

**Minutes of the meeting of Desborough Town Council
held in Desborough Library and streamed online by Zoom on Thursday 9 December 2021**

Councillors present: P Sawford (Chair), D Cornwall, J Gardiner, T Healy, D Larmour, B Murphy-Ryan, A Window

Councillors not present: L Burnham, A Coleman, J French, S Roberts, and H Wood

Also present: G Thomson (Town Clerk), two members of the community, and three members of the community (by Zoom).

112./21 CHAIR'S WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair welcomed to the meeting those present in person and those online and he outlined the health and safety and the Covid precautions and requirements.

He referred to the Gala night incorporating the switch on of the Christmas lights and which had been well attended by members of the community. He expressed thanks to the organisers, stallholders, and Councillors who had assisted. He mentioned the St Giles Christmas Tree Festival which had also been a success and thanked the organisers.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

113./21 TO NOTE AND IF SO RESOLVED TO APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Town Clerk reported that apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Burnham, Coleman (Covid-19), French, Roberts (Covid-19), and Wood.

RESOLVED that:-

in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 S85, the apologies from Cllr Coleman and Roberts be approved, and the apologies from Cllrs Burnham, French, and Wood be noted.

114./21 TO NOTE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

Any Councillor who has an interest in any item to be discussed at the meeting should declare that interest in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

No declarations of interest were made.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

115./21 TO CONSIDER ANY REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

To consider any requests for dispensation for Councillors with an interest to be allowed to speak in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

The Town Clerk reported that no requests had been received.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

116./21 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 NOVEMBER 2021

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2021 have been circulated.

The Council is REQUESTED to approve the minutes for signing.

RESOLVED that:-

the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

117./21 TO HEAR REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

Note: no decisions can be made in response to matters raised under this item.

No requests to speak were made.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

118./21 TO NOTE AND CONSIDER THE HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS, WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2021

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

These Regulations came into force at 04:00 on Tuesday 30 November 2021 and will remain in force for three weeks (or longer if extended by the Government). In accordance with the new

Regulations, face coverings are now required in relevant indoor places and on public transport vehicles unless an exemption applies. A face covering is defined as a covering of any type which covers both a person's nose and mouth. A summary of the Regulations is set out at Appendix A. The Council is REQUESTED to consider the matter.

RESOLVED that:-
the information be noted.

119./21 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE PLANNING AND LICENSING REPORT

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The Council is REQUESTED to consider making comment on any planning or licensing matter set out below (any other applications notified before the meeting will be added to the list).

NK/2021/0945

Location: Unit A2, Eckland Lodge Business Park, Desborough Road, Braybrooke

Temporary change of use from industrial/warehouse to gymnasium with 11 no. additional parking spaces

It was stated that the premises were already operating for the use proposed but that the application did not state that it was retrospective. Concern was expressed in relation to the volume of traffic likely to be emerging onto Desborough Road from various sites and the potential for accidents. It was reported that there had been no recorded injury accidents in the last twenty years.

RESOLVED that:-
no comment be made.

120./21 TO CONSIDER ANY UPDATE ON THE NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL'S PROPOSALS IN RELATION TO THE LAWRENCE FACTORY SITE

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The Council is REQUESTED to consider any update received.

It was reported that confirmation was still awaited from Historic England that it had no interest in the site. It was noted that a footpath adjacent to the site was not dropped at one point making it difficult for people with mobility issues and those with push chairs. The Town Clerk undertook to raise the matter with the North Northamptonshire Council. It was reported that Sainsbury's had indicated that it would be submitting a formal application in relation to the proposals.

RESOLVED that:-
an update on the situation be awaited.

121./21 TO CONSIDER IMPLICATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INTEGRATED RAIL PLAN (IRP)

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The IRP was intended for release in December 2020, and was published on 18 November 2021. The plan confirms that the government will electrify and/or upgrade 3 existing main lines including the Midland Main Line between London St Pancras, the East Mids, and Sheffield. By the early-mid 2040s, passengers could see the new high-speed line connecting the West Midlands to the East Midlands, providing improved connectivity to Derby, Nottingham, Chesterfield and Sheffield. The new line would reduce journey times between London and Derby, Nottingham and Sheffield, as well as Birmingham and Nottingham, and free up capacity on the Midland Main Line south of East Midlands Parkway.

The Council is REQUESTED to consider the implications for Desborough.

The Chair stated that it had long been the Council's expressed desire for rail services to resume from a Desborough station. He added that there were only two stations in the NNC area (Kettering and Wellingborough) with a spur to Corby, and that these would reach capacity with the population growth resulting in a need for further provision. He said that the NNC would inevitably create a transport strategy which should address the question. Councillors discussed the merits and impact of having a railway station in Desborough, and it was suggested that an integrated transport provision with cheaper bus services. Following a full discussion on the matter it was

RESOLVED that:-
the question of rail provision in Desborough be considered as part of the consideration of the Neighbourhood Plan.

