

ROTHWELL TOWN COUNCIL

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

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillor K D Sumpter 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 Mrs M E Talbot	<u>Town Mayor</u>
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218 PRAYERS

The Revd Canon John Westwood said Prayers and firstly referred to the fact that Councillor Goodwin had recently suffered a bad car accident and was in hospital and wished him a quick recovery. Canon Westwood also referred to the Town Mayor and this Council Meeting, and the local schools at the start of the new academic year.

219 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillors Goodwin, Spendlove and Wilson. County Councillor Hakewill hoped to attend the Meeting but would be late.

220 COMMUNITY POLICING

General Report/Crime Figures

PCSOs Kirsty Ellerby and Jason Parish were present at this Meeting and a report of the crimes during the month of August had been received as follows:-

- 3.8.16. Junior School – damage to roof tiles.
- 7.8.16. Rushton Road – attempted break to property via front door.
- 8.8.16. Conservative Club – rear door smashed and fruit machines broken into.
- 15.8.16. Cecil Street – burglary dwelling, offender disturbed and ran off.
- 24.8.16. Scott Avenue – motorcycle stolen from parking space.
- 27.8.16. Balfour Drive – burglary dwelling (insecure conservatory window).
- 27.8.16. Silkweavers Mews – attempted break via front door.
- 27.8.16. Horse Fair Lane – shed break, mountain bike and drill stolen.
- 28.8.16. Magellan Close – attempted break via front door.

As to the nuisance around the Library building, the Wi-Fi has been off for a month and things are quieter. The Police have had patrols during the day and evening. Councillor Newman said there has been much less rubbish left in front of the Library and their cleaner also said this was much better. The tree in front of his shop has also been trimmed down so the CCTV camera picks up this area. There are also the people who park on the double yellow lines in Tresham Street and he felt there should be a sign that emergency vehicles need access. The Clerk will raise this with our Highways Liaison Officer to see if they have a suitable sign to this effect.

Councillor Jelley said there had actually been three incidents at the Junior School. Councillor Mrs Brown thanked the Police for getting the tree in front of Tesco removed and the work around the Library garden.

The Town Mayor referred to the derelict cars around the town and asked if ELVIS was still dealing with these. It was confirmed they are doing this but will not do anything if a vehicle is taxed and insured. If a vehicle is causing an obstruction the Police can deal with this and the Police will look at the list which the Town Mayor is preparing.

It was reported that cars are being parked on the pavement in Well Lane, which blocks access for people in mobility scooters and the Police advised that people should report this when the car is actually there. A resident said that parking in Horse Fair Lane obstructs vehicles and an emergency vehicle would not get through. The PCSOs will look at this area.

221 MINUTES

It was MOVED by Councillor Mrs Talbot, SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Brown and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th August 2016 be confirmed and signed.

222 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

(1) Footpath, Jubilee Street to Horse Fair Lane: a resident reported that this footpath is blocked with overgrown hedges, brambles and weeds. These also cause problems in the gardens of the properties in Horse Fair Lane and blocks light to the windows. Councillor Davis had visited the area and had some photographs. It was not known who owns this land, but some might belong to Bovis and there is also the BT building there. Bovis is to improve the footpath from Gordon Street to Well Lane Recreation Ground to turn this into a combined path and cycle way and will be responsible for several years for a maintenance programme there. It was AGREED to report this to Mr Brendan Coleman, the Borough Head of Environmental Care. The Clerk looked at this after the Meeting, and the section of path from Jubilee Street to the A6 is Public Right of Way UH15 so she also sent copy of the letter to the Rights of Way Officer.

223 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY

Skateboard Ramp

Councillor Mrs Brown does not have a detailed update but work has started and so the land is in a bit of a mess at present, as they are preparing this. Once completed, this skateboard ramp should be good for twenty years. The tree was removed because of the roots. The Clerk had received an E-mail from Dave Lane confirming that this cedar tree had to be taken out to allow for the new skateboard facility, but he has now been informed that this tree was significant to the twinning with Droué. He did not know of this local importance, but they would be happy to supply another tree if this was wanted. It was AGREED to take no action on this at the present time.

Blythe Close Play Area

There is no progress to report at this time. However, three posts to stop vehicles going into the Blythe Close open space are missing and Councillor Mrs Brown has already reported this.

Tree in front of Tesco Express

This tree has now been cut down to allow visibility from the CCTV camera to the front of the Library, and the Clerk has received an E-mail from Northamptonshire Highways that the contractors will return at a later date to remove the tree guard so they can finish felling the trunk. A section of the tree in front of Newmans has also been removed to provide full visibility by the CCTV camera.

Footpath Lights behind Community Centre

These lights have been out for some time, and Councillor Mrs Talbot had reported this to the Borough Council. She had received a response from Brendan Coleman that, following a meeting with the County Council regarding street lighting, responsibility for maintaining these lights has now been transferred to the County (Balfour Beatty) and Mr Coleman will pass the request on to them.

