

The Meeting of the Desborough Town Council held at Marlow House, Gold Street, Desborough on Thursday 21st February 2013.

PRESENT

Councillors: Cllr A Matthews, Cllr D Coe, Cllr J Watson, Cllr M Tebbutt, Cllr B King, Cllr R Sawford, Cllr D Soans, Cllr J Derbyshire

Clerk: Leigh Parkin

Also in attendance: Cllr B Humfrey, Northamptonshire County Councillor (in part), PCSO L Mitchell – Kettering Rural Safer Community Team, Members of the Public

<p>1</p>	<p>Chairman’s announcements Cllr Matthews confirmed the health and safety issues for the building.</p> <p>Cllr Matthews thanked everybody that had been involved and attended the Desborough Town Council Civic Service held on Sunday 10th February 2013 at St. Giles Anglican & Methodist Church.</p> <p>On Saturday 9th February 2013 Cllr Matthews attended the planting of a weeping Cherry Tree in the grounds of Hazeland House, Desborough by Rowell Lions in celebration of the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee.</p> <p>Cllr Matthews attended a meeting of Rothwell Town Council in February 2013.</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>Apologies for absence – Apologies were received from Cllr M Dearing (ill health) and Cllr M Watson (work commitments), Cllr J Pearce (family ill health), Cllr P Malin (family commitments). The Town Council RESOLVED to approve the apologies for absence.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to approve the request received from Cllr M Dearing for continued absence from Town Council meetings until June 2013 due to ill health (Proposed by Cllr Soans and seconded by Cllr Tebbutt – Agreed).</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Declarations of Interest by Councillors Cllr Soans stated that he would not vote or express a decision on any planning matters as he is on the Planning Committee at Kettering Borough Council (KBC). He can however take part in discussions on planning issues.</p>
<p>4 4.1 4.2</p>	<p>Police Report Monthly Report & Crime Figures – The Police reported crimes for January 2013.</p> <p>It was highlighted that there are no female police officers in the Kettering area and that following the Government’s announcement that the police will be reduced by 6,000 there is concern about the strength of police cover in the north of Kettering Borough. It was Agreed to write to Mr A Simmonds, Police and Crime Commissioner, to request that there are no further redundancies that will affect the Kettering area.</p> <p>Braybrooke Road – HGV’s/speeding vehicles – This issue was raised the previous month (Minute 5/Jan 13) by a member of the public. PCSO Mitchell said that the Police were cracking down on HGV’s and that they would make Braybrooke Road a hot spot area.</p> <p>Concern was also raised about HGV’s driving through Pipewell. PCSO Mitchell stated if</p>

	<p>possible members of the public who see the lorries need to take down the registration plates noting the time and date and pass this information to the Police.</p> <p>It was noted that next week the road to Magnetic Park will be closed and the question was raised as to which route the lorries will take to bypass this area. The Town Council has not been informed by Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) of this closure.</p> <p>Cllr Matthews thanked PCSO Mitchell for attending the meeting and providing a report.</p>
<p>5</p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p> <p>5.3</p> <p>5.4</p>	<p>Representations from members of the public</p> <p>Members of the public spoke on the following issues:</p> <p>The Town Council was asked to approach KBC to ask them to consider the compulsory purchase orders for properties 24, 26 and 28 Queen Street, Desborough. The houses have been empty for 26 years and are un-tilted and in an unsafe condition. The houses in the local area have been devalued as a result of these properties and members of the public in neighbouring houses have had difficulty in selling their properties. Over the years Kettering Borough Council (KBC) has had to undertake work to the properties and has now boarded the windows up. It is understood KBC has not been paid for the work undertaken. This issue has been raised previously with the Town Council. It was Agreed that the Town Council will write to KBC to ask KBC to consider the compulsory purchase of these properties and also the two houses situated along Station Road next to The Ritz. Cllr Soans will also speak to KBC Officers about this case.</p> <p>The developer of Birchfield Lodge, Desborough Road, Rushton attended the meeting as concerns with regard to his development had been raised at previous Town Council meetings.</p> <p><i>Cllr Coe declared an interest as a resident of Dunkirk Avenue.</i> Complaints have been received from many residents along Dunkirk Avenue about the number of lorries using the road to access the site and the damage this is causing to the road. In addition the Rushton/Desborough Roads have become extremely dangerous due to mud on the road and the sides of the road towards Pipewell are disintegrating. The lorries are also using the route over the Pipewell bridge. One member of the public had damage caused to her car by one of the lorries which did not stop. The developer stated that he had met with representatives from NCC Highways and had agreed to put kerbs in along the Desborough Road as long as they are maintained by NCC. In addition if he is given the registration numbers of the lorries driving through Pipewell then he can take action. Every lorry movement is ticketed on site and can be tracked. The developer explained about the difficulties experienced due to the weather.</p> <p>A representative from Desborough Community Development Trust (DCDT) reported that a response had been received from KBC in respect to the request by the DCDT that the Hawthorns Site be designated as a neighbourhood area. KBC has stated that to move forward with the application Desborough Town Council must take the lead in the process. DCDT is disputing this following advice from Locality. DCDT has written to the Midlands Co-operative Society about the request for the Hawthorns to be designated as a neighbourhood area as it is understood that negotiations may be taking place between the Midlands Co-op and KBC over land along the Ise Valley. DCDT has requested a meeting with the Midlands Co-op.</p> <p>A representative from Desborough Fresh Air up-dated the Town Council on current activities. The representative had attended and spoken at a meeting at Gretton Village Hall as a gasification plant and other developments are proposed for this area. This puts</p>

