

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BURTON LATIMER TOWN
COUNCIL HELD AT BURTON LATIMER COUNCIL OFFICES ON
1st JULY 2008**

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

*Police Representative: PC Nigel Bull and PCSO
Margaret Lawson*

07/08/2268 Apologies

Town Councillor H. Fry, J. Garnett and F. Macdonald; County Councillor C. Lamb

07/08/2269 Members' Declarations of Interest

None

07/08/2270 Declarations of Changes to Members' Register of Interests

Councillor Ruth Groome informed the Council that she was no longer Deputy Chair of KBC's Monitoring & Audit Committee and that she had been replaced in that role by Councillor Chris Groome

07/08/2271 Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd June 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 amendments:

pp 2572 Minute 06/08/2259 - delete ('NCC') and insert – insert (owner of Seasons)
pp 2579 Minute 06/08/2267.2 – delete ' had spoken' and insert 'would speak'
pp 2574 Minute 06/08/2260.1 – complete the sentence in final chapter.

07/08/2272 Matters Arising

Councillor Macdonald's items of various 'Matters Arising' were issued to the Council without comment.

Minute 06/08/2265.5 Councillor Bettles thanked councillor Fry for getting the Deputy Chair's chain of office repaired quickly and at no cost to the Council.

Minute 06/08/2265.7 Councillors expressed dissatisfaction at the total lack of consultation with the Town Council in regard to the fair in the recreation ground and the unacceptable manner in which this matter was generally handled by the Borough Council. Appropriate feedback had been given to KBC's Head of Community

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Services, the relevant Deputy Chief Executive and the portfolio holder (Borough Councillor) for Leisure and Community Services. It was **agreed** that this matter would be pursued with the Borough Council.

07/08/2273 Police Matters

Pc Bull made reference to the crime statistics for May 2008. With regard to Speedwatch he asked that he be advised of the dates, times and locations of this event. Councillor Gunn undertook to provide this information. The Council was advised that the police were also not consulted on the fair and Stephanie Chettle (KBC) undertook to feed this back to KBC.

The Council was also briefed on the 'Street – a –Week' project. This will run for 12 weeks and the 3 BL streets 'targeted' are Barley Drive, Mallard Close and Coles Close. Letters will be sent to each household a week before the event. The 3 streets were selected at random and each household will be called upon by the police to obtain details of any community issues. Feedback will be through the Joint Action Group. Success will be measured by how many people the police speak to.

Pc Bull was informed of (i) an incident at the BL Bowls Club on 27th June and (ii) an incident at the community centre on 30th June. Pc Bull advised that he would look into these.

**07/08/2274 Presentation by KBC's Senior Development Officer
Local Development Framework/East Kettering Strategic Design
SPD**

KBC's Senior Development Officer, Stephanie Chettle gave Members a brief introduction to the Local Development Framework, progress made to date and provided information about the forthcoming consultation on East Kettering Strategic Design SPD. The Council was particularly concerned that the design guidance for the Urban Framework, (the policy document is to be submitted to KBC's Planning Policy Committee on 2nd July) was fit for purpose. The consultation period (6 weeks) commences on 7th July and the Council was given details of various public consultation venues and dates over the consultation period.

Point raised by Town Councillors:-

Councillor Chris Groome - (i) the last KBC Planning Policy Committee agreed that the development of the area immediately adjacent to Kettering East would be considered alongside this development and the Council would expect this to be reflected in the consultation document (ii) a key sustainability issue is to avoid cycleways/pathways petering out when the boundary of the development area is reached. The Town Council is keen for pedestrians/cyclists to be able to walk/bike safely into Kettering

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and this requires a bridge across the A6 and A14. Councillor Groome proposed that the August BLTC meeting commences at 7.30 pm to allow Councillors to attend the BL consultation event. This was seconded by Councillor Ruth Groome and unanimously **agreed** by the Council.

Councillor Ruth Groome - (i) in the past funding for public transport tended to be for only one year and then ceased; a permanent commitment is required (ii) Peterborough has dealt with cycle lanes very effectively, encouraging use of public transport is essential and car parking/garages need to be 'designed in'.

Councillor Smith - significant problems with sewerage in previous developments; huge problem and needs to be addressed.

