



Minutes of the annual meeting of Desborough Town Council held in Desborough Library (streamed online by Zoom) on Thursday 16 May 2024



Councillors present: D Cornwall (Chair items 29./24 - 39./24, and 41.,24 - 49./24), J French (Chair for item 40./24), A Coleman, J Gardiner, T Healy, D Larmour, B McElhinney, P Sawford, and A Window

Councillors not present: S Roberts, H Wood

Also present: Two members of the community (in person and online), and G Thomson (Town Clerk)

Immediately prior to the meeting the Chair welcomed those present and outlined the safety arrangements. He added that owing the General Election, strict rules applied to what Councils may and may not do and say, and for that reason, Councillors and members of the public may be asked to refrain from discussing certain matters: especially controversial matters, or any matters of a political nature. He explained that this was not to stifle discussion or debate but to ensure the legality of proceedings and decisions. He added that some matters falling into that category had been deferred to the July meeting.

29./24 TO CONSIDER AND IF SO RESOLVED TO APPROVE REASONS FOR ABSENCE AND TO NOTE APOLOGIES

It was reported that an apology had been received from Cllr Wood.

RESOLVED that:-
the information be noted.

30./24 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 and/or vote in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

The Town Clerk reported that no requests for dispensations had been received.

RESOLVED that:-
the information be noted.

31./24 REGISTER OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST & OTHER REGISTRABLE INTERESTS AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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. The Council is REQUESTED to note any declarations made.

Cllr Cornwall declared an interest in item 40./24 "To consider recommendations from the Community Grants Advisory Panel" insofar as it related to an application from 3rd Desborough Scouts.

RESOLVED that:-
the declaration be noted.

32./24 TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 MAY 2024

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

The draft minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 16 May 2024 have been circulated.

RESOLVED that:-
the minutes be approved and signed by the Chair.

33./23 TO HEAR REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 3E

Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-

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

No representations were made.

RESOLVED that:-
the information be noted.

- 34./24 TO RECEIVE THE DRAFT MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF THE ROTHWELL AND DESBOROUGH HEALTHCARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 18 APRIL 2024**
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
The draft minutes of the meeting of the Rothwell and Desborough Healthcare Advisory Committee held on 18 April 2024 have been circulated (Report No. 1). The Council is REQUESTED to note the minutes.
RESOLVED that:-
the report be noted.
- 35./24 TO NOTE THE TIMETABLE FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF CO-OPTING A COUNCILLOR**
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
The Town Clerk will set out the timetable to consider the co-option of a new Councillor. The Council is REQUESTED to note the information. The application form will go live on the Council's website on Monday 24 June 2024 for a two week period. The closing date for applications is nine o'clock in the morning on Monday 8 July 2024.
RESOLVED that:-
the information be noted.
- 36./24 TO REVIEW AND ADOPT APPROPRIATE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
Some questions have been raised as the the application of specific Regulations and the item is being withdrawn until these matters are resolved. It is expected that this item will be presented to the July meeting.
RESOLVED that:-
the information be noted.
- 37./24 TO NOTE THAT DESBOROUGH HERITAGE CENTRE HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR LISTING AS AN ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE**
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
The Council is REQUESTED to note that Desborough Heritage Centre has been approved for listing as an Asset of Community Value.
RESOLVED that:-
the information be noted.
- 38./24 TO CONSIDER ANY RESPONSE TO PLANNING AND LICENSING APPLICATIONS AND NOTE ANY RESPONSES MADE**
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
The Council is REQUESTED to consider making comment on any planning or licensing matter and to note any already comments made. Any relevant applications notified after the publication of the agenda will be added.
- 38.1./24 APPLICATION: [NK/2024/0216](#) - NORTH DESBOROUGH (LAND AT) DESBOROUGH (APPLICANT: BELLWAY HOMES LTD EAST MIDLANDS)**
Proposal: Variation of condition Nos. 1 (Accordance with approved plans/details) and 2 (Windows, doors, verges, rainwater goods, and other details) of NK/2021/0356 in respect of amendments to approved plans
Biodiversity issues: the Senior Flood and water Officer sites that the Lead Local Flood Authority "has no objection to this application for variation in the external rainwater pipe". Comments in relation to the protection of bats and Great Crested Newts should be supported.
RESOLVED that:-
the Town Clerk be requested to support the comments made in relation to the protection of bats and Great Crested Newts.
- 38.2./24 APPLICATION: [AOC/0538/2301](#) - 6 STATION ROAD (LAND ADJ) DESBOROUGH**
Proposal: Condition nos. 4 (Landscape scheme) and 7 (Contaminated land) of NK/2023/0538
Biodiversity issues: required remediation works have been carried out and the applicant reports that "no contaminated soils remain on site where to be left exposed".
RESOLVED that:-
no objection be made.

