

ROTHWELL TOWN COUNCIL

A Meeting of Rothwell Town Council was held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 11th October 2016 in the Market House, Market Hill, Rothwell.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillor K D Sumpter	<u>Town Mayor</u>
	Councillor Mrs C M Brown	
	Councillor M E Cox	
	Councillor C W Cross	
	Councillor R V Davis	
	Councillor I F Jelley	
	Councillor M W Spendlove (7.30 pm)	
	Councillor Mrs M E Talbot	
	Councillor R Wilson	
	County Councillor J Hakewill	

235 PRAYERS

Before the business of the Council commenced, the Revd Canon John Westwood said Prayers and mentioned the work of the Town Council and the local Police Officers, and the fact that this is now harvest time.

236 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillors Goodwin and Newman.

237 COMMUNITY POLICING

General Report/Crime Figures

A Police Officer was present and referred to the burglaries dwelling and non-dwelling. The Police have offenders for some of these offences and ASBOs start shortly. Rothwell has now been identified as a priority and there will also be general patrols with the Fire Service. As to the burglary at the Conservative Club last month, they have a persistent offender for this and he has been jailed for six years. The Police have been patrolling the area of the Library, including throughout the night.

The Town Mayor reported that we have just received a letter from a disabled resident, that the parking spaces for disabled drivers are often full at night with vehicles not showing a blue badge. It was confirmed that these bays are permanently for disabled people and not just during the daytime. The Police Officer took note of this and the Town Clerk will also E-mail our local Safer Community Team.

The Police have also been patrolling Tresham Street and the Town Mayor said residents of Leys Avenue have complained about people parking in their driveways, especially when going to the Primary School. People are still parking on both sides of Tresham Street despite the double yellow lines.

Councillor Davis asked about the dumped cars and it was explained that if these are taxed and have MOT the Police cannot insist the vehicle is moved. They had another complaint about a vehicle left for a long time covered up, but this is on private land so this is allowed. Sgt Little was aware of one of these cars.

There was a vehicle left on Sun Hill and ELVIS did get this moved but it takes a long time to get this done. County Councillor Hakewill said the principal work of ELVIS is to stop vehicles being torched and he will help as much as he can if the Police let him have the details of any vehicles which seem to have been abandoned.

It was reported there is a 20 mph zone in Greening Road but drivers are going faster than this – at least at 30 mph - and the local Police will look into this. Councillor Mrs Talbot reported that some of the anti-social behaviour has moved from the Library to Manor Park after dark and the Police Officers recommended that people who see this can call 101: it was mentioned that it can take a long time for this number to be answered.

Wallis House

The Clerk had received an E-mail from a resident that the staff and residents of Wallis House are discarding cigarette ends onto the pavement in Harrington Rod, and he notified the Borough Council who came out and cleaned this up. He has notified the Wallis head office twice but has not received a reply. He said that some drivers are continually parking on and blocking the pavement. It was AGREED to forward this to the Safer Community Team.

Public Space Protection Orders

An E-mail had been received from the Kettering Borough Council that these will now replace the previous Order. There are currently three in Kettering, namely at the Grange Shops in Kettering, in Desborough and Burton Latimer and asking if there are areas in Rothwell which would benefit. It was AGREED to ask for Rothwell town centre to be included and the Clerk sent a request for High Street, Bridge Street, Market Hill (including the Square), Bell Hill, Hospital Hill, Squires Hill, the Church Walk footpaths and Manor Park to be covered by a PSPO.

238 MINUTES

The Library Manager informed the Clerk that their CCTV cameras have not been moved to point outside as they do not have a budget for this at the present time, and they have discussed this with Councillor Hakewill.

Subject to this amendment, it was MOVED by Councillor Jelley, SECONDED by Councillor Cross and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th September 2016 be confirmed and signed.

239 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

(1) Bench in Market Hill: the bench has been moved so it is in front of the Chinese Takeaway, but there is a slat missing. It was AGREED to ask Amanda McDade at the Borough Council if this can be repaired.

(2) New Skateboard Ramp: a resident of Coronation Avenue complained about the location for the new skateboard ramp at the top of Well Lane Recreation Ground as this is visible from her house, and when she looks out of the window there is a large hole in the ground. Councillor Mrs Brown explained the situation in full and that the skateboard ramp is under construction at the present time and the ramp is being moved slightly from where the previous one used to be to where the land is flatter and this will be safer. The resident felt this was in the wrong place and it would be noisy for them. It was explained there was a full consultation with all the nearby residents with people calling at all the houses to explain, or if no-one was in a letter was left. There will also be a light along the path which will make the area safe for people walking there.