<p>5.5</p> <p>5.6</p> <p>5.7</p>	<p>Desborough on the edge of another potential pollutant. Desborough Fresh Air is going to organise a public meeting within Desborough to continue to increase awareness of the Energy Centre. Representatives from the Town Council will be asked to speak at this meeting. Desborough Fresh Air now has a full committee which is currently working on the development of a constitution.</p> <p>KET/2012/0617 – concern was raised about the decision by KBC to approve this planning application. Reference was made to a survey completed for the whole of Northamptonshire which has identified that the Boroughs of Kettering and Corby are in desperate need of 1 and 2 bedroom houses.</p> <p>The Chair of The Voice of Desborough Grange Residential Association raised a number of issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It is understood that a judicial review should have been submitted within 3 months of the decision on the Energy Centre. It was clarified by a representative from Desborough Fresh Air that this is three months from the date of the decision notice which has not yet been issued. Until the decision notice has been issued a judicial review cannot be applied for; ➤ In respect of Agenda Item 6 it was suggested that the Town Council become more actively involved with the opposition for the Energy Centre providing co-ordination and leadership, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Organising meetings with solicitors and barristers dealing with the case; ➤ Opening a bank account for members of the public who want to donate to support the action; <p>Cllr Matthews highlighted that the Town Council does have the legal power to prosecute or defend legal cases; however, the Town Council needs to be objective and take a wider and long term view in the best interests of the whole community. Action groups do not need to be objective as they may only represent a section of the community. If the Town Council supports one ‘action’ group it sets a precedent for supporting others. In addition, there is no knowing how a legal process will develop and if the Town Council leads the process funded through a precept there will be a limit on funding available. The precept for 2013/14 has already been confirmed and does not allow for funding action of this nature.</p> <p>A number of Councillors noted the work being undertaken by Desborough Fresh Air and that the group is looking to set up a public meeting about the Energy Centre to which a representative(s) from the Town Council will be invited.</p> <p>It was noted that all Councillors had received an email from Desborough Town Junior Football Club.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Energy Centre, Magnetic Park, Desborough - Request that Desborough Town Council provide community coordination and leadership to the opposition of the Energy Centre</p> <p>It was noted that a discussion had taken place about the opposition to the Energy Centre in the ‘Representations by Members of the Public’ section of the meeting (Agenda Item 5.6). No formal decision was recorded by the Town Council to the request made for the Town Council to provide community coordination and leadership to the opposition of the Energy Centre.</p>

