

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BURTON LATIMER TOWN COUNCIL HELD  
AT BURTON LATIMER COUNCIL OFFICES ON  
6<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2009**

*Present: Town Councillors: D. Zanger (Town Mayor), P. Bettles (Deputy Town Mayor), D. Gunn, J. Garnett, C. Groome, R. Groome, H. Fry, M. Jerram, F. Macdonald, J. Smith*

*County Councillor: C.C. Lamb*

*Police: Pc N. Bull*

**01/09/2374 Apologies**

Town Councillors: M. Evans and S. Walden

**01/09/2375 Members' Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Bettles – Royal British Legion.

**01/09/2376 Declarations of Changes to Members' Register of Interests**

Councillor R. Groome – no longer a School Governor at Isham School.

**01/09/2377 Minutes of the Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2008**

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting on the above date were unanimously approved as a true record of the meeting subject to the following amendment:

pp 2637 Minute 12/08/2366.1 (final paragraph) change 'a' to 'are'

**01/09/2378 Matters Arising**

**2378.1 Minute 12/08/2361.1 - Mayor/Deputy Mayor Electoral Protocol**

Proposed by Councillor Macdonald, seconded by Councillor Chris Groome, that this item be deferred to the February Town Council meeting. Unanimously **agreed.**

**2378.2 Minute 12/08/2361.2 - 'New Empowerment Act'**

**Agreed** that this item be deferred to the March meeting of the Town Council.

**2378.3 Minute 12/08/2361.8 - Quality Council Initiative**

Members were advised that Councillor Eric Franklin from Thrapston Town Council will talk to the Council at the February meeting about the process of attaining Quality Council Status.

**2378.4 Minute 12/08/2364.9 - Sports & Leisure Survey**

Councillor Jerram advised that this had been a big task and that she had spent approximately 60 hours on the survey to date. She confirmed that it would be submitted to KBC by Monday

12<sup>th</sup> January for inclusion in KBC's Leisure report. Councillor Zanger emphasised the importance of meeting this deadline and asked Councillor Jerram to let him know if she needed any assistance in meeting it.

**2378.5 Minute 12/08/2366.4 - Freedom of Information – New 'Guide to Information' Form**

The Clerk tabled a draft of the above and advised that it needed refining. **Agreed** that further work would be done on the 'Guide' document and the 'cost' column would state that 'for hard copies, depending on the nature of the document(s) requested, a charge may be made to cover the direct expense of providing the document(s) e.g. time involved, photocopying and postal (2<sup>nd</sup> class) charge. Also **agreed** that the revised 'Guide' will be placed on the Town Council's website during January, along with the guidance notes for members of the public and the new 'Model Publication Scheme'.

**2378.6 Minute 12/08/2361.7 - St Mary's School Development**

The Clerk tabled the Chair of Board of Governor's response to the Town Council's letter seeking clarification of elements of the above development process. The Council noted the contents and **agreed** that no further action could be taken on this matter.

**2378.7 Minute 12/08/2364.12 – East Midlands Trains – New Timetables**

**Agreed** that Councillor Chris Groome would draft a letter expressing the Town Council's dissatisfaction with the service.

**2378.8 Minute 12/08/2364.10 – St Botolphs Road/Polwell Lane Shared Cycle Track/Footway Crossing.**

Councillor Macdonald advised that he had had discussions with NCC and that the cycle path will go along Polwell Lane and link up with the existing one.

**2378.9 Minute 12/08/2361.1 – The Spinney**

Councillor Macdonald advised that (i) he would be having a meeting shortly with Brian Stewart (KBC Legal Services Manager) with a view to KBC giving the Spinney Pocket Park status and (ii) the Spinney would be cleared of litter later this week.

Additionally, in relation to the existing Pocket Park, a meeting was organised for Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January with David Lane (KBC) to develop the involvement of the Probationary Service in providing assistance with work to be carried out in the Pocket Park (removing 'scraggy' hedge, replanting, etc).

**01/09/2379 Police Matters**

Matters discussed included the monthly crime statistics, a short term problem with licensing of a public house over Christmas and anti-social behaviour (hoped to be a one-off) and HGV vehicles going through the town – Pc Bull to speak to IVG White.

