

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BURTON LATIMER TOWN
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES BURTON LATIMER
ON 1 DECEMBER 2009**

Present: **Councillors:** *J. Smith (Town Mayor), M. Jerram (Deputy Town Mayor),
P. Bettles, H. Fry, C. Groome, R. Groome (7.16 pm),
D. Gunn, H.F. Macdonald, S. Walden, D. Zanger*

Police: *PCSO's A. Sillance, T. Turner*

Public Forum: Matters raised by members of the public (4 present) included: Mr Peck: on behalf of the Royal British Legion expressed thanks for the Council's support selling poppies; 2 tins raised £51.33 and £59.60; total raised to date £10,211. Also thanks to the Standard Bearer Cllr Gunn on Remembrance Day and to the Council for not charging charity stalls at the Christmas Lights switch on. Mr Mercer: still problems re: dog bins not being emptied in KGVth Recreation Ground – Cllr Walden to raise this with Pia Bellamy this week.

12/09/2557 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from the following Councillors: J. Garnett (work commitment) and Cllr Evans (illness). Cllr Smith proposed that Cllr Evans' absence be approved, seconded by Cllr Zanger. Cllr C. Groome proposed that Cllr Garnett's absence be approved, seconded by Cllr Macdonald. **Resolved** that the absences be approved.

12/09/2558 Declarations of Interests

None

12/09/2559 Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on 3 November 2009

Cllr Macdonald proposed that the Minutes be approved, seconded by Cllr Gunn. **Resolved** that the Minutes be approved.

12/09/2560 Matters Arising

pp 2746 Minute 10/09/2534.4 – Blackbridge Farm Liaison Group Meeting

Cllr Smith advised that she had been unable to contact the Environment Agency to set up a meeting. Cllr Macdonald to take this matter up.

pp 2746 Minute 10/09/2534.7 – Traffic Management Permit Scheme

Cllr Macdonald advised that there was no response as yet to the Council's letter.

pp 2747 Minute 10/09/2548.5 – Kettering Town Centre Transport Strategy Final Draft

Cllr Macdonald advised that he felt that it was not appropriate to respond. Cllr C. Groome advised that there a number of issues but none particularly relevant to Burton Latimer.

pp 2751 Minute 10/09/2549.4 – Unsatisfactory Level of Gully Cleansing

Cllr Macdonald advised that NCC appeared to agree with the above and letter expected shortly.

pp 2751 Minute 10/09/2549.8 – KGVth Recreation Ground –Skateboarding Pipes

Cllr Macdonald advised that a meeting with Pia Bellamy would take place on 3 December.

pp 2752 Minute 10/09/2549.9 – Restricted Parking High Street/Kettering Road/Churchill Way

Cllr Macdonald tabled a drawing detailing the parking restrictions previously agreed by the Town Council. The drawing was approved by Members.

pp 2747 BL Chamber of Trade & Commerce – Ownership of Christmas Lights

The Clerk advised that he had not yet received the letter from the CoT (as promised by its Chair, Mr Smith, at the November meeting of BLTC) setting out the grounds for the CoT's view that they had always owned the lights. In the meantime, the Clerk has contacted KBC on this matter but it had not been able to shed any light on the ownership question.

12/09/2561 Police Matters

Matters discussed included: an update on recent crime statistics 2 burglary, 4 criminal damage and 9 thefts; HGV's parking in Station Road and being moved on; acceptance by the Council of on the need to improve HGV signage in the town at the earliest opportunity. Raised by the Council: traffic going the wrong direction on Bridle Way; a 15 year-old drinking alcohol obtained by a third party from SPAR.

12/09/2562 Town Mayor's Report

Included attending the following meetings/events: Age Concern, Cllr Ruth Groome's Charity Ball, Remembrance Day Parade, Rushden's Charity Night, Christmas lights switch on – letters of thanks to go to Sam Bosworth, Ian Griffiths, Philip Harpur, St Mary's and Meadowside Schools (Cllr Walden to take 2 bottles of lollipops to the schools), thanks also to the BL artists group; also thanks to all of the Cllrs who organised and took part in the event; Cllr Christopher Groome, on behalf of himself and Cllr Ruth Groome (both were committed to a KBC Mayoral engagement on the night), stated that he had received good feedback on the event and thanked Town Cllrs for organising it. Cllr Smith also thanked the Borough Cllrs on the Town Council for their donations to the light' switch on.

12/09/2563 Correspondence

2563.1 NCC – Temporary Restriction of Traffic Section 14(A)

Resurfacing works on A6/A14 roundabout to commence 15 February 2010 and to take 5 nights to complete. Road to be closed to traffic whilst work in progress. For Members' information.

