

## Minutes of the meeting of Desborough Town Council held on Thursday 19 July 2018

<b>Councillors present:</b>	G Holmes (Chairman), C Archer, L Burnham, S Draycott, I James, B McElhinney, J Read, P Sawford, S Stroud, and J Taylor
<b>Also present:</b>	G Thomson (volunteer Clerk), and 36 members of the public.
<b>095/18</b>	<p><b>Chairman's Welcome and Announcements:</b></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting and announced:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- that the minutes were being taken by a volunteer: Mr G Thomson<sup>*A</sup>;</li> <li>- that Cllr Gilbey had been seriously ill but was in recovery;</li> <li>- that the Carnival Committee would be taking applications for grants until 15 September 2018;</li> <li>- that there was to be a charity carwash at the Ise Lodge Community Centre on 23 July 2018 in aid of Kettering Food Bank;</li> <li>- that Graham Thomson had been appointed to the part-time post of Town Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer and would take up the appointment at the end of August;</li> <li>- that the thanks of the Council went to Cllr Read for her HR work on the appointment process.</li> </ul>
<b>096/18</b>	<p><b>To receive and if so resolved to accept apologies for absence</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported that Cllr Keys had indicated that he may be late for the meeting. He stated that an apology for absence had been received from Cllr Gilbey (sickness), and it was RESOLVED that the apology be accepted.</p>
<b>097/18</b>	<p><b>To receive and if so resolved to approve for signature the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21 June 2018</b></p> <p>The minutes of the Council meeting held on 19 June 2018 had been previously circulated. It was noted that there was a typographical error in Minute 082/18 which should read "Cllr Soans".</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:-</b> <b>the minutes, as amended, be approved and signed by the Chairman.</b></p>
<b>098/18</b>	<p><b>To receive declarations of interest under the Councils Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda:</b></p> <p>Cllr Burnham, declared an interest in item 117.2/18 <i>To consider any comment on Planning Applications</i>, insofar as it related to application KET/2018/0441 – 89 Union Street, Desborough.</p>
<b>099/18</b>	<p><b>To receive a report from the Police Community Support Officer</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported that no one was available to attend the meeting but a written report had been submitted (<i>Appendix A</i>). The Chairman drew attention to the 18 recordable crimes in June in Loatland Ward, and 11 recordable crimes in St Giles Ward both of which had reduced from the May figures; he also highlighted the reduction in Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) over the preceding 12 months; 18 speeding offences in May on Rothwell Road; and the Neighbourhood Alert text system. The Chairman also reported on Operation Viper targeting gang and drug related crime. In response to a question from Cllr Draycott about illegal camping on the Dunkirk Avenue recreation ground, it was noted that the land in question was warded by and in the ownership and control of Kettering Borough Council (KBC) but that persistent problems should be reported to the Police.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:-</b> <b>the information contained in the report be noted.</b></p>
<b>100/18</b>	<p><b>Representations from Members of the Public:</b></p> <p>The Chair suspended the meeting at this point and invited comment from members of the community present.</p>
<b>100.1/18</b>	<p><b>Pioneer Avenue / Rothwell Road parking restrictions</b></p> <p>A member of the community reported that revised plans had been submitted for parking restrictions.</p>
<b>100.2/18</b>	<p><b>Rothwell north link road campaign</b></p> <p>A member of the community asked if the Council was supporting the campaign. The Chairman stated that the matter would be discussed later in the meeting.</p>

