Councillors. Cllr Dearing reported that he has being dealing with the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A resident of Federation Avenue has requested details about residents parking which Cllr Dearing has passed onto the right department at KBC where it has been listed with others. • A resident on Peveral Place has complained of people living out of a caravan on No.

	<p>2 Shakespear Road leading to Peveral Place. Cllr Dearing has reported this and it will be checked but unless it can be proved they do not live in the caravan then nothing can be done.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A complaint has been received from Desborough Football Club regarding a delay in their planning application. Cllr Dearing has taken this up with the relevant Planning Officer. <p>Cllr Coe highlighted that he has been contacted by a resident of Rails Cottages who has requested that two parking spaces outside his property, which are designated on the deeds as being for the use of the property, are marked 'Private'. At present, he is unable to park his car in these spaces as they are used by other people. It was <u>AGREED</u> that the Town Council will write to KBC about resolving this problem.</p>
<p>12</p> <p>12.1</p> <p>12.2</p> <p>12.3</p> <p>12.4</p> <p>12.5</p> <p>12.6</p> <p>12.7</p>	<p>Clerk's Report The Clerk has sent all correspondence required after the last Council Meeting.</p> <p>NCC Proposed Mobile Library Routes: It was noted that the mobile library does not stop in Desborough, therefore, it was <u>AGREED</u> no comments would be made by the Town Council.</p> <p>Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework (MDWF): Draft Revised Development and Implementation Principles Supplementary Planning Document (SDP): Noted.</p> <p>Public Lavatory Provision in Desborough and Pedestrian Crossing Point: An email had been received and distributed to Councillors from Desborough Community Development Trust requesting Town Council support on the two identified issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Provision of proper public lavatory facilities at Desborough Library and; • A pedestrian crossing in High Street from Hazeland House to the Doctor's surgery. <p>It was noted that the Town Council had also previously raised concern about the provision of public toilets with Mr B Coleman, Head of Environmental Services at KBC. In respect of the provision of crossings another need for a crossing was identified on the Braybrooke Road near Oak Tree Close where the school bus stops. It was noted that it may be useful to liaise with Rothwell Town Council as they have been successful in getting new crossings which involve a lot of 'red tape'. The Town Council <u>RESOLVED</u> to support the identified issues raised by the DCDT and will write to the appropriate authorities.</p> <p>Northants CALC Local Council Survey 2011: It was <u>AGREED</u> that the Clerk will complete the form from approval by the Town Council at July's meeting.</p> <p>Desborough Town Lands and Loakes Charity: A meeting of the Trustees has been arranged for Sunday 19th June at St. Giles Community Centre at 3pm. Cllr Coe and Mrs Goodman are to attend the meeting on behalf of the Town Council.</p> <p>Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE): The Desborough Town Council Membership Pack has been received and is available from the Clerk to read. Cllr Soans stated that he is the Borough Council Representative for CPRE.</p> <p>MGWSP: It was reported that MGWSP are requiring to undertake urgent carriageway patching works on a section of the Arthingworth Road, Desborough commencing Friday 20th June for 3 days.</p>

<p>12.8</p>	<p>Correspondence File: This month’s file contained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desborough Town Council Standing Orders • NCC Proposed Mobile Library Routes • Community Right to Build – An opportunity in the Making (Emailed to Cllrs 08/06/11) • Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework (MDWF): Draft Revised Development and Implementation Principles Supplementary Planning Document (SDP) • CPRE Northamptonshire News Outlook Magazine • CPRE 50/50 club information leaflet • Local Food HERO of the year 2011/12 • CPRE Invitation to Fermyn Woods Hall – fund raising event • CPRE Membership Pack • Northants CALC Update May/June 2011 (previously emailed to Councillors).
<p>13</p> <p>13.1</p> <p>13.2</p> <p>13.3</p> <p>13.4</p> <p>13.5</p>	<p>Community Reports</p> <p>Civic Society: The Town Council has requested to receive a regular report from the Civic Society. Cllr Humfrey will take this request to the next Civic Society meeting.</p> <p>Town Centre Partnership (TCP): It was <u>UNANIMOUSLY AGREED</u> that Cllr M Watson will join Cllr Soans as a Town Council representative for the TCP.</p> <p>Twinning: Cllr J Watson reported that from 23rd to 30th July 2011 Twinning will be welcoming visitors from Neuville de Poitou on a 25th Anniversary Visit. On Tuesday 26th July volunteers are requested to ‘offer a meal to a family’ so that the French visitors can meet other people. Cllr Watson highlighted current Twinning events and stated that a full programme of events from September will be put in the Desborough Diary held at the Heritage Centre and on the Town Council website.</p> <p>Youth: No report available.</p> <p>European Charter: Cllr M Watson gave a report from the European Charter meeting held on 31st May where details for the annual Charter meeting being held in Cashel, Southern Ireland (1st to 4th July 2011) were finalised. The theme for the meeting will be ‘The Effects of Demographic Development on the Rural Economy’.</p> <p>Desborough will be hosting a full mini meeting of the Charter in November (25th to 27th November) which will involve two representatives from twenty seven countries attending. The theme of the meeting will be ‘What are the Effects of Demographic Development on the Number of Volunteers needed to maintain a European Network’. An event to launch this event will be held on 15th July 2011 at St. Giles Community Centre to which local volunteer groups and others will be invited to attend. Funding has been received from Brussels to support the meeting however on going fund raising events are being organised.</p> <p>Cllr Soans gave his full support to the Charter meeting being held in November where Desborough will represent the United Kingdom. It is important for Desborough to continue to be involved with the Charter.</p>

