

The Meeting of the Desborough Town Council held at Marlow House, Gold Street, Desborough on Thursday 15th September 2011.

PRESENT

Councillors: Cllr D Soans (Chairman), Cllr A Matthews (Vice Chairman), Cllr D Coe, Cllr J Pearce, Cllr M Watson, Cllr M Tebbutt, Cllr S Clayton, Cllr J Watson, Cllr M Dearing, Cllr P Malin, Cllr R Sawford

Clerk: Leigh Parkin

Also in attendance: PCSO A Sillince, PCSO S Gell, Mrs S Hodder, Friends of Desborough Library

1	<p>Chairman’s announcements Cllr Soans reported that he has attended the following events/meetings since the last Town Council meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 06/08/11 - Illyria Open Air Theatre Production of Twelfth Night – Burton Latimer • 25/08/11 - Desborough Community Development Trust (DCDT) ‘Hawthorns’ Public Meeting • 04/08/11 & 01/09/11 - Town Centre Partnership Meetings • 14/09/11 – KBC Executive meeting <p>Cllr Soans announced the following dates for the diary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22/09/11 – Launch of the Desborough Town Council Website, Desborough Library • 16/10/11 – Desborough Town Council Civic Service, St. Giles Anglican & Methodist Church • 11/11/11 – KBC Mayor’s Charity Ball, Wicksteed Park
2	<p>Apologies for absence No apologies for absence were received.</p>
3	<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>
4	<p>Police Report PCSO Sillince reported the crime rates for August 2011 highlighting that there has been a spate of number plate thefts from vehicles. The Police are encouraging people to use the anti-theft number plate screws. All violent offences were domestic related.</p> <p>Cllr Soans noted that at the A6 Towns Forum it had been reported that crime figures had gone down for Desborough.</p> <p>Cllr Coe said that he had caught the bus from Dunkirk Avenue up to the Grange that afternoon and had noted that lorries trying to access the Great Bear Distribution Centre had blocked the roundabout. This had stopped the bus being able to drive down Ironwood Avenue.</p> <p>Cllr Pearce asked about the sexual offences reported in June and July. PCSO Sillince stated that the incident in June was domestic related however he would have to confirm</p>

	<p>July's incident.</p> <p>Cllr Pearce also raised concern about vandalism in the Pocket Park and continued evidence of drug taking. PCSO Sillince emphasised the need to report any incidents to the Police.</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt reported that there had been a problem at the Barclays cash machine with a device having been fitted to it. The bank reported the crime and the issue has now been resolved. The PCSO's confirmed that people should check cash machines for devices before using them.</p> <p>Cllr Sawford asked about the cuts in police funding and how Desborough will be affected. PCSO Sillince stated that as far as he was aware no cuts were being proposed to front line staff for the Kettering Rural Safer Community Team. He suggested that the Town Council write to Northamptonshire Police for official confirmation of this information.</p> <p>Cllr Soans thanked the Police for attending the meeting.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Representations from members of the public</p> <p>A representative from DCDT thanked Cllr Soans for his presentation to the Kettering Borough Council (KBC) Executive Committee meeting with regard to the Hawthorns Leisure Centre.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Representative from the Friends of Desborough Library</p> <p>Mrs Hodder, Friends of Desborough Library, gave an overview presentation of Northamptonshire County Council's (NCC) proposed changes to funding and staffing of libraries within Northamptonshire. At present each 'Friends of the Library' Group has been asked to raise £2,000 towards the funding of the library. Mrs Hodder outlined the current facilities provided at Desborough Library which, at present, is a 'free' resource for the community to use.</p> <p>The Friends of Desborough Library Group is requesting support from the Town Council to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that NCC meet its' requirement to provide a comprehensive and efficient library service within a 30 minute driving distance; • Provision of funds to support the library as outlined by NCC. <p>As volunteers the Friends of Desborough Library Group do not believe that it is their responsibility to be the fundraiser for the library as specified through the targeted amounts determined by NCC.</p> <p>Councillors raised the following concerns and points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earlier in the year the Town Council had been assured by Cllr Humfrey, Northamptonshire County Councillor, that the Desborough Library was safe; • The people of Desborough are potentially being asked to pay for a service they already pay for through their Council Tax; • The library needs to be run by experienced/trained staff supported by volunteers and not for volunteers to replace staff; • The Sure Start Initiative has been of help to the Library.

