

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BURTON LATIMER TOWN
COUNCIL HELD AT BURTON LATIMER COUNCIL OFFICES ON
8th JANUARY 2008**

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

County Councillor: C. Lamb

*Police Representatives: Chief Inspector M. Stamper,
Pc's N. Bull and T. Turner*

01/08/2155 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Town Councillor S.Walden

01/08/2156 Members' Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interests

01/08/2157 Declarations of Changes to Members' Register of Interests

There were no declarations of changes to Members' Register of Interests

01/08/2158 Minutes of the Meeting held on 4th December, 2007.

The Minutes of the Town Council meeting on 4th December, 2007 were unanimously approved as a true record of the meeting subject to the following amendment:

- Minute reference 12/07/2441.9 - expand 'e' to 'there'

01/08/2159 Matters Arising

2159.1 Minute 10/07/2108.4 Town Entry Signs Quote

The Clerk reminded the Council that the quote for repairs to the damaged town entry sign/planter bed was still awaited from the F&GP Committee. Councillor Jerram confirmed that one quote had been obtained and it was **agreed** that Councillor Jerram would obtain the other two quotes required.

2159.2 Minute 10/07/2108.4 Bowls Club Disabled Toilets

The Clerk confirmed that he would email the information to Councillors in the next few days.

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2159.3 Minute 10/07/2100.1 Councillor's Badges

The Clerk handed out identity badges to the Town Councillors.

2159.4 Minute 11/07/2126 Custodian Trustees

The Clerk tabled the information on Custodian Trustees received from D. Moody (NCALC) to the Town Councillors.

2159.5 Minute 11/07/2125.3 Farmer's Market

Councillor Zanger advised that he would update the Council on this matter in the Borough Council part of the agenda.

2159.6 Minute 12/07/2146.3 Federation Des Combattants Allies En Europe

Members acknowledged letters received from the above (via Pia Bellamy, KBC) and the Clerk's response stating that this matter had been referred to the F&GP committee. Councillor Ruth Groome undertook to take this matter up with the BL Ex-Servicemen's Association.

2159.7 Minute 12/07/2147 Public Participation

Councillor Evans advised the Council that that the Clerk had sought advice on this matter and the Council could make no further comment. The Christmas lighting was the responsibility of the Chamber of Trade. Councillor Evans also advised that she had spoken to the police and they had confirmed that the Town Council cannot get involved in this matter.

2159.8 Minute 12/07/2149 Town Entry Sign Removed By Contractors.

Councillor Zanger confirmed that he would be contacting County Councillor Bob Seery to get an urgent reply with regard to the Town Council being compensated for the above.

01/08/2160 Police Matters

Councillor Evans introduced Chief Inspector Mick Stamper (Kettering North's Senior officer) to the Town Council. Issues discussed included the following:

PCSO's undertaking parking enforcement duties – the Council was advised that no police force had been given these powers and Northants police are not likely to change their stance on this matter.

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PCSO's presence in Burton Latimer – the Council was advised of the PCSO's 3 shift schedule patrolling Little Oakley, Geddington and Burton Latimer and the intention to provide high visibility at events such as the Farmer's Market, and the library.

Yellow lines in Duke Street – Councillor Macdonald advised that he had this in hand.

Double parking outside the chemist (bottom of Duke Street) was highlighted as a special area for police attention. It was noted that the situation is so bad that bus passengers often could not get off the bus onto the pavement.

There was general agreement on the part of the Council that police matters were better than they were and the Chief Inspector and the other police officers present were thanked for that. Councillor Evans thanked the police for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

01/08/2161 Town Mayor's Report

Councillor Evans confirmed that she had been away most of last month but that she had attended the Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's Church and congratulated those that had organised the event. She had also attended the Darby & Joan Christmas Dinner and thanked them for the invitation.

The Council was informed that the Civic Ball would be held on Saturday 29th March at the Park Hotel, Kettering, and expressed the wish that Councillors would attend. The Council was also advised that dates had yet to be determined for the Councillor's Christmas dinner and the Civic Service. The 7th February was agreed as the date for the Town Council's Christmas dinner (Palmichaels).

01/08/2162 Correspondence

2162.1 Monthly Parish Crime Report – November 2007

Members acknowledged receipt of the above.

