

## ROTHWELL TOWN COUNCIL

A Meeting of Rothwell Town Council was held immediately after the Annual Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, 10th May 2016 in the Market House, Market Hill, Rothwell.

PRESENT:                      Councillor K D Sumpter                      Town Mayor  
    Councillor Mrs C M Brown  
    Councillor M E Cox  
    Councillor C W Cross  
    Councillor R V Davis  
    Councillor I F Jelley  
    Councillor L D Newman  
    Councillor M W Spendlove (8.15 pm)  
    Councillor R Wilson  
    County Councillor J Hakewill

### 161 PRAYERS

Before the business of the Council commenced, the Revd Canon John Westwood said Prayers and mentioned the annual election of the Town Mayor and Deputy and all the Members of the Town Council, especially Alan Mills as he is unwell. There will shortly be the Civic Service and Rowell Fair and also the celebrations for the Queen's 90th birthday.

### 162 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillors Goodwin, Mills and Mrs Talbot, and from Councillor Spendlove who would be obliged to join the Meeting late.

### 163 MINUTES

Councillor Cross referred to the item on Squires Hill at the top of page 114, and said it was he and not Councillor Wilson who reported this matter. Subject to this amendment, it was **MOVED** by Councillor Wilson, **SECONDED** by Councillor Jelley and **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th April 2016 be confirmed and signed.

### 164 COMMUNITY POLICING

No Police Officer was yet present at the Meeting and so this item was left until later.

### 165 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

(1) Burglaries in Rothwell: a resident reported that she had recently had a burglary when two valuable go-carts and a mountain bike were stolen but the Police did not take any action, even though one of the stolen items was seen in a garden and this was reported. PCSO Miller joined the Meeting later and spoke to this resident and obtained all the relevant details which he will report to our local Police Sergeant for further action to be taken.

It was also asked what effect the closure of the local Court in Kettering would have on this area of the County and it was **AGREED** to raise this with the Police & Crime Commissioner and Philip Hollobone MP.

(2) Parking in Rothwell: three residents of Leys Avenue expressed their concern about the parking in Rothwell, especially in Market Hill and around the Infant School. Councillor Goodwin was to circulate a questionnaire to people parking in Market Hill but he has not yet

been able to do this. They had spoken to a Police Officer on the telephone but most of the time there are only two Officers here.

They had sent details about parking restrictions to Councillor Jelley and he said this can be done through number plate recognition but this is only enforceable if the area is in public ownership. However they thought there could be a video camera and the Town Mayor said there is a new type of camera which can pick up this sort of information and it might be possible to have a trial in Rothwell. The residents thought that for people working in the area and needing to park here, it would only be necessary to give their registration numbers to the company running the scheme. The Borough Council no longer has a Traffic Warden to deal with this issue. The Town Mayor suggested we wait until the survey has been completed and then we could discuss parking with the Police.

County Councillor Hakewill said in some places there is a situation with a card to put in the window to say when they can park. There is also the de-criminalised parking scheme and Councillor Jelley said there has been a Meeting with the Minister in London and we could look at this for Rothwell. There are also cards which he has handed to the Firefighters. As to the Infant School, two members of staff have been reprimanded about bad parking and the residents thought a lot of this was done by members of staff. There used to be temporary parking on the former Football Club land but the Governors had a meeting with the developers who purchased this site in March, and demolition will start shortly ready to build houses there. The School does write to parents about parking in that area.

(3) A14 Lay-by: the Town Council has not heard anything further about this. County Councillor Hakewill said Highways England hope to get an Order to make this a lay-by for emergencies only with an emergency telephone there. There were objections from the Road Haulage Association and progress is still very slow. Mr Britton thought the current signs need to be taken down because they say “Do Not Park on the Grass” but do not refer to leaving the footpath clear. He felt parking on the A14 is as important as that in the town centre, and now that it is so dangerous he is thinking of using his car instead of cycling. County Councillor Hakewill wondered if the land behind McDonalds and the Service Station could be used as a truck stop and he and Mr Britton will get a group of people to protests in the area of the A14 lay-by. The Town Council will contact Highways England again to ask about progress.

(4) Glebe Farm, Rothwell Road, Desborough: a resident asked about the Refusal of Planning Permission to demolish the existing house and to erect a replacement dwelling on the site. He said that there are about 700 houses going to be built at Rothwell North so Refusal for one house is unjust. It is necessary for the for the Applicant to have a house to live in next to his parents who are elderly and the old bungalow is now subsiding. Councillor Sumpter had spoken to the owner who has submitted a Planning Application to knock down the old bungalow. Some Councillors felt Permission was refused because of the design rather than saying there cannot be a house there at all. There are no neighbours to object. It was suggested that the Applicants meet with the Planning Officers to find out what they would accept. Councillor Hakewill said they can submit a revised Application with the support of a Borough Councillor.