	<p>At present NCC is launching the public consultation phase of a library review which aims to ensure the county's libraries are fit for the 21st century by March 2015.</p> <p>The Town Council <u>AGREED</u> to put Desborough Library on the agenda for further discussion at the Town Council meeting in October. Cllr Humfrey, Northamptonshire County Councillor, will be invited to attend the meeting to join in with this discussion.</p> <p>Cllr Soans thanked Mrs Hodder for her presentation of behalf of the Friends of Desborough Library.</p>
7	<p>Minutes of Town Council meetings held on 21st July 2011 The Minutes of the Town Council meeting on the above date were <u>unanimously approved</u> and signed as a true record (Proposed by Cllr A Matthews and seconded by Cllr M Watson).</p>
8	<p>Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minute 5/July 11 (paragraph 5) – Street Light Dunkirk Avenue – Cllr Coe spoke to NCC and the street lights have been altered as suggested. • Minute 11.6/July 11 – Cllr Pearce is unable to attend the CPRE District (North Northamptonshire) quarterly committee meeting on 21st September 2011.
9	<p>County Councillor - No report was received.</p>
10	<p>Borough Councillors</p> <p>Cllr M Dearing reported that he had attended the A6 Towns Forum where crime figures and the provision of public toilets in Desborough were discussed. He also attended the KBC Gypsy/Traveller meeting which covered a lot of issues including the general shortage of pitches and on-going discussions with Mr & Mrs Smith, The Pastures. Cllr Dearing noted that KBC will not tolerate any illegal Gypsy/Traveller encampment.</p> <p>In respect to illegal Traveller sites Cllr Coe raised concern about current activity on Green Lane site. Cllr Soans confirmed that the hard core is currently being removed.</p> <p>Cllr Sawford raised concern that KBC has decided not to replace the damaged public toilet facilities in Desborough. It was <u>AGREED</u> that the provision of a public toilet within the Town will be placed on the Agenda for October's meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Dearing has received a number of complaints about street lights that have been switched off by NCC. In particular one elderly resident has had damage to her front garden since the nearby street light was switched off. Cllr Dearing requested NCC re-instate this light but was told that it did not meet the criteria. Cllr Dearing has requested clarification as to what NCC's criteria is for street lighting.</p> <p>The KBC Executive Meeting discussed the Hawthorns Leisure Centre. Officers are currently looking at the DCDT Business Plan and will report back to the Executive following public consultation which is to take place shortly.</p> <p>Cllr M Tebbutt reported back as Chairman of the KBC Planning Policy Committee. At the next meeting, to be held on 4th October 2011, the Draft National Planning Policy Framework will be on the agenda to agree the Borough Council's response to the Draft Policy.</p>