2162.2 Seasons Garden Centre – Footpath

Letter received from Milton Wallpapers Ltd in regard to the need for a footpath the Caravan Park and a point opposite the Garden Centre. Councillor Macdonald confirmed that the footpath was included in the Highway's Plan and work would commence on 14th January and that he had already contacted Milton Wallpapers and advised them accordingly. Councillor Macdonald added that he would discuss with the garden centre the possibility of them maintaining two or three of the town entry sign planter beds.

2162.3 Highways Agency – Planned Road Works December 2007 to February 2008

Members acknowledged receipt of the above.

2162.4 Poppy Appeal

Members acknowledged receipt of a letter of thanks from Mr Peck and a request to pay £70 for the Remembrance Parade band. This had previously been agreed by the Town Council, subject to the request being made each year in writing.

2162.5 Bee Bee Development Ltd

Members acknowledged receipt of the “Working Together” draft proposals from the above. It was agreed that Councillors would pass any comments to the Town Council’s Planning Committee and Councillor Macdonald undertook to provide Members with copies of the document should they require it.

2162.6 KBC – Budget Consultation Meeting 24th Jan 7.pm KBC Council Chamber

Members acknowledged receipt of the above.

2162.7 KBC – Town & Parish Council Funding

Confirmation that BLTC Grant for 2008/9 is £12,040 and a Precept form requiring completion. It was agreed that the Clerk would complete the Precept Form and submit it to the Borough Council.

2162.8 KBC - Casual Vacancy Latimer Ward

Members acknowledged receipt of the above update.

2162.9 KBC – Friends of Park Group

Information from Pia Bellamy re: setting up the above. It was agreed that Councillor Zanger would attend on behalf of the town Council with Councillor Jerram as substitute.

2162.10 NCC – Draft Budget 2008/9 Consultation

Members acknowledged receipt of the above. Councillor Macdonald advised the Council that the website information was so uninformative as to make comments/decisions very difficult and Councillors would respond individually. It was agreed that the Clerk would send a letter to this effect.

2162.11 Draft East Midlands Plan Panel Report

Members acknowledged receipt of the above update.

2162.12 Holocaust Memorial Commemoration

Invitation to Members to attend the above which will be held at 2.00 pm on Sunday 27th January, 2008, at the KBC Council Offices. It was **agreed** that individual Councillors would complete and submit the form to KBC.

2162.13 Northamptonshire Police Authority Budget Consultation

Members acknowledged receipt of the above.

01/08/2163 Public Participation

In acknowledgement of the assistance provided in relation to the Deejak Development appeal, Councillor Evans made presentations to Dr T. Kelly, Mr J. Baynham, Mrs J. Smith and Mr Hunt.

A member of the public raised the issue of parking in the town centre areas, particularly High Street and expressed concern that it was only a matter of time before there was a serious accident. Councillor Macdonald advised that there would be a meeting with an NCC Highways engineer later this month to discuss yellow lining (new and extending existing) in the town in critical areas, including the War Memorial, Pioneer Avenue and Station Road. Councillor Garnett expressed particular concern in regard to the area around the War Memorial.

Councillor Macdonald went on to register his dismay at the lack of agreement between NCC and KBC on the parking enforcement issue. Councillor Macdonald added that he would be contacting Chris Stopford (KBC) in the next day or so in relation to the role of the Borough Council's Generic Wardens.

In response to a point raised by Councillor Fry Councillor Macdonald also undertook to make enquiries about having a 20 MPH speed limit in High Street. Councillor Chris Groome gave the Council an historical perspective in regard to the present parking arrangements in the High Street and the development of KBC's Generic Warden scheme to assist with parking enforcement. This required the agreement of NCC which, to date, has not been given.

01/08/2164 Policies & Priorities

2164.1 Finance & General Purposes Committee Report

Councillor Jerram presented the following Minutes of the last F&GP Committee.

Finance & General Purposes Committee 13th December 2007

Present: Cllrs S. Walden, P. Bettles, D. Zanger, M. Jerram

Apologies: Cllr H. Fry, Cllr C. Groome

1. Correspondence

A letter was received from Federation Des Combattants Allies En Europe requesting a donation towards room hire. It was felt that on this occasion we were unable to help.

