

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BURTON LATIMER TOWN COUNCIL HELD
AT BURTON LATIMER COUNCIL OFFICES ON
3RD FEBRUARY 2009**

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

County Councillor: C.C. Lamb

Police: Sgt Tony Hopkins

02/09/2391 Apologies

Town Cllrs: M. Evans, H. Fry and J. Garnett

02/09/2392 Members' Declarations of Interest

None

02/09/2393 Declarations of Changes to Members' Register of Interests

None

02/09/2394 Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th January 2009

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 2662 Minute 01/09/2386 - Change references to 'ACRE' to 'CPRE'

02/09/2395 Matters Arising

2395.1 Minute 12/08/2361.1 - Mayor/Deputy Mayor Electoral Protocol

Cllr Macdonald proposed that the above protocol be adopted. Cllr Ruth Groome seconded the proposal and it was unanimously **agreed** by the Council.

2395.2 Freedom of Information

The Clerk updated the Council in terms of FOI information having now been placed on the Town Council's website.

2395.3 Minute 01/09/2378.4 Sports & Leisure Survey

Cllr Jerram confirmed that copies of the Sports and Leisure survey would be distributed to all Cllrs. Cllr Zanger thanked Cllr Jerram on behalf of the Town Council for the hard work she had put in on the survey.

2305.4 Minute 01/09/2378.9 Pocket Park

Cllr Macdonald advised the council that the Probation Service had done an excellent job in clearing the Pocket Park. It was **agreed** that a letter of thanks be sent.

2305.5 Public Participation

Cllr Macdonald confirmed that the street lighting in Hollands Drive had been fixed.

2305.6 Town Council Website – Shopping Survey

Cllr Jerram confirmed that the shopping survey would be out shortly.

02/09/2396 Police Matters

Sgt Hopkins updated the council on the latest crime statistic. Other matters discussed included the police continuing their programme of engagement with schools, the continued provision of crime prevention advice from the mobile police station (Sainsburys) and concerns about the level of HGV's in High Street.

02/09/2397 Attaining Quality Council Status (QCS) – Cllr Eric Franklin (Thrapston Town Council)

Cllr Franklin advised the Town Council on the process of achieving Quality Council status. Thrapston Town Council was the third Council in the county to attain QCS (2005/6) - now 10 in the county. Cllr Franklin Chaired Thrapston through the QCS process. The Council was given copies of 'A Guide to Becoming a Quality Council' booklet and provided with Thrapston's background data. The Council was advised to consider setting up a QCS Steering Group to consider the implications for BL and establish a programme for achieving QCS. Thrapston's current precept is £127,000 but it had not managed, to date, to take on any services that are additional to those provided before attaining QCS (2-3 directly employed grounds maintenance employees, a full-time and a part-time Clerk). Cllr Franklin stated that the principle benefits to date of achieving QCS was the Council's increased confidence that it was 'getting it right' and the enhanced the way the Council was perceived by the community. Cllr Franklin stated that he would be pleased to return to the Town Council to advise the Steering Group.

Cllr Zanger, on behalf of the Town Council, thanked Cllr Franklin for attending the meeting and providing advice, and offering further support, to assist the Town Council in achieving QCS.

02/09/2398 Town Mayor's Report

The Mayor's report included attending the following events: NCC meeting on bus routes, St Mary's School, Town Ball preparation, Conservative Group meeting and 2-3 coffee mornings.

02/09/2399 Correspondence

2399.1 Monthly Parish Crime Reports (see Police matters)

2399.2 NCC – Draft Council Plan & Budget Consultation Stakeholder Meeting

Remaining dates and venues:

2nd February 7pm -9 pm Council Chamber Swanspool House Wellingborough
3rd February (ditto) Grosvenor House George Street Corby

2399.3 CPRE Northamptonshire – ‘Stop the Drop’ Campaign & Minutes

‘Litter pick’ drive Friday 20 March to Sunday 29 March. Also Minutes of the CPRE meeting held on 25 November 2008. Dates of next meetings:

21st January 7.30 pm Cranford Hall
24th March (ditto)
19th May (ditto)

2399.4 NCC – Proposed Development – Land to East of the Piggeries, Cranford Road

Planning application for the above will be reported to NCC Development Control Committee on 27 January (10.00 am).

