

**Minutes of the meeting of Desborough Town Council
held in Desborough Library (streamed online by Zoom) on Thursday 16 March 2023**

Councillors present: H Wood (Chair), A Coleman, D Cornwall, J French, J Gardiner, D Larmour, B McElhinney, B Murphy-Ryan, P Sawford, and A Window
Councillors not present: T Healy, S Roberts
Also present: and three members of the community

Immediately prior to the meeting the Chair welcomed everyone and explained in the absence of the Town Clerk the work of the Council had continued: community grants, events, and neighbourhood plan meetings had been held and Council meeting convened.

169./22 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO APPROVE REASONS FOR ABSENCE WHERE APPROPRIATE

An apology for absence was received from Cllr Healy.

**RESOLVED that:-
the apology be noted**

170./22 TO NOTE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS

176./22 To receive reports from Committees and Panels

Cllr Coleman declared an interest in this item insofar as it related to Havelock Schools and Cllr Window declared an interest in this item insofar as it related to St Giles Community Centre.

Cllr Gardiner declared an interest in item 179./22 To consider and if so resolved to approve accounts for payment and note payments made insofar as it related to Spendlove Contracting.

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

171./22 TO DETERMINE ANY REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

It was reported that no requests for dispensation had been received.

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

172./22 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 19 JANUARY 2023 AND 16 FEBRUARY 2023

The draft minutes of the meetings held on 19 January 2023 and 16 February 2023 had been circulated.

RESOLVED that:-

- i) Minute 145./22 be amended by the deletion of "for the oversight", Minute 160./22 be amended with the correct spelling of Cllr McElhinney; and,
- ii) the minutes as amended be approved and signed by the Chair.

173./22 TO CONSIDER ANY POLICING MATTERS

No report was presented.

**RESOLVED that:-
the attendance of the Police be requested at a future meeting be requested.**

174./22 TO HEAR REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

No decisions may be made in relation to this item.

A member of the public referred to the accuracy of the minutes of the Council meeting in February relating to a complaint, and a formal apology from the Council was made. Another member of the public referred to positions on the Council and the Town Clerk undertook to respond.

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

175./22 TO NOTE ANY REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY GROUPS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Desborough in Bloom (DiB)

Thanks were expressed on behalf of DiB for the nomination to Persimmons Homes for the ANPR grant.

English Regional Transport Association (ERTA)

It was reported that a local meeting the ERTA had taken place in Market Harborough to explore and discuss prospects for reopening a Northampton to Market Harborough rail link. It was noted that an estimated price of £15 Million per mile of track led to a possible price of £500 Million for the route.

RESOLVED that:-

- i) further information on the ERTA group be sought with a view to the Council subscribing with the intention of a railway station being located in Desborough in future;
- ii) the formal appointment of a representative be considered if the Council subscribes; and,
- iii) the information be noted

176./22 TO NOTE ANY REPORTS FROM NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCILLORS

No reports were presented.

RESOLVED that:-

the information be noted

177./22 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND PANELS

177.1./22 COMMUNITY GRANTS ADVISORY PANEL

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

A meeting of the Advisory Panel took place on 15 March 2023 and considered applications for community grants which had been submitted (Cllr Window declared an interest in St Giles Community Centre and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon). The Advisory Panel RECOMMENDS that grants be awarded as follows:-

<i>Vine Trust</i>	<i>£2,500</i>	<i>carpets and chairs</i>
<i>St Giles Community Centre</i>	<i>£7,315</i>	<i>data projector and indoor LED lighting</i>
<i>Havelock Schools</i>	<i>£1,185</i>	<i>outdoor spaces</i>

Having declared an interest in the application relating to St Giles Community Centre, Cllr Window left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

Having declared an interest in the application relating to Havelock Schools, Cllr Coleman left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

RESOLVED that:-

the recommended grants be approved.

177.2./22 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

It was reported that an updated draft document had been received for initial review which would be shared with the Advisory Committee.

RESOLVED that:-

the report be noted

178./22 TO RECEIVE AND COMMENT ON MATTERS IN 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 in Appendix A (any other applications notified before the meeting will be added to the list).

In connection with application AOC/0138/1903 Desborough North (land at), Desborough, concern was expressed on the impact on Back Lane.

In connection with application NK/2023/0087 No. 44 Rushton Road (land to rear of), Desborough concern was expressed that the application represented overdevelopment and the comments previously made by the Council were equally applicable to this application.

RESOLVED that:-

comments be made accordingly.

179./22 TO APPROVE THE FINANCE REPORT

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The finance report is set out at Appendix B. Further information will be provided to Councillors in due course. The Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the report.

RESOLVED that:-

the report be noted.

180./22 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 will be updated before the meeting as information is received. The Council is RECOMMENDED to approve payments and note those payments made under delegated authority.

Having declared an interest in the payment relating to Spendlove Contracting, Cllr Gardiner left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

**RESOLVED that:-
the payments be noted and approved.**

181./22 TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

The Council discussed the changes to structures in local government since the reorganisation created North Northamptonshire Council (NNC). Some concern was expressed about the possibility of services being cut by NNC if town and parish councils did not accept responsibility for them. In a wide-ranging discussion it was noted that one useful role for town and parish councils was public engagement and communication. It was also noted that there had been no Annual Town Meeting.

