

## Meeting of BLTC 05 June 2018

### Cllrs' Written Reports to BLTC

#### Borough Council Matters of Interest Written Reports

##### Cllr R. Groome

1. On 8<sup>th</sup> May I had a meeting with Finedon Street residents about planning application KET/2018/0096 Best Asset Ltd 92 – 96 Finedon Street. We discussed the many problems with this application, including over development, inadequate parking when there are already parking problems on Finedon Street, overlooking and loss of privacy, and introducing new dangers to a 'safe route to school.' We agreed that they would attend relevant Town Council meetings and the Borough Council Planning meeting if necessary. I have requested that the application goes to Committee if the Planning Department is minded to recommend approval.
2. On 9<sup>th</sup> May I had a meeting with residents over issues with criminal and anti-social behaviour from residents of Patrick Court, Burton Latimer. As a result, meetings will be held with Nottingham Community Housing Association.
3. On 16 May I attended to Annual Meeting of the Borough Council. The Mayor of the Borough of Kettering is now Cllr James Burton.
4. On 22<sup>nd</sup> May I attended Burton Latimer Library AGM.

#### Other Town Cllrs' Reports

##### Cllr C. Groome

1. The good news is that the £12,000 bid I put to the Northamptonshire Community Foundation for Grasscrete and gravel paths in the pocket park was successful. Over to Fergus to get the work done before 1 July!
2. I am prepared to put a lot of time into selling ducks for the pocket park. It is the only big fundraising event for the park in the year so I hope more councillors will do something to help.
3. The library is following the course set for re-staffing so we need to keep a watching brief for the moment and be ready to re-engage when the dust settles.
4. I am spending a lot of time on railway business. Despite the inadequacies of the new timetable, East Midlands Trains are at least delivering the service promised, unlike some other train operating companies! I am focusing on refranchising for the long term health of the rail business locally, with a series of meetings with potential franchisees, DfT and regional groups – yesterday it was Midlands Connect. DfT has still not published the spec for the new franchise, due out after the local authority elections.

##### NCC (Cllr Smith-Haynes)

This month at One Angel Square, the Commissioners have finally arrived. They are working three days per week, observing the working and processes of officers and councillors. They will only intervene if they feel the direction the council takes is wrong. The s114 remains in place, and all spending is closely monitored.

Meetings between leaders of the County, Borough and District Councils continues to be positive. An extension of the deadline to submit a proposal was requested and granted. New submission date is 31 August 2018.

Last month I attended a number of meetings, briefings and seminars regarding my various duties as your County Councillor. These included NHFT Council of Governors (I am now on the Membership and Governance sub-committee) and a meeting with my mentor, Health Scrutiny Planning (as vice-chair, we looked at the work programme for the coming year) and Scrutiny Management Committee (looking at the work programme of all the Scrutiny Committees). As a member of the Corporate Parenting Board, we not only met for our usual meeting, but had a visit to Belinda Ferrison House, which is a project for young people transitioning from care to independent living. There are 21 one-bedroom flats, with 24/7 on site support, and facilities for learning how to live independently, such as cooking, managing budgets, etc. We also had a CPB lunch, attended by several young people in care, which was a useful and informal way for us as members of the Board to engage with them.

We have had presentations from external bodies, to help us work towards Unitary. These included a presentation by the Leader of Bedford Unitary, on the process, opportunities and challenges he/they experienced moving to Unitary, as well as presentations by the LGA, and the CCN. We also had a presentation by the Director of Adult Social Care, looking at where we are now, how we can improve, and the various possible ways this service could move forward into Unitary. This was attended by MPs (or their representatives), District and Borough political and officer leaders, and County Councillors. Andrew Lewer MP was in attendance, and felt the meeting was useful, given that he is working on the forthcoming Green Paper.

Due to a diary clash, I may not get to the meeting tonight, or if I do, I will be late. Please note my apologies.

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

- 1) The speed limit on Higham Rd on the agenda
- 2) Footpath by Hogs Hollow on the agenda
- 3) 3) Many pot holes in Finedon Rd now filled the few remaining due to be done within 10 days
- 4) The damaged fence at High St / Church St now repaired
- 5) Discussions held with KBC re speeding up open space adoptions
- 6) Bridle Rd will be resurfaced during this month and it is hoped that a section of Station Rd near Sunseeker factory can also be done
- 7) Various gulleys have been cleared
- 8) The grass on the Dearlove Rd estate has been cut