**01/09/2380 Town Mayor's Report**

The Mayor's report included attending the following events: Rothwell Gala night, BL Farmer's Market, Over 70's Club party, KBC Members' training, unveiling of plaque (energy saving) in Yeoman's Court, Darby and Joan lunch, KBC Conservative Group meeting, presentation of trophy to BL Pool Table League, the Monday Club meeting and being a participant in KBC's Town Centre consultation process (assisting KBC's Mayor).

**01/09/2381 Correspondence**

**2381.1 Monthly Parish Crime Reports**

(See Police Matters)

**2381.2 KBC – Budget Consultation Meeting**

Meeting at 7.00 pm, 22 January, Council Chamber, Municipal Offices. Councillors Zanger and Macdonald to attend - Councillors to let them know of any particular issues to be raised. Members to confirm attendance to Anne Ireson (KBC).

**2381.3 NCC – Empowering Councillors and Communities Scheme- VAS Sign**

NCC advised that the payment for the VAS sign (£2,937.50) would be with the Town Council shortly. Councillor Zanger, on behalf of the Town Council, thanked Councillor Lamb for his generous use of this fund in regard to Burton Latimer.

**2381.4 NCC – Transport & Highways Update**

December update on Top 10 Local priorities. Councillor Macdonald stated that this was a very poor document and it was agreed that he would take this matter up with County Councillor Bob Seery.

**2381.5 NCC – Minerals & Waste Development Framework – Core Strategy Submission**

Update on the above for Members' information.

**2381.6 Victim Support & Witness Service – Update & Appeal for Funds**

Referred to F&GP Committee.

**2381.7 Borough Council of Wellingborough – Customer Satisfaction Survey**

Agreed that Members complete and return the survey individually.

**2381.8 Royal British Legion – Request for Contribution**

Annual request for £70 contribution towards cost of Remembrance Day Parade band and thanks for Councillors' contribution to the Poppy Appeal. Councillor Macdonald proposed

that the request be approved, seconded by Councillor Garnett and unanimously **agreed** by the Council.

**2381.9 Christmas Lights Grant – Compliance Letter and Invoice**

KBC's compliance letter signed off by BL Chamber of Trade and invoice for erecting/dismantling the Christmas Lights. **Agreed** that Councillor Macdonald and Councillor Chris Groome would discuss the of ownership of the Christmas Lights reverting to the Town Council with the Chamber in the unlikely event that BL Chamber of Trade ceased to exist.

**2381.10 NCC – Safer Winter Driving Leaflet**

For Members' information.

**2381.11 Highways Agency – Planned Road Works – East Edition Dec 08-Feb 09**

For Members' information.

**2381.12 Northamptonshire Licensing Partnership – Olde Victoria – Application for Premises Licence**

No comments by Members. **Agreed** that, in future, the Clerk would provide Members with relevant details of the applications.

**2381.13 North Northants Joint Planning Unit**

An update of the review of North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy for Members' information. Councillor Groome expressed concern that, in the current economic climate, this should be 'put on the back burner' and that there was an urgent need for Central Government to revise its housing provision policy.

**2381.14 NCC – Planning Standard Application Form (1APP)**

Update for Members' information.

**2381.15 NCC – Draft Council Plan and Budget Consultation**

For Members' comments.

**01/09/2382 Public Participation**

Mr G. Mercer – raised concerns with the police (outside of the meeting) in regard to anti-social behaviour on his property.

Mr A. Walpole - (i) expressed concerns about the street lighting in Hollands Drive repeatedly failing and (ii) requested that Highways and Planning reports be made available to the public at the start of the meeting – **agreed** unanimously.

Mr I. Cox – expressed concerns about BL's old Medical Centre being put up for sale for developing into flats when it could be put to much better use as Council Offices/Heritage

Centre/Dentist Surgery/Drop-in -Centre/Craft shops. Mr Cox submitted an outline drawing to support his proposals. Mr Cox felt very strongly that funding could be obtained for the scheme and cited KBC's proposals for a water feature and open-air theatre in Kettering as, in his opinion, 'less worthy' examples where funding did not appear to be problem. He added that he would be willing to work with the Town Council on this and he would be submitting an article on this subject to the local press. Councillor Zanger assured Mr Cox that the Town Council was fully aware of the situation; the PCT owned the building and to some extent the Council's hands were tied, but it would continue to work on behalf of the residents of Burton Latimer.

