
**Minutes of the meeting of Desborough Town Council
held on Thursday 20 September 2018**

Councillors present: G Holmes (Chairman), C Archer, L Burnham, S Draycott, I James, B Keys,
B McElhinney, J Read, P Sawford, S Stroud and J Taylor

Also present: PS 782 R Offord, G Thomson (Town Clerk), and 39 members of the community

118/18 CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting and announced that the Council had been informed that the Maud Elkington Charitable Trust had agreed to make a conditional grant of £150,000 towards the Desborough Library Community Hub. He added that discussions about the future of the Library were to take place with County Council representatives in early October.

The Chairman congratulated all those involved in the successful Desborough in Bloom campaign which had won a Silver Award and also a Judges Award for the baskets and planters.

**RESOLVED that:-
the announcements be noted.**

119/18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

No apologies for absence were received. The Town Clerk reported that County Councillor Matthews, and Borough Councillors Derbyshire and Soans had indicated that they would not be able to attend the meeting.

**RESOLVED that:-
the information be noted.**

120/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Minute 127.18

Cllr Burnham declared an interest in item 127.1/18 insofar as it related to application KET/2018/0692 - 89 Union Street, Desborough. Cllr Draycott declared an interest in item 127.3/18 insofar as it related to KET/2018/0474, land off Harrington Road, Desborough.

**RESOLVED that:-
the declarations be noted.**

121/18 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

The Town Clerk reported that no requests had been made.

**RESOLVED that:-
the information be noted.**

122/18 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 JULY 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 July 2018 had been previously circulated.

Minute 116.2/18 insofar as it related to KET 2018/0296 was amended to read "*The Chairman reported that the application decision had not yet appeared online.*"

**RESOLVED that:-
the minutes as amended be approved and signed by the Chairman.**

123/18 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE POLICE

PS 782 R Offord presented a report as set out in Report No. 3. He drew special attention to the success of Operation Viper which had concentrated resources in town areas and explained that PCSOs were returning to rural areas. He discussed crime statistics for Desborough in comparison with other parts of the Police area: with Desborough representing 11% of the population but only 6% of the crime. PS Offord spoke about the Local Priority Survey and about speeding issues in the town in which he expressed a preference for physical environmental works as a permanent method of slowing traffic.

**RESOLVED that:-
the information contained in the report be noted.**

124/18 TO HEAR REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The Chair suspended the meeting at this point and invited comment from members of the community present.

124.1/18 PLANNING: LAND OFF HARRINGTON ROAD, DESBOROUGH

A member of the public referred to the planning application KET/2019/0474 which, she said, was a minor application for four dwellings only and would have no more negative impact upon the traffic or existing infrastructure. She stated that the Orchard Close development was designed to access and drain through the existing infrastructure, and that there were no proposals to make any changes to the adopted highway or adopted drainage.

**RESOLVED that:-
the comments be noted.**

125/18 ECKLAND LODGE REPRESENTATIONS

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

Eckland Lodge Business Park Ltd has submitted a planning application KET/2018/0655 for a new factory development. A request to address the Council about the plans has been received on behalf of the applicants.

The Director and the Business Park Manager spoke on behalf of the applicants. They explained that the existing units were fully let and that the proposal was to continue to provide employment but to improve the appearance and security on site. The Business Park Manager explained that visual impact had been minimised with lower profile roof lines and appropriate cladding.

**RESOLVED that:-
the comments be noted.**

126/18 FINANCIAL:

126.1/18 TO CONSIDER AND IF SO RESOLVED TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL BANK SIGNATORIES

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

It is RECOMMENDED that the Town Clerk (as Responsible Financial Officer) be automatically be added to the list of bank signatories on appointment.

**RESOLVED that:-
the recommendation be accepted.**

126.2/18 TO RECEIVE THE FINANCE REPORT

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

The report (Appendix A) is brief this month pending the outcome of a review of expenditure, budgets, and commitments. A full report will be presented to the October Council meeting.

**RESOLVED that:-
the information contained in the report be noted.**

126.3/18 TO NOTE AND APPROVE ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

Payroll Provider

The Council was not using an external payroll provider. In order to improve accountability and transparency, and to reduce the staff time needed to keep up to date with legislative changes, the Town Clerk sought quotations for independent, external, service provision. The monthly cost of outsourcing would be £16.25, with end of year documentation at a cost of £10 each year (total annual cost: £205). Any submission to the Pension Regulator would be charged at £7.20 there would be an initial 20% discount for payments within 30 days, reducing to 15% from April 2019. In accordance with Standing Orders, the Town Clerk approved the appointment of Autela Payroll Services of Skirlaugh, East Riding of Yorkshire. The cost will be accommodated from the General Administration budget.

Microsoft Office 365

The licence for the copy of Microsoft Office 365 Business has expired. The Town Clerk requests that the Council authorise the purchase on an ongoing basis, the cost is currently £94.80 per year. The cost would be accommodated from the General Administration budget.

The Council is RECOMMENDED to note the Town Clerk's engagement of the payroll provider and to approve the purchase a copy of Microsoft Office 365 Business for one user for Mac at an annual cost of £94.80.

RESOLVED that:-
the recommendation be accepted.

126.3/18 TO CONSIDER AND IF SO RESOLVED TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

The report set out at Appendix A details those invoices and payments and the Council is RECOMMENDED to approve payment.

RESOLVED that:-
the recommendation be accepted.

127/18 PLANNING

127.1/18 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE PLANNING REPORT

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

In accordance with the views expressed by Councillors, any comments which were uncontentious and uncontested were submitted to the relevant planning authority as set out in the report attached at Appendix B.

Comments submitted by the Town Clerk on applications in accordance with Delegated Powers are set out in Appendix B1.

RESOLVED that:-
the report be accepted and adopted.

127.3/18 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND TO DETERMINE ANY RESPONSES:

a. KET/2018/0474, LAND OFF HARRINGTON ROAD, DESBOROUGH

Cllr Draycott, having declared an interest in this item left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

Concerns were raised about the proposal the during the consultation with Councillors and the Town Clerk RECOMMENDS that the Council comment in the following terms:-

“Access

“The Council believes that the access arrangements for the site are inadequate and not thought through. Harrington Road is extremely narrow and it the proposal would lead to a significantly increased risk to the road being blocked: which already occurs on a regular basis.

“The existing difficulties of access to Orchard Close have not been addressed and will be only exacerbated by the proposed development.

“Development Plan

“The development plan has been created, but it is not clear how the increased traffic flow will be managed. The Council is particularly concerned about the increase in traffic in the vicinity of the school and has not seen an impact assessment of the proposal in relation to increased parking and traffic.

“The development plan clearly states that there are limited access possibilities, and that there will be a main road feeding the estate of 58 dwellings. It states that this main road will feed a series of private roads serving no more than five houses each. The document also states that the proposed access road to the initial four house will be through Orchard Close. The Council is concerned that there appears to be no detail about the route of substantive access road.

“Foul and Surface Water

“The Council is concerned that the proposal to run foul and surface water into Orchard Close is unwise and unworkable. There are already known problems of flooding at the junction of Harrington Road and Miessen Avenue: leading to flooding by water run off into the gardens of the adjacent houses that are lower than the road level.

“Over-development

“The Council is concerned that the proposal would lead to overdevelopment in Desborough at this stage. The Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan for 2011 to 2031 states

that as at April 2017 Desborough was required to find another 400 dwellings. The development of land south of the town will release 304 properties and the proposed development off Buxton Road / Eyam Close would yield 135. Therefore the Orchard Close proposal would lead to an over provision at a time when local services are struggling to meet demand.

“Desborough Draft Neighbourhood Plan

“The DDNP discounted this site for housing development stating: “that housing proposals would cause too much disruption to the local area in terms of access and movement, and that these might have the potential to damage adjacent valuable green areas and landscape and wildlife assets”.

