

Kettering Town Council

MINUTES OF THE FULL KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, BOWLING GREEN ROAD, KETTERING AT 7PM ON 20 OCTOBER 2021

Attendees: Cllr Scott Edwards (Mayor) (Chair)

Cllrs Lloyd Bunday, Carolyn Carter, Robin Carter, Dez Dell, Maggie Don, Eve Edwards, , Alexander Evelyn, Emily Fedorowycz, Clark Mitchell, Anup Pandey, Daniel Perrett, Mark Rowley, Craig Skinner, James Towns, Sarah Tubbs, Keli Watts, Bev Wright, Martyn York

Town Clerk: Martin Hammond

No of Public Present: 10

Item No	Item Description
2021/063	Apologies for absence Cllr Keiran Farrow
2021/064	Declarations of Interest None
2021/065	The minutes of the last meeting held 15 TH September on 2021 were approved and signed.
2021/066	Public Speakers Notification had been received from people asking to speak on items 70, 71, 72 and 73. (Item 70 was subsequently not taken up)
2021/067	Announcements from the Mayor The Mayor started the meeting with a minute's silence in memory of Sir David Amess MP who had been murdered during his constituency surgery last Friday. The Mayor advised members of the events he had attended since the last meeting and some of the activities he had been party to in the town.
2021/068	Announcements from the Leader The Leader advised that he had secured an agreement from the Assistant Director, Highways that a further safety audit would be

Kettering Town Council

	<p>carried out on the junction of Northampton Rd and Sheep Street in respect of pedestrian crossing facilities.</p>
2021/069	<p>South West Kettering (Headlands) Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>A presentation was given by Emma Arkley, Senior Development Officer, NNC and Harry Frankland from the Neighbourhood Plan Group, setting out the purpose and process of a neighbourhood plan and the history of the development of the SW Kettering plan since its inception in 2015. They detailed their engagement with local people, the policies which the neighbourhood plan sought to apply and the timetable leading to a referendum in the spring of 2022. The Town Council had become the sponsoring body for the neighbourhood plan on its creation this year, and therefore the Forum had been re-purposed as a committee of the Council.</p> <p>Members asked questions and applauded the work done by the Forum to bring the plan to near fruition over a six year period. There was now a focus on delivering a communications strategy with local residents to raise awareness of the plan and to encourage them to vote</p> <p>The Council has set aside £1000 to support communications and the government had funding to pay for the cost of the referendum.</p> <p>Members noted that the full plan would be submitted to its next meeting for approval.</p>
2021/070	<p>Knife and Drugs crime in Avondale Grange and wider area</p> <p>Sgt Matt Rock and Sgt Greg McClean of Northamptonshire Police attended the meeting to detail the measures the police were taking to combat knife and drugs crime in the town, particularly in the light of social media traffic about recent incidents.</p> <p>They reported that knife crime, which also included offences of threatening behaviour and possession, had been constant over a two year period and not out of line with the experience of neighbouring towns. The police had conducted their own "100 days of action" in the county and participated in national crime initiatives. From an enforcement perspective, there had been targeted patrols and search activity, alongside a presence at the railway station, and at late night venues, using knife arches where appropriate. From an education and support perspective, there had been sessions in schools. The CIRV team existed within the force to refer vulnerable people to the right support structures to break the cycle of knife usage. Knife amnesties had been helpful. The police had a larger community team in place than previously and this had helped them detect more crime, for example uncovering cannabis factories.</p>

Kettering Town Council

	<p>Members thanked the police for the effort they had put into these threats, and applauded the improved profile for interventions. They hoped the police could continue to improve their messaging and offered the Town Council website to provide further help.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the police should be invited to the full Council meeting every quarter and that the regular crime reporting statistics produced by the police would be redirected to the clerk to circulate to members.</p>
2021/071	<p>Bio-diversity and green spaces</p> <p>Cllr Towns moved and Cllr Tubbs seconded</p> <p><i>“With COP26 fast approaching, we want to acknowledge the strength of public feeling about protecting our natural world and celebrate how lucky we are in Kettering to have such great green spaces, from our popular parks and street trees, the wonderful woods and water courses on our doorstep to our valued nature reserves and formal and informal recreational spaces.</i></p> <p><i>Within the remit of Kettering Town Council, we will strive to protect, restore and enhance our local biodiversity and the natural world that surrounds us and of which we are all a part.”</i></p> <p>Liane Robinson spoke in favour of the motion under the right to speak policy on the value of open spaces for mental health as well as exercise and on the need for aspects of the NNC pollinator strategy to be applied more widely.</p> <p>Members considered the competing uses for open spaces, the needs sometimes for open spaces to be modified to accommodate new employment and development and the importance in those circumstances of mitigation for loss of habitat or space. The threat to water courses from pollution was referenced.</p> <p>After debate it was unanimously RESOLVED that the motion be approved.</p>
2021/072	<p>Member Training</p> <p>Lesley Thurland addressed the council on the importance of all members attending code of conduct training and expressed the view that it should be mandatory</p> <p>A report was submitted and considered.</p>

Kettering Town Council

	<p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That members advise the clerk in the next 24 hours of their availability for the proposed alternative dates for code of conduct training by NCALC 2. That the remaining training sessions offered by NCALC – the council as employer and visioning – be deferred for the time being.
2021/073	<p>Planning Committee</p> <p>Lesley Thurland addressed the meeting to ask that ward members and where appropriate, the chairman of the committee, take the opportunity to address the NNC Area Planning committee on particular applications where the Town Council had a strong view on an application. Members noted that the opportunity existed to do so for both NNC ward members and the Town Council.</p> <p>The minutes from the last two meetings of the Planning Committee were submitted. Cllr York summarised the planning committee’s work in responding to consultations and observed that a number of its comments had found their way into the eventual consents or refusals issued by NNC.</p>
2021/074	<p>Finance and Governance Committee</p> <p>Cllr Skinner detailed the work of the F&G committee and presented the minutes of the September meeting before summarising the proceedings of the October meeting from the previous night.</p> <p>It was noted that work was ongoing in respect of the provision of toilet facilities in the town centre and that work had now started on the preparation of next year’s budget. Members were asked to indicate to the clerk activities which could be included in next year’s budget.</p> <p>The Council had been offered over £40,000 from NNC as part of the government’s Welcome Back Fund and a series of bids for new or expanded events had been submitted to NNC within their short deadline, for delivery before the end of March 2022.</p> <p>The report was noted.</p>
2021/075	<p>Resolution to extend the meeting past the two hour guillotine</p> <p>RESOLVED to extend the meeting up to 9.30pm</p>
2021/076	<p>Climate Change Working Group</p> <p>Cllr Fedorowyz provided an update on the work of the Working Group, and in particular referenced their priority of promoting recycling,</p>

Kettering Town Council

	<p>engaging with schools on this, on promoting events and on Carbon Literacy Training which she hoped to cascade to all members from January next year. She outlined work on tree planting in conjunction with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the emerging Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. (LCWIP)</p> <p>All members would be invited to the next meeting of the Working Group and further means of engaging with a wider audience were being considered.</p>
2021/077	<p>Future meetings</p> <p>In response to a question, it was noted that the next meeting would include items on the LCWIP, the Kettering Charities for the Poor, and the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>It was further acknowledged that the presentations by committee chairman of their committees' work gave all members the opportunity to ask questions of the chairs at that point.</p>
	<p>The meeting was closed at 9.16pm.</p>

Signed

Date