

**Minutes of the meeting of Desborough Town Council  
held in Desborough Library on Thursday 30 November 2023**

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

**94./23 TO CONSIDER AND IF SO RESOLVED TO APPROVE REASONS FOR APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

**An apology for absence was received from Cllr Window.**

**RESOLVED that:-**

**the apology be noted.**

**95./23 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.*

**No requests for dispensation were made.**

**RESOLVED that:-**

**the information be noted.**

**96./23 REGISTER OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST & OTHER REGISTRABLE INTERESTS**

**Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-**

*Members are reminded that they are personally responsible for ensuring that these declarations are complete and are kept up to date and that they should be submitted to the Monitoring Officer at North Northamptonshire Council. This is a legal requirement. 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 were made.**

**RESOLVED that:-**

**the information be noted.**

**97./23 TO CONSIDER IMMEDIATE ACTIONS IN RELATION TO FUTURE MEDICAL PROVISION IN DESBOROUGH**

**It was reported that a Rothwell Town Councillor had proposed to a Desborough Town Councillor that a joint Committee be established comprising three Councillors from each Town Council, two representatives from the Rothwell and Desborough Healthcare Group, and the local Member of Parliament, with the intention of securing the construction of a larger medical centre building.**

**During a wide-ranging discussion, potential sources of funding for any new provision which had been suggested were noted, and it was noted that Desborough Town Council is minded to work in partnership with Rothwell Town Council on the issue and is minded to approve the creation of such a committee but wishes the focus to be securing better service provision rather than a new building. It was suggested that the Council not become trapped in a cycle of trying to find funding for new build and should focus on the necessary expansion of services and how they are delivered.**

**Following a full discussion it was RESOLVED that:-**

- i) the Council be minded to approve the formation of a joint committee as proposed subject to the Terms of Reference being drafted by the Town Clerks beforehand reflecting the focus on the necessary expansion of services and how they are delivered rather than where they are delivered; and,**
- ii) the Town Clerk be requested to invite a representative from the Rothwell and Desborough Healthcare Group to attend a future Town Council meeting.**

**98./23 TO CONSIDER POTENTIAL MATTERS FOR FUTURE FUNDING FROM THE COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION WHEN THE COUNCIL SETS ITS BUDGET**

The Chair introduced the item and invited members of the public to suggest items for consideration as part of the Council’s budget process.

Suggestions made included: additional CCTV cameras; the redevelopment of the square at the end of Havelock Street (known as Havelock Square) which the Council wished renamed in honour of Queen Elizabeth II; and, tree planting with grants received with regard to the National Forest.

It was reported that a provision in the current year’s budget for “enabling crime detection by CCTV” was being pursued through the Police identifying areas of need based on evidence.

It was noted that the Council owned no land on which trees could be planted.

It was reported that North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) was considering the future of the square and it was suggested that the Councils could work together to jointly fund a project to secure the best future for the area; such redevelopment might include removal of street clutter, and provision of a canopy, seating, and power, in order to create an attractive and useable space. It was suggested that a Town Council contribution of £30,000 might be sought by NNC.

The Town Clerk reported that the Town Council did not have a legal power to provide electricity in the street but that if it worked on a joint scheme with NNC then it could secure the Town Council’s aspirations.

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

The meeting closed at 20:04

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Initialed by the Chair: \_\_\_\_\_