Councillor Spendlove joined the Meeting at 7.30 pm.

The resident thought the skateboard ramp would be better where there used to be some swings. It was confirmed again that there was a full consultation with the properties around the area and the response to this was that there were no objections, but many people agreed this was needed for the older children in the town. Councillor Mrs Brown will ask Dave Lane at the Borough Council to confirm that the residents of Coronation Avenue were consulted.

240 REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Schooling

The North Northants Joint Planning Unit Strategy did not specifically mention the new Two Form Entry Primary School as part of Rothwell North, and the Clerk had asked Councillor Hakewill about this. He was pleased to be able to confirm that there is the plan for the 2FE primary school for Rothwell to meet the requirements of the new developments in the town and this will be provided. There is provision for 2.31 hectares of land at Montsaye for educational purposes so this new school could be on the same campus.

The problem now is that this has been taken away from the County Council but the developers will still have to put forward the money, and this will hopefully be done by 2021. The land at Montsaye might not be where this is built but there will be the school. Councillor Hakewill said we have not yet had the detailed plans but the school provision is dictated by the County Council and parents can apply to the school they feel is most appropriate for their children.

Street Light Upgrade

This work is continuing but progress does seem a bit random in some areas.

Vehicle Activated Signs

The Town Council had received a letter from Northamptonshire Highways about the Self Purchase VAS signs, and that County Councillor Allan Matthews has purchased a couple of signs and would like to operate them on an occasional basis in Rothwell. The precise arrangements for this scheme were not clear so the Clerk had referred this to Councillor Hakewill and he now explained that Councillor Matthews is doing this out of his Enablement Grant but Councillor Hakewill wishes to put his money into other matters.

Harrington Road Footpath

Councillor Hakewill will continue to chase this matter to get the additional length of pavement constructed as soon as possible.

County Budget

There are a lot of children who need care and some asylum seekers but the other Councils will assist with this.

Disabled Parking Spaces

As to this matter, there is now the de-criminalised parking scheme which might assist there. Councillor Jelley said he would try and get the Borough Council Warden out to look at this, but the Clerk had understood that the Borough now only has Generic Wardens who do not have the power to issue parking tickets but deal with matters such as dog mess or litter.

241 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITYSkateboard Ramp

This matter was dealt with earlier in the Meeting.

Blythe Close Play Area

Councillor Mrs Brown reported that the contractors have been out and measured the area to plan what equipment can be placed there. This will probably not now be built until the spring.

Christmas/Winter Lights

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 29th September 2016 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was AGREED that the Report be approved and adopted. The Borough Council needed the Town Council to decide how many lights were wanted so that they could be ordered in time to be put up this year. The Borough is putting in new cabling from the public toilets for the lights in Squires Hill.

Public Toilets

We had also discussed the public toilets with Michael Chester of the Borough Council when he was at the above Meeting and the Clerk now had two sets of keys for the shutters and one for the new padlock at the rear of the toilets. She handed one set to Councillor Wilson who hopes to get the toilets cleaned the following weekend, when we can let the people in the Charity Shop have a set as they said they could open and close the toilets. Councillor Wilson subsequently said he could open them most days, so the Charity Shop people would only have to close them.

Gala Evening

Councillor Cox had thought the date for this was going to be changed to the 9th December so that it did not clash with the Market Harborough Christmas event, and that the Partnership was now going to be responsible for this. It was confirmed that the Gala will be on the 2nd December as people are now used to it being on the first Friday in that month and it was not thought many people went to Market Harborough instead: the Parish Church also has their Christmas tree event on the same day and most people go to both, including the Town Council's special guests. In addition, Councillor Mrs Talbot had been asked to continue as Treasurer for one more year as the Partnership could not do this for 2016 and she had already arranged the St John Ambulance presence.

The Clerk had already started the organisation and had contacted those people who provide entertainment. Colin Hooton, the balloon modeller, has now retired so will not be able to come and he did not know of any other people doing balloon models as cheaply. Councillor Mrs Brown knows of someone who does balloon models but who might not want to sit outside to do this. It was felt that the Methodist Church would let the balloon modeller take space there and Councillor Mrs Brown will find out if her contact is prepared to do this.