## 166 REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

(1) Budget: Councillor Hakewill reported that the County Cabinet had a Meeting and the budget was at zero so it is now balanced. A certain amount of reserves have been used and next year could be more difficult.

(2) Primary Schools: Councillor Hakewill had copy of an extract from the County document and for Rothwell North there is provision for a Two Form Entry Primary School on that site. By 2018, there will be about 1,200 additional houses in Rothwell from Rothwell North, the 200 on the Harrington Road development, and 300 more adjacent to Rothwell North.

(3) County Chairman: It is likely that Councillor Harker will become the Chairman of the County Council for the next year.

(4) Land at the junction of the A6 Rothwell Bypass and the A14, next to the old Lamport Road: there have been various traveller encampments here but Councillor Hakewill thought the Borough Council was now purchasing this. There will be consultation as to what this could be used for and he thought perhaps the Rothwell Fire Station could be moved there from Tresham Street. It was AGREED to contact Martin Hammond at the Borough Council and ask to be involved in the decision on the future use of this area. Another suggestion is to make this into a park accessible for the schools, or perhaps allotments.

Councillors Sumpter and Davis spoke to Brendan Coleman about the land at the rear of Brachers Allotments to see if more plots could be made available there, and he is to speak to the Allotment Association. It was AGREED to ask Mr Coleman if there is any progress.

## 167 COMMUNITY POLICING

### Crime Figures

The Police have not yet finalised the new format for sending out crime figures, but PCSO Miller was now present at the Meeting and reported that there were five incidents of Burglary Dwelling, most from insecure premises. In addition there was one incident of Burglary Other, five of Criminal Damage and one Theft. The Police are investigating these issues. The resident's burglary which she mentioned earlier in the Meeting was not on the list and PCSO Miller will contact her when he has more information.

### Parking

It was asked if the Police could make regular visits to School Lane and Leys Avenue at the times when the children are going to and leaving school to check on the parking there.

Councillor Spendlove joined the Meeting at 8.15 pm.

### Youths

Councillor Newman asked about the young people outside the Library as he felt they were there because they could use the Library Wi-Fi. People are stopping there in cars and probably passing packages to the young people. He has also had problems at the Red Lion. It was felt it could assist if the Library turned off the Wi-Fi when it is closed; if there is a problem with the necessary switch Councillor Sumpter said he could assist with this.

### Speed Camera

PCSO Miller said the speed camera has been in Rothwell several times recently.

## 168 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY

### Town Centre Partnership

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 26th April 2016 had been circulated prior to this Meeting for information. Councillor Cross was concerned about the Town Council losing representation on the Partnership but it was explained this was never a full Council Committee and it has now been agreed that the business people in the town will run this.

Councillor Cox is already on the Partnership as a business person rather than a Councillor. Councillors Mrs Brown, Davis, Mills, Newman and Sumpter would also like to be Members of the Partnership and the Clerk will add them to the list. At the April Meeting, Russ White was appointed Chairman, Mark Cox Deputy Chairman, Steve Thrower Treasurer and Cedwien Brown as Secretary which she agreed to do. It was reported that Russ White wanted to resign as his business at Black Whites is closing because trade has gone down in the last few months. It was felt that Mark Cox should now become Chairman, and Karl Sumpter the Deputy Chairman. The purpose of the Partnership is to improve the visibility of Rothwell as somewhere to shop and to do business.

One of the issues the Partnership would now like to do is to have a new notice board on the island at the top of Market Hill Square. This could be an illuminated metal board, with a door which can be locked and ventilation to stop condensation.

It was MOVED by Councillor Sumpter, SECONDED by Councillor Davis and RESOLVED that the Partnership Report be approved.

#### Skateboard Ramp

Councillor Mrs Brown reported that the Borough is going through the tendering process at present and they hope they will be able to get the skateboard ramp installed in about two months.

#### Blythe Close Play Area

The Clerk had put this on the agenda in case there was any update. It was AGREED to keep this as a recurring item.

#### Aviva Women's Cycle Tour

This will be coming through the County again this year, and the Borough is hosting the final stage of the race on Sunday, 19th June. The Clerk had circulated a copy of the map of the route which is slightly different to last year as the race will go through Rothwell before Desborough. Councillor Jelley said he would liaise with the Primary Schools about the pupils coming to watch.