- 38.3./24 APPLICATION: [AOC/0967/2108](#) - SAINSBURY'S, COCKEREL RISE, DESBOROUGH**
Proposal: Condition no. 18 (BREEAM) of NK/2021/0967
Biodiversity issues: the rating of very good has been achieved under the code for sustainable built environment.
- RESOLVED that:-**
no objection be made.
- 38.4./24 APPLICATION: [NK/2024/0293](#) - WHITEHART HOUSE, LOWER STREET, DESBOROUGH**
Proposal: T1 Sycamore - remove one large branch as with weight of leaves it will break off
Biodiversity issues: no significant environmental issues perceived as a result of the proposed works to the bough at risk of falling.
- Concern was expressed that the proposed works might result in an imbalance in the tree leading to the eventual loss of the tree.**
- RESOLVED that:-**
the Town Clerk be requested to comment accordingly and seek assurances for the long term viability of the tree.
- 38.5./24 APPLICATION: [NK/2024/0367](#) - 1 UPPER STEEPING, DESBOROUGH**
Proposal: T1 Sycamore (Acer Pseudoplatanus) - Trim/remove low hanging limbs
Biodiversity issues: no significant environmental issues perceived as a result of the proposed works to the lower branches.
- Concern was expressed that the proposed works might result in an imbalance in the tree leading to the eventual loss of the tree.**
- RESOLVED that:-**
the Town Clerk be requested to comment accordingly and seek assurances for the long term viability of the tree.
- 39./24 TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON ACTIVITY FROM THE POLICE, AND NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCILLORS**
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
The Council is REQUESTED to note any reports submitted.
The Town Clerk stated that no reports had been received.
RESOLVED that:-
the report be noted.
- 40./24 TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY GRANTS ADVISORY PANEL**
Having declared an interest in this item Cllr Cornwall left the meeting for the consideration of this matter and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon. In the absence of the Chair the meeting was chaired by the Vice Chair Cllr French.
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
Any recommendations from the Community Grants Advisory Panel will be presented for determination.
It was reported that a meeting of the Advisory Panel had been held and one application received from 3rd Desborough Scouts for £4,200 towards a group visit to Croatia. It was reported that the Advisory Panel had recommended a grant of £1,000.
RESOLVED that:-
a grant of £1,000 be made.
Cllr Cornwall returned to the room at this point and resumed the Chair.
- 41./24 TO RECEIVE THE FINANCE REPORT**
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
The Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the report (Appendix A).
RESOLVED that:-
the report be approved.
- 42./24 TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
Details of the Annual Governance Statement have been circulated to Councillors. It is RECOMMENDED that the statement be approved and signed by the Chair.
RESOLVED that:-
the statement be approved and signed by the Chair.

- 43./24 TO APPROVE THE ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS**
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
Details of the Accounting Statements have been circulated to Councillors. It is RECOMMENDED that the statements be approved and signed by the Chair.
RESOLVED that:-
the statement be approved and signed by the Chair
- 44./24 TO NOTE THE DATES FOR THE PUBLIC INSPECTION OF ACCOUNTS**
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
The dates for the public inspection of accounts are 1 July 2024 to 9 August 2024. The Council is RECOMMENDED to approve the dates.
RESOLVED that:-
the dates be approved.
- 45./24 TO RECEIVE AND NOTE THE INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT**
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
A copy of the Auditor's report has been circulated to Councillors. It is RECOMMENDED that the report be accepted.
RESOLVED that:-
the report be accepted.
- 46./24 TO CONSIDER AND IF SO RESOLVED TO NOTE AND APPROVE ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**
Extracted from the report of the Town Clerk:-
The report set out at Appendix B details those invoices and payments for payment, those authorised in accordance with the scheme of delegation, and those where payment is by continuous authority; and the Council is RECOMMENDED to approve payments.
Details in the report may be updated before the meeting as information is received.
RESOLVED that:-
the payments, including the payment of the grant approved earlier in the meeting, be noted and approved.
- 47./24 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**
RESOLVED that:-
in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and members of the public be temporarily excluded from the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of information of a confidential nature and to do otherwise would be prejudicial to the public interest.
- 48./24 TO CONSIDER A VERBAL REPORT FROM THE TOWN CLERK ABOUT SPONSORSHIP MATTERS**
Not for publication by virtue of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of information of a confidential nature prejudicial to the public interest.
The Council received an oral report from the Town Clerk in relation to sponsorship matters. Following a discussion on the principles and the specific issues involved it was
RESOLVED that:-
a) the principal of accepting sponsorship for Council-run events and of Council activities be accepted; and,
b) a draft policy on sponsorship of Council-run events and of Council activities be developed for consideration in due course.
- 49./24 READMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**
RESOLVED that:-
members of the press and public be readmitted to the meeting.