<p>13.6</p>	<p>Hawthorns Steering Group: Cllr Soans confirmed that the petition to save the Hawthorns Leisure Centre with over 3,500 signatories recorded on it has been delivered to KBC and verified. The petition will be debated at the next KBC Full Council meeting to be held on 6th July 2011 at which Cllr Soans will lead the debate.</p> <p>Cllr Soans invited Mrs Holmes to give an overview report from the Steering Group. Mrs Holmes confirmed that a Councillor information pack had been sent to all Borough Councillors inviting them to visit the Hawthorns Leisure Centre. The pack has been emailed to Town Councillors. Cllr J Watson raised concern that the pack states under ‘School Provision’ that none of the schools in Desborough have playing field facilities. Loatlands Primary School has a large playing field. Mrs Holmes confirmed that an amendment will be made.</p> <p>Cllr Sawford asked whether anyone has seen the contract between KBC and Parkwood Leisure Ltd, who had signed the contract and whether this had Member approval or was signed by Officers under delegated powers. Mrs Holmes confirmed that a request to see the contract had been sent to KBC. A reply has been received to say that the contract can be viewed at the KBC offices however commercially sensitive information will be redacted. Mrs Holmes is to arrange to view the contract.</p> <p>Cllr Soans reported that he has received a reply from Parkwood Leisure Ltd in respect of the complaints raised by the Town Council Working Group. This letter was circulated to Town Councillors and has been sent to the current Steering Group.</p>
<p>13.7</p>	<p>Pocket Park: Cllr Sawford and Cllr Pearce were unable to attend the recent Pocket Park work day due to prior commitments however they will be attending the next Pocket Park meeting being held on 5th July 2011.</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>Website Development Cllr Clayton and Cllr J Watson met with the Clerk to identify a strategy for the continued development and use of the Town Council website including a planned launch date. An action plan was presented to the Town Council for consideration. It was RESOLVED to agree the action plan and launch date. Vision ICT are to be asked to attend July’s Town Council meeting to give an overview of the website and discuss in more detail the use of on-line questionnaires and voting.</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>Financial report</p> <p>15.1 Internal Auditor Report: The Internal Audit for Desborough Town Council for the year ended 31 March 2011 has been completed. A copy of the letter received from Mr C Barnard, Internal Auditor, was distributed to Councillors.</p> <p>15.2 Training: The Town Council AGREED to fund the cost (£29 per delegate) for the five new Councillors to attend Northants CALC “Off to a Flying Start” course being run in June and September 2011. The Town Council AGREED to fund the cost of the Chairman to attend the Northants CALC Chairman’s Training Meeting being held on 8th July 2011 (£29 per delegate).</p> <p><i>Under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960 (as amended) the Town Council RESOLVED to exclude the press and public from Agenda Item 13iii on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.</i></p>

15.3

Christmas Lights: Quotes and visual displays received in respect to the identified Christmas Lights Options (Minute 6939/Feb 11) were considered by the Town Council. It was **AGREED** to write to the Town Centre Partnership to ask whether they wish to make a financial contribution towards the cost of purchasing new lights before the Town Council make a final decision as to which Option(s) to purchase and from which company. Cllr Coe raised concern about funding Christmas Lighting for private companies, such as, The Ritz.

The press and public were re-admitted to the meeting.

15.4

Accounts for Payment: The below detailed payments were approved for payment:

Cheque No.	Amount	Payee	Reason for Payment
101186	£773.64	Mrs L Parkin	Salary & Expenses (June 11)
101187	£77.18	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE & NI (June 11)
101188	£35.00	Vine Community Trust	Hall Hire
101189	£40.72	Talk Talk Business	Telephone Line Rental /Broadband + calls (June 11)
101190	£41.41	Mrs L Parkin	Re-imbursment of May telephone expenses - Talk Talk
101191	£114.98	Zurich Municipal	Additions to Policy
101192	£125.00	Mr C Barnard	Internal Audit Fee
101193	£700.00	Cllr D Soans	Chairman's Allowance 2011/12 (Minute: 6989.5)

15.5

Receipts:

Date Received	Description	Amount	Comments
9/05/11	VAT Repayment	£189.14	19/03/10 to 26/03/11

16

Planning Applications

The following applications have been received and comments made under delegated procedures or at the meeting:

16.1

KET/2011/0247 – Mr Holland – Plot 6 Spinney Close, Desborough – Full Application: Dropped kerb and driveway.

