

KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL

REPORT FOR DECISION

Item No:- FC21/98

Committee:-	Finance and Governance Committee
Date:-	14 th April 2022
Author:-	Martin Hammond, Clerk
Report Title:-	Asset and Service Mapping
Wards Affected:-	All

1. Purpose of Report

To seek members' views about how to respond to the service mapping element of this project

2. Recommendations

That the commentary below be endorsed and provided to NCALC as a statement of the Council's position.

3. Information

- 3.1. The asset mapping element of this project was straightforward if time consuming and has now largely been completed. All members were asked to comment on the importance rating of the assets mapped and identify any missing or unclear information about assets.
- 3.2. Much more difficult to address is how to map and "score" services. NCALC's aspiration in this regard was to engender a discussion in each parish about what was deemed important and needed protecting or supplementing. Clearly NCALC's aspiration is also to ensure a role for parish councils in future service delivery, if that is what parishes want.
- 3.3. This Council's corporate plan does not contain any aspiration to take on any NNC assets or services as a matter of principle. Individual assets or aspects of service delivery are discussed as and when they occur (e.g. the land for public toilets or tidying up boundaries of the allotment sites).

3.4. The following text has been produced as a way of trying to capture the Town Council's view on service quality and quantity, in a way which might be helpful in the future and for other organisations, but which does not imply or tie us to any course of action. It has been drawn from the corporate plan where possible and members may well want to supplement or amend it.

SERVICES VALUED BY KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL

All public services are important so the focus of this section is more about highlighting services and assets we would like to see enhanced and extended and not reduced

ENVIRONMENT

- The extent and quality of public open spaces, from formal parks to small corner pockets of land, with a particular eye to tree planting and greater bio-diversity
- Planting beds and boxes in and around the town centre
- Litter picking, litter bins, dog bins and recycling sites and facilities;
- Maximising the opening hours of the recycling centre (HWRC)
- Street lighting which helps people stay safe but which minimises energy use and light pollution

ECONOMY

- A flourishing day time economy in our town centre, with events, facilities, and a sense of safety and security, the ability to get into and around the town centre by all modes of travel, and an environment of which people are proud and help to keep clean.
- A flourishing night time economy which is safe, vibrant, diverse and fun for all who want to use it
- Employment areas and facilities which are affordable , safe, clean and attractive to new investors and existing occupiers, easy to get to and to do business

COMMUNITY

- Key events throughout the year which foster a sense of community and place and which support the town centre or other key destinations
- Flourishing community centres which are genuine centres for their neighbourhood community, a base for outreach and for people to use.
- Good quality play areas
- Measures which enhance community safety
- Measures which encourage exercise and activity, enhance mental and physical health
- Measures which enable young people to develop, and make a positive contribution to their communities.

TRAVEL

- Maximising use of public transport and non vehicular methods of travel
- Off road footpaths and pedestrian/cycle routes
- Cycle parking facilities in the town centre and key destinations

- Road safety measures and speed management

Collaboration but not delegation

The Town Council would be willing to consider collaborative work with all public agencies to help develop or protect these services and aims.

As a matter of principle, the Town Council doesn't believe the future of local government should comprise the re-creation of the two tier structure by extensive devolution of services to town and parish councils. The Town Council would be willing to consider how it can supplement what is already provided by NNC, rather than assume some of its current functions.

4. Consultation and Engagement

The Council is, in effect, a consultee in this process.

5. Finance, Legal and Resource Implications

There was a grant of £4000 from NCALC for this work.

6. Policy Implications

As set out above.

Background Papers

Corporate Plan

Advice from NCALC re the asset mapping project

Previous reports and minutes

F&G Ctte March 2022 (FC21/089)

F&G Ctte January 2022 (FC21/067)