The Clerk asked if the Citizens Welfare Committee should have a free stall as usual and this was AGREED.

Councillor Cox wanted some information about the banners to put up. It was suggested that Robert Denton could supply some photographs. The Town Mayor confirmed that the power for the lights on the stalls will come from the Market House as previously.

Memorial Area, Well Lane Recreation Ground

The Clerk had received an E-mail from Dave Lane of the Borough Council, asking exactly where the Town Council would like the sign for the area to be named after Alan Mills. It was AGREED that the whole recreation ground should be called after him and the sign should go on the railings by the entrance.

Redwood Tree, Hospital Hill

An E-mail had been received from Dawn Hughes, the Borough Arboricultural Development Officer, that she has been in touch with Ian Smith from Kier (NCC) regarding the redwood tree in the car park. They need to remove the tree ring and the concrete from around the base of the tree to give it more room to grow. This would mean that the bollards would probably have to be replaced so they would be further away and this may result in the loss of a car parking space. Councillor Spendlove said the roots of the tree are now very close to Jesus Hospital and could cause some damage to that building. This matter is due to be discussed by the Governors of Jesus Hospital on 2nd December.

It was MOVED by Councillor Spendlove, SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Talbot and RESOLVED that this tree should be removed completely to prevent damage to Jesus Hospital and the surface made good so that there are additional parking spaces in Hospital Hill.

New Notice Board

We had received details of various notice boards which could replace the one currently outside the Market House. We wanted to have one which has a lockable door but is ventilated so that condensation does not build up inside. If people want posters put up, they can either put these under the door to the Council Chamber or hand them in to the Help for Heroes shop. It was AGREED to ask the Town Centre Partnership to decide on the best design.

Hedge, Harrington Road

Councillor Cross said the hedge from No.78 Harrington Road to the edge of the town was very overgrown and needs to be cut back again. The Clerk will report this.

Cycle Rack

The tree has now been removed from in front of Tesco Express and a resident had asked if there could be a cycle rack there instead. This should be removable so it could be taken away for Rowell Fair. It was AGREED to ask Ian Boyes of Northamptonshire Highways if this could be considered.

Cobbles at top of Market Hill Square

The Town Mayor referred to the fact that some of these cobbles had come out and a local business person had stored these for safe keeping. Northamptonshire Highways had come and filled the area with tarmac as a safety measure. It was AGREED to ask for the cobbles to be replaced as soon as possible.

CCTV Cameras

An E-mail had been received from a resident that he did not believe the existing CCTV cameras covered the far side of Market Hill Square or Hospital Hill where there has been vandalism to parked vehicles. He asked if an additional camera or cameras be installed to cover this area and the south path and churchyard.

There is the camera on the Trinity Dental premises by the north path, but it was not known if this is now working again. It was AGREED to ask Kettering Borough Council about this camera and copy in John Kinloch, the Borough Community Safety Officer. The Town Mayor knew someone who could put up a camera with a much better range which could still be monitored by the same people.

242 PLANNING

At the request of the Town Mayor, Councillor Spendlove presented this report:-

Notifications and Applications

The following Approvals had been received:-

- KET/2016/0523 22 Dempsey Drive – Conservatory to rear.
 KET/2016/0574 8 Vickers Close – Front, side and rear extension.

Applications

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

- KET/2016/0648 103 Desborough Road – Conservatory to rear.
 No objection.
- KET/2016/0660 4 Victoria Court – Two storey front and rear extension.
 No objection.
- KET/2016/0672 61 Proclamation Avenue – Door to side elevation of garage.
 No objection.
- KET/2016/0681 33 Kingsley Road – Two storey side extension with balcony to rear and alterations to roof.
 No objection, provided the amenities currently enjoyed by the neighbouring properties are not adversely affected.

Neighbourhood Plan

It was AGREED to have an initial Meeting with Alex Jelley to discuss various proposals and options and the Town Council would need advice on how best to apply for any available grants to cover the costs. It was suggested this could take place at 7.30 pm on either 26th or 27th October. Mr Jelley could not make either of these dates so the Meeting had to be re-scheduled.

Enforcement Issues

As to the flashing lights in front of Rothwell House Hotel, and the sign for the Chinese takeaway in Market Hill, the Borough Planning Department would like photographs of these areas after dark. The Town Mayor confirmed that he has now taken these pictures and will send them to the Borough.