Councillor Zanger, on behalf of the Town Council, thanked Stephanie for her presentation

07/08/2275 Town Mayor's Report

This included attending the following:

A6 Towns Forum, Speedwatch meeting, Duck Race, Farmer's Market meeting, meeting with Mr Bevis (St Mary's School), meeting with James Kitchener re: grant for youth group, East of Kettering briefing and NCC Planning Committee.

07/08/2276 Correspondence

2276.1 Monthly Parish Crime Report

Dealt with under 'Police matters'.

2276.2 Police Safer Community Teams – 'Street - a - Week' Initiative

Dealt with under 'Police matters'.

2276.3 East Northamptonshire Council – Schedule of Proposed Changes to the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan.

Details of the above received from ENDC.

2276.4 NCC – A509 Bypass – Compulsory Purchase Orders.

Electronic copies of the Public Inquiry Inspector's report is available on www.gone.gov.uk/gone/transport/transport_casework/decisions/.

276.5 ACRE

Village Viewpoint' magazine, 'A Strategy for Community Cohesion in Northamptonshire' Local Area Agreement and the 'Playing Field ' newsletter were all placed in the Council Chamber for Members' information.

2276.6 BL Chamber of Trade – Farmer's Market

Councillor Zanger addressed the points raised by Mr J.R Smith (Chair of BL and District Chamber of Trade and Commerce, who was present at the meeting) in his letter to the Town Council. The essence of the letter was that members of the CoT who have shops in the town feel that the Farmer's Market traders, who are not local, on the day of the market cause a damaging downturn in their trade. Councillor Zanger and the rest of the Town Council responded vigorously to each element of the letter.

With regard to the main point about the Farmer's Market causing a down turn in trade the following points were made by BLTC:

The market is only held on one day each month and the stalls consist of 3 meat stalls, 1 egg stall, 1 herb stall, 1 preserves stall, 1 olives stall, 1 vegetable and flowers stall., none of which directly clash with shops in the Town. A number of the shops in Town close at 12.00 pm in any case. The Town Council also pointed out that CoT members could also be stallholders and/or advertise the shops at the market (signs, leaflets etc).

Other points raised by the CoT and the responses from BLTC:-

(i) CoT: "the only time the local Councillors are seen in the Town is when these events are held"

BLTC: Town Councillors are very evident in and around the Town and are approachable and contactable (surgeries, newsletters, etc,) and the same could not be said of the CoT members. The Town Council surgeries held at the Farmer's Market are very successful. BLTC promotes shops and businesses in the Town and the CoT needs to be aware of this.

(ii) CoT: CoT members are under the impression that the BLTC subsidises the market traders out of the rates.

BLTC: This is not the case.

(iii) CoT: Do the traders pay for clearing up and disposal of rubbish?

BLTC: Paid by traders, KBC empty the bins before and after the market.

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(iv) CoT: Do the traders contribute to the local rates and if so by what?

BLTC: No, but they pay rent which goes into BLTC coffers which, in turn, reduces local rates and also attracts people from outside BL into the town.

Mr Smith undertook to convey the Town Council's views to the CoT members.

2276.7 Memo From BLTC Independent Group- AGM Conventions

Councillor Chris Groome presented the above memo to the Town Council and there was a vigorous debate around the AGM process. Councillor Zanger brought the discussion to a close and stated that this matter would be brought back to the Council for further discussion and a decision as to the way forward.

2276.8 Wellingborough Town Centre Area Action Plan

Members acknowledged receipt of an update on the above.

2276.9 KBC – Development Services Update

Members acknowledged receipt of an update on the above.

2276.10 Police – Locally Identified Priorities

The second Community Panel Meeting to be held on Wednesday 16 July at 7.30 pm at the Kettering Social Club. Councillors to advise Sergeant Hopkins of attendance.

2276.11 KBC – Raising Standards Locally – A Model Compact

Details of the above were received from KBC and discussed by Members. The Clerk undertook to ascertain from Jonathan Eatough (KBC) whether the role of 'volunteer Council' could be 'job-shared' by two Councillors.

2276.12 NCC – Temporary Prohibition of Traffic Order - Queensway

Members acknowledged receipt of the above details.

07/08/2277 Public Participation

Mr Jeff Baynham asked for an update on the parking of vehicles in Church Street and opposite Church View. Councillor Zanger advised that a meeting was being arranged. Additionally Mr Baynham, with regard to the BL Sports Hall consultation, proffered the view that residents would be likely to support funds held by the Swimming Pool Trust (SPT) being used to help build the Sports Hall. Councillor Jerram advised that this was raised with the SPT and it would be happy for their funds to be used for building

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a swimming pool. Councillor Jerram added that it was not certain that a swimming pool would be viable and, if not, the SPT funds could not be used.