2399.5 NCC – Minerals & Waste Development Framework Proposed Submission

Closing date for representations on the above documents is 12 March, 2009.

2399.6 Desborough Town Council- Christmas Gala Nights

Email received from Clerk to DTC re: Gala Nights. Agreed that Clerk would issue BL Chamber of Trade contact details to the Clerk of DTC.

2399.7 NCC – HGV Sign – ‘The Rushes’, Finedon Road, BL

Following a complaint from a resident, NCC are to install a small traffic sign on the splinter island near the roundabout, directing HGV vehicles along Finedon Road. Cllr Macdonald had contacted NCC and advised that, in his opinion, the sign would be in the wrong place. NCC to install the sign in the stated position and ‘see if it works’

2399.8 Extension to St Mary’s School, High Street, BL

Letter received from Mr & Mrs Bevis discussed. Agreed that Cllr Macdonald would draft a letter of response to Mr & Mrs Bevis and subject to the contents being agreed by Members, the letter to be sent via the Clerk.

Note: Cllr Zanger left the Chamber for the duration of the discussion of this item.

2399.9 NCC – Pandemic Flu Workshop 27 February, 10.00 – 13.00 Knuston Hall

Members noted the above.

2399.10 NCC – Safer Routes to School- St Mary’s Primary School

Cllr Macdonald advised that the proposals appeared sound but that he would check the proposals in more detail.

2399.11 Age Concern – I.T. Classes

‘Silver Surfer’ project for I.T. classes for older people in rural areas. **Agreed** that this would be referred to the Website Steering Group for inclusion on the website and Cllr Walden would endeavour to sort out a venue.

2399.12 Think Environmental Ltd – Proposed New Waste Management Facility – Blackbridge Farm, Cranford Road, BL

TEL informing BLTC that they are proposing to submit a planning application to NCC for a new facility and requesting a meeting with the Town Council, ideally at Blackbridge Farm. **Agreed** that Cllr Zanger would seek advice from KBC’s Development Services Unit as to the appropriateness of holding such a meeting.

2399.13 East Midlands Trains

Response to Town Council’s letter received from the above. **Agreed** that the Clerk would take up the offer of BLTC being added to EMT’s stakeholder (consultation) list.

012/09/2400 Public Participation

Mr I. Cox

Requested an update on the old BL Health Centre. Advised by Cllr Zanger that the situation was being progressed and requested that Mr Cox temporarily defers his intention to put an article in the local press and gives that material to Cllr Zanger for information.

Mr A. Walpole

Re: ‘Safer Routes to School’ (see Minute 2399.10) Mr Walpole was advised that it was envisaged that the school would be advising parents of the details in due course.

Mr B. Cherry (Regional Manager Tates Ltd – SPAR, Churchill Way, BL)

Re: SPAR up for licence review - assurances given by Mr Cherry that SPAR wish to work with the Town Council and other local authorities in regard to dealing with anti-social behaviour and that they had taken action to this effect, including appointing a new Area Manager.

Cllr Jerram informed Mr Cherry that, to date, there had been a lack of commitment by SPAR management; approaches (BLAST) had been made to SPAR without success. Mr Cherry gave Cllr Jerram his contact details and stated that he was willing to attend a meeting of BLAST. Mr Cherry also agreed to look into (i) the state of the courtyard to the rear of the SPAR store and (ii) tidying up the area to the front of the store.

On returning to the Chamber Cllr Zanger read out a letter he had sent to KBC's Environmental Health Unit, on behalf of the Town Council, requesting that certain conditions be applied to the SPAR license because of the constant problems relating to the sale of alcohol to underage persons; complaints from neighbouring residents about underage drinking and anti-social behaviour outside the premises and the surrounding area.

