

## ROTHWELL TOWN COUNCIL

A Meeting of Rothwell Town Council was held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 10th November 2015 in the Market House, Market Hill, Rothwell.

PRESENT: Councillor K D Sumpter Chairman  
Councillor M E Cox  
Councillor C W Cross  
Councillor R V Davis  
Councillor T M Goodwin  
Councillor I F Jelley  
Councillor A J Mills  
Councillor M W Spendlove (8.10 pm)

### 79 PRAYERS

Before the business of the Meeting commenced, the Revd Canon John Westwood said Prayers and mentioned the people who live in this town, the Town Council, and all those who gave their lives for our freedom and peace.

### 80 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from the Town Mayor, Councillors Newman, Talbot and Wilson and County Councillor Hakewill, and from Councillor Spendlove who would be late joining the Meeting.

### 81 COMMUNITY POLICING

#### General Report

PCSOs Kirsty Ellerby and Jason Parish were present at the Meeting and it was confirmed there were 39 reported crimes during October as follows:-

- Burglary dwelling – 2
- Burglary other – 2
- Criminal damage – 7
- Other offences – 2
- Sexual offences – 1
- Theft from motor vehicles – 3
- Theft/handling – 8
- Theft of motor vehicles – 2
- Violence offences – 12.

PC Ellerby reported that the criminal damage was mainly to vehicles, but also to sheep and play equipment. The violence crimes are mostly domestic.

Councillor Mills asked about incidents at the industrial units at the Farm, but the Police have not been able to make any charges yet. Councillor Mills wondered if it would assist to have vehicle recognition cameras at the entrances to the town. We have not been able to get more Police Officers here and he thought this might help. PCSO Parish said there are to be more cuts on the 25th November so this could give them more information about what can be done. Councillor Mills also thought we could invest in a Police Officer in our town although it was not known how this would work.

Councillor Sumpter said in rural areas there is a mobile van which sends the vehicle registration number to a Police station, and those in Northampton are wired direct to a main Police station. The Police & Crime Commissioner suggests there should be more Special Constables.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Mills, **SECONDED** by Councillor Jelley and **RESOLVED** that the Town Council will look into the possibility of funding an additional Police Officer.

As to lost property it was confirmed that people now need to go to the Borough Offices where the Police front office is situated. People have been spoken to about parking in Glendon Road but they are still doing this. It was reported that three cars are being parked at the junction of Rock Hill and Rushton Road most of the time which obscures visibility. The Police have to be able to prove that there was a genuine obstruction if they want to take this to Court and basically there has to be a vehicle which cannot get through on the road, or if the vehicle is on a pavement that a pram or mobility scooter cannot get past.

As to parking in Glendon Road, the Town Mayor said the County is proposing to put double yellow lines there and it was confirmed that they have already put up the 30 mph signs. Councillors Cross and Sumpter both agreed that we do need an alternative northern bypass to relieve the traffic situation through the town centre.

The Town Mayor would be grateful if the Police could look at the area in front of the Chip Shop in the High Street, because vehicles are being parked on the zigzags for the zebra crossing and people using this cannot see if another vehicle is coming. It was **AGREED** to ask the Borough Council if we could have more visits by the Traffic Warden.

The PCSOs confirmed that a vehicle parked in the bus stop outside the Library can be ticketed. A resident said people have missed a bus because they cannot see this coming.

As to the missing dog, Bella, they have visited four addresses and checked but there was nothing. A traveller site has also been visited but there are no other leads. They have launched the CCTV image but nothing has come back. The Clerk had been given a name which she was informed could be the person on the image, but this person had already been visited by the Police. The Police have also tried to enhance the CCTV image but this cannot be done because it is too bad.

A letter had been received from the Police & Crime Commissioner about his plans for the future of policing in the County.

## 82 MINUTES

Councillor Cross referred to Minute 73 and said the lights are still not working in Fox Street as well as Harrington Road. The Clerk thought that Councillor Hakewill was aware of this. Councillor Jelley referred to the item about the Junior School and said there has been a loss to the community of over £2m of investment which did not go into the school. Subject to these comments, it was **MOVED** by Councillor Mills, **SECONDED** by Councillor Jelley and **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th October 2015 be confirmed and signed.

## 83 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

(1) Parking, School Lane: Mr Patrick Bugg lives next to the Infant School and said there are a lot of issues regarding parking here as there has been damage to vehicles parked on private land. He asked if there was anything the Town Council could do, as he went to the Open Day

and there will be up to 24 extra vehicles with the extension. He has had verbal abuse and been spat at when he mentioned this. The issue has been mentioned to Northamptonshire Highways and the road markings are going to be improved in Castle Hill. Mr Bugg said people also park in Victoria Court but this is not a private road so there is nothing which can be done. Councillor Jelley confirmed they have sent letters to parents but he will talk to Sgt Little about this and it was AGREED to E-mail the Safer Community Team. Councillor Cox said he would raise the camera at his office and he could get some pictures. The Police cannot be there every day.

