

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BURTON LATIMER TOWN
COUNCIL HELD AT BURTON LATIMER COUNCIL OFFICES ON
3RD JUNE 2008**

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

Police Representative: PCSO's Margaret Lawson and Andrew Wood

06/08/2251 Apologies

Town Councillor M. Evans (absence), County Councillor C. Lamb (lateness)

06/08/2252 Members' Declarations of Interest

None

06/08/2253 Declarations of Changes to Members' Register of Interests

Councillor Ruth Groome - Deputy Mayor of Kettering Borough Council

06/08/2254 Minutes of the Meetings held on 1st April and 13th May 2008

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

1st April 2008

pp 2590 Minute 04/08/2220 – insert ‘Cornfield Way Estate’

pp 2591 Minute 04/08/2221.1 – insert ‘Councillor Macdonald’

pp 2595 Minute 04/08/2221.8 – 6th para change ‘Councillor Zanger’ to ‘Councillor Macdonald’

13th May 2008 (Annual Parish Meeting)

pp 2598 Minute 05/08/2220 – delete reference to Councillors C. Groome, D. Zanger and P. Bettles.

13th May 2008 (Annual General Meeting)

pp 2561 Minute 05/08/2240 (F&GP Committee) – add Councillor F. Macdonald.

pp 2562 Minute 05/08/2240 (Latimer Swimming Pool Trust) – Councillor ‘Fry’ not ‘fry’.

pp 2563 Minute 2244.1 - change 21st to ‘20th’

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pp 2566 Minute 05/08/2247.41 – KET/2008/0197 change ‘View’ to ‘Street’
pp 2566 Minute 05/08/2247.43 – KET/2008/0197 change ‘View’ to ‘Street’
pp 2567 Minute 05/08/2247.46 – KET/2007/0743 change ‘11’ to ‘II’

06/08/2255 Matters Arising

None.

06/08/2256 Town Mayor’s Report

Councillor Zanger’s report included reference to attending the following meetings:-

KBC Leader Cllr Jim Hakewill on the old BLHealth Centre, KBC’s Mayor making KBC’s Cabinet Committee re: Burton Latimer Town Centre development, BLAST, East of Kettering Liaison Group, Sainsburys re: parking, Crime and Disorder Strategy, KBC’s Research & Development Committee, Rothwell Town Council (precepting) and KBC’s Planning Policy Committee. Also the Fire Services’ Regional Control Centre at Castle Donnington.

06/08/2257 Police Matters

PCSO Andrew Wood presented BL’s April crime statistics. Councillors raised issues relating to youths drinking alcohol on the Recreation Ground and cars parked in the lay-by near the Waggon and Horses public house.

Councillor Zanger advised the Council, and the police representatives, of an open-day to be held by Your Energy at the Wind Farm from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm on Saturday 14 June and asked for police assistance to control the flow of traffic in Wold Road. Councillor Macdonald undertook to also raise the Council’s concerns re: traffic flows and the lack of parking facilities in the locale.

2258.1 Monthly Parish Crime Report

This was presented by the police representatives under Police Matters.

2258.2 Churden Residents Association

Letter from the above seeking re-affirmation of the Town council’s support re: bollards to be placed along the grass verges outside numbers 1-7 Churchill Way. For Members’ comments. After considerable debate it was agreed that (i) the Town Council would raise this matter at the A6 Towns Forum and the Rural Forum and (ii) the Town Council would continue to support the Residents Association in its quest for improvements in relation to vehicles parking on/churning up the verges in Churchill Way.

2258.3 Zurich Insurance

Members were advised that the cost of the annual renewal of Town Council's insurance policy is £807.25. The Clerk informed the Council (see also the recommendations of the Town Council's Internal Audit Review Working Party) that the Fidelity Guarantee cover had been increased from £40,000 to £50,00 and the cover for any one instance of loss of cash had been increased from £100 to £250. These changes had no adverse impact on the premium to be paid.

The Council was also advised that, in the interest of ensuring assuring value for money, the cost of insurance provision would be reviewed before the next policy renewal date on 1st June 2009 (see also the recommendations of the Town Council's Internal Audit Review Working Party).

The Clerk also advised the Council on the Libel and Slander cover within the policy. Members were only covered by these elements if they are commenting on behalf of the Town Council (by prior agreement of the Town Council). If Councillors made comments as individual Councillors without this prior agreement they would not be covered by the policy and would be individually responsible for any consequential libel/slander charges made against them.

2258.4 ACRE

Update from Campaign to Protect Rural England for Members' information.