02/09/2401 Policies & Priorities

2401.1 Finance & General Purposes Committee Report

Cllr Walden informed the Council that the Wind Farm Fund was the principal subject of January's F&GP Committee meeting and it was attended by Chris Stopford (KBC). Cllr Walden advised that there were no detailed accounts available, no up to date balance sheet, KBC was waiting for £10,000 payment (for over a year), only 2 application for funding had been received (Isham Guides and St Mary's School) and additionally a grant had been given to Yeomans Court. Cllr Macdonald proposed that a letter be sent to Chris Stopford stating the follow-up actions required by BLTC (and agreed by CS at the F&GP meeting) along with a response deadline; the letter to be copied to KBC's Head of Environmental Health). The proposal was seconded by Cllr Chris Groome and unanimously **agreed** by the Council. Councillor Macdonald undertook to draft the letter, in conjunction with Cllr Walden.

Also approval sought for Town Council Website expenditure. Proposal by Cllr Macdonald, seconded by Cllr Walden, that £100 per month (to be paid quarterly) be paid to Dr W. Hunt for maintaining the Website over a period of 12 months, commencing on 1st April, 2009 (to be met from the Website maintenance budget). The proposal was unanimously **agreed** by the Council. Councillor Macdonald undertook to draft an appropriate contract.

2401.2 Town Council Website

(see Minute 2401.1 – Website expenditure item). Also Cllr Macdonald proposed payment of £120 to Dr W. Hunt for his recent work in regard to uploading Freedom of Information data to the Website. Proposal seconded by Cllr Jan Smith and unanimously **agreed** by the Council.

2401.3 Planning Matters

Councillor Gunn presented the following Planning Report:

2401.31 Planning Applications Approved by the Town Council

KET/2008/1045 Bosworth's 110 Finedon Road, BL

Erection of a canopy

KET/2008/1032 Mr Palmerio 12 Pioneer Avenue, BL

Change of use from domestic garden to off road parking for (5) five vehicles for the use in conjunction with Palmichael Restaurant, including site levelling and surfacing and provision of boundary wall.

KET/2008/1037 Mr Stacey 2 Riverview, BL

Two storey rear extension

2401.32 Planning Applications Objected to by the Town Council

None

2401.33 Planning Approvals Received from Kettering Borough Council

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

Retrospective application for erection of a portacabin at the Wagon & Horses land to the rear of.

KET/2008/0998 Mr R Quitenton 4 Kettering Road, BL

Install 3 externally illuminated fascia signs.

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

Variation of condition 3 of KET/96/0727, conversion of the front half of the garage to a habitable room.

KET/2008/0752 Mr Griffiths 111 High Street, BL

Vary Condition 1 on KET/2007/0668 from temporary change of use to allow permanent approval of change of use.

2401.34 Planning Refusals Received from Kettering Borough Council

None

2401.35 Planning Withdrawals Received from Kettering Borough Council

None

2401.36 Planning Appeals Received from Kettering Borough Council

None

2401.37 Other Planning Matters

2401.371 KET/2008/1039 Mr Wilson 20 Bridle Road, BL

Erection of 1 (3) three bed bungalow and detached garage to the land rear of 20 Bridle Road.

Requested more information due to insufficient information for a valid comment to be made.

2401.372 KBC – Parish Town Council Training (Commenting on Planning Applications)

Above to be facilitated by KBC on Monday 16 February (KBC council Chamber 6.00pm to 8.00 pm). Limited to 2 Cllrs per Authority, Clerk has confirmed that Cllrs Jan Smith and David Gunn to attend.

2401.4 Town Council Chamber and Facilities (see Highways Matters)

2401.5 Public Transport (see Highways Matters)

2401.6 Highways Matter

Councillor Macdonald presented the following report and updated where appropriate:

Transport meeting was held with representatives from the County

Three quotes for the work on the wall – referred to F&GP Committee

Proposal for a new clock – photograph tabled, c. 760 mm diameter, Roman numerals, total cost c. £1,700 including VAT (no contribution required from BLTC – funded from Borough Cllrs Chris Groome, Ruth Groome and Derek Zanger’s Ward Funds. Proposal **agreed** but vote taken on whether Roman or Arabic numerals required – Roman numerals **agreed** (vote: 5 to 4 in favour)

Trying to ensure that the main gulleys are cleaned without further delay in respect of the pavement drains whilst one or two have been cleared the rest need to be relayed as they were incorrectly laid in the first place

Am endeavouring to ensure that the urgent repairs to the High St. are carried out as soon as possible also those in Station Rd. and those close to the A14 Roundabout

Dog bin has been fitted in Finedon Rd.