“Discounted by Kettering Borough Council

“Kettering Borough Council’s Housing Allocations Background Paper (27 March 2018) listed the site as “Discounted as housing allocation”.

“Misleading Photographs

“The implication from the photographs (apparently taken before the Persimmon development) is of an idyllic tree lined lane, without any cars parked. However, the experience of residents is of a continual line of parked cars.

“The substantive development

”The Council is very concerned at the lack of detail of the substantive development of 58 properties, especially, but not limited to: access arrangements; property layout; road layout; water treatment; the existing sinks and pond onsite.

It was noted that the proposed comment was lengthy and that some issues raised were the province of statutory undertakers. It was suggested that the photographs used in support of the application were misleading and out of date. Following a discussion it was

RESOLVED that:-

the comment be reworded and reordered to demonstrate the relative weight given to each element, and the objection to the proposals as presented be supported by new photographs.

Cllr Draycott returned to the meeting at this point.

b. KET/2018/0693 WEST CORBY URBAN EXTENSION, UPPINGHAM ROAD, CORBY (Corby Borough Council, reference 17/00180/OUT)

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

17/00180/OUT, Outline application for a sustainable urban extension comprising of 4,500 dwellings, 46,850 sqm of Class B1/B2, two local centres/mixed use A1-A5, B1, C2, C3 and D1/D2, secondary schools, primary schools, public open space, drainage, access and associated infrastructure works. Demolition of existing buildings

West Corby Urban Extension Uppingham Road Corby Northamptonshire

The applicant has amended the application and plans. The Council previously (July 2017) objected to the application, commenting in the following terms:-

“Convergence towards and potentially joining Kettering is not supported.

“Substantial development which will need improvements to A6003 road to Oakley Hay will have massie imput (sic) on medical provision locally.

“As we have seen with the A6 closures all surrounding roads have been over loaded, a development of this overuse will cause strain on the surrounding road structure therefor all of these require improving and detailed traffic control.”

It is not yet clear what changes have been made but the outcome of investigations will be reported to the meeting.

It was noted that the proposal was substantially similar as previously submitted.

RESOLVED that:-

the Town Clerk be authorised to submit an appropriate objection to the planning authority.

c. KET/2018/0655, ECKLAND LODGE BUSINESS PARK, DESBOROUGH ROAD, BRAYBROOKE

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

Eckland Lodge Business Park, Desborough Road, Braybrooke

The functions of the Town Council are exercised publicly and it is possible that personal information provided will, of necessity, come into the public domain through papers used at, and discussion at, meetings of the Town Council in public.

Chair _____

Demolition of existing unit and construction of 3 no. buildings containing 6 no. units, 4 units for B2 and B8, 1 unit for B8 with retail and 1 unit for the conversion and fitting out of camper vans.

RESOLVED that:-

a comment be submitted in the following terms “Desborough Town Council supports this proposal”.

128/18 TO CONSIDER ALTERATIONS TO THE COUNCIL’S STANDING ORDERS

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

Members have had circulated some draft Standing Orders intended to replace those currently in use. It has been suggested that it would be beneficial to review them alongside a proposed formal Scheme of Delegation. It is intended to produce the Delegation Scheme at the October meeting and it is therefore RECOMMENDED that:-

- *further revisions be proposed in tandem with a formal Scheme of Delegation;*
- *an informal training session be held for Members; and,*
- *the revised documents be presented to the October meeting of the Council.*

RESOLVED that:-

the recommendations be accepted.

129/18 TO CONSIDER AND DETERMINE COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT METHODS

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

The Council is REQUESTED to consider and determine the process for community engagement with the Council’s programme for future years.

It was suggested that if the Library became a community hub it would form a useful location to conduct public engagement. Other suggestions included using the Council’s website and questionnaires.

RESOLVED that:-

the further consideration be given to methods of community engagement.

130/18 COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

In accordance with the Grants Awarding Policy, at the May and October meetings, the Council considers applications for grants received from organisations. It is proposed that a Working Party be formed to consider applications received and to recommend whether any awards might be made and the amount of any grant. The Council is RECOMMENDED to form an Community Grant Working Party with the terms of reference proposed and to determine the membership.

The Chair suggested that the proposed Working Party should be a Panel involving members of the community which would make recommendations to the Council. Following comments about the existing policy and the appropriateness of giving grants to organisations with licensed premises it was

RESOLVED that:-

- i) a Community Grant Advisory Panel be formed comprising Cllrs: Draycott, James, Read, and Taylor; and community members: Mesdames Campbell, Huseyin, Mount-Keys, and Mr Martin;**
- ii) the Advisory Panel review the existing policy and recommend any changes considered appropriate to the October Council meeting; and,**
- iii) the Advisory Panel consider applications received and recommends any awards to the October Council meeting.**

131/18 ROTHWELL NORTH WORKING PARTY (RNWP) UPDATE AND AGM

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

An update of the current situation will be presented to the meeting. The annual meeting of the RNWP is to take place in Rothwell on Monday 15 October 2018 at 7pm.

The Council has been advised informally that it might not be possible to hold future meetings of the RNWP in Rothwell and it is RECOMMENDED that meetings be hosted in the large room of this Council’s offices.

Cllr Burnham reported that the petition had been rejected by KBC and that the RNWP was writing to the Minister for Housing and also to higher management at Persimmons Homes. She

outlined the background to Rothwell Town Council's decision to withdraw support from the RNWP.

**RESOLVED that:-
the recommendation be accepted.**

132/18 VEHICLE SPEEDS AND TRAFFIC

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

Pursuant to the decision at the last meeting, discussions have taken place with the Police with a view to reducing the danger caused by excessive vehicle speeds in Desborough. A number of issues were raised including:-

- *Cameras*

The difficulty that enforcement relies on scarce Police time;

- *Dedicated PCSO*

The possibility of funding a PCSO which although it would result in a more visual presence of Police in Desborough is cost prohibitive at approximately £35,000 per year plus on costs.

- *Environmental Changes:*

These were considered to be the most effective solution and were referred to in the document 'Traffic Calming Feasibility Study ' B576 Desborough by the Traffic Engineering Team. It was noted that one option included chevrons, narrowing /chicanes and creating a distinct entrance to an urban area. It was also suggested that large planters highlighting the entrance to the town would also help. The total cost of this approach was estimated at £250,000.

- *Speed limits:*

Any proposal to reduce the speed limit before the 30 mph zone to 40 mph would have to be referred to the NCC Highways department. It was noted that there would be extensions to the 30 mph zones as a result of the residential developments at Rothwell but not until construction takes place.

- *Police speed camera check:*

The Police indicated the possibility of speed checks at night but warned of the knock-on effects in other areas of Policing.

- *CCTV:*

The upgrading and potential relocation of CCTV cameras are being investigated.

- *Larger vehicles:*

Any issues with larger vehicles should continue to be reported to the Police to take appropriate action.

- *Parking:*

It was confirmed that people should continue to report incorrect parking on the crossing at High Street, and in order to assist in securing a conviction the Police needed a clear photograph showing the vehicle registration and a statement from an observer. Nearby businesses will be approached to display signs reminding people to park legally and considerately.

The Council is REQUESTED to consider the matter.

Cllr Taylor reported on the meeting held with the Police and confirmed the expressed view that although the preferred option was for a Police presence and enforcement of camera data, it was understood that this was unlikely in the current financial climate. It was reported that even if the Council financed a camera device, the Police would not support the follow up action that would be required. It was noted that the speed camera van enforcement would continue but it was accepted that attendance was limited and that for operational reasons it was unlikely to have mobile enforcement at the highest speeding times.

In response to a suggestion that a 40mph limit should precede the 30mph limit on Rothwell Road it was noted that this suggestion had been rejected by the Road Safety Speed Limit Panel in 2017. It was reported that a meeting was scheduled with the Borough Council's CCTV Operations Manager to establish the quality of images and if any upgrade was necessary.

