

## ROTHWELL TOWN COUNCIL

A Meeting of Rothwell Town Council was held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 13th December 2016 in the Market House, Market Hill, Rothwell.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillor K D Sumpter Councillor Mrs C M Brown Councillor C W Cross Councillor R V Davis Councillor T Morrissey Councillor R Wilson	<u>Town Mayor</u>
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### 264 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillors Cox, Goodwin, Jelley, Newman, Spendlove and Mrs Talbot, and from Canon Westwood.

### 265 COMMUNITY POLICING

No Police Officer was yet at the Meeting. Councillor Mrs Brown had met Inspector Julie Meads and understood she would be interested in getting to know local Councillors. It was AGREED to invite her to the January Town Council Meeting.

### 266 MINUTES

The Clerk pointed out that the date of the Civic Parade mentioned in the third paragraph of the item on the Gala Evening on page 172 should be 11th June and not the 5th. Subject to this amendment it was MOVED by Councillor Wilson, SECONDED by Councillor Cross and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th November 2016 be confirmed and signed.

### 267 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

(1) Proposed Youth Club: Claire Hughes and other residents were present at the Meeting and reported that Malcolm Jones is trying to set up a Youth Club in the Community Centre and has appointed the relevant Officers. He is working with the Youth Panel in the County who assist with training, including for the young people. This could cut down on anti-social behaviour. They appreciate that the Town Council does not have any finance but they wanted to know if there are any other sources of finance. They will carry out all the necessary security checks on the people involved. Mr Jones is looking to charge only about £1 a week.

The Clerk said there is the Borough Council Small Grants Scheme so they could try that. The Borough Councillors also have their Ward Finance to make small donations. PC Keith Miller was now present at the Meeting and he was informed of the proposal to set up a Youth Club in Rothwell and the Clerk will send the contact details to the Police. Councillor Wilson said he would see if he could find an old pool table to be donated and Councillor Mrs Brown will see if there is any possibility of a rebate in the rent for the Youth Club.

### 268 COMMUNITY POLICING

#### Crime Figures

PC Miller had brought the list of recorded crimes over the last month, and there were 32 of these.

As some did seem serious, PC Miller had gone through all the crimes and there was one of violence with injury where someone was reported. He was able to confirm that most of the crimes were not as bad and went through some of the details. As to the incidents of fuel being taken from lorries often the driver was in the cab. He said they would increase patrols near the skateboard ramp as there had been reports of youths smoking cannabis: Councillor Mrs Brown said that some of the E-cigs do smell like cannabis so this could be what the youths are doing. There had been talk in the town of someone trying to kidnap a young girl but PC Miller thought someone was trying to take her phone. There is the Police Community Day in Rothwell between 11.00 and 12.30 the following day, 14th December.

## 269 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY

### Skateboard Ramp

The Clerk confirmed that Joanne Perry at the Borough Council was dealing with the complaint against the Borough submitted to the Ombudsman and the Clerk had sent her copies of the Minutes on this subject in 2015 and 2016. She had also sent the last two in 2014, because these made it clear that the Town Council had originally hoped that Bovis would supply the land and some s.106 finance to build a skateboard park at their new development. When it became clear Bovis were not prepared to do this, and at the same time the old wooden ramp was deteriorating as the wood was becoming rotten, it had been decided to have a new ramp on or near the area where the original one had been sited at the top of Well Lane Recreation Ground. Councillor Mrs Brown had spoken to Dave Lane and understood that no formal complaint had yet been made to the Ombudsman and so we are waiting to hear if this is to proceed. There have not been any further complaints since the ramp has been in use. As to the concrete base where the old wooden skateboard ramp had been situated, the Town Council has asked for two benches to be moved there from Squires Hill.

Dave Lane and a colleague are calling on the homes in Coronation Avenue and Hawkins Close as a public relations exercise.

### Blythe Close Play Area

Councillor Mrs Brown has spoken to Dave Lane on this matter, and this will start after the Christmas period. £19,000 is available for this project and he is negotiating with a company. Mr Lane has taken advice and has some ideas about the development. This is likely to be done in stages as we find out what the specific needs are. They will be calling around the Blythe Close area to talk to those residents. He is also looking at extra funding. Councillor Mrs Brown suggested we could ask the Mick George Fund about additional funding and we could perhaps have some gym equipment there.

### Greening Road Open Space

There is also this area, which needs some refurbishment and perhaps some equipment at the Desborough Road end. Two new goal posts and a pitch are going in there, suitable for five-a-side football.