	<p>Cllr D Soans reported that the KBC Planning Committee meeting scheduled to take place on 13th September 2011 to consider the Tesco Planning Application at the old Lawrence Factory Site; Desborough was cancelled due to legal reasons.</p> <p>Cllr Soans has also attended Kettering Old Grammar School Benefits Committee meetings.</p>
11	<p>Clerk's Report The Clerk has sent all correspondence required after the last Council Meeting.</p>
11.1	<p>Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Britain in Bloom - The Town Council would like to participate in this scheme. Concern was raised that the hanging baskets in the town had died off very quickly. The Town Centre Partnership (TCP) manage the watering contract.</p>
11.2	<p>East Midland Councils – Associate Member of East Midlands Councils – Introductory Offer – It was <u>AGREED</u> that Desborough Town Council will not become an Associate Member (Proposed: Cllr M Tebbutt, Seconded: Cllr D Coe) .</p>
11.3	<p>Northamptonshire ACRE Town & Village Services Survey 2011 - It was <u>AGREED</u> that Cllr Soans will complete the questionnaire with the support of the Clerk.</p>
11.4	<p>Northants CALC Survey for Councillors - As a follow up to the summer survey of parish and town councils Northants CALC is now seeking the opinion of councillors as individuals.</p>
11.5	<p>NCC Libraries review feedback – the summary of progress to date has been e-mailed to Councillors and was available to view at the Town Council meeting.</p>
11.6	<p>Mansefield Close car park – Mr M Hammond, Deputy Chief Executive, KBC has confirmed that the white lining work in the car park will be undertaken by the end of the calendar year.</p>
11.7	<p>Kettering and Desborough markets – An email has been received from Mr M Hammond, Deputy Chief Executive, KBC to inform the Town Council that Hughmark International, who have been managing the markets in the Borough for some time, have surrendered the contract on the basis that it was no longer making a profit. KBC has taken over the management of the markets for a short period whilst it is decided whether to retender the service or manage it in some other way. KBC are currently trying to build up the market in Desborough to increase the range of stalls.</p>
11.8	<p>NCC Residents' Panel – NCC is recruiting members for their Residents' Panel which is an opportunity for members of the panel to give their views to local councils more regularly and directly and to have a say in influencing local decisions that matter.</p>
11.9	<p>Northants ACRE Village Viewpoint Newsletter Summer 2011 – emailed to Councillors.</p>
11.10	<p>Bus Service Changes from 5th September – timetables for the new/revised services are available on the NCC website. Printed timetables have now also been published. Cllr Coe reported that there is still aggravation around the town in respect to the Market</p>

<p>11.11</p> <p>11.12</p> <p>11.13</p>	<p>Harborough Service. The issue of using a bus pass to catch the 9.29am service is unresolved. The message for the new Corby bus service is ‘use it or lose it’. This information will be added to the Town Council website.</p> <p>Igniting Ambition Festival – From Friday 23rd September through until Sunday 2nd October Desborough Water Tower will be connected via laser beams to Rothwell and Corby Beanfield Water Towers as part of this year’s Igniting Ambition Festival and the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad.</p> <p>Office for National Statistics – Business Register and Employment Survey 2011: The Town Council is required to complete this survey by law.</p> <p>Correspondence File: This month’s file contained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desborough Town Council Standing Orders • kgtogether magazine (Issue 12) • CPRE Countryside Voice Summer 2011 • CPRE Field Work Summer 2011 • CPRE Outlook Summer 2011 • NCALC Update July-August 2011 • Longhurst Group Annual Report 2010-11 • NCC Highways, Transport & Infrastructure Councillor’s Newsletter Aug 11 (emailed to Cllrs 06/09/11 • CPRE Northamptonshire – Fashion Show – 11th October – Cranford Hall – 7.30pm • RoadSafety – Young Driver Courses. NCC working with various partners • KBC/Woodland Trust Nature Detectives Seed Collection Day
<p>12</p> <p>12.1</p> <p>12.2</p> <p>12.3</p> <p>12.4</p> <p>12.5</p>	<p>Community Reports</p> <p>Civic Society: No report received.</p> <p>Town Centre Partnership (TCP): Two meetings have been held and preparations for Gala Night on Friday 25th November 2011 are going well. An idea for a Desborough shopping bag is currently being investigated. The TCP has agreed to make a donation to the Town Council towards the cost of purchasing flags/poles for the Town.</p> <p>Twinning: Cllr J Watson reported that in July Twinning welcomed 35 visitors from Neuville de Poitou on a 25th Anniversary Visit which was very successful. Twinning is looking forward to working with the European Sub Charter Committee in preparation for the mini meeting in November. Future Twinning events were highlighted.</p> <p>Youth: No report available.</p> <p>European Charter: Cllr M Watson reported that detailed arrangements for the full mini meeting of the Charter being hosted by Desborough at the end of November are now being planned. Workshops have been arranged at Loatlands School and KBC. The KBC Mayor will be attending the Gala Dinner on the Saturday evening which is to be held at the Three Swans in Market Harborough.</p> <p>Cllr Soans is to confirm whether Borough Councillor Ward Initiative Funding can be used to support the event.</p>