It was reported that the bridge on Harborough Road over the railway line was showing signs of deterioration. The Chairman reported that the Northamptonshire Highways feasibility report of 2017 contained two options for physical works to assist in reducing speeds. He said that

Option 2 was the less extensive option, but did contain some traffic calming measures. It was suggested that Option 2 would be better than the current situation but Option 1 was preferable.

RESOLVED that:-

- i) people seeing larger vehicles speeding should continue to be report the matter directly to the Police;
- ii) the Town Clerk report the deterioration of the railway bridge to Network Rail;
- iii) the Highways report be reviewed and Option 1 be vigorously supported, with Option 2 accepted as a fall back position.

133/18 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE PROPOSALS AND A POLICY FOR AN HONOURED CITIZEN AWARD SCHEME

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

Pursuant to the decision at the last meeting, formal proposals for the establishment of an Honoured Citizen Award scheme have been made (See Appendix C). The proposal is to establish an awards scheme for "Honoured Junior Citizen" and "Honoured Citizen"; to form and determine the membership of the Honoured Citizen Award Advisory Working Party . The Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the scheme as set out in Appendix C and to determine the membership of the Advisory Working Party.

Following a full discussion about the proposals and whether or not it was desirable to have Awards for adults, the list of those excluded from receiving Awards, and the make-up of the proposed Advisory Working Party, it was

RESOLVED that:-

consideration of the matter be deferred pending further information about the potential exclusions, and make-up of an Advisory Panel.

134/18 ANNUAL WAITING RESTRICTION REVIEW 2018/19

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

Every year the County Council receives a large number of requests to change or introduce new parking restrictions across the County. In order to deal with these enquires effectively, a programme of annual reviews was introduced. A request has been submitted for restrictions at the Rushton Road junctions with Frost Close and Morse Road, Desborough. Apparently, vehicles are parking right up to the junction are causing access and egress issues. If the Council supports the idea in principle, NCC will engage in formal consultation. The Council is REQUESTED to give its views on the suggestion.

It was noted that it was unclear who had made the request for the parking restrictions. Some concern was expressed at the potential displacement of any vehicles. Following a full discussion it was

RESOLVED that:-

the Council supports the proposal to allow full consultation to take place.

135/18 GRIT / SALT BINS

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

The County Council has undertaken a review of all Northamptonshire County Council owned grit bins to ensure that all grit bins on the highway network meet with the current criteria. Following this year's review, the County Council proposes to remove the following bins:-

*High Street: outside the library
Upper Dane junction with Whitehill Road
Lower Steeping: by the green cabinet
Whitehill Road junction with Langdale*

Where NCC is no longer maintaining a grit bin appropriate arrangement can be made where a Parish takes over the ownership and therefore the replenishment and use of the grit bin. This would entail a transfer of ownership to be agreed.

If the Town Council was minded to take responsibility for any of the bins, it would also need to take responsibility for supplies of grit/salt, insurance, repairs, and replacement. The estimated cost of filling each bin each year is estimated at £50, bins cost approximately £300 to replace (plus fitting), and the extra insurance cost would be likely to be accommodated within the existing premium (which is subject to renewal / renegotiation in November). Further details are set out in Report No. 2.

The Council is REQUESTED to consider.

RESOLVED that:-

the Council does not take ownership of any of the bins.

136/18 TRAINING PLAN AND CILCA COURSE REGISTRATION

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

As Members will no doubt be aware there is a wealth of legislation around the operation of the Council and it is vital that the Town Council has the correct training and resources. A review of training offered is being undertaken and a report will be presented to the October Council meeting. In the meantime, if Members have any specific requests they should direct them to the Town Clerk in the first instance.

In order for the Council to retain the General Power of Competence (which allows a wider discretion on expenditure) several conditions need to be met. One is that the Town Clerk needs to have a particular qualification. In order to address this it is RECOMMENDED that the Town Clerk attend the CiLCA training course over the weekend of 1 and 2 December 2018 at NALC's offices in Litchborough (at a cost of £350) and register to submit the portfolio of evidence required (at a further cost of £250 if paid during September 2018).

RESOLVED that:-

the recommendation be accepted.

137/18 S106 AMOUNTS

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

KBC has advised the Council that there is a balance of £71,000 made up from two Section 106 agreements exclusively (and named) for the Desborough Greenspace. Suggestions for the use of funds have included:-

new lighting along Burdock Way from the Leisure Centre;

Signage and physical improvements at gateways;

the pathway through The Plens;

route ways through the site;

a family and 'natural' play area;

possibly allotments if there is a demonstrable need.

It has not been possible to fully investigate the possibilities and requirements at this stage and it is RECOMMENDED that investigations continue and be reported to the October meeting.

It was noted that there might be other suggestions for improvements at Desborough Greenspace.

RESOLVED that:-

the recommendation be accepted.

138/18 FOOD BANKS: LOCATION OF COLLECTION POINTS

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

Concern has been raised that there is no food bank in Desborough and that there might be more neutral locations for collection points. Further information will be presented to the meeting.

It was noted that a previous food bank distribution point in Desborough had had to relocate to Kettering.

RESOLVED that:-

the Town Clerk be requested to investigate the possibility of using the Town Council reception area as a collection / donation point.

139/18 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS (NCALC) ANNUAL MEETING

139.1/18 TO APPOINT A DELEGATE TO ATTEND AND VOTE ON THE TOWN COUNCIL'S BEHALF.

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

The Council is RECOMMENDED to nominate a delegate to attend the NCALC and vote on the Council's behalf.

RESOLVED that:-

no nomination be made.

139.2/18 TO CONSIDER SUBMITTING A MOTION FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA OF THE NCALC ANNUAL MEETING

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

The Council is REQUESTED to consider submitting a motion for consideration at the NCALC annual meeting, the deadline for submission is 24 September 2018.

RESOLVED that:-

no motion be submitted.

140/18 WORK PLAN FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE MUNICIPAL YEAR

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

As Councillors will know, there has been a backlog of works and a number of items which require review. However, there is simply not enough time to deal with all the issues at one time. An outline plan for major items has been devised to avoid the Council being swamped with work of equal importance. Items will be accelerated as time permits or if circumstances dictate. Other items may be added to the work plan throughout the year and the plan amended accordingly. It is RECOMMENDED that the draft work plan set out at Appendix D be approved as an outline for the remainder of the year.

RESOLVED that:-

the recommendation be accepted.

141/18 DESBOROUGH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (DNP)

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

As Members may know, a second consultation draft of the DNP was published in July 2017. The consultation resulted in an updated document being presented by the Neighbourhood Planning Group as evidence to a Planning Inspector in relation to a planning appeal for residential development to the south of Desborough at the end of 2017.

It is understood that there has been no further progress with the draft plan since that time.

Concerns were raised over the content at the time by the Borough Council and the independent assessors, chiefly related to the robustness of the evidence base. Since late 2017, some significant changes have occurred, for example, the Desborough South application was approved by the Planning Inspector and the Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan has progressed through a consultation draft this year.

In light of the changes that have taken place since the draft was produced it is suggested that a good starting point would be for a comprehensive review of the content of the draft DNP in the context of the Part 2 Local Plan – Draft Plan (2018) by a reformed DNP Group or other.

The website for the DNP seems to be dormant and the Council did not appoint Councillors to the Group for 2018-19. The Council is REQUESTED to consider how to move forward with the Neighbourhood Plan and indicate a preferred timescale.

RESOLVED that:-

- i) the Neighbourhood Planning Group be disbanded;**
- ii) a Neighbourhood Plan Working Party be formed to review the current draft, status, and aspirations of the current draft plan;**
- iii) the Working Party comprise:-**
 - Councillors: Draycott, James, Keys, Read, Sawford, and Taylor;**
 - residents: Messrs Britton, Martin, and Mrs McLennan; and,**
- iv) the Working Party report findings and recommendations to the December Council meeting.**

142/18 TO DETERMINE REPRESENTATION ON OTHER BODIES

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

The Council is requested to nominate representatives on the following bodies:-

Town Centre Partnership - two seats

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group - five seats (if appropriate)

It was noted that the NPSG had been disbanded. In response to questions about the Town Centre Partnership it was

RESOLVED that:-

a decision on representation on the Town Centre Partnership be deferred pending further details of the organisation's membership, constitution, aims, and plan for the town.