### Re-naming of Recreation Ground

An E-mail had been received from the Borough Council that the proposal to re-name the Well Lane Recreation Ground after the late Alan Mills would need to be put to the Borough's Executive Committee, but they think it might be a good idea for the Town Council to carry out some consultation in the town first.

The Clerk suggested that this proposal is put on hold for the time being especially as most residents know this area as The Rec, and this was AGREED by the Members of the Town Council, especially as the Salvation Army have named their meeting room after Alan Mills. The Clerk had had several residents suggest that there are other deceased Members of the Town Council and perhaps their names should also be considered. It was thought that some of the streets to be built at Rothwell North could be named after previous Councillors.

#### Redwood Tree, Hospital Hill

A letter had been received from Fisher German, the Managing Agents for Jesus Hospital confirming the concern that the roots of this tree could be adversely affecting that Grade II\* Listed Building. It had also been mentioned that the tree roots are very close to the Parish Churchyard wall. Fisher German said they would be grateful if the Town Council could arrange for this tree to be felled as soon as possible in order to protect their client's asset.

It was thought this tree was probably planted in the 1970's. It was AGREED to send copies of the letter from Fisher German to both the Borough and County Councils.

#### Cycle Racks

An E-mail had been received from Ian Boyes, the Highways Liaison Officer for this area, suggesting that instead of having six of the Sheffield racks, it would be better to have a combined unit so that the whole assembly can be lifted out of the way, but to allow the unit to be taken away for the Fair there would have to be a different type of bolt. Mr Boyes sent a photo of this unit and explained that there are five hoops, and you can put two cycles in each one which would mean there was room for ten cycles. He also sent a drawing showing where he felt this should go on the corner of Market Hill and Tresham Street. This plan was considered and it was felt this would be ideal, provided it was moved nearer the edge of the pavement. The tree stump will have to be removed before the rack could be put in.

It was AGREED to send a copy of the plan to Mr Boyes, showing where the Town Council would like the rack to be put and also to ask for the cost of purchasing this and installing it with suitable bolts so it could be removed for Rowell Fair.

#### Town Guide

Local Authority Publishing would like to have any amendments for the updated version of the Town Guide and the Clerk had sent these, including new contacts for organisations. Mr Russ Collard has collected the new entries for the Salvation Army and will let Local Authority Publishing have these. It was AGREED that this was approved.

#### Public Toilets

Councillor Wilson reported that these had been vandalised yet again and were in a real mess. This has been reported to the Borough Council to see if they are able to clean them as we do not have the operational instructions for the Karcher machine.

The cable is also still there and so the gents cannot be used and this has been reported to the Borough Council.

#### Community Centre Car Park

It was confirmed that the light in this car park has now been repaired.

Tesco Deliveries

It was AGREED to write to Tesco Express and ask if the Wiseman lorry could deliver at about 6.30 pm, rather than earlier at about 4.30 pm, because this is when the town centre has a lot of vehicles going through.

Evening Telegraph Column

Richard Ley is no longer writing for the Evening Telegraph, and Councillor Davis said they could put news in the Arts & Heritage Centre's bi-monthly magazine. It was AGREED that Councillor Davis should discuss this with Mr Ley.

Slade Brook

Councillor Cox had forwarded a letter from a resident of Nansen Close that there is now a lot of debris in the Slade Brook which is causing flooding in the area. The resident had also sent some photographs of this. It was AGREED to report this to Brendan Coleman at the Borough Council and to Anglian Water and ask them to investigate what can be done.

270 REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLORFootpath Extension, Harrington Road

County Councillor Hakewill was pleased to report that the footpath extension from Wallis House to Terry Smith Avenue had now been constructed.

A14 Lay-by

He is now taking photographs of the lorries who park over the footpath/cycleway and will ask our MP to prevail on Highways England to deal with this. If any land off the A14 could be used for a truck stop this would be helpful. PC Miller said bollards to stop lorries being able to park over the footpath could be installed.

Street Lighting

Councillor Hakewill has not heard any more about the street lights, but it seems as though the final view of the Town Council was being carried out. The Clerk had circulated a copy of the Site Meeting held on 9th March 2015 and attended by Councillor Mills and Mr Denton, the Bailiff and Deputy who agreed it would be suitable to have the town centre lights on poles. The website is [www.streetlightsinnorthamptonshire](http://www.streetlightsinnorthamptonshire).

County Budget

This has been signed off and there is still a wish to have 2% for social care. The budget is about 3% out but this is not a bad margin.

271 PLANNINGNotifications

Notice had been given of an appeal against the Refusal for KET/2016/0367 in respect of a dwelling on land at 48 Nunnery Avenue.

The following Approvals had been received:-

KET/2016/0672      61 Proclamation Avenue – Door to side of garage.