<p>12.6</p> <p>12.7</p>	<p>Hawthorns Steering Group: Cllr Soans reported that the Hawthorns Steering Group had hosted a successful public meeting on 25th August 2011 at the Hawthorns Leisure Centre. KBC Executive Committee has agreed to defer a decision about the future of the Hawthorns until further public consultation has been undertaken.</p> <p>Pocket Park: Cllr Pearce provided a detailed report covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The trees overhanging Eveden have now been cut down; • The Volunteer Committee is approaching local Academy's with regard to A level students helping with wildlife surveys in the Park; • Vandalism to the pond dipping platform and bird box has been reported to the police and the area temporarily fenced off; • Continued problem throughout the Park of dog fouling and the dog bins not being emptied regularly enough. It was <u>AGREED</u> that KBC will be contacted in respect of this; • Fly tipping of garden waste has been found in the Park. <p>The Town Council <u>RESOLVED</u> to agree that the Pocket Park Volunteer Group will hold an Apple Day Event in the Park on 15th October 2011 (Proposed: Cllr M Dearing, Seconded: Cllr M Tebbutt).</p>
<p>13</p> <p>13.1</p> <p>13.2</p> <p>13.3</p> <p>13.4</p>	<p>Financial report</p> <p><u>Christmas Lights:</u> The cost for KBC to undertake repairs to the snowman and cracker decoration was <u>AGREED</u> by the Town Council.</p> <p><u>Pocket Park:</u> The work to remove the branches overhanging the Eveden buildings and fence has been completed. The Pocket Park Volunteer Group had previously confirmed that they would donate £700 to the Town Council towards the cost of the necessary work to be undertaken. As the total cost of the work completed is £700 the Pocket Park Volunteer Group will pay the invoice directly.</p> <p><u>Purchase of Flags:</u> It was <u>AGREED</u> that the Town Council will purchase flags and poles for use around the Town (Proposed: Cllr M Dearing, Seconded: Cllr A Matthews). Donations to cover the cost of the flags will be received from a number of Groups/Organisations. The flags/poles will be owned and insured by the Town Council. The Town Council's insurance company need to understand where and how the poles will be erected and any training required in order to ascertain whether they are covered under the Town Council's public liability insurance. To insure the flags for 'All Risks' will cost approximately £50 per annum.</p> <p><u>External Audit:</u> The External Auditor (BDO LLP) wrote to the Clerk to request Box 9 (2010), Section 1 be amended to 'restate' the fixed assets at purchase cost - £11,506. This is the 2011 figure less additions made during the year. The Clerk has completed this request.</p>