7	<p>Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 17th January 2013 The Minutes of the Town Council meetings on the above dates were <u>unanimously approved</u> and signed as a true record (Proposed by Cllr Coe and seconded by Cllr King).</p>																																
8	<p>Matters Arising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minute 5/Jan 13/Bullet pt. 3 – An email has been received from Mr G Soulsby, Deputy Chief Executive of KBC with regard to the Lawrence Factory Site. The email was read at the meeting. Cllr Sawford requested to receive a copy of the email. • Minute 9/Jan 13 – KET/2010/0242 – Birchfield Lodge - Mr J Jones, Site Inspector from the Environment Agency, met with Mr Thomas in January to discuss a number of issues including the burning of rubbish and mud on the road. The number of vehicle movements and damage to the road is not within the Environment Agency's remit. Mr Jones made it clear to Mr Thomas that although he is allowed to burn rubbish on site he is not allowed to cause nuisance. He has also been told that it is his responsibility to keep the highway clear of mud. Mr Jones has asked to be informed if there is further smoke nuisance from burning or continued problems with mud on the road. • Minute 10.5/Jan 13 – Cllr Matthews and Cllr Coe have met with the Clerk to discuss her work commitments. Cllr Matthews has agreed arrangements for the Clerk to take time off in lieu for 30 of the outstanding 41 additional hours worked. 																																
9 9.1	<p>Financial report Accounts for Payment: The following payments were APPROVED (Proposed by Cllr Soans and seconded by Cllr Derbyshire):</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="293 1084 1436 1572"> <thead> <tr> <th>Cheque No.</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Reason for Payment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>101309</td> <td>£773.05</td> <td>Mrs L Parkin</td> <td>Salary & Expenses (Feb 13)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101310</td> <td>£59.11</td> <td>HM Revenue & Customs</td> <td>PAYE & NI (Feb 13)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101311</td> <td>£35.00</td> <td>Vine Community Trust</td> <td>Hall Hire February TC meeting</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101312</td> <td>£40.36</td> <td>Talk Talk Business</td> <td>Telephone Line Rental /Broadband + calls (Feb 13)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101313</td> <td>£582.00</td> <td>Vision ICT Ltd</td> <td>Website hosting from April 2013 to March 2014</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101314</td> <td>£66.00</td> <td>Vision ICT Ltd</td> <td>Biennial fee .gov.uk April 2013 to March 2015</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101315</td> <td>£29.00</td> <td>Northants CALC</td> <td>Off to a Flying Start training – Cllr B King (06/02/13)*</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Cllr King was unable to attend this training and cancelled his place re-booking for Saturday 18th May 2013. An invoice has been issued for the cancelled training course however the Town Council will not be charged again after the training in May.</p> <p>9.2 Receipts: None Received</p> <p>9.3 Desborough Town Council Office: KBC had provided Desborough Town Council with a Heads of Terms for the office at 47 Station Road (Minute 18.4/Nov 12). The Clerk was asked to investigate other office provision (Minute 15.4/Dec 12) and met with the Desborough Library Manager and Principal Librarian in January 2013. The Heads of Terms from KBC and details of the costs to rent an office in the Library were presented to the Town Council. It was Agreed that the Town Council wish to remain in its' current office and will sign the KBC Heads of Terms (Proposed by Cllr Soans and seconded by</p>	Cheque No.	Amount	Payee	Reason for Payment	101309	£773.05	Mrs L Parkin	Salary & Expenses (Feb 13)	101310	£59.11	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE & NI (Feb 13)	101311	£35.00	Vine Community Trust	Hall Hire February TC meeting	101312	£40.36	Talk Talk Business	Telephone Line Rental /Broadband + calls (Feb 13)	101313	£582.00	Vision ICT Ltd	Website hosting from April 2013 to March 2014	101314	£66.00	Vision ICT Ltd	Biennial fee .gov.uk April 2013 to March 2015	101315	£29.00	Northants CALC	Off to a Flying Start training – Cllr B King (06/02/13)*
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	Cllr Watson – Agreed).
9.3.1	Town Council meetings: At the meeting with the Library representatives the provision of the library as an alternative to accommodate Council meetings (Minute 1/Oct 12) was discussed. The Principal Librarian confirmed that this could be achieved through the purchase of some additional tables, chairs and wheels for a number of the bookcases. The Town Council confirmed that it would be interested in using the library subject to the appropriate equipment being made available; however, two further quotes have been requested to be presented to the Town Council from alternative venues before a final decision is made.
9.4	<p>Photocopying: To date Desborough Town Council has been able to use the KBC Customer Service Centre photocopier in Desborough Library free of charge. From Friday 8th February 2013 KBC has placed an access code on the photocopier which is now standard procedure applied to all copier equipment owned by KBC. KBC has offered to set up an access code for Desborough Town Council and the cost of usage will be invoiced on a regular/quarterly basis. The standard costs per copy (exclusive of VAT) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A4 Black & white copies – 6p per copy • A4 Colour copies – 10p per copy <p>In comparison the Desborough Library Manager has confirmed that the Town Council can use the NCC photocopier for the following rates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A4 Black & white copies – 6p per copy • A4 Colour copies – 50p per copy <p>It was Agreed that, at present, only essential photocopying will be undertaken through the NCC photocopier. It was noted that it is rare that colour photocopying is undertaken and, if so, it is usually A3 sheets which cannot be provided through the KBC photocopier. The following actions were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cost to purchase a high volume usage printer, copier, scanner is to be investigated; • The Clerk is to send out a pro-forma to confirm the reports/documents that Councillors are happy to receive by email alone with one hard copy to be provided at the Town Council meeting. <p>Mr G Holloway, Customer Services at KBC, has confirmed that the above detailed changes do not affect the printing of the Town Council’s monthly reports by the KBC Print Room for which, at present, there is no charge.</p>
9.5	Letter received from KBC – Council Tax Support: Noted.
9.6	Northamptonshire ACRE – Parish Council membership: It was confirmed that Desborough Town Council do not want to join Northamptonshire ACRE for the year commencing 1 st April 2013.
9.7	Pre-Internal Audit meeting - It has been confirmed that Mr David Allbury has been appointed as the Northants CALC Internal Auditor to Desborough Town Council. Mr Allbury met with the Clerk on Wednesday 6 th February 2013 for a pre-audit meeting. No significant issues were raised.
9.8	Northants CALC Code of Conduct Training – It was agreed at January’s Town Council meeting that Cllr B King would attend this training course. Due to adverse

