



Kettering
TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE FULL KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOLLER CHURCH ROOMS, MEETING LANE, KETTERING AT 7PM ON 25th OCTOBER 2023

Attendees: Cllr Emily Fedorowycz (Mayor) (Chair)

Cllrs Lloyd Bunday, Carolyn Carter, Robin Carter, Dez Dell, Alexander Evelyn, Kieran Farrow, Clark Mitchell, Anup Pandey, Mark Rowley, Craig Skinner, James Towns, Bev Wright and Martyn York.

Officers:- Martin Hammond and Emma Dezelu

Presenters:- Sgt Matt Rock, Police, and Alison Holland, Brightwayz

No of Public Present: none

Item No	Item Description
2023/040	Apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllrs Maggie Don, Eve Edwards, Scott Edwards, Daniel Perrett, and Sarah Tubbs
2023/041	Declarations of Interest Cllr Dell declared his interest as an employee of Brightwayz and took no part in the discussion of item 2023/047. Emma Dezelu left the meeting during the relevant part of item 2023/049 in relation to proposed staffing changes.
2023/042	Minutes The minutes of the last meeting held on 12 th July 2023 were approved and signed by the Mayor as a correct record,
2023/043	Public Speakers No items
2023/044	Announcements from the Mayor The Mayor referenced imminent Town Council events, including Remembrance Day, Christmas Lights Switch on and Christmas Markets and the budget consultation process.



	<p>Amongst other events and activities in town, she also remarked on the organisations celebrating anniversaries this month including the Judo Club's 75th, Cransley Hospice's 25th and Huxloe Rotary's 40th birthday.</p> <p>She reported that asylum seekers had been moved from the Royal Hotel and reminded members of current consultations being undertaken by NNC including traffic regulation (yellow lines, street signs etc), Greenway Strategy, Activities and respite for children with disabilities that provide a short break, Polling District and Polling Place Review, Draft Sustainable Travel to Education Strategy 2023, Tackling violence and improving lives through the Serious Violence Duty</p>
2032/045	<p>Announcements from the Leader</p> <p>The Leader advertised the consultation exhibition being held by Hanwood park over this coming weekend at Hayfield Cross Pimary School.</p> <p>He also stated that NNC remained highly committed to the facilities in the Heritage Quarter of Kettering and were working to implement a sustainable solution to the repair works required to re-open the library, art gallery and museum, and that a long term solution would inevitably take more time than a short term and temporary fix.</p>
2032/046	<p>Crime and anti-social behaviour figures for the year to September 2023</p> <p>Sgt Matt Rock attended the meeting to provide an overview of crime and anti-social behaviour trends and statistics and to answer members' questions. The statistics for the year to date had been provided to members.</p> <p>He also referred to the coming increase in police resources within the local policing team, and to work on the priority area of Avondale Grange.</p> <p>Finally he provided a QR code and card to enable members to contact him more readily with queries and issues.</p> <p>Members expressed their appreciation for the work in Avondale Grange which had greatly improved public confidence.</p>



2023/047	<p>“Get Down to Town” project</p> <p>Alison Holland made a short presentation on the imminent £Get Down to Town Project that Brightwayz was delivering on behalf of NNC, with funding from the Department of Transport. This sought to promote and encourage the use of alternative transport, cycling and walking options, for those people who worked in or regularly visited the town centre and would once implemented, make Kettering the first town centre in the UK to achieve the DfT backed Modeshift STARS award (Sustainable Travel Accredited and Recognised). Alison ran through the various measures being delivered and sought the Town Council’s support for them.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Council fully support and endorse these measures.</p>
2023/048	<p>Play Area Renewal</p> <p>A report was submitted which sought approval to make a contribution to the renewal of the play area at the Ise, a project being led by NNC and using landfill tax grant to secure most of the funding for it.</p> <p>The report also proposed making an annual provision in the budget for play area renewal in future years, in return for the ability to influence investment priorities and create a medium term investment programme for play areas across town.</p> <p>RESOLVED that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) a contribution of £7000 be agreed towards the replacement of play facilities on the Ise Valley, on condition that the Council has a role in the design, consultation and contractor selection process and that its contribution is fully reflected in the communication and promotional work.b) A policy is established that the council provides a recurring annual budget of £5000, to influence the selection, design and implementation of play area investment across town in future years, from 2025/6 onwards, as set out in the report .



2023/049

Budget for 2024-2025

A report was submitted which summarised the likely out turn for the budget in 2023/4 and which proposed a draft budget, for consultation, for 2024-5.

The budget out-turn was likely to be in line with the overall estimates for the year, with a potential underspend of £10,000 although this would increase the longer it took to get the toilet programme underway. The clerk outlined budget pressures and some of the additional areas of income or reduced expenditure which helped balance them.

The proposed budget for 2024-5 was within the £0.5m ceiling that Finance and Governance Committee had set and would require a £490,000 precept, which represented an average band D property council tax of under £29 a year, or 55p a week, an increase of 10p per week per household.

The report detailed the new pressures and service changes expected in 2024-5, based on decisions by committees in the last two months and on the basis that town centre planting displays would be devolved to the Town Council by NNC in 2024/5.

The report set out the consultation arrangements for the budget.

The report also sought approval to increase the hours for two members of staff so that the Council could manage the workload during the coming year, and for those increased hours to be implemented from 1st December. The in year cost was just over £2000 and the full year cost was £6227.

RESOLVED that

- a) The likely out-turn for 2023/24 be noted
- b) The draft outline budget, as set out in the report, be approved for consultation
- c) The clerk be authorised to revise the corporate plan to reflect new and current pressures and the shape of the budget.



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	<p>d) Approval be given for changes in the terms of conditions for the Deputy Clerk and the administrative officer, as set out in the report</p> <p>e) The consultation plan set out in the report be endorsed.</p>
2023/050	<p>Planning Committee</p> <p>The chairman, Cllr Skinner, outlined the work of the planning committee over its last four meetings.</p>
2023/051	<p>Finance and Governance Committee</p> <p>The Chairman Cllr Rowley, outlined the work of the Finance and Governance Committee as set out in the minutes of the two meetings earlier in the year. Cllr Robin Carter, who had chaired the meeting last week, summarised the award of grants to local organisations.</p>
2023/052	<p>Market and Events Committee</p> <p>The chairman, Cllr Skinner, outlined the work of the Market and Events committee in reviewing this year's events and planning for next years, including those items already covered in the budget report.</p>
2023/053	<p>Town Meetings</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 6th September and some of the follow up work being undertaken, was noted.</p>
	<p>The meeting was closed at 7.49pm.</p>

Signed

Date