

## Meeting of BLTC 01 August 2017

### Cllrs' Written Reports to BLTC

#### Borough Council Matters of Interest Written Reports

##### Cllr R. Groome

- 1 Planning Training – 3<sup>rd</sup> July – included updates on what is going on in planning generally - Planning Appeals – what can we learn from recent Appeal decisions? A review of the Scheme of Delegation and are the right applications being presented to the Planning Committee? Call-ins by ward members – these must be accompanied by a planning reason. Do the problems generated by an application substantially outweigh the benefits?
- 2 Full Council – 19<sup>th</sup> July – two motions was passed unanimously –
  - (i) ‘Kettering Borough Council is committed to ensuring that an agreement is reached with Northamptonshire County Council to bring in decriminalisation of parking as a matter of urgency, as soon as possible, and that this Council maintains its stance that KBC would be best placed to enforce both the new decriminalised aspect of parking enforcement and the continued enforcement of residents’ only parking.’
  - (ii) ‘The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government made a recent speech to the Local Government Association where he recognised ‘there is a serious shortage of decent affordable housing’ and went to talk about the stark inequalities in housing and said he was willing listen to proposals from ambitious councils to try to address these issues. In Kettering we have recognised for some time there has been a desperate need for more social housing and have stated our aim to address this. We are an ambitious council and agree that members and officers will work together on a proposal to finance and build new social housing locally and put forward a proposal to government for their support and approval.’

Both of these motions have implications for Burton Latimer.

Miss Sue Lyons, Head of Democratic Services, will be leaving Kettering Borough Council in September and her role will be taken on by Martin Hammond on a temporary basis until a new Head of Democratic Services is appointed.

3. There are proposed changes to the Keyways Housing Allocation Scheme – these are detailed and I shall be attending meetings concerning these.

##### Cllr Smith

(Report awaited from Cllr Jerram).

#### County Council Matters of Interest Written Report (Cllr Smith-Haynes)

Nothing to report except new Corby custody suite goes live at 7pm today, consultation on pcc taking governance for fire is ongoing, & a sealed container holding a number of unaccompanied child asylum seekers arrived in county last month, putting additional pressure on children’s services.

## Other Town Cllrs' Reports

### Cllr C. Groome

1. Fergus and I attended the NALC meeting of larger town and parish councils to discuss unitary local government. On the table were the main options: doing away with the existing county and district councils and replacing them with one, two or three unitary councils. In all cases the assumption is that town and parish councils would take on additional responsibilities. The meeting was to test the preparedness of local councils to do this and the circumstances they need to do so (finance, etc). It would mean that places like Kettering and Wellingborough would have town councils (like Rushden). It might also mean that parishes could join together to employ the necessary staff and let contracts. Danny Moody is preparing a paper from the NALC meeting to inform discussions in each council. At some stage we need to address these issues so we can respond.
2. I attended the meeting with the two Northamptonshire Highways staff deputed to deal with our concerns about the road system and signage at J10 of the A14, They are due to report back with a list of actions when we shall have a second chance to bend their ears. I have to say that they paid only limited attention to our concerns, frequently blaming problems on "bad driving". We shall see.
3. I also attended the progress meeting on the new web site which is on schedule and looking good.
4. I am currently spending a lot of time on railway matters. Work has started on restoration of the fourth track past Burton Latimer. The Government has also launched the prospectus for refranchising the East Midlands area and has announced that electrification north of Kettering to Leicester and beyond is cancelled. They have discovered a new fuel called "diesel" which does not need all those ugly electrification masts. They have obviously not heard of their colleagues' policy on phasing out diesel for cars! There are also other problems. For example the electrification from St Pancras to Bedford only allows for 100 mph running. There are now no plans for upgrading, which means that the Corby and Kettering services will take longer to get to London than currently. However we stand to benefit from Kettering becoming an interchange station between the diesel intercity services from Sheffield and Nottingham and the electric semi-fast stopping services to London. I have intensive discussions planned in the next few weeks to sort some of these issues out.

### Cllr Padget

I attended the BLTC full council meeting. I performed the weekly fire alarm tests in the CC . I undertook the monthly test on the fire exit lights (reported that one in the main hall is faulty). I forwarded a quote for a fire risk assessment to Cllrs for review and subsequently went back to Syd Weller for clarification on some issues

### Cllr Watts

I attended full Council meeting.

I attended a working group consisting of BLTC Cllrs in order to discuss options relating to the roof at the Civic Centre and possible options going forward should BLTC decide to renew the lease with KBC. I am still researching options and a report will be presented to full Council in the next few weeks.

I have been working on an updated plan for the provision of a Youth Club within the Civic Centre. Work continues on this.