	<p>weather conditions the course was postponed and will now be held on Wednesday 27th February 2013. Cllr King has confirmed his attendance on the re-scheduled course.</p>
10	<p>Update from existing Working Parties</p>
10.1	<p>Community Facilities – Cllr Matthews confirmed that he is still in discussions with potential funders.</p>
10.2	<p>Community Right to Build ‘Hawthorns Forum’ –A response has been received from the letter sent to KBC by the Hawthorns Forum (Minute 5.3). The Borough Councillors were asked to talk to Officers at KBC to ask them to work with the Hawthorns Forum with regard to the proactive development of the Hawthorns land.</p> <p>It was proposed that if the Hawthorns Forum cannot lead the Community Right to Build then the Town Council should enter into discussions with KBC about the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for the whole Town led by the Town Council. Reference was made to the pilot Neighbourhood Plan being developed by Rothwell Town Council.</p> <p>Concern was raised that discussions with KBC about the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for the whole Town should not delay the Community Right to Build request for the Hawthorns Site.</p> <p>Subject to clarification on which organisation can apply for neighbourhood designation of the Hawthorns site then it was agreed that the Town Council will enter into negotiations with KBC in relation to developing a Neighbourhood Plan for Desborough (Proposed by Cllr Tebbutt and seconded by Cllr Soans – Agreed).</p>
11	<p>GP Appointment System</p> <p>A letter has been received from Dr Aspinall to confirm that the review of the appointments system has been completed and the partners are currently considering options for change. Dr Aspinall has asked the new Practice Manager to write to both Desborough and Rothwell Town Councils outlining proposed changes as a result of the review.</p> <p>Cllr Coe is to attend the Patient Participation Forum on 26th February 2013. Cllr Matthews has been invited to a meeting with the Practice Manager and Dr Ayton.</p>
12	<p>Request for a Byelaw re: Energy Centre</p> <p>Cllr King reported back that he had received responses from Northants County Association of Local Councils (NCALC) and the Department for Communities and Local Government. The Town Council can create byelaws; however, a byelaw would not be appropriate in the case of the Energy Centre as other legislation exists to monitor air pollution under the jurisdiction of other agencies.</p>
13	<p>Northamptonshire County Council Public Consultation – Draft Northamptonshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt is to complete the consultation feedback form which will be circulated to Councillors.</p>
14	<p>Northamptonshire County Council Public Consultation – Draft Minerals and Waste Local Plan for Consultation</p> <p>The Town Council did not wish to comment on this consultation.</p>