<p>13.5</p>	<p>Accounts for Payment: The following payments were APPROVED for payment:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="296 232 1439 573"> <thead> <tr> <th>Cheque No.</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Reason for Payment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>101204</td> <td>£749.08</td> <td>Mrs L Parkin</td> <td>Salary & Expenses (Sept 11)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101205</td> <td>£77.18</td> <td>HM Revenue & Customs</td> <td>PAYE & NI (Sept 11)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101206</td> <td>£35.00</td> <td>Vine Community Trust</td> <td>Hall Hire</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101207</td> <td>£37.37</td> <td>Talk Talk Business</td> <td>Telephone Line Rental /Broadband + calls (Sept 11)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101208</td> <td>£37.40</td> <td>Mrs L Parkin</td> <td>Re-imburement for Telephone Line Rental /Broadband + calls (Aug 11)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Cheque No.	Amount	Payee	Reason for Payment	101204	£749.08	Mrs L Parkin	Salary & Expenses (Sept 11)	101205	£77.18	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE & NI (Sept 11)	101206	£35.00	Vine Community Trust	Hall Hire	101207	£37.37	Talk Talk Business	Telephone Line Rental /Broadband + calls (Sept 11)	101208	£37.40	Mrs L Parkin	Re-imburement for Telephone Line Rental /Broadband + calls (Aug 11)
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<p>14</p>	<p>Discussion and agreement re: future community centre provision The Town Council has been invited to open a dialogue with KBC about future community centre provision in Desborough.</p> <p>Cllr M Dearing stated that the Town Council should accept KBC’s offer and also invite representatives from Burton Latimer Town Council to talk to Desborough Town Council about their community facilities, how they were achieved and funded including on-going funding arrangements.</p> <p>Cllr R Sawford acknowledged that a community facility is needed within the Town however she raised concern that the people of Desborough should not pay for a community facility through a precept and that it should be self-financing.</p> <p>Cllr Watson suggested that a questionnaire be placed on the Town Council website with regard to community facilities within the Town.</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt stated that there is a need to provide the Heritage Centre with a permanent home as it currently only has a short term lease.</p> <p>It was AGREED to accept KBC’s offer to discuss future community centre provision within Desborough and to invite representatives from Burton Latimer to the next Town Council meeting.</p>																								
<p>15</p>	<p>Desborough Town Council Website It was RESOLVED to approve, and for the Chairman to sign, the following Desborough Town Council policies (Proposed: Cllr M Tebbutt, Seconded: Cllr A Matthews):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website Policy 2011; • Website Disclaimer 2011. 																								
<p>16</p>	<p>Future Open Air Performance Cllr Soans reported that he had recently attended an open air Theatre performance in Burton Latimer and proposed that a production of this nature be staged in Desborough.</p> <p>It was AGREED to investigate this idea further by contacting the Theatre Company and Millennium Green Committee. The findings will be reported back to the Town Council.</p>																								
<p>17</p>	<p>HRM Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee It was AGREED to await the decision of the Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge before discussing activities.</p>																								

<p>18</p>	<p>Planning Applications The following applications have been received and comments made under delegated procedures or at the meeting:</p>
<p>18.1</p>	<p>KET/2010/0743 & 0744 (amended) – Greatline Development Ltd and Tesco Stores Ltd – Former Lawrence Factory Site, Harborough Road, Desborough – Full Application: Erection of new food store and electricity sub-station, new access arrangements, landscaping and associated works. Demolition of existing buildings on the site. The amended details are noted. The application should be put before the planning committee asap noting all previous comments from Desborough Town Council. It is evident that no viable alternative has been declared for the factory building and the feasibility exercise (attached) proves that retaining the factory building for flats is not cost effective. Desborough Town Council restates its' support for the urgent provision of this retail site to revitalise the Town Centre. It is time to move on with this application.</p>
<p>18.2</p>	<p>KET/2010/0826 (amended & additional information) – Hampton Brook Ltd & Sainsbury’s Supermarkets Ltd – Magnetic Park (land at), Desborough – Full Application with EIA: Foodstore and petrol filling station with associated access, landscaping, servicing and car parking. A very confusing collection of statistics and assumptions. Clearly Sainsbury's need to expand as not dominant in Kettering and even in Market Harborough the impact of Aldi/Lidl is close in percentage terms, even before an expected Waitrose store appears. Much conjecture in figure form. Retail impact is a matter to be seen and therefore doesn’t impact on the need for more retail in a growing town. Desborough people made it clear in the Parish Poll that they would welcome Sainsbury’s. S.106 Heads of Terms amount to £450K not the £650K quoted. Maybe the difference is for local employment partnership and bus enhancements? Of the £450K, access to the proposed store = £140K and £310K town centre improvements. Nothing is mentioned about community facilities. Previous comments by the Town Council are unchanged by these latest submissions. Please can the Tesco planning application go to KBC Planning Committee with the upmost urgency and thus enable the Sainsbury's planning application to follow. CJC need to build their bridge over the railway now to enable access in both directions. The Harborough Road Bridge will need improvement as it limits accessibility for both pedestrians and cyclists to both the new leisure centre facilities and the proposed Sainsbury's supermarket. Desborough will benefit from both Tesco and Sainsbury's stores.</p>
<p>18.3</p>	<p>KET/2011/0504 – Mr & Mrs Smith – Stoke Albany Road (Land at), Desborough – Full Application: Change of use from agricultural/paddock to Mobile Home Retirement Park. Formation of access roads, parking and sewage treatment plant. Comments to be reported at the Town Council meeting in October.</p>

