

Meeting of BLTC 03 July 2018

Cllrs' Written Reports to BLTC

Borough Council Matters of Interest Written Reports

Cllr Currall

I Have been asked to say who I have so far given my ward initiative monies to so here goes.

Burton Latimer Library, Appletree Day nursery's, Burton Latimer Cricket Club, Burton Latimer Bowls Club

I Have also had contact with Burton Latimer Tennis Club, Burton Latimer Guides, Community Centre and Burton Wanderers

Cllr R. Groome

Meetings attended

10th June – Planning Policy – Local Plan – Site Specific – Consultation at Burton Latimer Civic Centre – TODAY – 3 – 8 – I shall be there

17th June – Civic Service at St Peter and Paul, Kettering. The Rector, the David Walsh is very keen to work with the Borough Council on developing town centres and communities.

21st June – East of Kettering – the junctions – Stamford Road, Windmill Avenue/ Central Avenue and Windmill Avenue/ St Mary's Road will be increased in size with larger roundabouts. This will affect Burton Latimer residents travelling to Kettering on this route. There was reference to the need for a new secondary school in Kettering. The Church can apply to be a sponsor.

27th June – A6 Towns Forum – The Forum agreed to recommend that Town and Parish elections should be postponed until 2020, so that they are in line with unitary elections (if this happens). There was a representative from MGWSP (Sarah Barwell). There were a lot of questions about potholes, and white lines, especially near crossings, and the faded 'slow' lines on Church Street. Cllr Macdonald has, of course, already worked very hard on highway issues in Burton Latimer and achieved a lot of success. There are a lot of issues for future agendas, and I expressed a hope that agendas will be very full in future, given that we don't meet very often. Future suggested topics are: Update on Council garages, Allotments, Update on dog fouling, Park Watch, Future plans for play and outdoor gym equipment, Update on parking throughout the Borough, Update on clinical commissioning primary care, Neighbourhood Watch, and Libraries/Customer Service Offices.

I helped at the Duck Race on 1st July, and will be attending a meeting with Victoria Wright and Collette Lilley at the Borough Council on 3rd July. I will report on this for the August meeting.

Speed Watch training is on Saturday 14th July at Caroline Chisholm School in the morning. So far Christopher and I will be attending and Chris Smith Haynes. We have the camera from late July until early September.

Cllr Smith

I have attended to a variety of matters concerning planning and assisted residents with their queries and concerns on a number of issues.

I have utilised some of my ward initiative to support local causes in Burton .

Other Town Cllrs' Reports

Cllr Davies

Meetings etc.:

June 5th: Town Council

June 7th: CPRE Planning Roadshow (attended with Cllr Chris Groome)

This was an interesting evening with contributions from a number of councillors and geared towards actions open to Town and Parish Councillors when facing planning applications that they consider inappropriate.

Attendees were reminded of the importance of doing basic homework:

- checking existing Local Plans which may contain good planning reasons (such as Conservation Areas) for rejecting an application;
- finding the most relevant policies and citing them;
- the importance of detail;
- while making clear that an application is not acceptable in the area, prepare for possible approval by putting in conditions that might apply if the plan is approved by the Planning Authority. Such conditions must be put in at the right time and cannot be inserted after approval. *In this situation the principle is: we don't want it but if you insist, these conditions should be applied;*
- If the applicant makes promises about the application, make sure that these are turned into conditions and enforced if necessary.

While some of this is obvious, it was useful to be reminded of it.

June 16th & 23rd:

Selling tickets for the Duck Race.

June 27th: A6 Towns Forum (attended with Cllr Ruth Groome)

Thanks to Councillors Chris & Ruth Groome for enabling me to attend meetings outside the town.