143/18 PROPOSED DUNKIRK AVENUE BENCH

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

Members may not be aware that at the end of 2017, the then Town Clerk signed an application written by the County Councillor for funding of £549 from the County Council's Councillor Empowerment Fund for the purchase and installation of a bench on Dunkirk Avenue on the grass verge adjacent to the bus stop, alongside the railings to the recreation ground. Although permissions were sought and granted from KBC and NCC Highways, there does not appear to have been a decision of the Town Council to approve the expenditure on the bench (£549 supplied and installed by KBC), nor for the ongoing maintenance, potential future replacement, insurance and so on, nor is there any indication of consultation with neighbouring residents. It is understood that the insurance costs would be negligible.

The Council is REQUESTED to consider the matter.

Concern was expressed that the grass verge might not be wide enough for a bench to be used

safely, and that there was no evidence of consultation with the nearby residents.

RESOLVED that:-

further details of the precise location proposed be presented to the next meeting.

144/18 TO AGREE A SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE MUNICIPAL YEAR

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

The Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the schedule of meetings for the remainder of the municipal year, all meetings to take place in the Library and to commence at 7 o'clock unless otherwise agreed:-

- 18 October 2018*
- 15 November 2018*
- 20 December 2018*
- 17 January 2019*
- 21 February 2019*
- 21 March 2019*
- 18 April 2019*

RESOLVED that:-

the schedule of meetings be approved.

145/18 TO NOTE ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:

The report of the Town Clerk (Appendix E) contains information on the following matters and the Council is recommended to note the information contained in the report. No decisions of a financial nature will be made in relation to this item.

- 145.1/18 To receive a report from the County Councillor*
- 145.2/18 To receive reports from Borough Councillors*
- 145.3/18 To receive a report on the current situation and future of Desborough Library*
- 145.4/18 To receive an update on the website*
- 145.5/18 To receive an update from Desborough Community Groups*
- 145.6/18 To receive an update on the Youth Council proposal*
- 145.7/18 Reported delays in allocating social housing*
- 145.8/18 Footpath Warden's report*

In connection with this item, the Path Warden outlined the most recent issues and the referred to some of the recurring matters over the last 24 years he had been the Path Warden. He explained that reporting issues was much easier with the online Street Doctor system. The Warden was thanked for his report and his work.

RESOLVED that:-

the information contained in the reports be noted.

The meeting closed at 21:12

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

The functions of the Town Council are exercised publicly and it is possible that personal information provided will, of necessity, come into the public domain through papers used at, and discussion at, meetings of the Town Council in public.

Chair _____

**DESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
20 SEPTEMBER 2018**

APPENDIX A

FINANCE REPORT

The report is brief this month pending the outcome of a review of expenditure, budgets, and commitments. A full report will be presented to the October Council meeting.

Monthly Bank Reconciliation

Bank accounts	Barclays Current	Barclays Business Saver
Balance 01/04/18	£289,111.29	£19,150.06
Unpresented cheques	£5,100.00	£0
Receipts	£183,486.83	£9.55
Payments	£49,232.62	£0
Closing balance	£418,265.50	£19,159.61

Bank reconciliation	30/08/2018
Balances on Statement	£446,345.09
Unpresented cheques	£5,100.00
Reconciled Balance	£441,245.09

Accounts for Payment

Supplier	Reason	Payment method	VAT	Total Amount
Talk Talk Business	Internet and telephone	DD	£9.59	£57.67
Kettering Borough Council	Grounds maintenance Invoice number 51106128	CH		£223.70
Kettering Borough Council	Grounds maintenance Invoice number 51126580 - footpaths pocket park	CH	£6.62	£39.70
British Youth Council	Consultancy for Youth Council	CH	n/a	£800.00
Information Commissioner's Office	Compulsory registration	DD		£40.00
Microsoft (to be confirmed)	Miscrosoft Office 365 Business	Online	£18.96	£113.76
Graham Thomson	GROSS Salary - August GROSS Salary - September	The total GROSS amount before deductions for • National Insurance • PAYE / tax • Pension Is £2,232.87* This does not include the employer's: • Pension contribution • National Insurance contribution		
HMRC	PAYE. Included in the above figure			
LGSS Pensions	Statutory Pension. Included in the above figure			
Northamptonshire County Council	Office rent - 01/07/18-30/09/18 - £2,000.00 Office rent - 01/10/18-31/12/18 - £2,000.00	CH	n/a	£4,000.00
NCALC	CiLCA training course	CH		£350.00
SLCC	CiLCA registration	CH		£250.00

*It was subsequently discovered that the correct total was £2,232.94

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Chair _____

DESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
20 SEPTEMBER 2018

APPENDIX B

Planning Matters

The following applications were noted and no comment made by the Town Council.

KET/2018/0531

Woodside, Stoke Albany Road (land adj), Desborough

Full Application: Use of land for 2 no. traveller caravans for applicant and another family member. Creation of hard-standing and modernisation of amenity block

KET/2018/0369

3 The Oaks, Braybrooke Road, Desborough

Advertisement Application: 1 no. non-illuminated and 1 no. externally illuminated fascia sign and 2 no. window vinyls

KET/2018/0516

13 Kenmore Drive, Desborough

Full Application: Garage conversion with single storey rear

KET/2018/0576

11 Hawfinch Green, Desborough

Full Application: Single storey side extension

KET/2018/0290

99-131 Pioneer Avenue (land between), Desborough

Full Application: Substitution of house types to plots 2 and 3 to include a garage and additional bedroom

KET/2018/0616

Former Poultry Unit, Stoke Albany Road, Desborough

Part 3 Class R Determination: Change of use of former poultry unit to B1 office and B8 storage

KET/2018/0601

48 Paddock Lane, Desborough

Full Application: Erection of 2 no. dwellings to rear and conversion of existing dwelling into 2 no. dwellings

KET/2018/0623

Gaultney Farm (land at), Pipewell Road, Desborough

Outline Application: Erection of up to 70 no. dwellings with all matters reserved except access

KET/2018/0645

49 Copelands Road, Desborough

Full Application: Garage conversion to home office with single storey rear extension

KET/2018/0639

8 Westmorland Drive, Desborough

Certificate of Lawfulness for Proposed Operations: Single storey rear extension

KET/2018/0666

Departure from the Development Plan

Fruit Barn, Wycombe House, Rothwell Road, Desborough Full Application: Barn conversion to granny annexe

KET/2018/0706

3 Loatland Street (land adj), Desborough

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KET/2016/0704 (1 no. detached dwelling): Amendments to porch canopy, window and door design to front elevation, removal of window to side elevation and reduced window sizes to all first floor windows

KET/2018/0637
Harrington Road and Green Crescent (junction of), Desborough
Memorial stone

KET/2018/0707
15 Yaffle Crescent, Desborough
First floor side and single storey rear extension with a front porch, landscaping and fenestration

KET/2018/0698
67 Breakleys Road (land adj), Desborough
1 no. dwelling

KET/2018/0717
27 Ashbourne Drive, Desborough
Extension to extend beyond the rear wall of the original property by 4.0m with a maximum height of 3.65m and eaves height of 2.3m

KET/2018/0692
89 Union Street, Desborough
Two storey rear extension

Graham Thomson
Town Clerk

**DESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
20 SEPTEMBER 2018**

APPENDIX B1

Planning Matters

KET/2018/0060

Braybrooke Road (land off), Desborough

Residential development of up to 245 dwellings to include public open space, landscaping, sustainable drainage system and vehicular access

Following consultation with all members of the Council and in accordance with delegated powers, the Town Clerk submitted the following objection to the application.