The meeting closed at 19:37

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

Initialed by the Chair: _____

Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Rothwell and Desborough Healthcare Advisory Committee held in the large meeting room at Desborough Library on Thursday 18 April 2024

Councillors present: Desborough: T Healy, J French
Councillors present: Rothwell: I Jelley
Also present: S Yarrow (Rothwell and Desborough Healthcare Group - RDHG) (items 1 and 4),
T Byres (RDHG) (items 1 and 4), G Thomson (Town Clerk)
Councillors not present: Desborough: J Gardiner
Councillors not present: Rothwell: C Brown, M Spendlove

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FROM DESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

It was DECIDED that Cllr T Healy be elected as Chair for the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 MARCH 2024 (IF AVAILABLE)

It was noted that no minutes of the inaugural meeting held on 8 March 2024 were available.

4. DISCUSSION WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ROTHWELL AND DESBOROUGH HEALTHCARE GROUP

Mesdames Yarrow and Byres from the RDHG were welcomed to the meeting. It was stated that

- there were no plans to restrict further patient registrations notwithstanding the ever-increasing number of registrations from new properties in the Group's catchment area, and there were no plans to close the Desborough Surgery in the foreseeable future;
- patients are able to register with other practices;
- if the currently approved developments in the Group's catchment area were all built and occupied the potential increase in the number of patients could amount to 10,000;
- the Rothwell surgery building was leased to the practice but was expensive to maintain;
- the Desborough surgery building was owned by the practice but had very limited parking provision;
- the practice had seven partners (five whole time equivalent) and two salaried GPs;
- a piece of land between the two towns might be available in future as a location for a new surgery but it would have to be funded by the Northamptonshire Integrated Care Board (ICB);
- the RDHG was not aware of any s106 contributions towards medical provision from any recent developments, the last being from early in the development of the Grange in Desborough;
- the ICB was the statutory body responsible for local NHS services and budgets;
- it was not possible to provide telephone or virtual appointments because patients won't accept non face-to-face appointments;
- the online triage system (with backup telephone support) was working well;
- new Government NHS contracts were expected in 2025;
- parking spaces for the Desborough surgery were being rented from the Conservative Club but parking would become more difficult with the development of the old dairy site;
- it would be useful to meet with representatives of both North Northamptonshire Council and the ICB to discuss the possibilities of funding increased or replacement provision;
- there would be no quick solution to the issues facing the towns.

5. TO CONSIDER THE NEXT STEPS

It was considered that the increasing number of patients on the roll at RDHG was unsustainable
It was DECIDED that:-

- 5.1. Cllr Jelley be authorised to speak with officers at NNC to arrange a meeting with NNC's Health and Wellbeing team with a view to a joint meeting with representatives from NNC, the ICB, RDHG, and the Advisory Committee;
- 5.2. Cllr French be authorised to speak with the MP to ascertain what assistance he might be able to offer.

6. FUTURE MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

It was DECIDED that the next meeting be held in Rothwell at 10 o'clock on the morning of Wednesday 12 June 2024.

7. TO NOTE THAT EACH TOWN COUNCIL WILL REVIEW THE PURPOSE, DELEGATION, AND MEMBERSHIP AT ITS ANNUAL MEETING

It was NOTED that with the end of the municipal year at its annual meeting each Town Council would have to review the purpose, delegation, and if approved, its representation on the Advisory Committee.

The meeting closed at 11:10

Desborough Town Council
20 June 2024

Finance Report
Monthly Bank Reconciliation (31/05/2024)

Unity Trust Bank Current	£1,989.33
Unity Trust Bank Saver	£2,640.48
CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund	£299,443.11
Reconciled Balance	£304,072.92

The dividend from the CCLA Public Sector Deposit Fund is reinvested each month into the fund. In May the dividend reinvested was £890.05. Income from room hire was £27.00

Desborough Town Council
20 June 2024

Accounts for payment

Items may be added or adjusted as information is confirmed.

	Power	Supplier	Description	Reason	S137	VAT	Total Amount
+	1	Lloyds bank	Town Council Office	Lloyds bank card fee	-	£0.00	£3.00
+	4	LGSS Pensions, HMRC, and Mr G Thomson	Salaries & all Employment Costs	Contractual employment related payments	-	£0.00	£4,361.92
+	1	Desborough Library and Community Hub	Town Council Office	Office Rent	-	£0.00	£798.00
+	2	Talk Talk Business	Town Council Office	Internet and telephone	-	£8.97	£53.80
+	23	Do the Numbers	Democratic Services	Internal audit	-	£0.00	£500.00
+	1	Heritage Centre	Administration	Room Hire	-	£0.00	£25.00
	7	3rd Desborough Scouts	Administration	Community Grant	-	£0.00	£1,000.00

Rights, Duties and Powers

- + Paid in accordance with delegated or continuous authority
- 1 Local Government Act 1972 s.111 & s.150
- 2 Local Government Act 1972 s.112
- 3 Local Government Act 1972 s.111
- 4 Local Government Act 1972 s.140 & s.140A and s.145 & s.150, Local Government Act 2000 s.101
- 5 Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s 29
- 6 Local Government Act 1972 s.143
- 7 Local Government Act 1972, s144