- KET/2016/0681      33 Kingsley Road – Side extension with balcony to rear and alterations.  
 KET/2016/0758      Lauren House, 82 Rushton Road – Extension to rear of garage.

The following Applications had been received, and the Town Council's observations agreed as stated:-

- KET/2016/0773      1 Clipstone Court – Single storey rear extension.  
 No objection.
- KET/2016/0797      12 Underwood Road – First floor and single storey rear extensions.  
 No objection.
- KET/2016/0801      Woodlands Hospital, Rothwell Road, Kettering – Extensions.  
 No objection.

#### Licensing Application

Notification had been received of a licensing application from Wine Time for 28a High Street and the Clerk had consulted Members prior to this Meeting and the agreement was that there was no objection to this.

#### Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk had circulated her note and an extract from the Roadmap Guide, which was picked up by Councillors Cross and Wilson at the event at Market Harborough. Members of the Town Council still felt that a Neighbourhood Plan should be prepared, rather than a Parish Plan and it was AGREED that the Members would hold a special Meeting at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 3rd January 2017 in the Market House.

#### Community Fund

A letter had been received from the Borough Council in connection with the Gaultney Solar Farm that there was a community fund available and that Rothwell was entitled to a portion of this and they asked for a response by 31st December but it was not known how much this might be for Rothwell. It was AGREED to ask for an extension of time so this could be considered at the January Meeting and it was thought this could assist with the new play equipment or the youth club.

## 272 HIGHWAYS

#### Footpath, Harrington Road

It had already been reported by the County Councillor that this footpath extension has been completed.

#### Emergency Vehicle Signs

These signs are ready to collect from Nordis Signs, and Councillor Cox will arrange for this to be done.

#### Street Lighting

Balfour Beatty are starting to put the new street lights in the town centre and some people were concerned because these will all be on posts, rather than fixed to various buildings. The Clerk had already circulated copies of the Site Meeting held on 9th March 2015 which had also been attended by Alan Mills and Robert Denton as Bailiff and Deputy when it was agreed the new

lights would be on posts. There was an E-mail from the County Council explaining why it was not possible to say exactly where each light would be placed. It is also difficult to carry out maintenance on any street lights placed on private property.

#### Reversing by HGVs

The Clerk had received an E-mail about the Midland Quarry lorries reversing in Tresham Street as this was dangerous, and she had passed this to our Highways Liaison Officer and the Police Safer Community Team. She had received a reply from Northamptonshire Highways that they contacted Midland Quarry Products and asked for assurance that if their vehicles have to reverse in this area then the manoeuvres are supervised at all times by a banksman to ensure the safety of other road users. Councillor Morrissey had also inspected and whilst he was there they were using a banksman.

#### Footpaths, Chichester Close

Following the report that these pavements were in a bad state of repair, the Clerk had found out that they were the responsibility of the County Council and had reported this to Street Doctor, who had replied that they had inspected and that the footpaths were not in such a bad state that they required action at the present time.

#### Double Yellow Lines, Glendon Road

It was confirmed that these were included in the Traffic Order application made by the County Council and it is hoped this will be approved and the double yellow lines provided in 2017 but we do not yet have confirmation of this. Some residents thought that the double yellow lines would mean that the vehicles travelled faster.

### 273 MATTERS OF BUSINESS

#### Orton Trust

The late Alan Mills was the Town Council's representative on the Orton Trust, and they have asked the Council to elect a new representative. As Councillor Davis is already a Member of this Trust it was **MOVED** by Councillor Sumpter, **SECONDED** by Councillor Mrs Brown and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Davis be elected as the Town Council representative as well.

### 274 FINANCIAL REPORT

#### General Statement

The Clerk submitted a written statement as attached. It was **MOVED** by Councillor Mrs Brown, **SECONDED** by Councillor Wilson and **RESOLVED** that the statement be approved and adopted and the following amounts paid:-

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Goods or Services</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mrs C E Mackay	Clerk's Salary	612.00
H M Revenue & Customs	Tax and Employer N I	222.72
Inter County Cleaning Services	Cleaning the Market House	42.00
H F Design	Updates on the Website	60.00
Kier Integrated Services	Emergency Vehicle Signs	115.20

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Goods or Services</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RBL Poppy Appeal	Wreath for Remembrance Sunday	25.00
Cllr K D Sumpter	Town Mayor's half-yearly allowance	500.00
Ricoh UK Ltd	Copier/Printer maintenance	28.70
Cash	Petty Cash	40.00
Jim French	Planting the Library garden (R.in Bloom)	340.00

The Meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Chairman

Date