2563.2 NCC – ‘Spotlight –Report to the People 2009

Placed in Council Chamber for Members' reference.

2563.3 NCC – Safer Winter Driving Leaflets 2009

Distributed to Members for information.

2563.4 KBC – Displaying Information about Town Improvements

Members agreed in principle, subject to the information to be displayed.

2563.5 CPRE – ‘Countryside Voice’ Magazine Autumn 2009 Edition

Placed in Council Chamber for Members' reference.

2563.6 ‘Northamptonshire Link’ – Request to Display Posters/Support

To be placed in BL Library (Cllr Macdonald).

2563.7 NCC – Highways Representative Annual Conference 9 December 2009

Cllr Macdonald unable to attend but will catch up on the items discussed.

2563.8 KBC – Benefits Take-up

Request to display posters re: Housing and/or Council Tax Benefit. To be placed on notice boards and website (Cllr Macdonald).

12/09/2564 Policies and priorities

2564.1 F&GP Minutes – Meeting 12 November 2009 (Clerk)

Present: Cllrs: J. Smith (Town Mayor), H. Fry, D. Gunn, D. Zanger
Clerk to the Council: G Sneddon

Members of the Public: Mrs Bryce

Apologies: F&GP Committee Members:

Cllr Walden (prearranged commitment), proposed by Cllr Zanger that absence be approved, seconded by Cllr Gunn and approved; Cllr Bettles (illness), proposed by Cllr Zanger that absence be approved, seconded by Cllr Fry and approved; Cllr Macdonald (holiday), proposed by Cllr Gunn that absence be approved, seconded by Cllr Smith and approved.

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Other Town Councillors: Cllr M. Jerram (illness)

Election of Chair: Cllr Zanger proposed Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Fry and approved.

Declarations of Interest: None.

Matters Arising: None

Christmas Lights: Cllr Zanger tabled a document summarising arrangements agreed to date under the following headings:

- Entertainment
- Stalls (by organisation, including layout plan)
- Technical (generator, PA system, road closure, etc)

The Clerk confirmed that, as requested, Public Liability insurance cover had been put in place for the Christmas lights when in situ (period of cover 20 November 2009 to 15 January 2010) at a cost of £63.00. Cllr Zanger to check with Ian Griffiths if the Chamber of Trade also normally insured the lights for accidental damage when in situ.

Newsletter (December edition): Cllr Smith to email Cllrs to remind them of submission deadlines.

Preliminary Town Council Budget 2010/2011: The Clerk reiterated the contents of the budget discussion papers he presented to the Town Council on 3 November. After considerable discussion the Committee Resolved that: the following initial recommendations be made to Full Council in December:

- £5,500 of the precept to be raised in 2010/2011 to go towards the cost of the new Council Offices.
- Subject to Full Council's approval in principal F&GP Committee continue to refine details of the budget for submission to Full Council in January 2010 for final approval.

Matters Referred from Town Council Meeting on 3 November 2009: (see above Preliminary Budget)

Matters of Urgency: None

Private & Confidential Items: None

(There being no further items for discussion the Chair closed the meeting at 9.52 pm)

Discussed by the Council:

Preliminary Budget 2010/2011 -the Clerk advised the Council that the Financial Review Steering Group would be making recommendations to the January Council meeting that

would have budget implications and he tabled a 2010/2011 budget update for consideration by the December F&GP Committee.

Newsletter – Agreed: that one organisation would be featured per newsletter; details of Public Meeting(re: new Council Offices) to be held at 7.00 pm on 27 January at Community Centre to go in December's newsletter

2564.2 Town Council Website Meeting

Not scheduled – meetings now held every 2 months

2564.3 Minutes of Planning Committee 16 November 2009 (Cllr Gunn)

Cllrs Present: Cllrs Gunn (Chair), Bettles & Fry

Members of the Public Present: _Mr Walpole

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Macdonald & Smith

Cllr Macdonald (holidays): Proposed by Cllr Fry that apologies be approved. Seconded Cllr Bettles. Cllr Smith (Family illness): Proposed by Cllr Bettles that apologies be approved Seconded by Cllr Gunn. Resolved that apologies be approved.

Public participation: None

Declarations of interest: None

Matters arising: None

2564.31 Planning Applications Approved by the Town Council

KET/2009/0651 Mr Southcombe 17 Hollands Drive

Full Application: Single storey rear extension.

KET/2009/0583 Mr Clevery 16 Elm Road

Full Application: Conservatory to the rear.