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Chair \_\_\_\_\_

<b>100.3/18</b>	<b>Rothwell Road speeding</b> A member of the community thanked Cllr Stroud for speaking with people concerned with the excessive speeds on this road. He added that there were limited views, hedges, and that even buses were speeding. He requested that consideration be given to a sign for the concealed entrance &/or rumble strips, and the vegetation cut back. It was noted that the issues had been reported to Street Doctor. The Chairman reported that issues could be reported through Street Doctor by anyone.
<b>100.4/18</b>	<b>WI Centenary</b> Cllr Taylor spoke about the centenary of the WI and thanked The Men's Shed for making a frame to hold the local group's banner.
<b>100.5/18</b>	<b>Resumption of the meeting</b> The Chair resumed the meeting at this point.
<b>101/18</b>	<b>To receive a report from the County Councillor</b> The Chairman stated that no report had been received from County Cllr Matthews* <b>RESOLVED that:- the information be noted.</b>
<b>102/18</b>	<b>To receive reports from Kettering Borough Councillors</b>
<b>102.1/18</b>	<b>Borough Councillor Tebbutt</b> The Chairman reported that Borough Councillor Tebbutt had emailed a short report referring to: a consultation meeting about the part 2 local plan prior to formal consultation later in the year; Broughton having submitted the first Neighbourhood Plan in the borough to be subject to a local referendum; and that the public consultation on the proposed North Northants Unitary Council was to close and urging all to submit comments. <b>RESOLVED that:- the report be noted.</b>
<b>102.2/18</b>	<b>Borough Councillor Dearing</b> The Chairman reported that Borough Councillor Dearing had submitted a report referring to: KBC's decision for housing on the former Lawrence site; that support for the library had been sought from KBC which had noted the position that Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) was looking for rental income from the building; and that it had been suggested that a supermarket be located at The Grange on the site previously earmarked for a petrol station. <b>RESOLVED that:- the information be noted.</b>
<b>103/18</b>	<b>To discuss the Pocket Park and resolve payments to suppliers:</b> Cllr Taylor reported that a quotation for the restoration works previously agreed (relating to the ponds) had been received in the sum of £8,368.46 (excluding VAT). <b>RESOLVED that:- the payment be authorized.</b>
<b>104/18</b>	<b>To consider and resolve community grant application under the grant scheme.</b> The Chairman reported that difficulties had been experienced with the mandates on the bank accounts and it was not yet possible to make payments. He added that urgent action was being taken to resolve the situation. <b>RESOLVED that:- the information be noted.</b>
<b>105/18</b>	<b>To receive a report concerning the School Bus incident</b> Cllr McElhinney reported that a serious road traffic incident on had occurred Rothwell Hill on 10 July 2018 involving two school buses and leaving a number of children injured. He reported that the buses were not fitted with passenger seatbelts, that the speed of vehicles might have been a factor in the incident, and that a Police investigation was ongoing. During a full discussion, a number of other issues were raised in relation to vehicle speeds, the condition of buses, operational practices, and the behaviour of children. <b>RESOLVED that:- the information be noted.</b>
<b>106/18</b>	<b>To receive an update from the Rothwell North Working Party</b> Cllr Burnham reported that the petition had received over 3,500 signatures and it had therefore been passed to the Borough Council. She added that KBC was negotiating with Persimmon's Homes and she hoped for a report back in September 2018. <b>RESOLVED that:- the information be noted.</b>

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Chair \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>107/18</b></p>	<p><b>To discuss the current situation and future of Desborough Library</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported on the work undertaken in support of retaining a library in Desborough. He stated that the Stage 2 submission for a Desborough Library Community Hub had been sent to the County Council, with a business case supported by KBC which had also supplied a letter of support for the bid which involved more activity in the building, more income generation, and volunteers to help keep the building open.</p> <p>It was reported that no decision was expected before 2 August 2018, and that meetings with NCC representatives were continuing. It was noted that there was very little time between the likely decision at the beginning of August and the indicated NCC withdrawal date at the end of September.</p> <p>In response to a question about lease costs it was reported that a figure of £28,000 per year had been indicated. Special thanks were expressed for Cllr McElhinney for his work on the budgeting and for Mrs Holmes<sup>*A</sup> for her work in driving the case forward.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:-</b> <b>the information be noted.</b></p>
<p><b>108/18</b></p>	<p><b>To receive an update on ANPR Speed Cameras on Rothwell Road</b></p> <p>Cllr Burnham reported that she had been looking at the issues with Cllr Taylor and Mr R Hill<sup>*A</sup>. She stated that there would be an increase in traffic with the Rothwell North development. She added that a meeting was to be held with the Police about camera costs and options but that this was not an immediate solution. She referred to the recent bus incident (Minute 106/18 refers) and the good fortune that there had been no fatalities. The Chairman read a response from the Speed Limit Panel citing the consensus that there was little prospect of compliance with a 40mph limit on this road. He read details of recorded speeds on this stretch of road.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:-</b> <b>a Working Party comprising: Cllr Burnham, Cllr Taylor, Cllr McElhinney, Mr R Hill<sup>*A</sup>, Mr C Hodgkinson<sup>*A</sup>, Mr Chris Read<sup>*A</sup> be formed to discuss the possibilities and costs of enforceable cameras to assist in reducing speeds on Rothwell Road and report back to the Council.</b></p>
<p><b>109/18</b></p>	<p><b>To discuss “Future Northants” Local Government Reform</b></p> <p>The Chairman outlined the consultation process on the future structure of local Government in the county. He expressed the view that some options: such as the status quo ante, a single authority, and three authorities, appeared to have been precluded leading to only one option of two Councils covering the north and the west of the county. During a general discussion on the recent history and difficulties experienced by the NCC it was noted that there had been no indication that any successor Authorities would not inherit the debts of NCC and therefore the restructure could not deliver the benefits projected. It was suggested that the size of electoral divisions,</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:-</b> <b>the Chairman in consultation with Cllr McElhinney be authorized to circulate to Councillors a draft response and to submit a consensus response to the consultation on behalf of the Council along the following lines:-</b></p> <p>a) <b>there is a lack of information about the rôle, responsibilities, and functions of Town, Parish, and Community Councils; and,</b> b) <b>there is a lack of information about ongoing costs and how to guarantee funding in the short term: especially for Adult Social Care.</b></p>
<p><b>110/18</b></p>	<p><b>To receive an update on the Youth Council</b></p> <p>Cllr Stroud reported that the Working Party had discussed the possible formation of a Youth Council using the British Youth Council (BYC) guide, in which it had been suggested that such bodies be established by “interested parties” rather than directly by the Council. He added that he had contacted the BYC’s Chief Executive asking if she BYC could give guidance and ongoing support. He explained that the cost of attendance and materials with ongoing email and telephone support was £800 plus VAT.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:-</b></p> <p>a) <b>authority be given for the engagement of the British Youth Council as proposed at a cost of £800 plus VAT; and,</b> b) <b>an information meeting be held in August supported by BYC and a launch night be held in September.</b></p>