<p>18.4</p>	<p><u>Notices of Approval received:</u> KBC has granted permission for the following applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KET/2011/0332 (Minute 16.1/July 11) – Mr Malde – 7 Station Road, Desborough – Advertisement Application – 1 no. non-illuminated fascia sign. 1 no. externally illuminated hanging sign. 1 no. externally illuminated projecting sign. • KET/2011/0319 (Minute 16.2 & 16.3/July 11) – Mr Taylor – 72 Breakleys Road, Desborough – Full Application: Single rear extension. • KET/2011/0341 (Minute 16.8/July 11) – Mr Bott – 137 Braybrooke Road, Desborough – Full Application: Two storey side, single storey front and rear extensions. • KET/2011/0275 (Minute 16.10/July 11) – Ms Bosworth Quest – 89 & 91 Braybrooke Road (Land to the rear), Desborough – Full Application: 2 no. detached bungalows. • KET/2011/0408 (Minute 16.11/July 11) – Capital Investments – Benels Club, Victoria Street, Desborough – Full Application: Single storey rear extension. • KET/2011/0240 (Minute 18.9/May 11) – Mr Shibl Reliant Building Contractors Ltd – Land to the West side of Desborough Water Tower, Bridge Road, Desborough – Renewal of Extant Permission (Full – Major): KET/2008/0229 (Erection of 10 No. two storey three-bed semi detached houses with associated roadway, parking and landscaping).
<p>18.5</p>	<p><u>Notices of Refusal received:</u> KBC has refused permission for the following applications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KET/2011/0382 (Minute 16.9/July 11) – Miss Coupland – 7 Union Street, Desborough – Full Application: Single storey rear extension.
<p>18.6</p>	<p>KBC Planning Committee – 22nd September 2011: will be considering planning application: KET/2010/0800 – Mr Gaskin c/o Derbyshire Gypsy Forum Liaison Group – Greenfields, Great Oxendon Road, Braybrooke – Full Application: Change of use from agricultural land to residential Gypsy site with 3 no. pitches and facilitating development.</p>
<p>18.7</p>	<p>Northants CALC Report – A New Landscape for Planning Control – Town Council consideration of the current proposals A discussion was held with regard to the current proposals. It was <u>AGREED</u> that Cllr D Soans, Cllr D Coe, Cllr M Watson and Cllr A Matthews will attend the KBC Planning Policy meeting to be held on 4th October 2011 where the draft National Planning Policy Framework is to be discussed including the Borough Council’s response to the proposals. The identified Councillors will then draft a proposed response on behalf on the Town Council.</p> <p>It was <u>AGREED</u> that the Town Council will consider sending comments to the MP following agreement of the Town Council’s response to the Draft Framework (Proposed: Cllr D Soans, Seconded: Cllr S Clayton).</p>
<p>18.8</p>	<p>CPRE: Urgent request for Council’s to email their MP to say no to growth at any cost. Noted.</p>

18.9	KBC Gypsy/Traveller Update – 9th August 2011 KBC has confirmed that any unauthorised encampments will be acted upon swiftly.
19	Date of next meeting and items for the agenda: Thursday 20 th October 2011
	THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.10 PM CHAIRMAN

Chairman

Date