15

Planning Applications**KET/2013/0009 – Mr Richards – HBH Building Contractors Ltd, Harrington Road, Desborough – Full Application: Demolition of builder’s yard. 5 no. dwellings.**

This planning application is designed to maximise the potential of a limited space with 5 dwellings and 6 car park spaces. The Town Council is concerned that it is almost inevitable that additional cars will be parked on Harrington Road and Loatland Street. The Energy Efficient Design Statement remains inadequate - words like 'if affordable' are unhelpful.

KET/2013/0009 (Amended plans Jan 13) – Mr Richards – HBH Building Contractors Ltd, Harrington Road, Desborough – Full Application: Demolition of builder’s yard. 5 no. dwellings.

Previous comments made by the Town Council on 28/01/13 still apply as minor alterations to the front elevations appear to be the only variations. Parking continues to be a concern. *KBC has approved permission for this planning application.*

KET/2012/0617 (amended plans Jan 13) – Westleigh Developments Ltd & CJC Developments – Ironwood Avenue (Land off), Desborough – Full Application: 17 no. 2 bedroom houses, 1 no. 2 bedroom flat and 1 no. 1 bedroom flat and associated road.

The comments made by Desborough Town Council on 16th November 2012 and 3rd December 2012 continue to be applicable. These amended plans do nothing to preserve the area for extending the leisure centre facilities. Design alterations appear to be made to make the housing more desirable not to answer the objections raised by the Town Council previously.

KET/2013/0057 – Mr Dainty, 28 Ise View Road, Desborough – Full Application: Detached garage.

No objection as similar garages evident on the same side of Ise View Road.

KET/2013/0026 – Mr & Mrs Dix – 123 Federation Avenue, Desborough – Full Application: First floor front extension.

No objection.

KET/2013/0100 – Mrs Wegener GST Developments – Renewal of Extant Permission (FULL): KET/2010/0080 (A3 restaurant & 4 no. one bedroom flats) – 25-29 Station Road (land between), Desborough.

Comments to be reported to March’s Town Council meeting.

Notices of Approval received:

KBC has approved permission for the following applications:

- **KET/2012/0754 (Minute 11.1/Dec 12) – Mr Dearing – 19 Bridge Street (land adj.), Desborough – Full Application: 1 no. dwelling.**
- **KET/2012/0806 - Mr Weall (Minute 14.1/Jan 13) – 53 Gold Street, Desborough – Full Application: Two storey rear extension.**

Notices of Refusal received:

KBC has refused permission for the following application:

- **KET/2012/0304 (Minute 18.2/June 12) – Mr Kirkham Ecotricity (Next Generation) Ltd – Aspenfield, Main Street, Orton – Full Application: 1 no. 77m high wind turbine with access track, hard standing area, electricity substation and associated works.**