“Desborough Town Council objects to the proposals on the following grounds:-

“a) the site is outside the settlement boundary of the town and would extend the urban residential area into rural countryside;

“b) the proposal runs contrary to the policy of not building in open countryside and is on agricultural/ green field land;

“c) the proposal would represent over-development of the site with an unacceptably high density of properties;

“d) the development would put an unacceptable strain on local services and especially the infrastructure on this side of the town;

“e) the proposal is for a development of 245 properties on a site served by an already oversubscribed narrow rural road which is not suitable for the traffic which would result from either the construction phase or the occupation phase;

“f) the site has already been discounted as a residential site by the Draft Desborough Neighbourhood Plan (which has been consulted upon);

“g) the site has been recognised and classified in the Draft Desborough Neighbourhood Plan (which has been consulted upon) as “historically and visually important local green space”;

“h) the site is unsustainable in transport because it relies on private transport;

“i) the proposed road layouts on site and alterations to the existing road network are not sympathetic to the local vernacular.”

“Should the Planning Authority be minded to approve the application, Desborough Town Council would wish to see:-

“a) a drastic reduction in the density of the site;

“b) a more sympathetic treatment of the road layout and existing road network;

“c) details of the proposed property style should be submitted and approved in advanced of any consent to ensure that they are in keeping with the local vernacular;

“d) provision of a bus stop and shelter within the site;

“e) S106 contributions being made on completion and sale of the first property on projects agreed with Desborough Town Council to include: contributions to a community hub; contributions for the extension of opening hours of Desborough library; contributions to schools; contributions towards the expansion of medical and dental provision; provision of a bus stop and shelter at the site.”

Graham Thomson
Town Clerk

**DESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
20 SEPTEMBER 2018**

APPENDIX C

HONOURED CITIZEN AWARD

Introduction

Desborough Town Council's Honoured Citizen Award is a tribute to a member of the community and confers no material honours or special privileges. Awards may be made at any time and will not necessarily be made on an annual or regular basis. Awards will take the form of an official letter or certificate, and may be presented at an appropriate place such as the recipient's school or workplace, at an event, at a Town Council meeting, posted to them, or presented in private. The scheme is intended to celebrate exceptional citizenship but to avoid embarrassment a mechanism to keep details of unsuccessful nominations confidential has been created.

Scope

Awards will be made by the Town Council entirely at its discretion to those who have "*made a significantly positive contribution to the communities in Desborough Town Council area*". An unsuccessful nomination does not necessarily indicate that the Council does not appreciate or recognise the effort, service, or actions of nominees. There is no limit on the number of Awards which may be made in any year: and no requirement to make any Awards.

Categories

There are two categories of Award:-

- Honoured Junior Citizen (for any young person of school age or below)
- Honoured Citizen (for all other nominees)

Nominations

Nominations may be made by anyone resident or working in the Council's area, or by any organisation working to the benefit of communities in the Council's area. Nominations will not be accepted from relatives of the nominee. Nominations must be made in the format prescribed by the Town Council and must be submitted to the Town Clerk. No correspondence will be entered into with regard to any nomination other than to verify facts if necessary.

Awards Advisory Working Party

The Council will appoint an Advisory Working Party of five Councillors to consider nominations. Publicity during the initial stages of consideration would be prejudicial to the public interest and the names and details of Awards made will be published in the future. Therefore, the Advisory Working Party will exempt the details of nominations and discussions in accordance with Section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and will hold its discussions in private.

Decision-making Process

On receiving a nomination, the Town Clerk will endeavour to verify the information contained in the nomination form. A meeting of the Advisory Working Party will consider nominations. Owing to the likely irregular nature of nominations, meetings may be delayed until an appropriate time. Voting will be by secret ballot and decisions to recommend Awards will be based entirely on merit. The Advisory Working Party minutes will be reported to the Council at the next practicable meeting. Lobbying of Council Members in favour of or against any nominee may render all nominations for that nominee void. The Advisory Working Party's recommendations will be determined by the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman of the Council.

Unsuccessful Nominations

The Town Clerk will notify those who made nominations which were unsuccessful without giving reasons for the nomination being not supported. No further correspondence will be entered into (including the merits of any nomination, any other decisions made, the rationale behind the decision). Further nominations for those unsuccessful will be permitted.

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Chair _____

Successful Nominations

The Town Clerk will contact the nominee, or their parent / guardian as appropriate, indicating that the Council is minded to make an Award and seeking confirmation that the Award will be accepted and in what form the nominee would like the Award to take. If a nominee rejects the Award then no Award will be made and the matter shall be reported to the next meeting of the Committee.

Confidentiality

Nomination forms received will be treated as confidential and shall be destroyed immediately after a decision on an award has been made. Publicity will be given to Award recipients in consultation with them / their parents or guardians.

Exclusions

Nominations will not be accepted from and awards will not be made to current and past employees of Desborough Town Council; current and past elected Members of: Desborough Town Council, Rothwell Town Council, Kettering Borough Council, Market Harborough District Council, Northamptonshire County Council, Leicestershire County Council, (or any successor local authorities covering those geographical areas); current and past Members of Parliament whose constituency covers the Desborough Town Council area; current and past Members of the House of Lords.

Graham Thomson
Town Clerk

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**DESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
20 SEPTEMBER 2018**

APPENDIX D

Draft Work Plan 2018-19

October 2018

Procedural items

Standing Orders
Scheme of Delegation
Community engagement Statement of intent
Review of existing policies and introduction of recommended policies

Development items

Use of Town Council offices / space
Training Plan
S106 proposals
Plans for the coming year

Financial items

Grants Award Scheme
Insurance policies
Financial and Treasury Management Strategy and reserves policy

November 2018

Procedural items

Standing Orders
Financial Regulations
Document Management and Record Keeping Policy
Review of existing policies and introduction of recommended policies

Development items

Website review and development

Financial items

External Contract review

December 2018

Procedural items

Neighbourhood plan review and relaunch
Review of existing policies and introduction of recommended policies

January 2019

Procedural items

Risk Assessments review
Business Plan / Strategy
Review of existing policies and introduction of recommended policies

Development items

Website confirmation

February 2019

Procedural items

Review of existing policies and introduction of recommended policies

March 2019

Procedural items

Review of arrangements for the forthcoming elections / review of local government reorganisation proposals
Review of bodies on which the Council nominates representation
Review of existing policies and introduction of recommended policies

April 2019

Procedural items

Review of Committee Structure
Review of existing policies and introduction of recommended policies.

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Chair _____

**DESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
20 SEPTEMBER 2018**

APPENDIX E

Information Items

145.1/18 To receive a report from the County Councillor

County Councillor Matthews has been asked to present / submit a report. No report was received.

145.2/18 To receive a report from Borough Councillors

The Kettering Borough Councillors have been asked to present / submit a report.

Borough Cllr Derbyshire has said that she is unable to attend the meeting but has sent the following report:-

"I did attend the members information meeting at KBC on the 20th August which was informative. Again on the 28th again attended members information session. 29th Attended Extra Ordinary Council Meeting which again was very informative."

Borough Cllr Tebutt has said that he is unable to attend the meeting but has sent the following report:-

"As promised my report from the KBC Planning Policy Committee. Reports were received and the following recommendations agreed. The initial consultation on Part 2 of the Local Development Plan Part 2 has been completed and all comments are now being assessed. Once completed a final report will be produced for formal statutory consultation later in the year. A new Local Development Order- Kettering Town Centre - Seats on Streets, (allowing tables and chairs to be placed outside restaurants, cafes, coffee shops, snack bars and hotels) was agreed to be forwarded to KBC Executive for comments prior to being brought to full council for final approval, this was agreed on 19th September. It was recommended that once approved all Town/Parish Councils should be contacted to establish if similar interest exists for their areas."