2258.5 North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Updates

Update received from the above for Members' information. Councillor Chris Groome added that there was nothing of substance in the letter but that the Core Spatial Strategy has been accepted by the Inspectors and going forward on 12th June.

06/08/2259 Public Participation

Mr Dodsworth (CRA) raised the matter about the lack of a footpath from the new footpath onto Seasons property and that this was dangerous for pedestrians. Councillor Macdonald undertook to raise this issue with Mr Taylor (Owner of Seasons)

Mrs Bryce advised the Council that CRA would be taking responsibility for the planting of bedding plants, as per last year. Clarification as to why members of the public were now being issued lists at the Town Council meetings giving details of the Town Council's responses to planning applications was also given to Mrs Bryce. Members of the public were also encouraged to attend meetings of the Town Council's Planning Committee if they wished to comment on applications before decisions were made by the Council.

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Dr Hunt advised the Council that the development of the Town Council's website was progressing well. 'Burtonlatimer.org' address has been secured for 10 years and that it was hoped the website could be launched by 1st of July. In response to Councillor Garnett's query consideration will be given to launching the website at the Farmer's Market in July.

Mr Walpole, with reference to the issuing of planning lists, suggested that highways lists should also be issued. Also, in response to Mr Walpole's concerns at the poor state of the footpath at the rear of Sainsburys, he was advised by Councillor Macdonald that, once the developers had finished, that footpath, and the one at the side of Sainsburys, would be done.

06/08/2260 Policies & Priorities

2260.1 Finance & General Purposes Committee Report

Pocket Park Picnic Tables (2) and Seat

Councillor Macdonald updated the Council on the quotes received and proposed that the quote from T&G Builders for the concrete bases for £755 be approved subject unless cheaper quotes were received. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Gunn and unanimously **agreed** by the Council.

Councillor Macdonald updated the Council on the quotes received and proposed that the quote from Glasdon for the picnic tables and seat for £1,504.52 be approved. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Chris Groome and unanimously **agreed** by the Council.

Website

Councillor Macdonald proposed that Mr Hunt be reimbursed for the £93.88 cost of the web domain name. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Ruth Groome and unanimously **agreed** by the Council.

Councillor Macdonald proposed that Mr Hunt be reimbursed for the £615 cost of website course he had attended for designing the website, getting it up and running and maintaining it for 6 months. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Zanger and unanimously **agreed** by the Council.

Councillor Chris Groome proposed that 50% of the £615 be paid now and 50% at the launch of the website. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Gunn and unanimously agreed by the council.

Election of Chair of F&GP Committee

Councillor Macdonald proposed Councillor Walden. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Fry and unanimously **agreed** by the Council. It was also agreed that the Minute taker would be agreed at the next meeting of the F&GP Committee and that a properly structured agenda would be compiled.

2260.2 Review of Internal Audit Process/Systems of Internal Control

The Clerk presented the report from the Internal Audit Review Working Party. Councillor Chris Groome proposed adoption of the Working Party's report and recommendations. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Ruth Groome and unanimously **agreed** by the Council.

Thanks were expressed to the Clerk and Working Party for the work put in to compile the report. Councillor Macdonald also thanked the Clerk, on behalf of the Working Party, for his contribution to compiling the report.

It was also **agreed** that the contents of the report be compiled into an A5 booklet separate from, but complimentary to, the Council's Standing Orders.

The revised (by Councillor Jerram) Community Grant Application Form was adopted and it was **agreed** that the form was to be used only for the £250 Community Grant and not for the £50 grants and that this was to be made clear in the form. Councillor Jerram undertook to amend the form accordingly.

2260.3 Draft Town Council Accounts 2007/8

The Clerk presented the draft accounts for 2007/8, along with the draft revised Asset Register and the 'Notes to the Accounts'. It was agreed that the Asset Register needed some further work and Councillors Macdonald and Walden undertook to do this.

Councillor Chris Groome proposed the adoption of the draft accounts. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Garnett and unanimously **agreed** by the Council.

2260.4 Planning Matters

2260.41 Planning Applications Approved by the Town Council

KET/2008/0371 O2 (UK) Ltd Kettering Rd, Bl

Full Application: 3 New Antennas and relocation of 3 existing antennas on existing O2 Cell site.

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KET/2008/0309 Mr Howards 23 Shakespeare Dr, BL

Full Application : Single storey side and rear extension.

KET/2008/0353 Mr Meads 46 Bridle Road, BL

Single storey rear conservatory extension

2260.42 Planning Applications Objected to by the Town Council

None.

2260.43 Planning Approvals Received from Kettering Borough Council

KET/2008/0253 Mr R May 153 High St, BL

Demolition of bungalow, erection of 2 and 1 single storey building containing 5 flats (revised scheme).