2. Sports Hall

The feasibility study is ready to be distributed, we need to pay to have the leaflets printed and delivered. This will be funded from the grant for the Parish Plan.

3. Web-Site

Cllr Jerram agreed to obtain a quote for this as it is felt it needs to be progressed as soon as possible.

4. Newsletter

Articles for the newsletter are needed for the next town council meeting. It was agreed that Council's local grants scheme and the Community Service Awards needs to be publicised in the next newsletter.

5. Quality Council and Parish Plan

This needs to be progressed urgently at the next Town Council as all councillors need to take part.

6. Swimming Pool Trust

It was suggested that the Clerk writes under the Freedom of Information Act for a full set of accounts, also the date and time of the 2008 AGM.

7. A.O.B

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

Matters discussed by the Town Council were as follows:

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FDCAEE – Councillor Ruth Groome advised that she had already passed this matter on to the BL Ex-Servicemen’s Club to see if it could help. Councillor Groome undertook to forward the contact details to the Clerk .

Sports Hall – Councillor Jerram advised that she would be emailing the results to Councillors shortly and that 2 quotes had already been obtained for the printing and delivery of leaflets and a third would be obtained. It was **agreed** that the funding would be met from the Parish Plan grant.

Web Site – It was **agreed** that 3 quotes were necessary and Councillor Gunn advised that he could assist the Council in designing the web site and Members were asked to forward suggestions for web pages to him.

Newsletter – Members were advised that it was complete apart from 3 items and that the relevant Councillors would be emailed tomorrow.

Quality Council and Parish Plan – it was **agreed** this needed progressing urgently at the next F&GP Committee and that a representative from ACRE would be attending to offer advice.

Swimming Pool Trust – It was **agreed** that the Clerk would request the required information. (Note: Councillor Chris Groome declared an interest in this item).

2164.2 Planning Matters

2164.21 Planning Applications Received By BLTC

KET/2007/0769 Mr Smith 23 William Street, BL

Renewal of Outline Planning Permission – KE/04/0607 Maximum 2 Storey Dwelling

“The Town Council had no objections to this planning application”

KET/2007/0993 Mr Gavin S&G Higham Rd, BL

Demolition Of Workshops & Erection of 3 - 2 Storey Dwellings

“The Town Council had no objections to this planning application”

KET/2007/ Mr Sharp 1 Spring Gardens, BL

To convert existing conservatory into a tiled roofed full brick construction lounge area

“The Town Council had no objections to this planning application subject to the following conditions:”

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“The end elevation & adjacent wall to be constructed with stonework matching the existing dwelling”.

KET/2007/0559 Mr Beaty Beaty Farm & Bellway Homes Wold Rd, BL

248 New Homes Along With New Access Arrangements Associated Open Space & Drainage Works.

“The Town Council had no objections to this planning application” (Note: an appeal has been lodged with the Secretary of State for non determination of planning by KBC)

KET/2007/1128 Mr Carter 9 Miller Rd, BL

Proposed Erection of a new garage and office / hobby Room

“The Town Council had no objections to this planning application”

KET/2007/1048 Mr Stevens 155 Churchill Way, BL

Single Storey Rear Extension Conservatory

“The Town Council had no objections to this planning application subject to the following conditions :

“To see if the roof height could be lowered to a 14 degree pitch & defused / obscure glass used to the side of no.153 to improve privacy”.

Additional comments by Councillor Gunn - on Monday 17th Dec 2007, at 7 pm at the Council Chamber, Burton Latimer, (BLTC Planning Committee meeting) Mr Puddephatt and Mr Stevens attended, both accompanied by a friend or family member. Also in attendance was Mr Andy Walpole. Both Mr Stevens & Mr Puddephatt put forward their own arguments for and against the proposed application, submitted by Mr Stevens of 155 Churchill Way, for a Conservatory to the rear of his property. The following day Dec 18th, both Mr Stevens & Mr Puddephatt were informed of the planning committee’s decision with regards to Mr Stevens application. Since I once owned 155 Churchill Way (now owned by Mr Stevens) and know both Mr Puddephatt & Mr Stevens. I asked Cllrs Macdonald, Fry & Bettles if they thought I should stand down from this discussion. All agreed that they would like to hear my views on this subject. I then only put forth my views on this subject, after first receiving Cllrs Fry’s Bettles & Macdonald’s decisions and my views were based solely on the information put before us.

