

# Kettering Town Council

MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING HELD IN THE TOLLER CHURCH ROOMS ,  
MEETING LANE, KETTERING AT 7PM ON 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2023

## Attendees :

The Mayor, Cllr Keli Watts (Chair) and Councillors Lloyd Bunday, Carolyn Carter Robin Carter, Dez Dell, Maggie Don, Scott Edwards, Alexander Evelyn, Clark Mitchell, Anup Pandey, Mark Rowley, James Towns, Bev Wright and Martyn York

## Presenters

- Alistair Windler, Environment Agency
- Martin Toms, Natural Ise
- Jamie Wildman, Butterfly Conservation Society
- Pia Bellamy, Kettering Wombles
- Alison Holland, Brightwayz
- Matthew Campbell, Friends of Rockingham Rd Pleasure Park

## Attendees

- Russell Attwood Kettering Allotment Society
- Richard Barnwell
- Andy Blackshaw, South End Allotment Society
- Donna Burdon, Kettering Wombles and colleague
- Sarah Cave Wincanton and colleague
- Giles Coleman and Faith Cosgrove, Royal British Legion
- Oliver Connolly, Grow Wild
- Grey Lindlay, Green Patch
- Greg Titcombe, FORRPP

Martin Hammond, Town Clerk, and Christine Harrison, Administrative Officer

Item No	Item Description
1	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllrs Eve Edwards, Keiron Farrow, Emily Fedorowycz, and Daniel Perrett, and the Civic Society.</p>
2	<p><b>Welcome from the Mayor</b></p> <p>The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to share information about environmental activities in town and to see where further connections and joint working could be achieved.</p>
3	<p><b>Presentations</b></p> <p>Presentations were provided by</p>

# Kettering Town Council

**Martin Hammond, Kettering Town Council** described the Council's policies and finances, the work to engage people on climate change mitigation, the grant funding regimes that were available this year and next and answered questions arising from the presentation.

**Alistair Windler, Environment Agency** described the work of the Agency in relation to watercourses in Kettering, the removal of fly-tipping, the history of flooding locally and consequent flood prevention work. Alistair answered questions about aspects of his presentation.

**Martin Toms, Natural Ise** described the work of his organisation to promote and support the improvement of bio-diversity along the River Ise valley in Kettering. The focus of Natural Ise's work in 2023 would be on the Valley Walk area for which a detailed plan to improve bio-diversity had been drawn up in association with landowners and others.

**Jamie Wildman, Butterfly Conservation Society** described the society's work, in particular the creation of two butterfly banks on Thurston Drive in January 2023, in association with NNC. He advocated the creation of wildflower planting on small areas of land throughout the town,

**Pia Bellamy, Kettering Wombles** described the litter cleaning work of the 846 volunteers working within Kettering area, the need for NNC to focus on gateway roads as well as the town centre and the difficulties in enduring major SA-roads were safely and adequately cleaned. In discussion, the destructive impact of dumped garden waste on water courses was highlighted and Alistair Windler asked for this to be reported to the EA wherever possible. Issues related to drug and needle finds during litter cleaning were referred to. The need to reduce littering in the first place – through education and example – was stressed by those present.

**Alison Holland, Brightwayz** described the local work that was being done to promote active travel, including the monthly active travel hub at the Royal Hotel, (last Saturday of the month), work with schools to reduce traffic congestion near school gates such as Park and Stride and Play Streets, joint work with the Wombles and other activities to promote and facilitate cycling as a mode of travel. Finally, Alison outlined the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan which was due to be consulted on and finalised during 2023.

**Matthew Campbell, Friends of Rockingham Rd Pleasure Park** gave a brief history of the park, outlined the work of the Friends to preserve and improve the park, current plans to install bird boxes and plant bulbs, and improve communication. The park had a Green

# Kettering Town Council

	<p>Flag and new members were very welcome. It was commented on in discussion that there had been a radical reduction in dog fouling left on the ground, attributed to a greater awareness amongst dog owners and some mutual policing by users of the park.</p> <p>The Mayor concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for their contribution and encouraging one to one conversations between attendees whilst they had the opportunity tonight.</p>
	<p><b>Meeting closed at 8.45pm</b></p>

Signed

(chair)

Date