Cllr C. Groome

1. Much of my month has been taken up with a series of meetings on the refranchising of the passenger service in the East Midlands following the publication of the ITT (Invitation to Tender) by the Government. The minimum requirement from Kettering is for 3 trains to London (instead of 2) and still only one northbound to Leicester and beyond during the day. We therefore have to influence the bidders that it is in their commercial interest to restore a half hourly service north of Kettering.
2. The draft Transport and Public Works Order for the rebuilding of the Station Road bridge is available in the Library for inspection and comment. There is no date for the work yet. Judging by the time taken on other bridges it will be closed for about 6 months.
3. Jenny has reported on our attendance at the CPRE planning forum. I agree fully with her comments and would only add that it more than justified our minimal subscription.
4. On planning matters I was delighted to read that the planning application for the flats at the top of Finedon Street was withdrawn following the residents' and our opposition on the grounds inter alia of overdevelopment.
5. There is no news of whether the developer who applied for permission to build a huge business park next to junction 9 of the A14 without an Isham bypass is going to appeal after KBC's refusal. We need to be ready to pitch in unless the bypass is brought forward.
6. Yesterday afternoon and evening KBC planners held a consultation session in the Civic Centre on the new development plan for Kettering Borough. I was present for part of the time. The biggest issue which arose was the lack of bungalow provision for the elderly. Otherwise the BLTC and KBC plans for strengthening the town centre seem to be well supported. The first stage of these plans to improve the parking off Churchill Way will be consulted on separately.

NCC - Cllr Smith-Haynes

This month has seen a lot of time spent at Meadowside Primary School, in preparation for Ofsted (which went well – report not yet published), governor training, and welcoming parents of the September intake children.

I attended the Duck Race, helping out on 'Hook a Duck', and did 2 sessions at Sainsburys selling tickets.

I attended Health, adult Care & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee as vice chair and Full Council, as well as training on the use of social media, Children First and the Unitary Consultation (which began 18 June and is open until 23 July, and can be accessed at futurenorthants.co.uk). I attended A6 Towns Forum and was present for part of the East Kettering Liaison Forum meeting (diary clashes – it was a very busy day!). I was part of the Scrutiny Management Committee called yesterday to consider the call in of the Cabinet decision to pursue the sale of County Hall. This was to scrutinise the process of the decision making, not the decision itself, but did give us the chance to make recommendations going forward. I also attended the Local Plan Consultation at the Civic Centre yesterday.

I have been assigned to 2 sub groups at NHFT – Membership & Governance (has already met) and Patient and Staff.

Progress is being made on the proposed bid to Government re: the change to Unitary. There will be an extraordinary council meeting on 28 August to consider this, before the extended submission date of 31 August.

Full Council agreed not to close any libraries until after the Judicial Reviews have taken place (these have been postponed until the end of this month), and councillors have pressed the leadership to work with the libraries team to improve communication with interested parties and pursue the bids that are already in a good position to complete.

Highways Report (Cllr F. Macdonald)

- 1) Extensive patches have been carried out in both Bridle Rd and Station Rd this action has resolved the problems caused by the large number of potholes in these two areas
- 2) 2) Almost all the reported potholes in Burton Latimer have now been attended to those in Finedon Station Rd ; Kingfisher way and Church St should be done in the next 10 days
- 3) The hedge bordering the footpath from Calcotts Corner to Finedon has been cut
- 4) A general litter pick was carried out by the Community payback team this included some items that had been Flytipped
- 5) The new area owned by the town off Cranford Rd has been partly strimmed by Taylor Wimpey and will be completed next week
- 6) A meeting has been held with a director of Westleigh homes ;KBC and myself re the state of the open area off Dearlove Dr and a plan of action agreed ;the question of the link to the existing footpath UA4 has been passed to NCC to try to get permission from the land owner for the passage across his land
- 7) I would propose that a small group is set up to monitor the footpath network and report to Council on any possible extensions/improvements Mark Brereton has agreed to be on this and I believe that Roger Knight and another dedicated walker plus myself at the moment could be sufficient
- 8) The railings outside the Library damaged by a driver have been replaced
- 9) 30MPH repeater discs will be mounted at suitable locations on that section of Kettering Rd that passes the hall
- 10) The missing covers for the gas metres in Churchill Way (Orbit Houses) have been replaced but despite numerous attempts Orbit have still not resolved the damaged and overflowing grey bin in Orbit Mews
- 11) The "Hole" in Polwell Lane is scheduled to be repaired within the next 6 weeks