(2) Additional Public Seats: Mrs Elaine Lawson asked if we had heard anything about having a seat at the top of Market Hill, in front of the Chinese Takeaway for people waiting for the bus and the Clerk confirmed we had not yet had a reply. Mrs Lawson also asked for more seats in Well Lane Recreation Ground.

(3) Shelter for Young People: Mrs Lawson said children are meeting outside the Library at night and she wondered if there could be a shelter for them. There is the shelter in Well Lane Recreation Ground but the young people have broken this. It was felt there is nothing for the young people to do in the town. There might be a new shelter when the skateboard ramp is installed. The Town Council had considered having an Open Evening to look for volunteers for various organisations. It was MOVED by Councillor Mills, SECONDED by Councillor Davis and AGREED to try and do this and have an exhibition of what is available in Rothwell.

(4) Skateboard Ramp: Two young people were present at the Meeting to find out about progress on this scheme. We have now received their suggestion for the type of ramp which is needed and which has more features and is suitable for both beginners and more experienced users. This is about the same size as the original proposal so should be suitable for the site in Well Lane Recreation Ground. The Town Council will send this to the Borough Council.

(5) Land off Slade Valley Avenue: Brian Carter and Derek Charles of Connolly Close were present at the Meeting to talk about this land. This area is extremely overgrown. There has been a survey by Persimmon and some residents have asked them if some of the trees can be taken down. There were also some builders there but they did not know who owned the land. If there is a Planning Application, the Town Council will get this straight away. The residents left their contact details. It was confirmed that Jillian Coleman had raised this last month. The residents said this land was always designated as open space and Springfir was not allowed an access road because of the drainage. They explained the situation in more detail.

#### 84 REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

(1) Street Lights, Kipton Close: the Town Council had received an E-mail that the new street lights here are still not working. Councillor Cross said the lights in Fox Street, as well as Harrington Road, are still not yet done.

(2) Speeding, Desborough Road: Councillor Hakewill had received a copy of the E-mail on this. It was AGREED we could ask Mr Ian Boyes if there could be more 30mph signs on this road as well as Glendon Road.

(3) Hedge, Glendon Road: Councillor Cross said this has not yet been cut back, but we have been assured this will be done.

#### 85 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY

##### Gala Evening

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 2nd October 2015 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was MOVED by Councillor Davis, SECONDED by Councillor Mills and RESOLVED that the Report be approved and adopted.

Tree at rear of the Market House

As to pruning the tree behind the Market House, we have received an E-mail from the Borough Council that the lights and wires will have to be removed before this can be done, so we will let Mr McNally know about this in the New Year and then the work could be done.

Cyclecross Race

Notification had been received that there is to be another cyclecross race in Well Lane Recreation Ground on Saturday, 14th November 2015. The previous one did not cause any problems or damage, and was very successful.

Footpath, Columbus Crescent to Manor Park

It was reported that out of the 12 lights on this footpath, only three are working, and in particular from Hawkins Close towards the Community Centre only two lights are working. It was thought we could report this to Michael Chester but Councillor Mills said the lights between the two parks will not be repaired until Bovis has carried out their improvements to this path. He has spoken to Rob Harbour, the Borough Head of Planning, and he is pursuing the work to be done under the s.106 Agreement. There is also the light by the skateboard ramp and they will try and get this working again but it will have to be the Electricity Board.

86 PLANNINGNotifications and Applications

Although this is not in the Parish of Rothwell, the Borough Council had sent notification of an application for a storage and distribution warehouse at the North Kettering Business Park for information.

The following Approvals had been received:-

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|---------------|--|
| KET/2015/0664 | Woodland Hospital – Replacement portacabin.        |
| KET/2015/0692 | 18 Davis Close – Rear extension.                   |
| KET/2015/0748 | The Old Brickyard, Orton Road – Agricultural barn. |

The following Refusal had been received:-

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| KET/2015/640&678 | Trinity Dental, Market Hill – Signs and plaque. |
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The following Applications had been received and the Town Council's observations agreed as stated:-

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|---------------|---|
| KET/2015/0695 | Rothboro, 5 The Avenue – Retrospective for external wall insulation.<br>No objection. |
| KET/2015/0851 | Woodland Hospital – 29 car parking spaces.<br>No objection.                           |

Neighbourhood Plan

We do now need to make progress on this matter, and the Clerk said the draft Plan still has a lot of references to Burton Latimer and all these sections need to be amended for the needs of Rothwell. She will do this as and when she has time. Howard Fillingham did say he would come to a Meeting of the Town Council to take a note of the necessary amendments.