Footpath, Harrington Road

Councillor Spendlove referred to the fact that the Borough said they do not have the resources to enforce the s.106 commitment to construct this new section of footpath from Wallis House to Terry Smith Avenue. It had been agreed that the County Council would pursue this as the path has to be constructed to highway standards. It was AGREED to chase both the County and the Borough Councils on this issue.

Rothwell North

- (a) The issue of the new primary school at this development had been dealt with by the County Councillor earlier in the Meeting.
- (b) An E-mail had been received regarding the land to the north of the Junior School, which was circulated prior to this Meeting. Councillor Wilson did not think the developers would renew the option because it was too far in advance. This is not included as part of phases one or two of Rothwell North. The Town Mayor as asked if we had any information about plans for this land but we do not. It was AGREED to acknowledge the E-mail that the Town Council cannot comment on any planning issues until there is an actual application to consider.
- (c) Councillor Jelley said that they are now looking to increase the amount of employment land at Rothwell North.
- (d) Councillor Mrs Talbot had been informed by the Borough that the Town Council is entitled to put in requests for s.106 benefits when a planning application is received.

Neighbourhood Plan

It was AGREED to have a preliminary Meeting with Alex Jelley and it was suggested this could be on Wednesday, 26th or Thursday, 26th October. That week was not possible for Mr Jelley and so other dates had to be considered.

Truck Stops

This is being discussed at the next Rural Forum Meeting, but no-one from the Town Council was available to attend. Councillor Mrs Talbot will try and obtain the information.

243 HIGHWAYSVehicle Activated Signs

County Councillor Hakewill had mentioned this during his report and it does not seem that Councillor Matthews intended to include Rothwell in his Desborough scheme. It was AGREED to ask the County Council for clarification on this matter.

Parking Restrictions

Copies of the plans for the Order application for double yellow lines had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was AGREED that the plans were correct and the Clerk will confirm this to the County Council immediately.

Access for Emergency Vehicles

Our Highways Liaison Officer had replied to our query about signs to indicate people should leave sufficient room for emergency vehicles, that we could order these direct from Nordis signs or the County could do this at a cost of about £15 to £20 each. It was reported that a sign has already been put up in Tresham Street. It was MOVED by Councillor Wilson, SECONDED by Councillor Jelley and RESOLVED that the Town Council will order ten of these signs and the Members of the Town Council will put these up in appropriate locations.

Lorries through the Town Centre

It was reported that large lorries are coming through the town centre again, and it was thought there should be a weight restriction sign by Prologis. Councillor Wilson will let the Clerk know where these signs should be put up.

Parking, Market Hill

We have not yet had a reply from Tesco about using vans for deliveries instead of the large lorries. The Town Council does not think there could be a parking bay in front of the store.

244 MATTERS OF BUSINESSRegister of Interests Forms

Councillor Spendlove had handed the Clerk his completed form at this Meeting. As the Clerk had not received this from him or Councillor Newman, she had spoken to David Pope of the Borough Democratic & Legal Services Department and he said this should have been done within 28 days and he would write to them. The Clerk also raised the issue that it had been decided Councillor Newman would be the Town Council signatory in place of Alan Mills, but she was not certain this would be in order without the Borough receiving the form signed by Councillor Newman. Members of the Town Council agreed with this, and it was **MOVED** by the Town Mayor, **SECONDED** by Councillor Jelley and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Cox be appointed the new signatory.

Contingency Plans

The Clerk had received a reply from Danny Moody of NCALC setting out what they could do to assist if the Clerk was suddenly taken ill and unable to work and this was circulated. It was **AGREED** this was helpful, and with the assistance the Borough had also said they would try and give it was satisfactory and would allow the Town Council to continue to operate.

245 FINANCIAL REPORTGeneral Statement

The Clerk submitted a written statement as attached. It was **MOVED** by Councillor Jelley, **SECONDED** by Councillor Mrs Talbot 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 Services	£612.00
Inter County Cleaning Services	Cleaning Market House	£40.80
Neil Matthew	Reimbursement for domain name renewal	£33.55
Cash	Petty Cash	£60.00

246 DATE OF BUDGET MEETING

It was **AGREED** that this would be held at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 3rd November 2016.

The Meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Chairman

Date