122./21 TO NOTE THE ADOPTION OF THE KETTERING SITE SPECIFIC PART 2 LOCAL PLAN

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

North Northamptonshire Council formally adopted the Kettering Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan on 1 December 2021. All information relating to the adoption of the Plan can be viewed on the North

Northamptonshire Council's website at 'Adopted Kettering Site Specific Part 2 Local Plan' at www.kettering.gov.uk/SSP2Exam. Hard copies of the Adopted Plan and accompanying documents, including the Adoption Statement and Sustainability Appraisal Report are available for inspection at the North Northamptonshire Council Offices, Bowling Green Road, Kettering, and Burton Latimer, Kettering, Rothwell, and Desborough Libraries.

It was noted that the Plan was a critical document in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

123./21 TO NOTE REPORTS ON ACTIVITY FROM NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCILLORS, LOCAL GROUPS, AND VOLUNTEERS

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

Any reports received will be circulated to Councillors.

No reports were presented.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

124./21 TO CONSIDER THE NNC'C RESPONSE TO THE PROPOSED DUNKIRK AVENUE "DOG WALKING" AREA

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The Town Council set aside funds for a proposed dedicated dog walking area at the southern edge of the Dunkirk Avenue recreation area. Unfortunately the owners of the area, NNC, does not support the proposal for the following reasons:-

- *for a dog walking section to be viable and practicably useable it would have to be of a reasonable width with we feel would eat into the main park too much;*
- *presently the grass is cut with a large 'ride on' type cutter and for dog walking section which would be wide enough, would require a different cut regime and this creates some difficult logistical issues;*
- *the Rec is the only open park area for central Desborough and is a popular and attractive civic amenity space which already has quite a few demands upon it, such as the full size football pitch, equipped play area, major outdoor gym, bowls pavilion and green all placed into an already limited space. A dog walking ring of useable proportions would take up too much space and have a significant reductive impact upon the 'park';*
- *an enclosed dog walking area around the perimeter of the park would not necessarily be popular or used by dog walkers who may wish to roam wider to play with their dogs. Where it is used during the winter it will become muddy and the grass churned up, perhaps to the point that it wouldn't be used at all: there are several footpaths in the (former) Kettering borough where this already happens.*

The Council is RECOMMENDED to note the information.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

125./21 TO NOTE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND'S REVIEW (LGBCE)

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

Following structural changes in local government, the LGBCE automatically considers the electoral arrangements for the local authority, including Councillor numbers and warding arrangements. Consultation on issues will be advertised in future and any changes would be expected to be implemented for the elections in 2025.

The review timeline is:-

to July 2022	preliminary period
August 2022	LGBCE makes decision on Council size
Aug 2022 to Nov 2022	consultation on ward pattern
Feb 2023 to April 2023	publication of draft proposals
July 2023	publication of final recommendations
Autumn/Winter 2023	Parliamentary consideration of recommendations
May 2025	implementation of new electoral arrangements

The Council is REQUESTED to consider the matter.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the review did not include town and parish councils.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

126./21 TO RECEIVE ANY REPORTS ON:

126.1./21 CCTV INSTALLATION AND UPGRADE

The Town Clerk reported that he had been advised that the cameras would go live soon. He reminded the Council that the Town Council did not own or operate the CCTV cameras but had made a grant to the Borough Council / Unitary Council to enable it to purchase and install the new and replacement equipment in the system. He also reminded the Council that the monitoring arrangements were unchanged: being carried out by the NNC's control room. He undertook to seek, and if received to circulate, the detailed specification of the new equipment to Councillors. He outlined the background to the three or so years long project and the adjustments to proposals over time.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

126.2./21 PROPOSED ONE-WAY SYSTEM AND PARKING RESTRICTIONS GLADSTONE STREET / NICHOLS STREET

The Town Clerk reported that the formal consultation process was underway but that persons affected must respond to the consultation if they wanted their views to be taken into account.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

126.3./21 WELCOME BACK FUND

The Town Clerk reported that street musicians had been well received but that it NNC had not been able to arrange the additional Christmas lights owing to the proposed location being sold and the short timescale to find an alternative location.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

126.4./21 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Chair reported that the Advisory Committee had met and had begun working through the previous draft plan and other documents, and outlined the discussions to date. He stated that the Advisory Committee had discussed increasing the number of Councillors on the Advisory Committee to seven.

RESOLVED that:-

- i) the membership of the Advisory Committee be expanded to seven Councillors;
- ii) Councillors Gardiner and Wood be appointed to the Advisory Committee;
- iii) the report be otherwise noted.

126.5./21 OTHER PROJECTS

No reports were presented.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted.

127./21 FINANCE MATTERS

127.1./21 TO APPROVE THE FINANCE REPORT

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The Council is RECOMMENDED to note the information and approve the report (Appendix B).

RESOLVED that:-

the report be noted.

127.2./21 TO CONSIDER AND IF SO RESOLVED TO APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT AND NOTE PAYMENTS MADE

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The report set out at Appendix C details those invoices and payments for payment, those authorised in accordance with the scheme of delegation, and those where payment is by continuous authority. Details in the report may be updated before the meeting as information is received. The Council is RECOMMENDED to approve payments.