Rothwell In Bloom

The Clerk reported that one of the hanging baskets had not been watered by the Borough Council for some time after it was put up and some of the plants had died. She had reported this and the Borough did tidy it up, but it was still not as good as the other baskets. It was MOVED by Councillor Mrs Brown, SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Talbot and RESOLVED to reimburse the By Rowell Appointment Pet Food Shop for the cost of the basket. Councillor Cox did not vote on this issue.

Updated Town Guide

The Clerk reported that Mr Russ Collard is now visiting the various businesses to see who would like an advertisement in the new Town Guide.

New Website

The Town Mayor knew of some people who want to advertise on the new rothwelltown.com website.

Tesco Lorries

A resident had said that now the tree has gone from in front of Tesco's could there be a pull-in for their delivery lorries. The Town Council did consider this previously but this would create other problems.

Councillor Newman thought there were restrictions as to deliveries on the original Planning Permission. It was suggested it might be worth looking at the original conditions but this was checked previously and because the Borough Council did not try to enforce this for so long Tesco now has deemed Consent. Tesco has co-operated in that they try and avoid deliveries at peak times, and especially when the children are going to and from school. During Rowell Fair they use vans for deliveries. It was AGREED to write to Tesco again about this.

Business Signs

The Clerk was asked if the Borough Council is taking any action about the unsuitable sign on the Chinese Takeaway in Market Hill and the flashing lights in front of Rothwell House Hotel. This is being investigated by Alison Riches at the Borough Planning Department, but she asked for photographs of both of these areas after dark. It was thought that Councillor Wilson had taken some photographs of these properties.

Shotwell Mill Lane

A reply had been received from the Rights of Way Officer that a site visit has been carried out and there are several areas along this Right of Way which require cutting back. Unfortunately she cannot arrange for these works to be carried out until the bird nesting area has come to an end in October but she will arrange for some remedial clearance works to be carried out then.

Primary Schools

Councillor Jelley said there were three break-ins at the schools which cost about £2,000. The former Football Club is now being developed and the top of Tresham Street will be closed soon for the drainage works. They consider this development will be completed in about two years.

Well Lane Recreation Ground

Councillor Mrs Talbot wished to put forward a proposal that the open grassed area between the Community Centre and the Pocket Park be named "The Alan Mills Memorial Park" in his memory. He was very involved in getting the skateboard ramp and the play area for disabled children. The Town Mayor said he has already asked the family and they would be pleased about this. It was **MOVED** by Councillor Mrs Talbot, **SECONDED** by Councillor Mrs Brown and **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to name this area in memory of the late Councillor Mills. The Clerk will contact Dave Lane at the Borough Council about this in the first instance.

224 PLANNINGNotifications and Applications

The following Approvals had been received:-

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| KET/2016/432 | 44 Castle Hill – New roof, window openings, air conditioning unit. |
| KET/2016/435&436 | 30 High Street – Change of use to Estate Agent and new shop front. |
| KET/2016/448 | Rothwell Service Station, Kettering Road – Installation of ATM. |
| KET/2016/451 | 5 Kipton Close – Front and rear extensions. |
| KET/2016/457 | 19 Cross Street – Conversion of garage and store to ground floor flat. |

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

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| KET/2016/523 | 22 Dempsey Drive – Conservatory to rear.
No objection, provided the existing amenities enjoyed by the neighbouring properties are not adversely affected. |
| KET/2016/543 | 1 The Maltings, Desborough Road – Listed Building Application for the replacement of two windows to the front elevation.
No objection. |
| KET/2016/574 | 8 Vickers Close – Front, side and rear extensions.
No objection, provided there is no vehicular access and egress to and from Glendon Road, and provided that the amenities currently enjoyed by the adjoining property are not adversely affected. |

Neighbourhood Plan

There was no further progress on this issue.

Playford Close

The Clerk had received an E-mail from a resident who had recently moved into Playford Close and asked what the current status is of the open space adjoining their property. They had also sent this E-mail to the Borough Council, so the Clerk had asked them to copy her in to any reply they receive, as the Town Council is still uncertain about this land. We believe it is designated open space, but might still belong to Persimmon.

Traveller Sites

County Councillor Hakewill had forwarded an appeal decision relating to traveller sites, and part of this confirmed the reliance on potential sites in Rothwell and Broughton. Councillor Jelley said there can be difficulty in moving travellers off a site if they have nowhere else to go, and 47% of the travellers in Northamptonshire are in the Borough of Kettering. There will be a policy review on this.

CPRE

Notification had been received of the CPRE Autumn Road Show on at 6.00 pm on 27th October in Great Houghton Village Hall. Councillor Jelley said he was attending this.

225 HIGHWAYSSelf Purchase VAS Scheme

A letter had been received from Steve Barber at Northamptonshire Highways who facilitates this scheme, which enables Parishes to purchase and place mobile Vehicle Activated Signs in an effort to emphasise to drivers the correct speed for the area. County Councillor Allan Matthews has purchased a couple of the standard mobile VAS devices and would like to operate them on an occasional basis in Rothwell. All such devices require a County Regulations Licence, and Mr Barber had part-completed the application which the Clerk should sign and also supply details of the Town Council's insurance and send a copy of the page that covers Third Party Liability. He had given details of the locations which the County feels are practical but we could suggest changes to this. Once completed, the document and a cheque for £260 should be sent to the County, and Mr Barber thought that Councillor Matthews had already issued these monies to us. Once the s.50 Licence is in place, we should contact him regarding the placement, which it is intended the parishes will do themselves and he will also be visiting the town within the next few weeks to confirm the sites. It was AGREED to find out more about the £260 fee.