This expansionist activity must not be permitted; it is a serious over development. The removed hedgerow must be reinstated, along with the drainage ditch which has been in filled. This would create a president as the overall plot already has an access. This looks like an application to split overall area into several plots which is not recommended. All extensions to the north of the Borough must be resisted.

16.2

KET/2011/0280 – Mr Crick – 41 Leys Avenue, Desborough - Renewal of Extant Permission (Full): KET/2008/0384 (replace existing roof structure and increase pitch angle and ridge height).

No objection. Seems to be a very reasonable application.

<p>16.3</p>	<p>KET/2011/0187 – Miss Boksh – 72 Station Road, Desborough – Full Application: Change of use from dwelling to ground floor restaurant and first floor studio flat. Two storey rear extension and single storey front extension. Desborough Town Council supports the application to extend this restaurant in Station Road. The Restaurant is well established, well used and a local employer. <i>The above application will be put to the KBC Planning Committee for a decision to be made at its meeting to be held on 21st June 2011.</i></p>
<p>16.4</p>	<p>KET/2011/0288 – Midlands Co-operative Society Ltd – 42 Station Road, Desborough – Advertisement Application: 2 no. externally illuminated fascia signs. <i>Cllr Coe did not comment on this application having declared an interest as a former manager of the Co-operative Society.</i> No objection. Looks good, seems to fit into the street scene well.</p>
<p>16.5</p>	<p>KET/2011/0235 – CJC Development Co. Ltd – North Desborough (Land at), Desborough – Outline Application with EIA – Residential development of up to 700 dwellings including provision of a local centre, primary school, green infrastructure and creation of accesses. Desborough Town Council supports this application subject to the following issues being appropriately dealt with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicular access onto Stoke Albany Road shown is essential but a roundabout is probably desirable. The Town Council would like to see an additional access point off Back Lane. Stoke Albany Road and Back Lane must be upgraded to 'A' status roads. • More details on bus route/timetables need to be provided. • Negotiation with NCC and local school Heads/Governors is essential to provide an enhanced 'Loatland' offer with 2/3 form entry. • Section 106 agreement proposals are inadequate as there is no commitment to Phase 2 leisure provision or rail/pedestrian cycle link prior to construction commencement - this is essential. • Local CHP (Combined Heat and Power) energy centre welcomed.
<p>16.6</p>	<p><u>Notices of Approval received:</u> KBC has granted permission for the following applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KET/2011/0217 (Minute 18.5/May 11) – Mr Foster – 4 Foxlands, Desborough – Full Application: Single storey front and side extensions. • KET/2011/0234 (Minute 18.6/May 11) – Mr Galbraith – 108 Harborough Road, Desborough – Full Application: Replace flat workshop roof with pitched. • KET/2011/0197 (Minute 18.7/May 11) – Mr Dye – 36 Cypress Close, Desborough – Full Application: Erect 2m high fence at side of property along edge of public footpath.
<p>16.7</p>	<p><u>Notices of Refusal received:</u> KBC has refused permission for the following applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KET/2011/0016 (Minute 6970.2/Mar 11) – Mr & Mrs Smith – Stoke Albany Road, Desborough – Full Application: Change of use from agricultural / paddock to Mobile Home Retirement Park. Formation of access roads, parking and sewage treatment plant.

<p>16.8</p>	<p><u>Proposed establishment of a Planning Committee:</u> A detailed discussion was held by the Town Council in respect of the current system Desborough Town Council uses to comment on planning applications and the proposal to establish a Planning Committee.</p> <p>Cllr Coe proposed the motion that no further action is taken and that the current system remains unchanged. This motion was seconded by Cllr Derbyshire.</p> <p>Cllr Sawford proposed an amended motion that no further action is taken but that planning applications received and comments by the Town Council are to be posted on the Town Council website (when live) and that the situation is reviewed in six months when more is known about the impact of the Localism Bill. The amended motion was seconded by Cllr Pearce. The amended motion was <u>SUPPORTED</u> by a majority vote.</p> <p>Cllr Soans confirmed that the amended motion now became the substantive motion to be voted on by the Town Council. The substantive motion was <u>AGREED</u> by a majority vote.</p>
	<p>Date of next meeting and items for the agenda:</p> <p>Thursday 21st July 2011 – Vision ICT Website, Christmas Lights</p>
	<p>THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.40 PM</p> <p>..... CHAIRMAN</p>