Councillor Chris Groome expressed concern that the price being asked for the building was unrealistic and it was a good time to move on this. Councillor Macdonald suggested that the Town Council's Urban Design Framework Steering Group should look into the situation.

**01/09/2383      Policies & Priorities**

**2383.1            Finance & General Purposes Committee Report**

There were no Minutes of the F& GP meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2008. There were no urgent areas for Council approval and the Minutes would be incorporated in the January F&GP Minutes.

**2383.2            Town Council Website**

Minutes of the Website meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2008

The web-site is working well and a Favicon is now showing on the site

Updates are still needed from the two primary schools; Cllr S Walden to contact Meadowside and Cllr J. Smith to contact St Mary's.

St Mary's diary is now on the site

The diary from Viv Oram is working well.

The bowls club and neighbourhood watch are now sending information.

News items are needed from Cllrs e.g Shopping Survey

The site is currently taking approximately 2 hours a week to update. This will cost approximately £100 per month when present arrangement finishes in March. It was proposed to take this cost to next full council meeting.

It was suggested by Dr Hunt that we look for sponsorship i.e. Weetabix, Morrisons etc. He will also check going rates for this.

It was agreed to post a notice on the notice board asking for volunteers for the Pocket Park.

**2383.3 KBC – Town and Parish Council Funding**

Confirmation from KBC that Burton Latimer's Grant for 2009/10 will be £12,340 and that this will be the final year of KBC's 3 year Grant Funding Plan. Precept form also required completing for the 2009/10 precept and submitting to KBC. It was agreed that the Clerk would email the missing information sheets to members.

**2383.4 Planning Matters**

Councillor Gunn presented the following Planning Report:

**2383.41 Planning Applications Approved by the Town Council**

KET/2008/1004 Mr Goodson 1 Oathill Rise, BL

s73A Retrospective application to convert front half of garage to a study with entrance from utility room.

KET/2008/0744 Mr Prescott 24 Kettering Road, BL

s73A Retrospective application for installation of a portakabin at the Wagon & Horses public house.

**2383.42 Planning Applications Objected to by the Town Council**

None.

**2383.43 Planning Approvals Received from Kettering Borough Council**

KET/2008/0919 Mr R Sharp 1 Spring Gardens, BL

Garden room amendment proposal.

KET/2008/0840 Mr Navago 63 Finedon Road, BL

Two storey side extension and alteration to the roof line.

KET/2008/0774 Morris Cook Development 94-96 Finedon Street, BL

Demolition of existing dwelling and commercial building. Construction of 12 apartments including vehicle access, parking and amenity areas.

KET/2008/0951 Consensus 121 Station Road, BL

Non-compliance with condition 3 of KE/83/0552, which restricts the use of the premise to a care home solely for elderly persons.

KET/2008/0954 Consensus 121 Station Road, BL

Non-compliance with condition 7 of KE/87/0616 which restricts the use of the premise to a care home solely for elderly persons.

**2383.44 Planning Refusals Received from Kettering Borough Council**

None

**2383.45 Planning Withdrawals Received from Kettering Borough Council**

KET/2008/0390 Barton Developments Hawthorn Road, BL

Residential development for 60 / 70 dwellings.

The Planning Inspectorate has advised the Council that the above appeal has been withdrawn. Therefore, no further work will be undertaken by the Council with regards to this appeal.

**2383.46 Planning Appeals Received from Kettering Borough Council**

None

**2383.47 Other**

KET/2008/0922 Mr Elmore 37 High St, BL

This application has been left for KBC to decide on since there are only changes to an application that has already been passed. BLTC's comments are shown below.

*Please forward documents that clearly and precisely state all changes, so that these can be seen and read easily.*

**2383.5 Town Council Chamber and Facilities (see Highways Matters)**

**2383.6 Public Transport (see Highways Matters)**

**2383.7 Highways Matter**

Councillor Macdonald presented the following report:

Council Chamber - Plans received for the necessary RSJ's to remove the wall, KBC have obtained the required building approval, quotations for the work are being obtained.