145.3/18 To receive a report on the current situation and future of Desborough Library

As Members will be aware, the Judicial Review was successful and the closure programme appears to have been halted. The County Council's Director of Public Health has subsequently stated that NCC is:

"currently completing a review of library services and we will approach community groups, partners and interested parties to discuss options in late September. The feedback from the public we have received to date on the proposed library changes has been very helpful and is being taken into consideration as we review options for future library provision. We are keen to continue engagement"

Efforts to secure the future of the Library in Desborough are continuing and will be reported as information becomes available.

145.4/18 To receive an update on the website

Initial investigations into the website clarified that the annual website contract is due to expire on 18 February 2019. The domain is renewed every two years and is due to expire on 20 April 2019. The provider is 2commune which provides websites to most of the local councils in Northamptonshire as well as NCALC. The basic template is used but a "modern" template is also available (for £250 plus VAT). Investigations into the scope of developments with the existing provider, and alternatives, will continue and be reported to the Council in accordance with the Work Plan (if adopted).

145.5/18 To receive an update from Desborough Community Groups

Any reports received or presented from community groups in Desborough will be noted.

145.6/18 To receive an update on the Youth Council proposal

In accordance with the decision at the last meeting, an information session was held on 4 September 2018 for interested parties. The session was facilitated by the British Youth Council's Youth Democracy Coordinator, Midlands.

A written report from the Youth Democracy Coordinator is expected. One suggestion was for the Youth Council to be a partnership of Desborough and Rothwell rather than one for each town. Further information will be provided in due course.

145.7/18 Reported delays in allocating social housing

It has been reported that there have been delays in allocating social housing under the Keyways scheme in Desborough in recent months.

145.8/18 Footpath Warden's Report

The Footpath Warden's report on the condition of the rights of way within the Council's area is submitted as Report No. 4.

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**DESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
20 SEPTEMBER 2018**

REPORT NO. 2

Grit / Salt Bins

The following note was prepared by NCALC

What's the issue?

In June 2018 Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) announced that it would be reducing the winter gritting routes in the county and removing 500 of its 1,973 grit bins, unless parish councils wanted to take them over. Northants CALC sent out information to all member councils by email on 29 June 2018 about the proposed changes, along with a link to a page on the NCC web site with all the details (<http://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/northamptonshire-highways/roads-and-streets/gritting/Pages/proposed-winter-services-changes-2018-2019.aspx>).

The next thing that happened was towards the end of August when clerks started receiving letters from the "Winter Service Team" at NH confirming which bins were going to be removed unless the parish council said it wanted to take them over. The letter said "... *If this is something of interest we are asking the Parish/Community representative to contact us before the 15th September 2018 to avoid the bins being removed*". I have made the point to NH that it is extremely unhelpful to write to parish councils at the end of August and expect notification back by mid-September. In response, NH agreed to give until the end of September to allow time to respond for those councils whose meetings are in the second half of the month. This was confirmed by Northants CALC to all member councils in last Friday's mini *eUpdate*.

Why the deadline?

NH's policy is to fill all the grit bins in the county between 15 September 2018 and 15 October 2018 ready for the winter season. This work is planned in now and a gang will be going round with grit and filling the 1,473 bins that are being retained. The same gang will remove any bin that has been earmarked for removal unless the parish council has notified NH of its intention to take over ownership of it. If NH hasn't heard from the parish council one way or the other the bin will be removed, so if your council does intend to take over a grit bin then I would advise fixing a notice to that effect on the bin itself, to avoid the gang removing it unintentionally.

Should we or shouldn't we?

Of the fifty or so councils that sent feedback in response to my e-mail last week, approximately half have decided to take over ownership of one or more grit bins, and half have decided that the bin(s) can be removed. Some councils have challenged NH's criteria for removing a bin, and one or two of those challenges have been successful. If a grit bin is earmarked for removal that you think should be retained by NH then contact them urgently at northamptonshirewintermaintenance@kierwsp.co.uk. Don't expect an immediate response though because they are snowed under (no pun intended!). The strategic decision – i.e. should there be a grit bin there or not – is a matter for each parish council and should be decided on a bin by bin basis. Parish councils have forensic knowledge of their communities and can normally fairly easily determine whether a bin is a "must have", in which case it should really be retained by NH, a "nice to have" in which case it should be taken over by the parish council or a "not really used" in which case it should be removed. However, for those councils wishing to take over ownership of a bin there are an awful lot of issues that ought to be addressed...

Do we have the legal power to take over the grit bin?

When considering any new project or purchase, a parish council should be asking itself "Do we have a legal basis for acting?". My view is that a parish council **does not have a direct power** to own and maintain a grit bin and fill it with grit. Instead, the power would need to be delegated to it by NCC, who is the highway authority. The relevant legislation is Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 and Section 185 of the Highways Act 1980. NCC has already written to some councils who have confirmed that

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they do wish to take over ownership and have granted authorisation (a licence) under Section 185. However, the letter is silent regarding Section 101. I have asked the Legal Team at the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) to confirm the position and I will pass on the advice as soon as it is available. In the meantime the important thing is to secure the asset, if that's what the parish council intends to do.

What are the costs involved?

The actual transfer of ownership is at no cost. NH has provided pricing for filling grit bins as follows: "...we have looked at the Homebase website (you can source the material from anywhere that is convenient) and a 20kg bag of rock salt is currently £4.40 and a bag of Sharp Sand is £1.75, the current grit bin on the highway network will hold between 200kg and 300kg of material dependent on the style, so working on these costs and a 300kg mix of sand and salt this would work out at around £46.00 to fill from empty." As well as the material cost there may be labour costs, admin overhead and insurance.

What responsibilities would we have?

The Section 185 letter sets out various conditions or responsibilities for those councils wishing to take over a bin. The conditions are poorly worded and unclear. For example, Condition 4 is that "*The salt bin should be maintained to an agreed standard...*" but nowhere does it specify what that standard is. And Condition 5 says that NNC can instruct the removal of the bin at any time and that the parish council must "*...reinstate the surface of the highway at no cost to the County Council*". Clearly these conditions are unworkable and I have agreed with NH that the letter will be reissued (with the new draft having been sent to me in advance this time!). Member councils are advised to not sign and return the letters already received and instead wait for the second version.

Is there any liability?

There is very little liability arising out of ownership of a grit bin. The statutory duty is to ensure the safety of the highway, and thankfully that duty remains with NCC as the highways authority. Any grit bin that is taken over by a parish council is, by definition, in the "nice to have" category and the safety of the highway is not dependent on it. It's like defibrillators... they are provided in case they can help... you don't become liable for someone's death if they can't access your defibrillator in time. There is of course some liability attached to owning any asset in the highway, but it is no more so for grit bins than it is for a bench or a litter bin. Clearly the grit bin should be inspected (at least annually) and should be maintained in a reasonable state of repair so that it is safe to use. The inherent liability of owning an asset would normally be covered by a council's Public Liability insurance (£5million minimum required, check with your insurer).

What if the grit bin is in poor condition?

The condition of a grit bin and the grit in it is a major consideration. Some grit bins, especially those not used very often, may have fallen into a state of disrepair. NH will not be refurbishing the bins before they hand them over and they will be handed over with just the grit that is in them now, i.e. they won't be topped up by NH before they are handed over. If your council thinks that in principle a grit bin is needed, but the grit bin is beyond reasonable repair, then it might actually be better to let it be removed and then organise subsequently to purchase a new one to put in its place. Better to have the cost of a brand new bin (and grants are available) rather than spend money doing up an old one.

Is there a manual handling risk?