I have spoken to locals regarding recent burglaries and given some basic crime prevention advice

**Highways Report (Cllr F. Macdonald)**

- 1) The hedge in Bridle Rd. has been cut back
- 2) Railing in High St. has been repaired
- 3) Hedge in Station Rd. near railway bridge has been cut
- 4) Traffic survey in Church St shows speed has been reduced number of vehicles over 10 day period is 20700
- 5) A number of footpaths have been cleared by the CPT
- 6) Seek approval to send letter to all Duke St./Alexander St. residents to get view on one way system
- 7) Getting quotes for all electrical/fire system maintenance in CC
- 8) Got approval for barriers /road closure etc. for Christmas light switch on
- 9) Festive light erection organised
- 10) CC will arrange for a patch in the bad area of Cranford Rd.

**REPORT OF THE CIVIC CENTRE MANAGEMENT BOARD MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2017**

**Present:** John Currall, Ruth Groome, Maureen Jerram, Fergus Macdonald, Nigel Padget

**Apologies:** None

Cllr Roche did not attend.

**Election of Chair:** RG pp Fergus Macdonald 2<sup>nd</sup> by NP, Agreed by all.

**Minutes of the last meeting Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017:** Were agreed as a true record pp NP 2<sup>nd</sup> RG

**Action points update:**

No	Action:	Action Owner	Latest Comments	Due Date
1.	Laminate and put on display a plan of the building outlining fire exits and extinguishers	FM	Mar 17 <b>MJ</b> to mark fire exits and extinguishers on plan <b>NP</b> to update Policy and Procedures and e-mail to MJ <b>ASAP</b> <b>April 17 FM</b> to get 3 quotes to complete this.	Next meeting.
2.	Produce a BLTC Safeguarding	MJ	Ongoing	October

	Policy			17
3.	Dispose of the red chairs and replace with new	MJ	March 17 <b>MJ</b> to get quote for ones similar to those in cupboard and put in for a grant from KBC. Swivel chairs to all go. <b>RG</b> to ask KCU if they would like them. <b>April 17 FM</b> to dispose of damaged and dangerous red chairs.	Next meeting.
4.	Light in left hand corner of Council Chamber.	FM	To get electrician to replace.	ASAP
5.	Get quotes for new kitchen flooring etc. pus inventory of equipment. Put in for a grant.	MJ	Possibly laminate or tiles.	Next meeting
6.	Boiler Room lock (key missing)	FM	Will see if Olympus have one – if not purchase a new one	Next meeting.

**Matters arising (not on the Agenda):** None.

**Fire Safety Policy and Procedures:** These are still unfinished and not fiit for purpose. Three quotes to be obtained for doing them (**FM**).

**Maintenance update:**

- New Chairs quotes: **MJ** to obtain for 20 folding chairs.
- Community Room Floor: This is not cleaned adequately. **MJ** has received a complaint. **JC** to get a quote to professionally clean.
- Kitchen Floor: **MJ** to get quotes for the next meeting.
- Equipment in kitchen: **MJ** to do an inventory.
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**Keys:** A keysafe can be obtained for approximately £22 on the internet. This would save money on getting keys cut – however it may not work on a practical level. Discussion at the next CCMB meeting.

**Civic Centre Risk Assessment:** **MJ** to complete for the next CCMB meeting.

**Assets in Civic Centre:** **MJ** to complete for the next CCMB meeting.

**Room Bookings update:**

- Youth Group: Everything pertaining to the Group has now been removed from the Community Room.

- British Legion and Directions: Agreed that British Legion should not pay for use of the room but if any paying hirer wants the room they should have priority. Directions to pay £7.50 per hour. **MJ** to write to both.
- Tots Play: Are now doing an extra morning.
- Spanish for Tots: Lessons to start from September on Friday mornings.
- Artisan Crafts: Have now increased their hours on the first Saturday of each month.
- Flower Arranging: They had forgotten to book the room for their committee meetings. Now booked and clerk to invoice them.
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**Cleaning update:**

- Complaint: MJ has received a complaint about the standard in the Community Room.
- Contract: There doesn't appear to be a contract for the cleaning. **MJ** to work out from the invoices the hours and times.
- Discussion to be held at the next meeting re getting three quotes for the cleaning contract

**Any other business:**

- **NP** to get a quote from Quintons for shampooing the carpet in the Conference Room#
- **The CCM B approved the following (To be ratified by BLTC):**
  1. Supply and fit a 10w, PIR LED Down light to the exterior of the Civic Centre. It will be to replace the existing light at the rear near the Fire Exit. **£70.00 plus VAT**
  2. Investigate why the extractor in the Council Chamber is not operational up to **£210.00 plus VAT**
  3. Replace socket with Neon in kitchen: **£25.00 plus VAT**
  4. Move up by 300mm the fused spur in a side room that is currently hitting the table which is used there: **£65.00 plus VAT**
  5. Replace two x 4' F58/35W tubes in rear room: **£30.00 plus VAT**

**Date of next meeting:** Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2017, 7pm at the Civic Centre.