

The Meeting of the Desborough Town Council held at the Library, High Street, Desborough on Thursday 19th February 2015.

PRESENT

Councillors: Cllr A Matthews, Cllr Tebbutt, Cllr R Sawford, Cllr B King, Cllr D Coe.

Clerk: James McKechnie

Also in attendance: Cllr A Matthews, Northamptonshire County Councillor & Members of the Public

1	<p>Chairman’s announcements The Chairman welcomed all those present and confirmed the health and safety/housekeeping issues for the building and asked for mobile phones to be put on silent. Chairman’s announcements included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civic Service took place at St Giles Church on Sunday 8th February 2015 at 10am • Cllr M Watson resignation as a Desborough Town Councillor. It was agreed that a formal letter from Desborough Town Council would be sent to Cllr M Watson thanking him for his service and contribution to the council. Cllr Coe echoed Cllr Matthews thanks. • The County Council had agreed its budget for 2015/16 with a total of £66m worth of savings being made.
2	<p>Apologies for absence – Cllr. J Watson, Cllr D Howes, Cllr D Soans, Cllr J Derbyshire, Cllr M Dearing, Cllr J Pearce.</p>
3	<p>Declarations of Interest by Councillors - None received.</p>
4	<p>Police Report – PC Johnson presented the crime statistics for January, highlighting a year on year overall decline in crime. Cllr Coe expressed that a resident had contacted him regarding vehicles speeding along Braybrooke Road, knocking off their wing mirrors five times now, asking if something could be done. Cllr King stated that he’d reported to PCSOs that, cars were parking on double yellow lines on Station Road/High Street. Cllr Tebbutt asked if the Police could contact Anglian Water regarding the water leak opposite the George Public House, which could become a hazard to road vehicles and pedestrians in adverse weather.</p>
5	<p>Representations from members of the public – None</p>
6	<p>Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 15th January 2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on the above date were <u>unanimously approved</u> and signed as a true record (Proposed by Cllr Tebbutt and seconded by Cllr Coe).
7	<p>Matters Arising Minute 5/January 15 War Memorial - Mrs Belinda Humfrey spoke about the War Memorial and the desire to accurately record the names who lost their lives in the First World War, asking if the Clerk could investigate with Kettering Borough Council regarding who’s responsible for the War Memorial and how this could be progressed. The Clerk reported that he’d liaised with Kettering Borough Council and had passed on the details to Mrs Belinda Humfrey.</p>
8	<p>Neighbourhood Plan Update Cllr Soans 1) Planning consultants – the first draft of the sites review has now been received</p>

Chairman

Date

	<p>and checked by the group. The final document will be presented to the steering group at their next meeting on 26th Feb.</p> <p>2) Project plan – the next major piece of work for the group is the issues and options discussion group event to be held on Saturday 7th March at Marlow House. The event starts at 10.30 AM until approx. 2.00 PM.</p> <p>All residents of Desborough are being invited to attend and take part in the discussion groups. Each group will be led by 1 or 2 steering group members and cover: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Infrastructure ○ Green environment ○ Housing ○ Local economy ○ Town centre ○ Heritage and local character <p>This is a most important part of the steering groups work and we are looking for as much support as we can get from the people of Desborough for this event. The event is also being fully supported by Planning Aid England and Kettering Borough Council planning department. Leaflets are being distributed throughout the town and I would like to thank all who are assisting us in this event.</p> <p>Cllrs were asked to encourage as many residents to attend the event being held at Marlow House on 7th March 15 from 10.30am – 2pm. Refreshments would be provided.</p> <p>Cllr Sawford asked if many responses had been received from the recent leaflet drop. It was noted that there were responses coming in already.</p>
<p>9 9.1</p>	<p>To receive reports from: County Councillor Matthews Replacement of Street Lighting Programme This programme by Balfour Beatty was originally pencilled in to start in October 2015, but as reported in an earlier report the programme has been advanced and work started in January 2015. Despite the [optimistic] plan to install all of the lights [planned for replacement] within a four to six week period, the work is being completed at [what appears to be] a somewhat slower rate. No problems have been reported to me but I have observed that the installation programme does seem rather erratic between the start and finish operations. The new lights do appear to meet the standards expected though. When pressed about the policy for new lights for un-adopted roads, the answer came back: If the street lighting on these roads meet the required standards and [are] subsequently adopted by the County Council, the lights will be incorporated into the Street Lighting PFI for maintenance purposes and will not be upgraded. My question about Ironwood Avenue resulted in: Part of this road has been adopted by the County Council, along with the street lighting. These lights have been incorporated into the Street Lighting PFI contract for maintenance only. On the installation time question, the response was: The process works similar to a production line and can take up to 6 weeks. Finally I asked for some clarity on the durability of the new lighting: The new street lighting being installed is guaranteed by the Street Lighting PFI contractor up to the end of September 2041.</p>