#### Carnival

A letter had been received from the Carnival Secretary that this will take place on 9th July this year and they would like the Town Council to provide marshals to cover the parade route, as they have done in previous years. Citizens Welfare have had resignations from the Committee this year, and few volunteer replacements, so they think this might be the last year they are able to organise the Carnival.

#### Marlow House

Members of the Town Council had been invited to visit Marlow House on 12th July, but only Councillors Cross and Wilson were able to attend. Mr Short had subsequently let the Clerk know that he was disappointed so few could attend, and suggested we should have another date when more people could go.

#### Knee Posts, Columbus Crescent

Councillor Mrs Brown reported that several of these knee posts are now down. It was AGREED to ask Brendan Coleman at the Borough Council if these could be replaced as soon as possible so travellers are not able to set up an encampment there.

Rowell Fair

As to parking for the lorries for the Fair, Councillor Spendlove said the land has not been sold and he thought there was no need to provide alternative spaces. Councillor Newman said it would be good if the Community Centre car park could be left open when the Fair is here because we lose a lot of the parking spaces. The Clerk hoped we might be able to have this left open for the Civic Service at least. It was AGREED to see if this could be open for the whole week and she had a combination number for the lock, but did not know if this was still the same.

Former Football Club Site

Councillor Jelley reported that the demolition of the buildings on this site would start on 16th May and they are preparing the construction plan. He will let the Town Council have details when he has these and he understands the company will liaise with the school and the Town Council. He thought all the construction vehicles would use Cecil Street and Rushton Road.

169 PLANNINGNotifications and Applications

The following Approvals had been received:-

- KET/2016/0126      5 Bell Hill – Retrospective for change of use to bakery, extraction unit and replacement fire door.
- KET/2016/0147      15 Burditt Close – Single storey side extension.

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

- KET/2016/0087      The Old Brickyard, Orton Road – Infill building between two existing.  
No objection.
- KET/2016/0234      105 Desborough Road – Retrospective for Single storey rear extension.  
No objection.
- KET/2016/0300      Land adjoining 2 Nunnery Avenue – One dwelling.  
No objection.

A revised application had been received for KET/2016/0101 in respect of 11 High Street where it is now proposed to retain a retail unit and have just one small apartment. It was AGREED that the Town Council had no objection to this revised application.

Town Plan

The Clerk had E-mailed Desborough and Burton Latimer Town Councils and asked why they had opted for a Neighbourhood or Parish Plan. Councillor David Soans had replied from Desborough that they decided a Neighbourhood Plan would sit alongside and equal with any other planning legislation and has to be considered equally in any planning application for the area it covers. A Parish Plan does not carry the same weight and therefore could be overruled in a contentious application.

It was MOVED by the Town Mayor and SECONDED by Councillor Cox that Rothwell Town Council produced a Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Spendlove was recorded as voting against.

Voting	For the Motion	8
Voting	Against the Motion	1

Councillor Wilson reported that work was being carried out as a car valet service on the land adjoining Rothwell Cricket Club but there was still only a chain link fence rather than a proper boundary fence. It was AGREED to report this to the Borough Planning Enforcement Officer.

## 170 HIGHWAYS

### Brown Tourist Signs

The Clerk had available a copy of the E-mail from Highways England explaining why they could not allow brown tourist signs for Rothwell to be put on the A14.

### Squires Hill

The Clerk had received a reply from Ian Boyes, the Highways Community Liaison Officer, that the County does maintain the road and footway in Squires Hill up to the stone slabs in front of the Parish Church and they will check the condition of these.

### County Permit Scheme

A letter had been received from the County Transport & Highways Department that they have amended this scheme to include all roads within Northamptonshire as Permit Roads.

### Removable Bollards

It was reported that the two bollards outside the Conservative Club and the one outside Tesco all need to be removable.

### Footpath, Harrington Road

The Clerk confirmed that she had now written about the need for a footpath along Harrington Road between Orton House and Terry Smith Avenue but has not yet received a reply.

## 171 FINANCIAL REPORT

### General Statement

The Clerk submitted a written statement as attached. It was MOVED by Councillor Cross, SECONDED by Councillor Jelley 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
Northants CALC	Subscription & Internal Audit Fee	£2,087.00
British Telecommunications	Phone and Broadband	£192.36
Inter County Cleaning Services	Cleaning Market House	£40.80
Cash	Petty Cash	£30.00

### Annual Return

Copies of the Accounting Statements had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was MOVED by the Town Mayor, SECONDED by Councillor Wilson and RESOLVED that the Statements and the Annual Return be approved.

## 172 ADMISSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

The public were asked to leave the Meeting for the Private & Confidential Session.