The Spinney and the substation have been cleared of rubbish and graffiti

The path round the flag pole will be done very shortly

The VAS equipment should be delivered within the next 14 days

BLTC Minutes 3rd February 2009

The permanent path to enter the play area at Harvest Close together with the bollards has now been completed

Formal proposal that the Town Council backs the idea of diverting footpath UA7 so that it does not go along the back of the houses in Holland's Dr. and Oat hill Rise

The new notice boards should be fitted within the next 10 days

New salt bin has been supplied at the Hillcrest corner

Cllr Seery has agreed to have a walk about in the town to examine the state of the highways, date yet to be agreed

KBC 'Walk About' - Pleased to report that the only outstanding items are as listed below

The repainting of the lines in the Church St. car park

Painting of the gates to the Paddocks

Clearing of the area at the end of Welland Court should take place in the near future

The question of how best to deal with some of the worn verges is still being considered

02/09/2402 Borough Council Matters of Interest

Cllr Derek Zanger

KBC budget consultation meeting – information published in ET inaccurate; retraction awaited from ET. \$106 money – pursuing issue of is the council gaining interest on the \$106 funds (c. £200,000)

Cllr Chris Groome

KBC Task & Finish Group (Planning) – report sent to R& D Committee (KBC) to consider proposals – will be on the agenda for some time. KBC Executive meeting – considered the budget – proposal to increase Council Tax by 4.75%. Also attended Reverend Tattershall last service (moving to Florida) - service well attended by many denominations.

Cllr Ruth Groome

A6 Towns Forum – offered a lift to other Town Councillors, interesting agenda (including Community Safety). Cllr Groome's Mayor of Kettering Civic Service – 3.00 pm, 7th June, 2009, BL Parish Church, all invited.

02/09/2403 County Council Matters of Interest

Cllr Christopher Lamb

Proposed Development to land to East of the Piggeries, Cranford Road has been approved (live webcast), BLTC's concerns have been taken care of. Tuesday 10th February live web cast of Executive meeting. 26th February webcast of full NCC meeting.

Minerals & Waste Development Framework Proposed Submission – Site adjacent to A14 now taken out of the submission.

New Recycling Centre – Robinson Way, Kettering, long lease from KBC.

Friends of BL Library coffee morning 14th February. NCC's Head of Library Services attending, Cllr Lamb to present a cheque from his Discretionary Fund.

02/09/2404 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies.

2404.1 Cllr Ruth Groome

Attended the recent CPRE meeting with Cllr Jerram, featuring, preferred means of recycling, choice-based lettings and Farmer's Markets

Attended Ancient Parish Charity's annual grant meeting – good level of attendance, including some new people.

02/09/2405 Accounts for Payment

The Council unanimously approved the following payments:

		£
Cheque No 101307	G. Sneddon (Clerk's salary Feb 09)	430.87
Cheque No 101308	G. Sneddon(Reimb. of phone & Postage (Oct – Dec 2008)	60.21
Cheque No 101309	Inland Revenue (Tax & NI Feb 09)	294.72
Cheque No 101310	Royal British Legion (Rem. Day Band)	70.00
Cheque No 101311	Griffiths (Christmas Lights –erect/dismantle	3,719.10
Cheque No 101312	Westcotec (VAS sign)	2,875.00

02/09/2406 Any Other Relevant Items of Business

2406.1 Hollow Wood Road

Clerk informed the council that he had received an enquiry from Canon Roger Knight as to the origins of the above street name. KBC's Development Services Unit had not been able to shed any light on the matter and the street naming consultative process had not come through the Town Council, in the normal manner. Cllr Zanger thought that the original owner had suggested 'Sunnyside' but this had not been adopted and he undertook to contact Francis Jackson, the developer to see if the origins of the name could be established.

02.09.2407 Press Release

Safer Routes to School

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.