KET/2007/1016 Mr May RBSM Devpt. 153 High St,BL

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Demolition of Bungalow & Garage & Erection Of A 2 & Single Storey Building Containing 5 Flats.

“ The Town Council objects to this planning application ”.

2164.22 Planning Approvals Received From KBC

KET/2007/0759 Seagrave Developments 34-40 Regent Road, BL

Revised Design To Plot 5 Dormer Window Above Garage Front Elevation & Escape Window To The Rear Elevation 2nd Floor With Obscure Glass

KET/2007/0993 Mr Gavin S&G Higham Road, BL

Demolition of workshops & erection of 3 - 2 Storey Dwellings

KET/2007/0769 Mr Smith 23 William Street, BL

Renewal Of Outline Planning Permission – KE/04/0607 Maximum 2 Storey Dwelling

KET/2007/1039 Weetabix Ltd Station Rd, BL

Full Application For 2 New Silos Next To Building AP7 (a S.106 Agreement has been requested on this for a VAS sign in Powell Lane, which we feel would also be advantageous to Weetabix vehicle movement in this area.)

2164.23 Planning Refusals Received From KBC

KET/2007/1016 Mr May RBSM Dev 153 High Street, BL

Demolition of Bungalow & Garage & Erection Of A 2 & Single Storey Building Containing 5 Flats.

2164.24 Planning Withdrawals Received From KBC

KET/2007/0929 Mr Fry 16 Wold Road, BL

Application For 4 Executive Detached Dwellings With Detached Garages

2164.25 Other Planning Matters - Councillor Gunn

As chairman of the Town Council's Planning Committee I have been asked by Theresa Nicholl's to put forward our comments on the 5500 New Build Eastern Development for Kettering. After discussing this with Councillors Fry, Bettles & Macdonald, it was agreed that we ask the Town Mayor for Burton Latimer, to write to Theresa Nicholl and state that the whole of the town council do not approve of this

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development due to the engulfing impact it will have not only to Burton Latimer, but to other villages such as Cranford and Barton Seagrave, etc.

Since we all know no matter what our objections or views are that we collectively put forward, this 5500 new build will still take place. Therefore its hoped that KBC will work hand in hand with other councillors from rural districts that will be affected by this construction, and that a compromise and amicable relationship will exist so that our views are not set aside or dismissed showing little or no regard to our views, even when those views are sought by KBC

I believe Cllr Macdonald has contacted Cranford's clerk to the council as Sir Peter Fry is away on vacation & is not due back until after our deadline for response on this, therefore I hand over to Cllr Macdonald to update us to Cranford's Views on this subject

Note: The Borough Councillors on the Town Council abstained from taking part in the discussion and vote on this item.

Councillor Evans proposed that she send a letter containing the Town Council's views on this matter to KBC. This was seconded by Councillor Garnett and unanimously agreed by the non-Borough Council members of the Town Council. It was **agreed** that the Town Council's Planning Committee would draft the wording of this letter and forward it to Councillor Evans.

2164.3 Millennium Walk

There was no further update on this item.

2164.4 Town Council Chamber and Facilities

Councillor Macdonald informed the council that the furniture should be moved into the new ground floor Council Chamber in the next couple of weeks and Councillors Zanger, Gunn, Fry undertook to assist with this process. It was **agreed** that 5 sets of keys would be cut, including those for Council notice boards, for Councillors Jerram, Gunn, Macdonald, Bettles and the Clerk to the Council. The Council was also informed that the new flagpole would be erected very shortly.

2164.5 Work in Progress Update

There was no further update on this item.

2164.6 Proposed Closure of the School Bus Service

Councillor Macdonald advised that he had received a brief report re: the meeting (Councillors Evans and Macdonald) had had with representatives from the County

Council and there was to be another meeting in the near future to raise a number of queries on behalf of the Town council.