KET/2008/0248 Mr R Smith 18 Church View, BL

Single storey front extension.

KET/2008/0237 Mr F Ward 39 Bakehouse Lane, BL

The Olde Victoria Public House – Churchill Taverns Group. Retrospective application for Jumbo Umbrella

2260.44 Planning Refusals Received from Kettering Borough Council

KET/2007/0475 Redrow Homes Polwell Lane, BL

Construction of up to 500 dwellings with associated landscaping, public open spaces, highway works and ancillary development

2260.45 Planning Withdrawals Received from Kettering Borough Council

None.

2260.46 Planning Appeals Received from Kettering Borough Council

None.

2260.5 Town Council Chamber and Facilities

Councillor Macdonald confirmed that exterior repairs and decoration to the building would be done in July and the fire extinguishers were filled and up to date.

2260.6 Work in Progress Update

It was **agreed** that this be removed from future agendas as a standing item due to the Council now having more effective control over matters being actioned.

2260.7 Proposed Closure of the School Bus Service

It was **agreed** that this standing item be renamed 'Public Transport'. It was also **agreed**, at Councillor Jerram's suggestion, that the bus service issues (Stagecoach) be taken to the A6 Towns Forum.

2260.8 Highways Matters

Councillor Macdonald updated the Council on the following:-

Finger post now corrected, Queensway works, Finedon Street potholes, Higham Hill seat, Diane Way, weeding, Safer Routes to Schools, de-cluttering of highways signage, rubbish clearance (rear of Churchill Way car park), VAS sign, Sainsburys car park, Speedwatch (9th June)

06/08/2261 Borough Council Matters of Interest

Councillor Chris Groome

Councillor Groome gave a detailed update to the Council in respect of Kettering Borough Council's Planning Policy in relation to Burton Latimer. With respect to the Urban Design Study KBC had sent the report back to the consultants for revision to take on board the downturn in the property market and to rework the scheme to demonstrate how the site can become viable again. A meeting was anticipated in the near future.

The Council was also advised that Philip Hollobone, MP, would be at the next Farmer's Market for an hour.

06/08/2262 County Council Matters of Interest

Councillor Lamb

The Council was informed that it would be the first place in the County to have a VAS sign and that he would update the Council on this matter at the next meeting. With regard to his discretionary fund, Councillor Lamb was funding a number of initiatives and the money had to be spent by the end of the year. He added that under

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the new NCC CEO the County Council was undergoing a significant restructuring and that he would update the Council on this matter at the July meeting.

Councillor Zanger, on behalf of the Town Council, commended Councillor Lamb on his year of office as Mayor of Kettering and that he had done an excellent job and was a credit too the town.

06/08/2263 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies.

Duck Race

Councillor Jerram informed the Council that the annual Duck Race would take place on 22nd June and that tickets were now on sale and helpers were sought for the day.

06/08/2264 Accounts for Payment

The Council unanimously approved the following payments:

	£
Cheque No. 101262 G. Sneddon (Clerk's salary June 2008)	421.56
Cheque No. 101263 Inland Revenue (Tax & NI June 2008)	286.11
Cheque No. 101264 Zurich Insurance	807.25

06/08/2265 Any Other Relevant Items of Business

2265.1 Police – Local Heroes Award

Information on the above was given to Members.

2265.2 BLTC Newsletter

Councillor Zanger, on behalf of the Town Council, thanked Councillor Jerram for the excellent job she had done on the newsletter.

2265.3 Wind Farm Open Day

Councillor Zanger advised Members of the above (previously touched upon in the meeting)

2265.4 St Mary's School Children – Letters on Leisure Facilities in the Town

Councillor Zanger gave Councillor Jerram the above letters received from Councillor Evans.

2265.5 Deputy Town Mayor's Chain of Office – Replacement Link in Chain

Councillor Bettles advised the Council that the above chain of office required a new link in the chain. Councillor Zanger proposed that Councillor Fry take the chain to Tim Thornton for repair. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Gunn and unanimously agreed by the Council.

2265.6 Hog's Hole - Development Survey

Councillor Gunn informed the Council that the survey results to date were as follows:-

For:	4
Against:	180
Don't know:	3

2265.7 Fair on Recreation Ground

Members expressed dissatisfaction at not being consulted by KBC in relation to the above. Councillor Zanger advised that he had written to Councillor Roberts (KBC Councillor with portfolio for Leisure) on this matter and that he awaiting a reply.

06/08/2266 Press Release

There were no items for press release.

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.