KET/2009/0662 Mr Johnson (Weetabix) Station Road

Full Application: Extension to provide staff amenities.

2564.32 Planning Applications Objected to by the Town Council

KET/2009/0546 Burton Land LPP Hawthorn Road

Reasons for rejection:

The original application KET/2008/0390 was rejected by KBC, upholding BLTC recommendation, this was for 60/70 houses which was considered to be too high a density for this area. The developer then went to appeal, and for reason given the appeal was withdrawn in January 2009.

The developer has not been mindful of the facts of the previous rejection and taken no notice of it, and now proposes 80 new dwellings an even higher density, which is totally unacceptable.

Additionally, Burton Latimer has reached and surpassed its total quota of new build dwellings set by Government up to the year 2021 for Greenfield sites. The quota was set at 700, yet more than 850 new dwellings have now been built or have applications passed waiting to commence.

Previous applications that have been passed and not started have not yet reached the 3 year deadline for building commencement. There is no indication yet that one or more of these passed applications will not be started by the 3 year ruling. Therefore this developer's reasoning that this site should be looked at again, as no development has taken place yet, therefore leaving a shortfall for Burton Latimer, is totally unprecedented and has no grounds for validity.

Along with the above all previous reasons for rejection of the previous application still stands.

- Too high a density for this area
- The old Victorian sewerage piping is not capable of handling the extra increase
- Water run off will add the existing yearly flooding of this area
- Disruption to wildlife habitat i.e. Foxes Badgers Frogs Newts etc.
- Disruption to rare Red Kite nesting and bats
- Infrastructure of roads are not adequate to handle the increase in traffic.
- 3 storey dwellings are not in keeping with the design of the existing street scene
- 3 storey dwellings will be overbearing to existing residents.
- The new proposal of 80 dwelling exceeds the previous application by a 16% increase

The Town Council respectfully ask that this goes to full committee and that, once again, the Borough Council upholds this rejection recommendation from BLTC Planning, which again has given a unanimous vote for rejection.

2564.33 Planning Applications Approved by Kettering Borough Council

KET/2009/0494 Mr Durrant 2 Mackintosh Court

First floor extension above existing garage.

KET/2009/0532 Mr P Morson 24 Wheatfield Drive

Variation of condition 3 of KET/1999/0190, conversion of garage to habitable room.

KET/2009/0572 Mr H. Keon Alpro UK Ltd Altendiez Way

Installation of 2 no. rooflights and 2 no. windows to the south elevation

2564.34 Planning Refusals Received from Kettering Borough Council

None

Planning Appeals Received from Kettering Borough Council

None

2564.35 Planning Appeals Withdrawn Received from Kettering Borough Council

None

2564.36 Private and confidential matters:

None

(Meeting closed at 7.40 pm)

Additionally, Cllr Gunn proposed, seconded by Cllr C. Groome, that a letter be sent to KBC expressing the Town Council's dissatisfaction that the Borough Council had reduced Section 106 Agreement sums because the developers had paid too much for the land, thereby putting the developer's needs ahead of the community's needs. **Resolved** that the letter be sent by the Clerk (Cllr Gunn to draft the letter under the '3 day rule')

2564.4 Highways Update (Cllr Macdonald)

Taylor Wimpy have started work in Harvest Close

2564.5 Christmas Lights & Entertainment Event 2009 Update

(see Item 12/09/2562)

2564.6 Kettering East Alliance Update

Cllr C. Groome advised that the Chair of the KEA (Borough Cllr Ursula Jones) has Stated that she has not, as previously reported, cancelled the next 2 meetings of the KEA and will take this up. A number of key issues had not yet been resolved and BLTC needs to keep up to date on this.

2564.7 BL Cemetery – KBC Cost of Repair Re: Pruning Trees

Invoice received from KBC for £420 plus VAT for necessary repairs due to unauthorised pruning work to trees in BL cemetery.

General agreement that this was not a Town Council issue. Cllr Macdonald was helping the Friends of BL Cemetery with the work to be carried out at the cemetery and the Probationary Service was providing people to assist. It was also agreed that the pruning was necessary because the Borough Council had not maintained the Cemetery/Churchyard to the necessary standard. Cllr Zanger proposed, seconded by Cllr C. Groome, that he take the matter up with KBC and payment of the KBC invoice not be made. **Resolved** that the proposal be agreed.

12/09/2565 Borough Council Matters of Interest

Cllr C. Groome: KBC's Planning Policy Committee – good news re: 700 houses minimum for BL has now changed back to 700 in total. Ward Initiative fund – seats: 2 second-hand seats (requiring some refurbishment) to be placed in BL cemetery and looking into a third seat to be placed on the grass verge in Wold Road – agreed Cllr Groome to consult with the police on this seat.