Burst pipe in Church St. repaired ex-directory numbers for Anglia Water given to the Clerk.

Awaiting response from Sarah Parr (KBC) re: the visit to the Rec. to discuss the paths.

Christmas Tree obtained thanks expressed to C.Underwood (KBC).

Full report on the progress of the items on the 'Walk About' list will be given at the next meeting.

Dog bin will be provided in Finedon Rd as soon as possible.

Chasing NCC re: road repairs in Town

Gulley cleaning still being chased up

Additional litter bin requested for Church St.

**01/09/2384 Borough Council Matters of Interest**

Councillor Chris Groome – ‘Community Engagement in Planning’ final report of the Task & Finish Group KBC 7.00 pm Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January (public meeting). Councillor Macdonald to pass his comments to Councillor Groome. Councillor Groome’s concerns include there are no dates set for the completion of the Action Plan.

Councillor Ruth Groome – asked for suggestions as to how the Borough Councillors Ward Initiative funds could be spent. Councillor Macdonald suggested a new the clock on the Town Council offices building and that he would submit details to the next BLTC meeting. All three Borough Councillors agreed in principle to contribute.

**01/09/2385 County Council Matters of Interest**

Councillor Lamb - tabled a NCC press release inviting residents to set their own budget via an online budget simulator and submit comments to NCC (deadline 10<sup>th</sup> February). NCC budget meeting 27<sup>th</sup> February. Empowerment Fund – to give £1,000 for repairs to Scout headquarter building, £250 to St Mary’s School for play equipment and the balance (£194) to BL heritage Society for storage and cataloguing. Whole of fund spent –£20,121.43 to Burton Latimer and £9,568.57 to Barton Seagrave. Once again, Councillor Zanger thanked Councillor Lamb for the contribution to Burton Latimer.

Councillor Chris Groome initiated a discussion on the ongoing consultation process re: giving local schools/colleges Academy status. It was considered that there was a likelihood of Montagu School and Ise Community College achieving Academy status.

**01/09/2386 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies.**

Councillor Chris Groome advised the Council that he had attended CPRE meetings and this was useful for developing relationships and networking. He added that the Chair of Northamptonshire CPRE had presented his vision for north Northamptonshire at the last Rural Forum and had expressed particular interest in the wind farm and the Kettering East development. As Councillor Groome could not attend the next CPRE meeting at Cranford Hall on 21<sup>st</sup> January, Councillor Ruth Groome and Councillor Maureen Jerram undertook to attend in his place if at all possible.

**01/09/2387 Accounts for Payment**

The Council unanimously approved the following payments:

*BLTC Minutes 6<sup>th</sup> January 2009*

		£	
Cheque No	101302	ACRE Sponsorship Fee	34.00
Cheque No	101303	G. Sneddon (Clerk's salary Jan 09)	511.92*
Cheque No	101304	Inland Revenue (Tax & NI Jan 09)	371.39
Cheque No	101305	BLAG Grant	250.00
Cheque No	101306	Twinning Association Grant	250.00

\* Includes arrears arising from the Local Government annual pay award wef 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008

**01/09/2388 Any Other Relevant Items of Business**

**2388.1 Town Ball**

Councillor Zanger reminded Councillors that the Town Ball will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> February and that he must be informed of menu requirements within the next 10 days.

**2388.2 NCALC - Conferences for Parishes on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2009**

Councillors Gunn and Macdonald undertook to attend the above conference

**2388.3 NCALC – ‘Developing A Concern About Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy.’**

It was **agreed** that Councillor Zanger would ask BLAST to formally respond on behalf of the Town Council.

**2388.4 Maurice Patrick (deceased)**

It was **agreed** that a letter of condolence be sent to Mrs Patrick.

**2388.5 KBC – Street Naming – Duke Street Development**

It was **agreed** that ‘Patrick Court’ be submitted to KBC.

**01/09/2389 Press Release**

There were no items for press release at this time; the situation to be reviewed after the next F&GP Committee meeting.

*The Clerk then moved that the public be excluded for the remainder of the proceedings of the meeting on the grounds that the publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest having regard to the confidentiality of the nature of the business to be transacted.*