Yes! I think this is my biggest concern. Some larger parish and town councils will have grounds maintenance staff, a Lengthsman, or a village handyman and the job of obtaining grit and filling the bins would seem to fit well within the job description of those sort of workers. However, most parish councils don't have any staff other than the clerk. A council could of course employ a contractor to fill the grit bins (see [this Google search](#)) but I am worried that some councils might try a DIY approach. The thought of a councillor or clerk lugging about 20Kg bags of sand and salt, mixing it together and then taking it in their car to a grit bin on a cold and dark night in December makes me shudder. If a councillor or clerk was injured whilst doing that then there would very likely be a liability for the council! Only persons who have had the requisite manual handling training and risk assessment training should be carrying out that sort of activity.

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Chair _____

Can we ask NH to refill a grit bin that the parish council has taken ownership of?

No. NH is not offering that service. Remember that this is a cost-cutting measure because of NCC's dire financial position. There are not the resources to provide that service to parish councils because of the manpower involved, the accounts and billing overhead, the administration overhead, the management overhead etc, etc. I did ask NH if it was possible to provide a fully costed quote for filling a parish grit bin and it was made clear that it was not. NH is not even prepared to entertain the notion of a grit bin staying in its ownership but the parish council being billed for filling it. The option was ruled out by NH on the basis that it would be much more costly than parish councils could do it for themselves. It is frustrating that NH cannot fully explain the rationale behind the decision, but the decision appears to be final so I have concluded that there is no point in chasing it further.

We think there should be a grit bin in a location where there isn't one now – is that still possible?

Yes. You can still make that request to NH. If the location meets the minimum criteria score (as assessed by NH) then a new bin would be installed. If the location doesn't meet the criteria then the parish council could decide to install one itself, subject to obtaining the necessary permissions from NH.

Chief Executive
Northamptonshire County Association of Local Councils

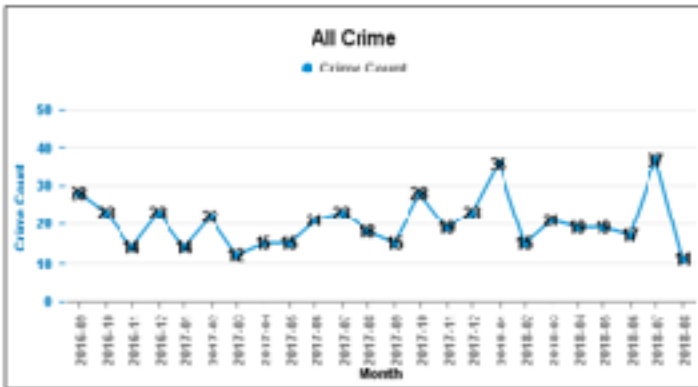
**DESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
20 SEPTEMBER 2018**

REPORT NO. 3

Report from the Police

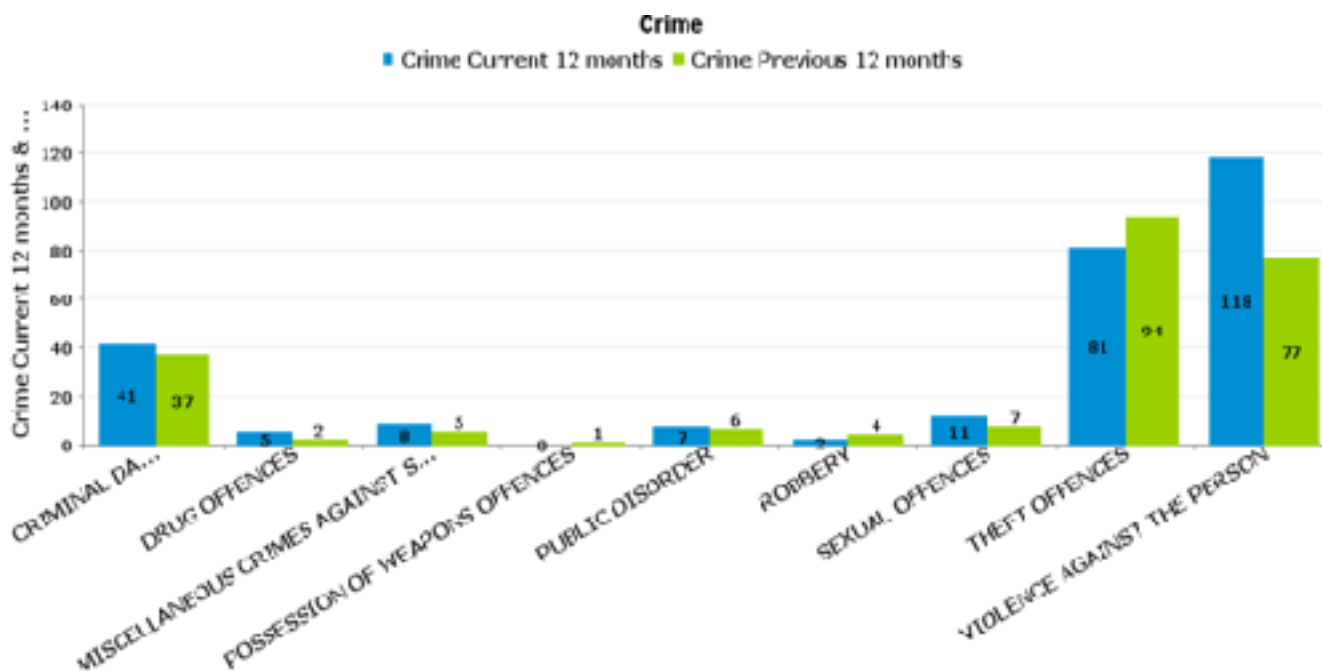
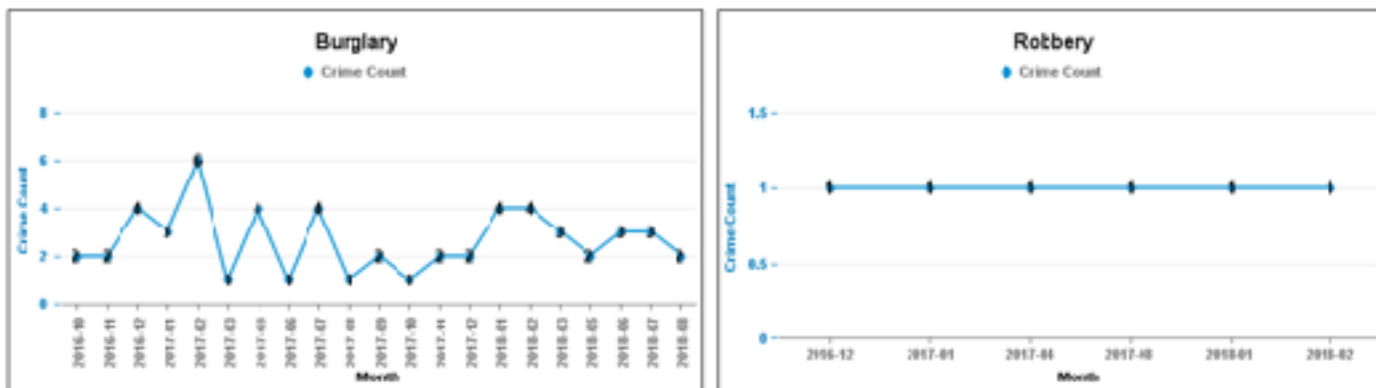
DESBOROUGH LOATLAND

Crime Group	Current 12 mths	Previous 12 mths	+ / - Crime	% Change	Number of resolved Crimes	Resolved Rate (past 12mths)
CRIMINAL DAMAGE & ARSON	41	37	4	10.81%	3	7.32%
DRUG OFFENCES	5	2	3	150.00%	4	80.00%
MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	8	5	3	60.00%	1	12.50%
POSSESSION OF WEAPONS OFFENCES	0	1	-1	-100.00%		
PUBLIC DISORDER	7	6	1	16.67%	1	14.29%
ROBBERY	2	4	-2	-50.00%		
SEXUAL OFFENCES	11	7	4	57.14%	1	9.09%
THEFT OFFENCES	81	94	-13	-13.83%		
VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	118	77	41	53.25%	20	23.73%