**RESOLVED that:-
information relating to the process for an Annual Town Meeting be considered at the next Council meeting.**

182./22 TO CONSIDER A MOTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

**RESOLVED that:-
in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the item "To consider the Council's office arrangements and lease" on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.**

183./22 TO CONSIDER THE COUNCIL'S OFFICE ARRANGEMENTS AND LEASE

The Council received information in relation to the lease for the office accommodation, the arrangements for use of the accommodation, and the rent increase due from April 2023. Following a full discussion it was

RESOLVED that:-
i) **the Town Clerk discuss matters raised with the landlord;**
ii) **a new business continuity plan be prepared.**

The meeting closed at 21:22

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

Initialed by the Chair: _____

Appendix A

Desborough Town Council 16 March 2023

Planning and Licensing Report

Click the underlined text to go to details of the application on the Planning Portal of North Northamptonshire Council (link is outside the Town Council's control).

- [NK/2023/0027](#) 19 Buxton Drive, Desborough
Proposed development: Extension to front porch
- [AOC/0138/1903](#) Desborough North (land at), Desborough
Bellway Homes Ltd (East Midlands)
Proposed development: Condition No. 3 (Construction Management Plan) of KET/2019/0138
- [NK/2023/0052](#) 73 Harrington Road, Desborough
Proposed development: Change of use from school meeting/training facility to offices. Single storey extension to North and West and PV solar panels to South with additional parking bays and cycle shelter
- [NK/2023/0057](#) Gaultney Farm (land at), Pipewell Road, Desborough
Lovell Partnerships Ltd
Proposed development: [KET/2018/0623](#) (Erection of up to 70 no. dwellings with all matters reserved except access): Removal of condition 13
- [NK/2023/0087](#) 44 Rushton Road (land to rear of), Desborough
Proposed development: Access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale to be considered in relation to NK/2021/0514: Outline approval for 3 no. dwellings
- [NK/2023/0096](#) Desborough Co Operative Society, 41 Station Road, Desborough
Proposed development: 1 no. Internally illuminated fascia sign and 1 no. internally illuminated projecting sign
- [NK/2023/0126](#) North Desborough (land at), Desborough
Bellway Homes Limited
Proposed development: NK/2021/0356 (All details in respect of [KET/2017/0169](#) for residential development of 700 dwellings): vary parking and rear access to plots 19/20, driveway amended to plots 322/323 and plot 606. Plots 361 to 365, 497, 506, 507, 527 to 530 and 583 to 586 repositioned, plots 538 to 541 garages repositioned, plots 18 to 20 shared driveway widening. Grasscrete turning head/ access routes added, Gas governor updated, landscaping amended and PROW UC6 footpath route amended

Appendix B

Desborough Town Council 16 March 2023

Finance Report

Monthly Bank Reconciliation		28/02/2023
Unity Trust Bank Current		£6,301.01
Unity Trust Bank Saver	Service charges of £3.00 paid	£30,768.17
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund	Dividend reinvested Feb £721.50	£238,552.15
Balance		£275,621.33

Initialed by the Chair: _____

Appendix C

**Desborough Town Council
 16 March 2023**

Accounts for payment

Items will be added or adjusted as information is received.

	Power	Supplier	Description	Reason	S.137	VAT	Total
+	1	Desborough Library and Community Hub	Town Council Office	Office Rent (Mar)	-	£0.00	£666.66
+	2	TalkTalk	Town Council Office	Broadband/phone (Mar)	-	£6.09	£36.54
+	4	LGSS Pensions and Mr G Thomson	Salaries & all Employment Costs	HMRC, pension and salary payments (Mar)	-	£0.00	£5,553.80
+	1	Unity Bank (Lloyds Bank)	Administration	Payment card fee	-	£0.00	£3.00
	5	NetwiseUK	Town Council Office	.gov.uk domain	-	£16.00	£96.00
	9	North Northants Council	Administration	Christmas lights 2022 (supply and installation)	-	£925.41	£5,552.48
+	1	Harlequin Print Supplies	Administration	Tonor	-	£20.00	£119.99
	9	Event Production Ltd	Projects	Sound system - Coronation	-	£0.00	£400.00
	1	Starboard Systems Ltd	Administration	Accounts software	-	£93.60	£561.60
	9	Spendlove contracting	Administration	Memorial flags 09/2022	-	£32.00	£192.00
	6	Society of Local Council Clerks	Memberships and subscriptions	Membership	-	£0.00	£279.00
	1	Rusev Services Ltd	Town Council Office	Portable Appliance Testing	-	£0.00	£70.00
	18	Navigus Planning Ltd	Administration	Consultancy	-	£420.00	£2,520.00
	7	Trinity Singers	Queen's Jubilee	Entertainment	-	£0.00	£50.00

+ Paid in accordance with delegated or continuous authority

Duties and Powers

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Local Government Act 1972 s.111 & s.150 | 11 Local Government Act 1972 s.150 & Data Protection Regulations 2018 |
| 2 Local Government Act 1972 s.112 | 12 Local Government Act 1972 s.174 |
| 3 Local Government Act 1972 s.133 | 13 Accounts & Audit Regulations 2015 |
| 4 Local Government Act 1972 s.140 & s.140A and s.145 & s.150, Local Government Act 2000 s.101 | 14 Highways Act 1980, s.274A & Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s.30 |
| 5 Local Government Act 1972 s.142 | 15 Local Government Act 1972 s.137 |
| 6 Local Government Act 1972 s.143 | 16 Public Health Act 1936, s.234 |
| 7 Local Government Act 1972 s.144 & s.145 | 17 Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, s72, Highways Act 1980, s96 |
| 8 Local Government Act 1972 s.144 & s.145, Public Health Act 1936 s.87 | 18 Town and County Planning Act 1990, s.61F(1),(2), & Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, s.38C(2) |
| 9 Local Government Act 1972 s.145 | 19 Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended) s36 |
| 10 Local Government Act 1972 s.150 | 20 Local Government Act 1972, s150 & Data Protection Regulations 2018 |

Initialed by the Chair: _____