Two residents of Hawthorn Road raised concerns about the Hawthorn Road development (70 houses) and that only 6 households had received a letter from KBC. There were concerns that the development would devalue existing property. Councillor Zanger advised that the Town Council had now received this planning application and it had 21 days to respond. It was agreed that a public meeting would be held as soon as possible; possibly at Meadowside School (Councillor Walden to check availability). Councillor Gunn advised that the majority of responses to the Town Council's survey were against this development. It was agreed that the meeting would be held at 7.30 pm on 15th July, venue to be confirmed. Councillor Chris Groome undertook to put some planning advisory notes together and Councillor Jerram undertook to print them. Councillor Groome also suggested that, as the Finedon Road development was of similar size consideration should be given to combining these two developments and to liaise with Diane Hull.

Mr Walpole asked for an update on the adoption of Hollands Drive Estate. Councillor Zanger advised that it will be adopted next week and read out the letter from Philip Hollobone (MP) to Taylor Wimpey. An update was also requested on the Bellway Estate development and Councillor Zanger advised that an outcome was expected from the Secretary of State by the end of June.

07/08/2278 Policies & Priorities

2278.1 Finance & General Purposes Committee Report

Councillor Walden informed the Council that the June F&GP Committee meeting did not take place due to lack of members' availability. Councillor Zanger urged Members to attend the August F&GP meeting, as this was the budget setting meeting.

Councillor Walden raised the following matters for consideration by the Council:

Picnic tables and bench – these had now been ordered Clerk to pay invoice subject to confirmation from Councillors that the work had been satisfactorily completed.

Website – Dr Warwick had advised that contributions from Councillors were still awaited.

F&GP new terms of reference - the Clerk undertook to look at these and respond to Councillor Walden.

Windfarm Grants – these were available for solar panels, KBC to provide the Town Council with details.

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Register for Town Council assets on loan – (included in internal Audit Review Working parties' recommendations). Councillor Bettles undertook to manage the register.

Chair's Allowance – **agreed** that Chair maintains receipts/records of expenditure.

2278.2 Audit of Town Council Accounts 2007/8

The Town Council approved the Draft Accounts at the June meeting of the Council. The Accounts were subsequently issued to the Council's Internal Auditor for audit. The Clerk presented the Internal Auditor's report to the Council and Members were advised of the consequential minor amendments to the accounts and given a full set of the amended documents as an 'audit trail'. The Council's Internal Auditor has now audited the accounts and found that they fully complied with the External Auditor's requirements and completed the required part of the Annual Return (Section 4) to that effect.

In response to Councillor Chris Groome's query the Clerk confirmed that certain assets on the Asset Register that could be deemed to be owned by KBC (e.g. the cemetery gates) would be checked out with KBC before the 2008/9 audit of accounts and appropriate changes made to the Register.

Councillor Chris Groome proposed that the accounts be approved by the Council. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Smith and unanimously **agreed** by the Council.

Councillor Zanger then put the questions, each in turn, listed in the Annual Governance Statement (Section 2 of the Annual Return) to Councillors and they responded 'yes' to each question, with the exception of question 9 (Trust Funds), which was not applicable.

2278.3 Planning Matters

2278.31 Planning Applications Approved by the Town Council

KET/2008/0434 Mr Pearson 12 Ashby Close, Bl

Single storey rear extension : Conservatory

KET/2008/0069 British Telecom Removal of payphones, No. Kx 726167
Kx 726297 located at: Station Road / South Avenue/ Whitney Road /Churchill Way

2278.32 Planning Applications Objected to by the Town Council

KET/2008/0359 Mr Lawrence 13 Tweed Close, BL

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Full application for 1 new detached dwelling

KET/2008/0394 Mr Elmore D&S Developments, 35-39 High St, BL

Demolition of existing premises, erection of 2 shops with 4 flats over the shops and 4 houses to the rear.