9.2

It seems that I have inadvertently misinformed you about the status of the current lighting on un-adopted roads. It was my understanding that all street lights over 10 years old would be replaced once the roads are adopted by NCC. The reply received [above] seems to suggest otherwise. My apologies for misleading you in earlier reports.

Borough Councillors

Cllr Tebbutt activity report to Desborough Town Council

A reminder that the consultation period ends on March 9th

North Northants Core Spatial Strategy (JCS) update:-

The Joint Planning Committee at its December 18th meeting; reviewed and endorsed, subject to taking on board comments made, the Pre-Submission Plan of the Joint Core Strategy 2011-2031. This document will be published for consultation for 6 weeks from 26th January to 9th March and will be available on line at the JPU website: www.nnjpu.org.uk

- Plan Submission is scheduled for March 2015
- Examination for April-November 2015
- And Adoption for December 2015

A number of important reports were presented and agreed at the Planning Policy Committee meeting on 28th January:-

In November 2013 agreement was reached not to implement the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) due the uncertainty of its benefits, but to keep under review. A detailed report was presented and discussed at the conclusion the following recommendation was agreed. That the Council put a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for the Borough on hold, and review its implications of this decision in light of further changes in regulations; the results of any case law on pooling; or following adoption of the Joint Core Strategy.

The Draft Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document For Northamptonshire was reviewed and endorsed the document for public consultation, a number of amendments were suggested and these would be forwarded to the authors.

Now that the JCS is in its final stages it is possible to continue with the preparation of the Site Specific Proposals Local Development Document (LDD). The agreed Timetable is as follows:-

January- June 2015 Prepare draft plan

- Review evidence base
- Draft policies and proposals, including preparing draft lists of sites for allocation.
- Report on outstanding issues and proposals and draft plan content to Planning Policy Committee

Late summer 2015 - Publication and consultation of draft 'pre-submission version' plan document. To include 6 week public consultation.

Winter 2015/16 - Submission of draft plan to Secretary of State for Independent Examination.

Winter 2015/16 to Spring 2016 - Independent Examination stage (approx. 6 months for report publication)

Summer 2016 - Receipt of Inspectors Report and finalising of plan.

September 2016 - Adoption of plan by Full Council

Neighbourhood Planning progress report- An update on the progress being made was given on the plans by Rothwell, Desborough, Broughton and Headlands Area Residents Association (HARA) was given to the meeting and noted.

Cllr Sawford asked about if a working party was required.

Cllr Tebbutt suggest this would be needed when considering the Local Development documents.

Cllr Coe reported his disappointment regarding the disgraceful state of the triangle piece of land in front of the shops on the High Street, showing a photo of the area. The Borough Councillors were asked to raise this matter with Kettering Borough Council Officers and if Cllr Matthews could do the same with Northamptonshire County Council.

Cllr Tebbutt and Cllr Matthews agreed to take this matter up.

Cllr Sawford expressed the concern of there being no pedestrian crossing in the same area asking if something could be done.

Cllr Matthews said he'd take the matter up with Northamptonshire County Council.

Cllr Soans activity report to Desborough Town Council

Now that we have received the good news that Kettering Borough Council are seeking and raising funding for a new Desborough skate park; it would be useful to remind members of some of the recent S106 payments agreed with developers for leisure and amenity facilities in the town.

These include:-

Phase 2 of the leisure centre including squash courts

Footbridge over railway to connect the Grange Sevelopment with the Town Centre

Improvements to the town centre including pavements and road layouts

New primary school to Grange

£40.000 towards indoor and outdoor sports provision

Improvements to “long furlong” byway to upgrade and improve connectivity between the Grange and Loatlands area

Provision of children’s playground to Loatlands area

Provision of 4 children’s playgrounds to the Grange

Under the 1990 planning act. All S106 payments must be relevant to the area of the development.

Cllr Soans report was noted.