Councillor Mrs Talbot understood that the Police caught a speeding van at the bottom of Slade Valley Avenue recently.

Sun Hill

The Clerk received an E-mail dated 11th August from a resident of Sun Hill that the area in front of their property has been suffering abuse with people selling cars there, and dumping faulty vehicles which leak oil etc. He stated that this is private property that does not belong to the town and is only used under licence for the good of businesses in this area for parking and this privilege is to be withdrawn. Therefore concrete posts are to be installed to prevent further access to this area, and all the Town Council needs to do is inform this resident within one week of the preferred colour of these posts.

As this is highway land, the Clerk had informed Northamptonshire Highways who are dealing with the matter, and she believed that the Police were also involved in checking whether any of the vehicles had been abandoned.

Road Closure

Notification had been received from Northamptonshire Highways that the section of Greening Road between Nunnery Avenue and Desborough Road would be closed to through traffic for up to five days from 24th October between 8.00 am and 5.00 pm for carriageway patching work, and there will be a diversion route. This is during half term.

226 REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLORStreet Lights

County Councillor Hakewill said that this contract to put in the new street lights was due to finish in September, but this is now being extended to March 2017. We can let him know if there is any problem with this work.

Footpath, Harrington Road

Councillor Hakewill is still involved in pushing for the extra length of footpath between Orton House (now Wallis House) and the Morris Homes development in Harrington Road. The Borough Council does not have the resources to pursue the s.106 agreement for this work.

Kipton Field

The County is funding improvements to the footpaths around Kipton Field and re-surfacing in this area.

Rothwell Library

The Wi-Fi is now being turned off when the Library is closed and Councillor Hakewill has monitored this area and also spoken to Rachel at the Woolpack Inn. The cameras within the Library are now pointing out. It might be that we are moving the problem and this must be checked.

227 MATTERS OF BUSINESSRegister of Interests Forms

Councillors Newman and Spendlove still have to let the Clerk have their completed Register of Interests forms but will let her have these as soon as possible.

Rothwell Websites

As to the new website at www.rothwelltown.com organised by the Town Centre Partnership, the Clerk pointed out the following issues:-

- Alan Mills is still on the list of Councillors.
- The description for Nunnery Cottage is not correct, as it is only the last (northern) section and the porch which were built in 1660 as the southern cottage was built before 1538, with the middle section erected at some time between these two dates. The entry in the Town Guide has this information.
- The Monday market in is Market Hill, and not the Market House.

The Clerk wondered if we should keep the original www.rothwelltown.co.uk website for the Town Council and ask Howard Fillingham to upload the various items on this. We need to post various documents such as the Standing Orders as well as the Minutes, and this includes the agendas but the Clerk was not sure if we could just have the main headings as they are the same every month or if we needed to put the details on for each month. She recently had a request for an alteration to the entry on the quiz nights run by Stu Everitt .

Councillor Mrs Brown thought it would be best to have both these websites running, especially as this would mean the Town Council/Partnership would retain the right to both domain names and this was AGREED and that the www.rothwelltown.co.uk would be mainly for the Town Council.

Truck Stops

The Clerk had received notification from the Borough Council that the issue of truck stops would be discussed at the Rural Forum Meeting on 15th September and this had been forwarded to the Members of the Town Council. Councillors Newman, Sumpter and Mrs Talbot hoped to be able to attend that Meeting.

228 FINANCIAL REPORTGeneral Statement

The Clerk submitted a written statement as attached. It was **MOVED** by Councillor Jelley, **SECONDED** by Councillor Davis 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 & Employer N I (3 months)	£211.32
Inter County Cleaning Services	Cleaning the Market House	£40.80
E Freestone	Computer case and new hardware	£50.00
BDO LLP	External Audit Fee	£120.00
Rowell Fair Society	Cost of horses for Civic Parade	£600.00
Jim French	Work on the Library garden (R. In Bloom)	£25.00

New Signatory

It is necessary to have an additional signatory for the Town Council and Rothwell In Bloom Accounts at the Market Harborough Building Society to replace the late Alan Mills. It was **MOVED** by Councillor Jelley, **SECONDED** by the Town Mayor and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Newman be added as a signatory to these Accounts.

Audit

The External Audit had been completed by BDO LLP and there were no matters which required reporting. The Annual Return was available for inspection and this and the Notice of Conclusion of Audit must now be advertised in the Library and on the website. It was **MOVED** by the Town Mayor, **SECONDED** by Councillor Mrs Brown and **RESOLVED** that these documents be approved and adopted by the Town Council.

229 ADMISSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was **AGREED** that the Press and Public be asked to leave the Meeting.