RESOLVED that:-

the payments made and proposed be approved.

127.3./21 TO CONSIDER BUDGETARY ISSUES

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The Council is REQUESTED to identify the main issues that it wants to address, indicate any new activities it might want to pursue, and to agree its objectives for the next year and for the medium term.

There was a general discussion on possible suggestions for funding including Youth Projects, Events, and the Queen's Jubilee.

RESOLVED that:-

the suggestions be noted.

The Chair wished everyone a merry Christmas and closed the meeting at 20:56

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

Appendix A

Desborough Town Council
9 December 2021

The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Wearing of Face Coverings) (England) Regulations 2021

- These Regulations came into force at 04:00 on Tuesday 30th November 2021 and will remain in force for three weeks (or longer if extended by Government).
- Face coverings are now required in relevant indoor places and on public transport vehicles unless an exemption applies.
- A face covering is defined as **a covering of any type which covers both a person's nose and mouth**.
- Exemptions include children under the age of 11; Police, emergency responders and council officials on official duty; people who cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability; and people for whom putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause severe distress.
- Face coverings can be removed temporarily if someone needs to take medication; has a reasonable need to eat or drink; and, if asked to do so by a Police Officer or an employee in a bank or shop for the purposes of identification.
- Premises include shops, takeaways, barbers, banks, post offices, indoor shopping centres, etc.
- The requirement to wear a face covering only applies to indoor premises and parts of premises that are indoors. Indoors is classed as any structure that is enclosed or substantially enclosed (defined as more than 50% enclosed, not counting the ceiling/roof).
- Premises such as cafes, bars and restaurants are **not** included.
- A full list of premises where face coverings must be worn can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own>
- Staff within these settings, are required to wear face coverings when they are in a part that is open to the public unless they have an exemption.
- Public transport includes buses, trains, trams and taxis as well as aeroplanes and ferries.
- Public transport **does not** include a school transport service.
- There isn't the same requirement for public transport employees to wear a face covering so taxi drivers and bus drivers are not required to wear a face covering when in contact with the public.
- The Regulations include a requirement for relevant places and public transport vehicles to display a sign or for information to be provided about the wearing of face coverings on the premises/on the public transport.
- Police are the enforcing authority for the requirement to wear a face covering in a relevant place and on public transport vehicles.
- Local authorities can enforce the requirement for signage and information.
- Fixed Penalty Notices can be issued for offences and start at £200 for failing to wear a face covering, doubling with each further offence. For failure to display a sign and/or failing to provide information the fine starts at £1000 and doubles with each further offence.

Appendix B

Desborough Town Council
9 December 2021

Finance Report

Monthly Bank Reconciliation	30/11/2021
Unity Trust Bank Current	£33,834.81
Unity Trust Bank Saver	£100.00
Barclays Current	£0.00
Barclays Business Saver	£0.00
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund	£270,514.95
Reconciled Balance	£304,449.76

The dividend from the CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund is reinvested each month into the fund. In November the dividend reinvested (to be confirmed). Room hire income of £36 was received as was the compensation payment from Barclays Bank of £51.38

Appendix C

**Desborough Town Council
9 December 2021**

Accounts for payment

Items will be added or adjusted as information is received.

	Power	Supplier	Description	Reason	VAT	Total
+	1	Desborough Library and Community Hub	Town Council Office	Office Rent (December)	£0.00	£666.66
+	4	LGSS Pensions and Mr G Thomson	Salaries & all Employment Costs	HMRC, pension and salary payments (December)	£0.00	£5,508.14
+	2	TalkTalk	Town Council Office	Broadband / phone (Dec)	£4.09	£24.54
	5	Desborough Carnival Committee	Welcome Back Fund	Fireworks Display	£0.00	£1,000.00
	2	Starboard Systems Ltd	Town Council Office	Scribe accounting software	£81.50	£489.00
	9	Miss J Smith (t/a Alright Jack)	Welcome Back Fund	Musicians	£0.00	£120.00
	9	Sally Oakland (t/a Playing Card Productions)	Welcome Back Fund	Musicians (2 sessions)	£0.00	£240.00
+	8	Harlequin Printer Supplies	Town Council Office	Ink cartridges	£12.00	£71.96
+	2	Mr G Thomson	Town Council Office	Refund of hygiene product purchases	£0.92	£5.50
+	4	Autela Payroll Services Ltd	Salaries & all Employment Costs	Payroll	£8.40	£50.40

+ Paid in accordance with delegated or continuous authority

Powers

1. Local Government Act 1972, s. 133
2. Local Government Act 1972, s. 111. and s.150
3. Local Government Act 1972, s. 150 and Data Protection Regulations 2018
4. Local Government Act 1972, s. 112
5. Local Government Act 1972, s. 144, and s.145
6. Local Government Act 1972. s174
7. Local Government Act 1972 s140, 140A, s145 & s150, Local Government Act 2000 s101
8. Local Government Act 1972, s. 150
9. Local Government Act 1972, s145