9.3

Clerk’s Report

Review of Desborough Town Council Policies & Procedures: Desborough Town Council must ensure that an annual review of all policies and procedures is carried out

	<p>by 31st March 2015. A review of the Town Council’s Policies and Procedures has been undertaken by the Clerk and a report presented to the Town Council for consideration.</p> <p><u>Internal Audit</u> Desborough Town Council are asked to RESOLVE that NCALC to be appointed as the Internal Auditors for 2014/15 and agreed to the Terms of Reference for 3 years.</p> <p><u>Precept Capping</u> Email from Mr D Moody, Northants CALC 6/02/15 The government has confirmed that council tax referendum principles, or “capping”, will not apply to parish and town councils in 2015/16.</p> <p><u>Outdoor Gym Update</u> A Site visit with the HAGS the contractor took place on 7th January 2015. Wren have confirmed the registration of the project. HAGS have now been instructed to engage their contractors to commence the work.</p> <p><u>Skate Park</u> Email & report from Kettering Borough Council Executive meeting relating to the willingness to support Desborough in developing a Skate Park. Councillor’s views are sort in taking this venture forward.</p> <p>It was <u>agreed</u> that the Skate Park would be progressed and taken forward.</p> <p><u>CPRE Spring Clean-Up Campaign:</u> This year CPRE Northamptonshire’s spring clean-up campaign will be the whole month of ‘APRIL’.</p> <p>CPRE Northamptonshire will be running their Litter Heroes Awards. Every group in the county who holds a litter pick between now and midsummer is eligible for a cash prize, which may be spent on anything connected with a litter campaign. This year there will be a main prize of £500 and two runner-up prizes of £150. To enter, email the best 2 or 3 photographs to CPRE Northamptonshire (info@CPRENthants.org.uk), with a few sentences telling them what happened at your litter pick.</p> <p>Desborough Town Council is asked to confirm whether it wishes to hold an annual litter pick and on what date.</p> <p>It was <u>agreed</u> that Desborough Town Council would hold its annual litter pick on the afternoon of 18th or 25th April 15. The clerk to email councillors with the date options.</p> <p><u>Correspondence File:</u> This month’s file contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former RAF Desborough Airfield - Solar Farm Public Exhibition (emailed to Cllrs 27/01/15) • Consultation on the Pre-Submission North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (emailed to Cllrs 27/01/15) • Police Crime Figures (emailed to Cllrs 10/02/15) • CPRE Northants wants your thoughts and experiences of rural broadband (emailed to Cllrs 10/02/15) • Skate Park (emailed to Cllrs 10/02/15)
<p>10 10.1</p>	<p>Community Reports Civic Society – None available</p>