<p>15.1</p>	<p>Notices of Appeal: ENFO/2012/00015 – Mr A Ali – 16 Station Road, Desborough – Without planning permission the erection of roller shutters over the front and side elevations of the bay window fronting the public highway. A written appeal has been lodged with the Planning Inspectorate in respect of an Enforcement Notice issued by KBC.</p> <p>NCC 12/00043/WASFUL – Energy Centre, Desborough - S.106 agreement Update Following January’s Town Council meeting (Minute 14.2) Councillors were informed that the s.106 agreement for the above detailed approved planning application has in principle been agreed by both parties (Origin Renewable Energy Ltd and NCC). Cllr Tebbutt had requested that his comment ‘based on previous experience the use of ‘reasonable endeavours’ in s.106 agreements is wholly inappropriate and unenforceable’ be sent through to NCC Development Control Department.</p>
<p>16 16.1</p> <p>16.2</p>	<p>Licensing Applications 74 – 76 Station Road, Desborough – New premises licence The deadline for comments was Monday 18th February 2013. The Town Council commented that it supports this application subject to assurance that the recorded music played does not cause nuisance to neighbouring residential/commercial properties. Northants Licensing Partnership confirmed a number of conditions that have been agreed between the applicant and the Environmental Health Department at KBC. The first condition states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Premises Licence holder shall ensure that all music within the premises is kept to a low volume, which will enable patrons on the premises to carry out a conversation. <p>Licensing Committee Determination – The George, 79 High Street, Desborough The KBC Licensing Committee decided on 9th January 2013 to grant the licence as requested removing the clause outlined in 2.6 of the report with a number of conditions. Cllr King attended this Licensing Committee on behalf of Desborough Town Council and reported that the Licensing Committee confirmed that the situation will be monitored if complaints are received.</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>Review of Desborough Town Council Policies and Procedures A review of the Town Council’s Policies and Procedures had been undertaken by the Clerk in conjunction with the Chairman and Vice Chairman (Minute 17.2/Jan 13) and a report was presented to the Town Council for consideration. It was <u>AGREED</u> to adopt the below detailed reviewed policies and procedures, incorporating the recommended amendments with one adjustment to the Standing Orders as detailed below (proposed by Cllr Coe and seconded by Cllr King - Agreed):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Controls Procedures; • Risk Assessment; • Financial Regulations; • The Code of Conduct for Desborough Town Council; • Standing Orders – Point 74b it was recommended that the public participation should not exceed 15 minutes. It was agreed that this should remain at 30 minutes but that a strict time limit should be applied; • Freedom of Information Act 2000: Desborough Town Council Publication Scheme; • Complaints Procedure;

<p>17.1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website Policy and Disclaimer. <p>Review of the effectiveness of Internal Controls including Risk Assessment -Taking the review of the policies and procedures into consideration and The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011, regulation 4(2) the Town Council AGREED (proposed by Cllr Coe and seconded by Cllr King) that it believes there is an adequate system of internal controls in place to safeguard the assets and finances of the Town Council to mitigate against the risk of loss or damage.</p> <p>It was noted that the Government has now stated that requirement for Councillors to request a dispensation to discuss the Council’s budget and set a precept is unnecessary (Minute 3/22 Nov 12).</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>Resolution to agree Desborough Town Council’s participation in an EU funded Grundtvig Programme</p> <p>Cllr J Watson reported that as the paperwork for this application was required to have been submitted by 21st February she had regrettable had to turn down the offer for the Town Council to be part of the Programme. Cllr Watson has asked to be kept informed of possible future Programmes.</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>County Councillor</p> <p>Cllr Humfrey, Northamptonshire County Councillor, had provided a written report which was read at the meeting, highlighting:</p> <p>Cllr Humfrey’s Empowering County Councillors Fund for 2012-13 is now closed. Over the year the following organisations have benefitted: Havelock Infants School; North Northants Gymnastic Club (Desborough); the Stroke Club (Desborough Branch); Friends of Desborough Library; Desborough Heritage Centre; Desborough Town Cricket Club; Desborough Youth Centre (Paddock Lane).</p> <p>There are short term repairs, for example, pot holes forthcoming on Desborough’s roads but listed complete re-surfacing from Harrington Road to New Street and including Harborough and Rothwell Road must wait for the next financial year in May 2013. Northamptonshire Highways has apologised for this situation.</p> <p>Cllr Humfery has also received many complaints from members of the public about the lorries travelling along Dunkirk Avenue and the damage being caused to the road surface by these lorries. Cllr Humfery is liaising directly with Cllr J Harker, Leader of Northamptonshire County Council about this situation.</p> <p>A number of Councillors raised concern about possible redundancies at NCC and cuts to services provided.</p>
<p>20 20.1</p>	<p>Borough Councillors</p> <p>Cllr Tebbutt had provided a written report which was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCC partner organisation MGWSP has been in contact to get Desborough Town Council’s requirements for the Community Enhancement Gangs for this year, we are seeking to determine what they did from our last years’ list before advising them. • The temporary repairs to the road surface on the old A6 by the pedestrian crossing at the bottom of Gold Street is breaking up again and many incidences of similar damage are in need of attention out towards the A6 Market Harborough roundabout.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Northants Core Spatial Strategy update is seeing further delays whilst the Rushden Lakes Planning approval goes through its Public Inquiry stage (due June) with the report in the Autumn, there is a failure to agree on a way forward at present, with a retail strategy. • Report on results of Preliminary draft Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) charging schedule consultation is expected at next Joint Planning meeting in March. • KBC Budget consultation meeting took place on January 24th, when a balanced budget was presented, it is anticipated that this will go to full Council on Feb 27th. It has been achieved with no reduction in frontline services, a situation of which KBC can be justly proud. Again the KBC plan has no increase in its level of Council tax and no reduction in their financial support for the Voluntary sector. • Efficiency savings of £4.5 million will have been delivered since 2010/11 up to the end of 2012/13, a target of a further reduction of £950k is identified for 2013/14 again without service reduction. The 2014/15 position may be even more difficult when the level of further grant relief reduction becomes apparent. • Positive news is expected soon regarding the provision of a pedestrian footbridge connecting the Grange with the town centre. • Concerns continue to be raised by residents on Dunkirk Ave with the level of lorry movements, 27 were reported in one, two hour period. Information has been forwarded to our county councillor and others to see what can be done. • NCC Draft Local Flood Management Strategy document is being studied as promised. No adverse items have yet been identified. <p>The issue of targeted consultation was highlighted with reference to the Site Specific Proposals Local Development Plan. Cllr Tebbutt confirmed that he does not know what will be discussed at KBC Planning Policy meetings until 5 days before the meeting takes place.</p>
<p>20.2</p>	<p>Cllr Derbyshire had provided a written report which was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23rd Jan - Licensing Committee. • 24th Jan - Budget Consultation • 31st Jan - Members information Tenants Forum. • 6th Feb - Attended A6 Towns Forum and reported the condition of Ruston Road, - pot holes, sides of road and the grass are dangerous as the road is so badly damaged and mud on the road. In addition the continued use by large heavy duty vehicles using the Ruston Road Railway Bridge towards Pipewell which is also causing damage to the verges and road as well as being a danger to car drivers. • 6th Feb - Attended Member's Information Group, KBC. • 10th Feb – St Giles Church Service along with other councillors. • 13th Feb - Attended the Executive Committee • 15th Feb - Group meeting. • 18th Feb - Licensing Committee. 6pm Health Presentation KBC. • 19th Feb - Travellers and Gypsy planning meeting KBC Mr Paddy Doron KBC, Chaired by the Planning Inspector.
<p>20.3</p>	<p>Cllr Soans had provided a written report which was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting highlighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan 26th and 31st attended planning members briefing for Kettering East development. • 30th January attended Research and Development Scrutiny meeting. Received report