2164.7 Highways Matters

Councillor Macdonald advised the Council that work on the Highway's Plan (Church Street, Cranford Road footpath, etc) would commence on 14th January. He added that there was to be a meeting with KBC and NCC representatives on 21st February with a view to 'decluttering' signage in Burton Latimer. With regard to the 'walkabout' by the Chief Executive of KBC slow progress was being made and that the railings adjacent to the Farmer's Market area would be rectified within the next 10 days, the cable festooning the corner of SPAR would be sorted out and the new BLTC notice board has been ordered and would be erected at the earliest opportunity.

With regard to the Urban Speed Watch Scheme, the Council was advised that the training date (for next round) was Saturday 9th February from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm and hopefully, some new volunteers would emerge. Councillor Gunn undertook to update the letters/posters for display in the Council's notice boards. Councillor Evans added that she would be happy to distribute letters/posters to the BL schools.

01/08/2165 Borough Council Matters of Interest

Councillor Zanger

Farmers's Market Report - Councillor Zanger presented this to the Council. Councillor Evans thanked Councillor Zanger for all his hard work in establishing the Farmer's Market, which is a significant event in the community, and his continuing input. The Council was also informed of Councillor Zanger's attendance at meetings at Wellingborough on waste disposal and Kettering Police Station on anti- social behaviour and under-age drinking. Additionally, he had been interviewed by radio '5 Live' at the Wind Farm, raised £600 through his sponsored head shave and confirmed that he had had discussions with the new owners of IVG Whites and they are directing all of their traffic onto the A509

Councillor Chris Groome

Burton Latimer Urban Design Framework - Civic Hub – Councillor Groome presented the Town Council's Planning Steering Group's response to KBC's Consultant's Preferred Option Report. In summary the Town Council unanimously **agreed** the following:

- The existing library and the old Medical Centre building area to be the location for all civic activities,

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- Removal of the existing Council building with the bottom of Churchill Way/High Street site to providing a larger Town Square with additional commercial and residential development.

It was also **agreed**, in response to a request from Councillor Garnett, that a single document was needed to provide detail and substance as to what the Council had agreed. The Planning Steering Group undertook to do this.

Councillor Ruth Groome

Councillor Groome informed the council that she had attended a meeting of KBC's Recycling Task and Finish Group and that further details would be brought to the next meeting of the Town Council.

01/08/2166 County Council Matters of Interest

Councillor Christopher Lamb updated the Town Council on the following:

Appointment of NCC's Highways Contractor – (3 preferred bidders) – NCC Executive Committee to decide tomorrow.

Increase in highway's budget - to be no more than the rate of inflation.

Friends of the Library Service Scheme – leaflets tabled can set up Friends Club (min. of 5 friends) e.g. set up a fund raising/pressure group, for example lack of money in north Northants to cater for children's groups. The Group would have its own constitution and bank account. Councillor Lamb said that he was very enthusiastic about the scheme and was pleased to get involved with it. BL cemetery gate – the £2,500 contribution from Councillor Lamb's County Councillor's Discretionary Fund would be paid into the Town Council's account this month.

01/08/2167 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies.

There were no reports from representatives on outside bodies.

01/08/2168 Accounts for Payment

The Council unanimously approved the following payments:

	£
Cheque No. 101233 G. Sneddon (Clerk's salary Jan 2008)	*504.12
Cheque No. 101234 Inland Revenue (Tax & NI Jan 2008)	366.66
Cheque No. 101235 G. Sneddon (Reimb. Postage & 'phone July – Sept 07)	40.55

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Cheque No. 101236 Royal British Legion (Remb.Day Band)	70.00
Cheque No. 101237 Cllr Evans (50% of Chair's Allowance)	434.50

** Includes arrears for 2007 national pay award (2.475%) backdated to 1st April, 2007*

012/08/2169 Any Other Relevant Items of Business

2169.1 Picnic Benches

Councillor Gunn undertook to obtain a quote for the above.

2169.2 J. Sainsbury Ltd

Members acknowledged receipt of a letter from the above organisation confirming the acquisition of Budgens store.

2169.3 Mr I. Cox – BL Cemetery

The Town Council **agreed** to support Mr Cox's proposal to have a dedicated area set aside in Burton Latimer Cemetery (drawing submitted by Mr Cox) for the committal of cremated ashes.

01/08/2170 Press Release

The following items were agreed for press release:

- Urban Speed Watch Scheme
- Sports & Leisure questionnaire

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.