<p>10.2</p> <p>10.3</p> <p>10.4</p> <p>10.5</p> <p>10.6</p> <p>10.7</p>	<p>Town Centre Partnership – None available</p> <p>Twinning – It was noted that the Murder Mystery Night being held on Saturday 14th February 15 was a great success with 49 attendees.</p> <p>Youth - Cllr King reported that the Energy Saving Event took place on Tuesday 20th January 15 at the Library. Thanking The Town Council for the contribution to the cost of the event. Cllr Tebbutt reported that he’d received a letter of thanks from the Youth Group for the donation of £500 from his Ward initiative Fund.</p> <p>European Charter – None available</p> <p>Pocket Park Cllr Sawford reported that there is ongoing work to create better access to the Pocket Park, however this would not be full disabled access due to the excessive slopping.</p> <p>Community Speed Watch Cllr King reported that the equipment had arrived for the forthcoming speed watch dates. Cllr King asked all councillors to encourage as many residents to become involved in the Community Speed Watch programme, stating that the next training session would be held in June in good time for the summer campaign.</p>																																
<p>11</p> <p>11.1</p> <p>11.2</p>	<p>Update from existing Working Parties</p> <p>Community Right to Build ‘Hawthorns Forum’: Mrs Paula Holmes reported that work was ongoing.</p> <p>Fresh Air Desborough (FAD): Cllr King referred to an email he’d received in December from Fresh Air Desborough - variations to black bin bag catchment areas, encouraging everyone to oppose the Brookfield Gasification Plant proposed for Corby.</p>																																
<p>12</p> <p>12.1</p>	<p>Financial report</p> <p>Accounts for Payment: The following payments were APPROVED (Proposed by Cllr Tebbutt and seconded by Cllr Coe):</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="293 1429 1394 1980"> <thead> <tr> <th>Cheque No.</th> <th>Amount</th> <th>Payee</th> <th>Reason for Payment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>101462</td> <td>£957.88</td> <td>Mr J McKechnie</td> <td>Salary, Back Pay & Expenses (Feb 15)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101463</td> <td>£420.35</td> <td>HM Revenue & Customs</td> <td>PAYE & NI (Feb 15)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101464</td> <td>£35.59</td> <td>Talk Talk Business</td> <td>Telephone Line Rental / Broadband + calls (Feb15)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101465</td> <td>£68.60</td> <td>NCC Library</td> <td>Room Hire Town Council Meeting (Feb 15)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101466</td> <td>£3,379.50</td> <td>Kettering Borough Council</td> <td>To erect & remove Christmas Lights & hire of access platform.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101467</td> <td>£700.00</td> <td>Mr A Matthews</td> <td>Chairman’s allowance 2014/15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>101468</td> <td>£90.00</td> <td>Desborough Civic Society</td> <td>Neighbourhood Planning Meetings 11th Dec 14, 22nd Jan 15 & 5th Feb 15</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Cheque No.	Amount	Payee	Reason for Payment	101462	£957.88	Mr J McKechnie	Salary, Back Pay & Expenses (Feb 15)	101463	£420.35	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE & NI (Feb 15)	101464	£35.59	Talk Talk Business	Telephone Line Rental / Broadband + calls (Feb15)	101465	£68.60	NCC Library	Room Hire Town Council Meeting (Feb 15)	101466	£3,379.50	Kettering Borough Council	To erect & remove Christmas Lights & hire of access platform.	101467	£700.00	Mr A Matthews	Chairman’s allowance 2014/15	101468	£90.00	Desborough Civic Society	Neighbourhood Planning Meetings 11th Dec 14, 22nd Jan 15 & 5th Feb 15
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12.3	<p>Monthly Bank Reconciliation: Noted</p>												
12.4	<p>Internal Auditor & Terms of Reference – It was RESOLVED (proposed by Cllr Matthews and seconded by Cllr Sawford) that Desborough Town Council would engage the services of NCALC for 2015/16 Internal Audit and agreed the Terms & Conditions for the next 3 years to March 02017.</p>												
13	<p>Review of Desborough Town Council Policies and Procedures</p> <p>A review of the Town Council's Policies and Procedures had been undertaken by the Clerk and a report was presented to the Town Council for consideration. It was AGREED to adopt the below detailed reviewed policies and procedures, incorporating the recommended amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Controls Procedures; • Risk Assessment; • Financial Regulations; • The Code of Conduct for Desborough Town Council; • Standing Orders; • Freedom of Information Act 2000: Desborough Town Council Publication Scheme; • Complaints Procedure; • 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 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>												
14	<p>The following applications have been received and comments made under delegated procedures or to be made at the meeting:</p> <p>14.1 KET/2014/0875 – Mr Boss Peter Brett Associates – Desborough Airfield, Desborough Road, Stoke Albany - Environmental Statement Scoping Opinion: Proposed 49MW Solar photovoltaic farm and ancillary control and transformer building. No objection subject to - Potentially a massive Solar Farm on 112.8 Hectares (279 Acres) of grade 3(B) Farmland. Do we need another Solar Farm so close to Gaultney Farm (95 Acres)? Can the National Grid cope with this extra capacity? Scope of required EIA noted any Application should include for Power Storage. If this helps with Energy Supply, no objection.</p> <p>KET/2014/0860 – Mr Hall – 3 Woodwell Hill, Desborough – Full Application: Single storey side and rear extension. No objection</p> <p>KET/2015/0005 – Mr & Mrs Sreaton – 34 The Ridings, Desborough – Full Application: Single storey front extension and new pitched roof to existing conservatory to rear. No objection</p> <p>KET/2014/0789 – Mrs Beba – 83 Ironwood Avenue, Desborough – Full Application:</p>												