It was AGREED to ask him to come to a Meeting at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 26th November. This date was subsequently changed to 30th November.

Councillor Spendlove joined the Meeting at 8.10 pm.

#### North Northants Joint Core Strategy

Copies of the Statement to the Examination prepared by the Clerk and approved by the Town Mayor had been circulated prior to this Meeting. The Clerk explained that she had spoken to the Examination Programme Officer and he confirmed that the Inspector takes as much notice of a written representation as he does if someone attends, and as there are two sessions on different days relating to Rothwell the Clerk had confirmed we would rely on the written statements. Matter 11 on Rothwell North is being heard on 26th November and Matter 13 on issues of Transport and Infrastructure on 28th November. The Clerk had sent the same statement on both Matters as the issues the Town Council is concerned about come into both categories: the Programme Officer said this would be unusual but in the circumstances he felt this was in order. We had also referred to the fact that this is now Rothwell North and West. The Clerk had sent the electronic copies and three hard copies on each Matter in good time, as requested. These actions were approved.

Councillor Mills said that Persimmon would not extend the strategic link road to the east of the B576 because they are now building to the west. The Clerk said this is required for an alternative access to the primary schools because of the increased number of pupils due to Persimmon's development at Rothwell North and it is assumed that the Inspector can order this to be done. The Clerk had also asked for an accompanied visit to Rothwell after the hearing sessions and had sent a copy of the Town Guide for background information. Councillor Goodwin thought that if they did move the fire station, that area could become a car park.

#### Historically & Visually Important Open Spaces

Copies of the letter and plan from the Borough Council had been circulated prior to this Meeting. This does not include Manor Park, but Councillor Mills had queried this at the Borough and it is because this is Listed. There should be more open spaces with the new development. The plan was approved. It was mentioned that the land at Shotwell Mill Lane has been sold.

## 87 HIGHWAYS

#### Parking, Glendon Road

Copies of the Report of the Site Meeting held on 27th October 2015 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. A response had been received from Ian Boyes, with plans of the locations where he suggested there should be no parking. Councillor Mills said at one time it had been suggested that there should be a build out at the end of both Ragsdale Street and Stanley Street to improve visibility there but it was not certain how practical this would be. -It was MOVED by Councillor Jelley, SECONDED by Councillor Davis and RESOLVED that the situation of the double yellow lines suggested by Northamptonshire Highways are approved.

#### School Lane Proposed Road Markings

At the Site Meeting in Glendon Road, the problems at the junction of the Castle Hill/School Lane were explained. He sent a drawing showing proposed road markings to indicate that drivers should only go straight on in both directions in Castle Hill and these were approved.

Councillor Cox suggested Castle Hill could be one way, but it was thought this could create more problems.

#### Parking, Bridge Street

People will park in front of the barriers at the entrance of the former Health Centre and this means that people with prams or mobility scooters have to go into the road to get past. It was AGREED to write to the owners of the land and ask them to move the barriers forward so that there is no room for a vehicles and to put up 'No Parking' signs. It was FURTHER AGREED to ask them to tidy up this site as it is a disgrace in the centre of our Conservation Area.

#### Parking, Market Hill

An E-mail had been received from a resident about how difficult it now is to find a parking space in Market Hill Square. The Town Council has discussed this on several occasions and Councillor Mills did speak to the Lord of the Manor about asking people not to park there, or for us to carry out a survey to see why people find it necessary to park there for so long but she did not think this was a good idea. The E-mail said people are now going to Desborough or Kettering because it is easier to park there. It was pointed out that there is the new Dentists business coming and there will be a lot more people working there and also their clients so the situation is likely to get worse. The issue was discussed in some detail.

It was MOVED by Councillor Jelley, SECONDED by Councillor Spendlove and RESOLVED that the Clerk would draft a survey form for approval by the Town Mayor and Councillor Mills.

### 88 MATTERS OF BUSINESS

#### Joint Geographic Forum

A letter had been received from the Borough Council that a Joint Geographic Meeting will be held on 25 November 2015 and Adam Simmonds will be attending. The A6 Towns Forum scheduled for that date has now been cancelled.

### 89 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk submitted a written statement as attached. It was MOVED by Councillor Jelley, SECONDED by Councillor Cross 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	£597.60
BT Payment Services	Phone and Broadband	£186.90
Inter County Cleaning Services	Cleaning Market House	£37.20
Cash	Petty Cash	£20.00
Jim French	Work on the Library garden	£380.00

### 90 ADMISSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the Press and Public were asked to withdraw.