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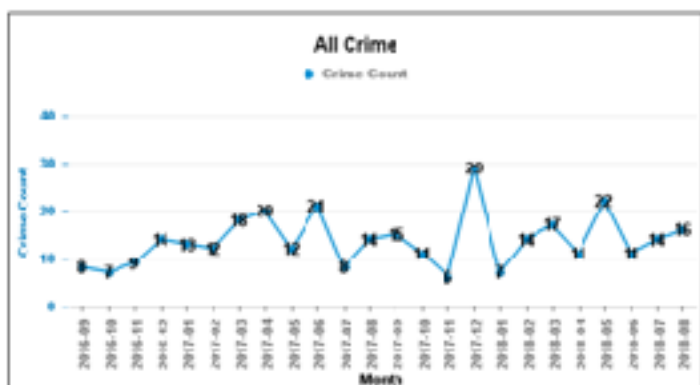


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Chair _____

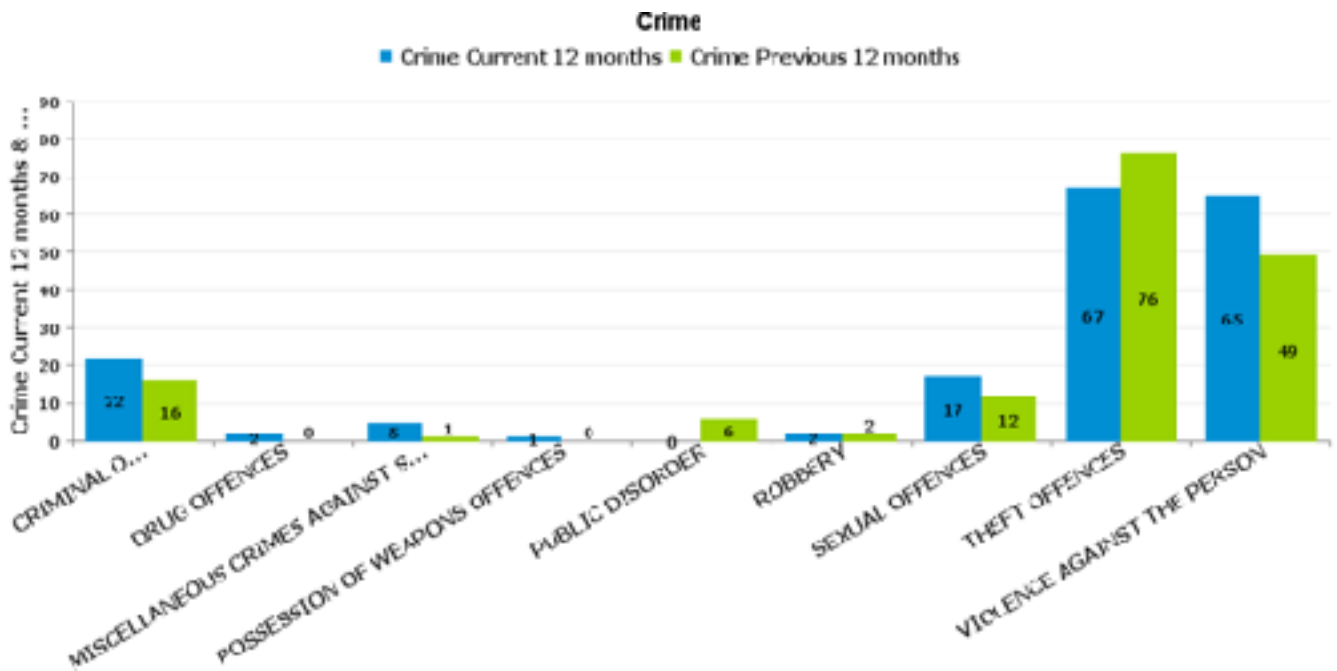
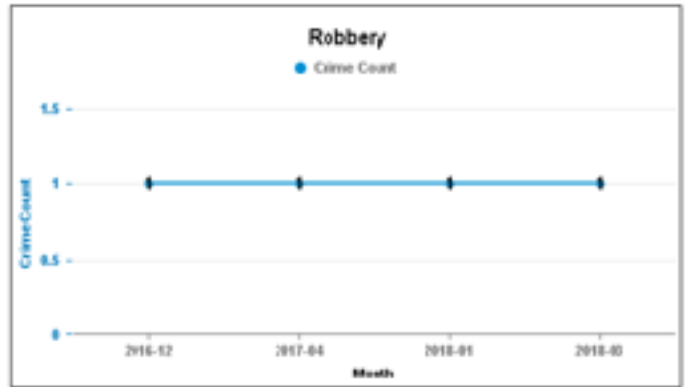
DESBOROUGH ST GILES

Crime Group	Current 12 mths	Previous 12 mths	+/- Crime	% Change	Number of resolved Crimes	Resolved Rate (past 12mths)
CRIMINAL DAMAGE & ARSON	22	16	6	37.50%	1	4.55%
DRUG OFFENCES	2	0	2	-100.00%	1	50.00%
MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES AGAINST SOCIETY	5	1	4	400.00%	1	20.00%
POSSESSION OF WEAPONS OFFENCES	1	0	1	-100.00%		
PUBLIC DISORDER	0	6	-6	-100.00%		
ROBBERY	2	2	0	0.00%	1	50.00%
SEXUAL OFFENCES	17	12	5	41.67%	5	29.41%
THEFT OFFENCES	67	76	-9	-11.84%		
VIOLENCE AGAINST THE PERSON	65	49	16	32.65%	8	12.31%



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**DESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL
20 SEPTEMBER 2018**

REPORT NO. 4

**REPORT ON THE CONDITION OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY WITHIN
DESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL'S AREA BY THE PATH WARDEN**

20TH SEPTEMBER, 2018

There are within the Town Council's area 19 rights of way, made up of four bridleways, fourteen foot-paths, and one byway. From time to time I contact Kier wsp via Street Doctor on any problems I come across.

Below are some of the problems that have been dealt with over the past year.

All paths have a number between UC1 and UC 19.

UC2 This path runs from the west side of the A6 bypass to Newbottle Bridge. Over the past 15 years or so there have been problems of crops being obstructing the way and the owner and tenant have had this drawn to their attention with limited success.

This year I notified Kier about the condition of the path and after a period of time it wasn't cleared until the crops were brought in.

The fact is that Kier could call in a contractor to clear the path and charge the perpetrator. This seldom happens.

Where it crosses the bypass there was very long grass and nettles which were cleared soon after being reported.**UC10** This begins at the top of Federation Avenue and heads on a westerly course across the bypass then goes down the valley and crosses the River Ise by a footbridge. This was also affected by the previous crops obstructing UC2.

UC5 Is a path that was difficult to use, as the empty site was overgrown and I cut it back when I had time, which was not often. Strictly this is not within my remit. Now a unit occupies this land, a hard surfaced path has been put in up to the boundary hedge, leaving around a 100 metres to cut any over growing branches.

UC7 recently I cleared this path at the Back Lane end as where it passes the cattle pen the way was blocked with overgrown bushes. It is now easy to access the stile into the field and continue the journey to the Grange Estate.

UC11 The up-grading of this byway was finished with s106 money ,but unfortunately not completely. I notified Kier via Street Doctor and it was recently finished.

The problem was the link to Bridge Road wasn't done and after writing several times to Kier it was done. Also a locking bollard was put in along with bunds each side of the byway to stop unauthorised vehicles, as this is a restricted byway. This is known locally as Straightfurlong.

UC14 Also known as Green Lane. This has been cleared of over-hanging vegetation throughout the year.

I belong to the Northamptonshire Local Access Forum (NLAF) who can deal with concerns of a general matter but do advise or help with on-going problems. They usually meet every two or three months.

Bob Martin, Path Warden.