<p>14.2</p>	<p>Change of use of part of garage to dog grooming. No objection subject to - Conversion of part of a double garage is not detrimental to off road parking (5 spaces still retained), but will visitors, really park on the driveway? Corner location means parking on road could cause traffic problems.</p> <p>KET/2015/0004 – Mr Maycock – 13 Millholm road, Desborough – Full Application: Garage conversion to habitable room. New detached garage. No objection as off road parking is retained.</p> <p>KET/2015/0011 – Mr Tibuleac – 23 Upper Dane, Desborough – Full Application: first floor side with single storey front and rear extensions. No objection subject to - Okay in principle, but concerned that neighbour at 21, may not be able to extend over their garage in future due to the tight boundary line.</p> <p>KET/2014/0810 – Mr Sharman Willjammer Consulting Ltd – Revive Coffee Shop, 43A Station Road, Desborough – s.73 Application: Variation of condition 2 of KET/2012/0788, in respect of approved plans. No objection – Would still like to see original “Chisel” shaped roof feature reinstated over Clock.</p> <p>KET/2015/0036 – Mr Kirby Bellway Homes – Harborough road (land off) Desborough – s.73A Retrospective Application: Substation. No objection subject to – where is the Historical pond now? Why wasn’t the Sub Station planned for originally, what has changed? Further removal of hedgerow appears unnecessary.</p> <p>KET/2015/0043 – Mr Von Bujtar - 31 Copelands Road, Desborough – Full Application: Annexe to existing dwelling with conservatory link. No objection subject to – provided the owners of number 33 are not compromised visually, as extension is all to the rear of existing building.</p> <p>KET/2015/0049 - Mr Gilbert Desborough Town Bowls Club – Desborough Town Bowles Club, Dunkirk Avenue, Desborough – Full Application: Changing rooms adjacent to existing pavilion. No objection subject to - As a valuable extension of facilities, they need to be of ‘secure’ construction.</p> <p>KET/2015/0059 – Mr North – 48 Alexandra Road, Desborough – Full Application: 1 no. dwelling with vehicular access. No objection subject to – Narrow entrance over footpath to plot and loss of one on-road parking space. Roof of bungalow will be seen from rear of number 50 Alexandra Road. Access imposes conditions re visibility to no. 50, which may not be deliverable. Revised parking arrangements for no.48 should be considered – off road to allow for loss of one car parking space.</p> <p><u>Notices of Approval received:</u> KBC has approved permission for the following applications:</p> <p>KET/2014/0688 – Persimmon Homes - Harrington Road (land at), Desborough – Approval of Reserved Matters: Access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale in respect of KET/2012/0780 Residential development of up to 75 dwellings with associated open space, landscaping, highways and utility infrastructure.</p> <p>KET/2014/0532 – Mr & Mrs F Smith C/O Ferguson Broadbent LLP – Woodside (North East of), Stoke Albany Road, Desborough- Full Application: 1 no dwelling to replace mobile home and 5 no pitches with creation of hard standing.</p> <p>KET/2014/0506 – Mr & Mrs Judkins - WT Craggs & Co Ltd – 62 Gold Street, Desborough – Full application: Redevelopment of site to provide residential development comprising 6 no. dwellings to include 5 terrace and 1 detached.</p>
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	<p>KET/2014/0830 - Miss S Arm - 91 Federation Avenue, Desborough - s.73A Retrospective Application: Detached garage and boundary fence with inward opening access gates.</p> <p>KET/2015/0011 – Mr Tibuleac – 23 Upper Dane, Desborough – Full Application: first floor side with single storey front and rear extensions.</p> <p>KET/2014/0789 – Mrs Beba – 83 Ironwood Avenue, Desborough – Full Application: Change of use of part of garage to dog grooming.</p> <p>KET/20114/0854 – Mr & Mrs Tahim – 27 Ise Vale Avenue, Desborough – Full Application: Demolition of side extension.</p> <p>KET/2014/0873 – Mr Aran Mulberry Property Development Ltd – Wildacre, Furlong Road, Desborough – Full Application: Demolition of garage and utility area and construction of two storey side extension.</p> <p>KET/2015/0004 – Mr Maycock – 13 Millholm road, Desborough – Full Application: Garage conversion to habitable room. New detached garage.</p> <p>KET/2014/0653 – Stuart Howes & Son/Eckland Lodge Business Park - Eckland Lodge Farm Desborough Road, Braybrooke - Full Application: Demolition of Agricultural building and erection of workshop and machinery store.</p> <p>KET/2014/0654 – Stuart Howes & Son/Eckland Lodge Business Park - Eckland Lodge Farm Desborough Road, Braybrooke - Full Application: Demolition of Agricultural building and erection of Grain store and Chemical/Fertiliser store.</p>
15	<p>Date of next meeting and items for the agenda: Thursday 19th March 2015 commencing at 7pm, Desborough Library, High Street, Desborough.</p>
	<p>THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8:16 PM</p>