<p>20.4</p>	<p>re sport activities in Borough and particularly in Desborough. Desborough Grange leisure centre is now running well, and is very popular; attendance is up by nearly 40% on previous Hawthorns Centre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The full funding for the 2 new junior football pitches has now been raised from various sources. Construction will commence in the spring and the pitches will be ready for use by September. • 13th February attended planning meeting, items relevant to Desborough as follows:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Revised application for 17(no) 2 bed and 2(no) 1 bed apartments (all affordable), Ironwood avenue Desborough. This revised application was agreed and passed by only the chairman's casting vote, I am personally disappointed that neither the County nor Loatland ward councillors were able to attend and speak against this application. ➤ Authorisation for planning enforcement at 31 Station Rd Desborough, Removal of shutters, enforcement agreed by planning committee. • Finally, I have authorised a payment in the sum of £792 from my ward initiative fund for the balance of the flagpoles for the town centre. <p>Concern was raised in respect of the reported increase in attendance at the new leisure centre. Members of the public have reported to a number of Councillors that the gym is very quiet during the morning which is evidenced through the proposal that the leisure centre will open at 8am and not 7am.</p> <p>Cllr Dearing had not provided a written report due to ill health.</p>
<p>21 21.1 21.2 21.3 21.4</p>	<p>Clerk's Report</p> <p>Northamptonshire Police Community Speed Watch - At January's Town Council meeting (Minute 4.2/Jan 13) it was agreed not to join the Northamptonshire Police Community Speed Watch Programme. A further letter was received from the Police to confirm that the £450 fee will no longer be required for membership of the scheme in 2013 but that the following criteria will need to be met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmation that a nominated co-ordinator and at least 10 volunteers will operate at the roadside for 3 weeks within a 6 week period. The dates to be confirmed; • Pledges of 20% of the electoral roll or 500, whichever is the lower number to commit to the Community Speed Watch Programme. <p>The Town Council re-considered the decision it made in January and Agreed that Desborough Town Council would like to take part in the programme for 2013. The Town Council confirmed its' intention to actively look for a co-ordinator and volunteers and will also commence collecting the required number of pledges to support the programme.</p> <p>Queen Elizabeth II Commemorative Plaque (Minute 17.1/Jan 13) - KBC has asked whether the Town Council wish to hold an event when the plaque is erected. It was Agreed that an unveiling ceremony could be held at Desborough Carnival at the end of June. Cllr J Watson is to liaise with the Carnival Committee.</p> <p>Visit to Billing Parish Council - The report is to be discussed at the Town Council meeting in March.</p> <p>Town Council Website - Following a recent request by Cheaney's factory shoe shop to have road signs directing people to their shop (request referred to NCC Transport & Highways Department) it was highlighted that the Town Council may look to have a</p>