KET/2008/0464 Mr Sharp 1Spring Gardens, BL

Single store side extension : Conservatory

KET/2008/0339 Walton Homes Ltd Finedon Road, BL

Erection of 66 new dwellings together with provisions for access and open space

2278.33 Planning Approvals Received from Kettering Borough Council

KET/2008/0371 02 (UK) Ltd Kettering Road, BL

3 New antenna's and relocation of 3 existing antenna's, on the existing 02 Cell Site

2278.34 Planning Refusals Received from Kettering Borough Council

None.

2278.35 Planning Withdrawals Received from Kettering Borough Council

None.

2278.36 Planning Appeals Received from Kettering Borough Council

None

2278.37 Other Planning Matters

Councillor Ruth Groome informed the Council that, with regard to the proposed vets in the High Street, the neighbouring property had not received the appropriate consultation letter from KBC. The person concerned were satisfied that the Town Councillors had done all they could to have the planning application rejected and they have now had a meeting with KBC's Head of Development Services and are likely to take the matter up with the Ombudsman for Local Government.

2278.4 Town Council Chamber and Facilities

No further update.

2278.5 Public Transport

Councillors made reference to the notes circulated to the Council by the Clerk on Councillor Macdonald's behalf. Councillors **agreed** with Councillor Macdonald's suggestion to invite County Councillor Bob Seery to a future BLTC meeting (Councillor Macdonald to arrange) to discuss the bus service. It was also **agreed** that the Town Council would compile a list of other issues to raise with Councillor Seery

2278.6 Highways Matters

The Clerk circulated Councillor Macdonald's update list to Councillors for information.

07/08/2279 Borough Council Matters of Interest

Councillor Chris Groome

The problem re: bollards in Churchill Way was discussed at the A6 Town's Forum. Martin Hammond (KBC) had advised that planting trees would be an acceptable alternative to bollards, which were not allowed. It was **agreed** that Councillor Groome would take this matter up with Councillor Macdonald and Churdens Residents Association. The Council was also advised that Councillor Groome was now the Chair of LANRAC and also Vice Chair of Travel Watch East Midlands (also deals with buses) Steering Group.

Councillor Ruth Groome

The Council was advise that widening the A14 to 3 lanes was also discussed at the A6 Town's Forum and generally felt to be a bad idea (narrowness of lanes and no hard shoulder).

07/08/2280 County Council Matters of Interest

None.

07/08/2281 Reports of Representatives on Outside Bodies.

Heritage Society

Councillor Bettles informed the Council that the above had acquired a gazebo for use at the Farmer's Market and they wished to store it in BLTC offices. It was agreed that this was in order, provided that there was room for it. The room adjacent to the chamber was identified as a potential storage area. The Society would have to request access to it, i.e. the Society would not have individual access to the Chamber

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(Councillor Bettles to supervise this). It was finally **agreed** that the Society be allowed to store the gazebo in the BLTC offices; the location to be sorted out at a later date. It was also agreed that the Heritage Society would have some publicity in the next BLTC newsletter; Councillor Bettles to write the article.

07/08/2282 Accounts for Payment

The Council unanimously approved the following payments:

	£
Cheque No. 101265 G. Sneddon (Clerk's salary July 2008)	421.56
Cheque No. 101266 Mr W.Hunt (see below)	*401.38
Cheque No. 101267 Cllr D. Zanger (50% of Chair's Allowance)	456.00
Cheque No. 101268 P. Mills(Delivering Newsletter)	200.00
Cheque No. 101269 Glasdon Ltd (picnic tables & seat)	767.81

* £93.88 (cost of BLTC Domain Name) and £307.50 (50% of total cost of attending website course – first payment)

07/08/2283 Any Other Relevant Items of Business

2283.1 Mr Beaty - Wold Road Permissive Path

The Clerk advised the Council that he had been contacted by ex-Town Councillor David Davies who advised that the public access granted by Mr Beaty in August 2000 had now been barred by a 'no public access' sign. The Clerk made reference to legal agreement (Wold Road Permissive Path Agreement) and it was **agreed** that the Clerk would endeavour to obtain a copy of the agreement from KBC (legal department), or NCC (Right of Way department) before the Council decides on the way forward.

2283.2 State of Front Garden

Councillor Zanger advised the Council of (i) a letter from 'a concerned resident' re: the above -it was **agreed** that this be brought to the attention of KBC for actioning under the 'Kleensweep' initiative and (ii) the Friends of St Marys 'auction of promises' to take place on the 19th July..

07/08/2284 Press Release

- Public meeting – Hawthorn Road development.

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.