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111/18	<p><b>To discuss the Website</b></p> <p>In response to a question about the content and costs of the website, the Chairman reported that exact details were not wholly clear. Cllr Stroud expressed a view that the site was not user-friendly and the Council appeared to have very limited opportunities to make changes in structure.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:-</b></p> <p>a) <b>the Town Clerk be requested to establish the costs and control of the existing website;</b>  b) <b>research into promising practice in Town Council websites be authorized.</b></p>															
112/18	<p><b>To discuss Budgetary Participation</b></p> <p>The Chairman requested the Council to confirm a commitment to support the principle of consulting widely on any proposed budget.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:-</b>  <b>the request be granted.</b></p>															
113/18	<p><b>To receive an update on the Citizen Certificate Programme</b></p> <p>Cllr Taylor reported that she had been working with Jo Watson seeking information on schemes and hoped to bring proposals to the September Council meeting.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:-</b>  <b>the information be noted.</b></p>															
114/18	<p><b>To receive an update from Desborough Community Groups</b></p>															
114.1/18	<p><b>Desborough in Bloom</b></p> <p>It was reported that the East Midlands in Bloom judging day had been a very hot day and thanks were expressed to everyone involved in helping to make the judging go so well.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:-</b>  <b>the information be noted.</b></p>															
115/18	<p><b>To approve the Accounts for Payment:</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported that owing to the staffing situation and the changes necessary to bank mandates it had not been possible to produce a financial report for this meeting.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:-</b>  <b>the following payments be approved.</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="225 1093 1509 1182"> <thead> <tr> <th>Payee Name</th> <th>Purpose</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>Net</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>TalkTalk</td> <td>Telephone and Broadband</td> <td>£9.62</td> <td>£48.05</td> <td>£57.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CLR Law</td> <td>Advice and guidance</td> <td>£100.00</td> <td>£500.00</td> <td>£600.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Payee Name	Purpose	VAT	Net	Total	TalkTalk	Telephone and Broadband	£9.62	£48.05	£57.67	CLR Law	Advice and guidance	£100.00	£500.00	£600.00
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116/18	<p><b>PLANNING</b></p>															
116.1/18	<p><b>To receive and note the Planning Report:</b></p> <p>A report of applications made and comments approved since the last meeting had been circulated in advance of the meeting (<i>Appendix B</i>).</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that:-</b>  <b>the report be noted.</b></p>															
116.2/18	<p><b>To consider any comment on Planning Applications:</b></p> <p><b>KET/2018/0506 – 10 Westmorland Drive, Desborough</b></p> <p>Conversion of garage to habitable space and 4 no. windows to the front and rear. Single storey extension and hardstanding to front.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that the Council comment as follows:</b>  <b>“Desborough Town Council has no objection to the proposal”.</b></p>															
	<p><b>KET/2018/0388 – 11 Rothwell Road, Desborough</b></p> <p>Change of use of land to form access road and vehicular access.</p> <p>Cllr Burnham expressed a view that the access was not safe, cut the path at the junction, and would set a precedent for further applications in the vicinity.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED that the Council comment as follows:</b>  <b>“Desborough Town Council objects to the proposal on the grounds of safety and the precedent for further inappropriate applications”.</b></p>															

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	<p><b>KET/2018/0441 – 89 Union Street, Desborough</b> Alterations to windows to first floor front elevation. Cllr Burnham, having declared an interest in this item, left the meeting and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon. The Chairman outlined the application and noted that the rear of the building had collapsed. <b>RESOLVED that the Council comments as follows:</b> <b><i>“Desborough Town Council objects to the proposal and recommends refusal, and also recommends an urgent structural survey”.</i></b> Cllr Burnham returned to the meeting at this point.</p> <p><b>KET/2018/0296 – BP Oil UK Ltd, Bear Way (land off), Desborough, NN14 2WB</b> Petrol filling station and associated works. The Chairman reported that the application documentation had not yet appeared online. <b>RESOLVED that:-</b> <b>the application be noted.</b></p> <p><b>KET/2018/0531 – Woodside, Stoke Albany Road (land adj), Desborough, NN14 2SP</b> Use of land for 2 no. traveller caravans for applicant and another family member. Creation of hard-standing and modernisation of amenity block. <b>RESOLVED that the Council comments as follows:</b> <b><i>“Desborough Town Council has no objection to the proposal”.</i></b></p>
117/18	<p><b>To agree the date of the next meeting:</b> <b>RESOLVED that:-</b> <b>the next meeting be held on Thursday 20 September 2018.</b></p>
<p><b>The meeting closed at 20:46</b></p>	
*A	The individual consented to the recording of their name in the minutes of the meeting.
*B	After the meeting it was discovered that a report had been sent by email (Appendix C).

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Chair \_\_\_\_\_