	<p>‘Desborough Retail Experience’ page on its’ website. The Clerk is to contact Vision ICT to look at how this page could be developed. The current Website Policy covers business advertising and charges under section 12.</p>
21.5	<p>Flags – The Town Council Agreed for flags to be put up in Desborough town centre on the following additional date in 2013 (this is in addition to the dates agreed at the Town Council meeting in December (Minute 14.4) and January (Minute 9):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9th May 2013 – Europe Day
21.6	<p>Street Lighting Update - Information with regard to the NCC/Balfour Beatty Street Lighting PFI Upgrade programme was provided to the Town Council. The Desborough street lights are due to be changed between October 2015 and March 2016.</p>
21.7	<p>Community Enhancement Gangs (CEGs) – An email has been received from MGWSP requesting work to be carried out by the Community Enhancement Gangs in 2013. MGWSP has not retained any records of work carries out by the CEG’s in 2012. Mr Ian Smith, MGWSP, has suggested small projects that can be completed in a day should be considered. It was Agreed to request the CEG’s to pave/block pave the current grass area between the Library and the Co-op supermarket.</p>
21.8	<p>Annual CPRE Litter Pick - To be discussed at the Town Council meeting in March.</p>
21.9	<p>Desborough Town Lands and Loakes’ Charity – a meeting is to be held on Wednesday 20th March. Cllr Coe and Mrs Goodman have confirmed their attendance.</p>
21.10	<p><u>Correspondence File:</u> This month’s file contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desborough Town Council Standing Orders • Northamptonshire Highways Members’ newsletter Jan 13 • Northamptonshire Citizens Advice Spring Newsletter • Northants CALC Update & Training Calendar (March to June 2013) • CPRE Email – Are there stars in your eyes? • Northamptonshire ACRE press release – Communities face hurdles to secure cash incentives • NCalc Training event – Going Green... Making the most of community buildings • Northamptonshire ACRE’s Wellbeing Project information • Keep Britain Tidy – England’s Great Litter Count • NCC Library news article – Get involved at the library • Thank you card from Cllr K Watts, Deputy Mayor of Kettering Borough re: Civic Service; • NNRAid Newsletter Feb 13 • KBC Work Programme Feb 13 •
22	<p>Community Reports</p>
22.1	<p>Civic Society: No report was received.</p>
22.2	<p>Town Centre Partnership (TCP): No report was received.</p>
22.3	<p>Twinning: No report was received.</p>
22.4	<p>Youth: No report was received.</p>

22.5	European Charter: See minute 18.
22.6	Pocket Park: The following Volunteer work days were Agreed to take place in 2013 on 16 th March, 18 th May, 20 th July, 21 st September, 9 th November and an Apple Day to be held on 13 th October 2013 (Proposed by Cllr Sawford and seconded by Cllr Tebbutt – Agreed). Issues regarding access to the Park will be raised at the next Town Council meeting.
23	Date of next meeting and items for the agenda: Thursday 21 st March 2013 - Grange Phase II development s.106 agreement – Cllr D Soans to provide an up-date report.
	THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.50 PM

Chairman

Date