Cllr R. Groome: (left the Chamber at 8.20 pm - child care matter - and returned at 9.00 pm)

Thanked the Council for featuring her KBC Town Mayor's Charity Ball in the newsletter (295 people attended, £1,800 raised). Approximately 200 Mayoral engagements to date.

Cllr Zanger: Meetings attended - Christmas lights, Licensing (2), A6 Towns Forum, KBC's Scrutiny Committee, BLAST AGM (now Chair), KBC's Civic Ball, SPAR, Crime & Punishment Conference and Farmer's Market.

12/09/2566 County Council Matters of Interest

Cllr C. Groome: School admissions – Southfield School has decided not to change its policy. Cllr Groome proposed, seconded by Cllr Gunn, that a letter be sent to Southfields Admission Forum on this matter (Cllr Groome to draft letter under '3 day rule') **Resolved** that the proposal be agreed.

Attended meetings of Standards Committee and Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee. NCC to resize its budget (for 2 years time)– consultation exercise on-line. NCC Cllrs Empowerment Fund (£10,000) – looking for ideas/suggestions (capital expenditure items only)

12/09/2567 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies.

Cllr Walden – Over 70's Christmas Party at the community Centre on 6 December.
Cllr C. Groome – to continue to attend CPRE meetings (Kettering East); Christmas event at Cranford Church – highly recommended.

12/09/2568 Urgent Matters (to be agreed by the Chair)

2568.1 NCC – Amenity Weight Restriction Awareness Campaign – Visible Roadside Boards

Cllr Macdonald to take this up.

2568.2 NCC – road Sign Improvements – Survey Required

Cllr Macdonald advised that he has contacted NCC and a site visit has been arranged and list compiled.

2568.3 Victim Support – Request for Funding

The Council declined to make a financial contribution

2568.4 New Council Building (Old BL Health Centre) - Update

Cllr Zanger advised that the Press Release had been done (very quickly) and that he had emailed Members.

Current position:

Heads of Terms

Have been signed (Cllrs Zanger and Smith). Cllr Zanger went through the Heads of Terms item by item:

- Landlord: KBC
- Tenant: BLTC
- Premise: BL Former Health Centre
- Term: 10 years (from commencement of lease)
- Landlord/Tenant Notice: can give 12 months notice at any time after 5 years
- Rent: £5,000 pa payable in advance on 1st of the month (to commence on occupation of premises (after refurbishment)
- Rent Review: Upward only on 5th anniversary of commencement of lease (RPI to be used)
- Use: (see list)
- Assigning/Sub-letting: By permission of KC only
- Repair Obligations: Tenant's responsibility
- Alterations: Non-structural OK; Landlord's approval required for structural alterations
- Insurance: Building- KBC responsibility; Contents: Tenants responsibility
- Outgoings: utilities, etc: Tenants responsibility – KBC to give 6 months 'holiday' for utilities but then all sums due (including those accrued during 'holiday' period) to be paid
- Legal Costs: to be met by KBC

Exchange of Contracts

Imminent (awaiting PCT signature)

Signing of Lease

Lease document to come before the Council for approval before signing.

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12/09/2569 Accounts for Payment

	£
Cheque No 101374 Zurich Insurance (Christmas lights Public Liability insurance)	***63.00
Cheque No.101375 (Cancelled)	
Cheque No 101376 G. Sneddon (Clerk's salary Dec 09)	*863.92
Cheque No 101377 Inland Revenue (Tax & NI Dec 09)	*286.39
Cheque No 101378 (Cancelled)	
Cheque No 101379 J. Smith (final 50% of Chairs Allowance)	*479.00
Cheque No 101380 Zurich Insurance (Pocket Park tractor)	*168.00
Cheque No 101441 CiLCA Registration Fee	*150.00
Cheque No 101442 G. Sneddon (Reimb. 'phone & postage (June – Sept 2009))	* 58.38
Cheque No 101443 Royal British Legion (Remem.Day Band)	** 70.00

Expenditure powers: * LGA 1972 s. 111
** LGA 1972 s. 144

Note: Clerk's salary *Includes attending CiLCA Course (Litchborough) 16 Sept, 22 Oct & 26 Nov (5.5 hours x 3 x £12.29= £202.78 gross) and travel (59 miles x3 x 25p= £44.25) - total £247.03*

Resolved that the above payments be approved

12/09/2570 Press Release

None

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.