

ROTHWELL TOWN COUNCIL

A Meeting of Rothwell Town Council was held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 9th August 2005 in the Market House, Market Hill, Rothwell.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillor P G Weston Councillor C W Cross Councillor N A Matthew Councillor A C Pote Councillor Mrs G Weston	<u>In the Chair</u>
-----------------	---	---------------------

367 PRAYERS

Before the business of the Council commenced, the Revd Canon George Burgon said Prayers including for tolerance and understanding between communities, and road safety in our town. He also referred to Councillor Mrs Brown's father-in-law's funeral which took place today. It was AGREED to send a letter of condolence to Mr and Councillor Mrs Brown, in addition to the card which the Clerk had sent.

368 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from the Chair and Councillors Jones, Spendlove, Mrs Talbot, Whitlam and Whyte.

369 COMMUNITY POLICING

No Police Officer was able to be present, but Councillor Weston had the crime statistics for Rothwell for April to July 2005, as compared with the same period last year. For this year, the figures were as follows:-

- 8 Burglary dwelling
- 14 Burglary other
- 74 Criminal damage
- 3 Drug offences
- 1 Sexual offence
- 21 Theft from motor vehicles
- 30 Theft/handling
- 14 Theft of motor vehicles
- 38 Violent offences
- 1 Other offence
- 31 Deception/fraud.

This is a total of 235 crimes compared with 316 in 2004, a drop of 81 offences or 25.6%. We also had a list of recent crimes.

Copies of the Police bulletin Frontline First had been circulated prior to this Meeting and this was noted.

If members of the public had the following queries for the Police, and we will pass these on. A resident said that Barton Seagrave Parish Council put pressure on the Police and they have made this a priority area for reduction of anti-social behaviour and a Dispersal Order has been achieved. It was confirmed that at the last Meeting we did ask for special action in various areas. Councillor Matthew explained that through his work with Neighbourhood Watch he knew that the Police are driven by crime figures and will look to see whether a lot of crimes are being committed in a particular category, so it is likely that Barton Seagrave has been targeted because they have reported all incidents to the Police. We should make sure that people in Rothwell do this so all crimes are shown in the records, and they should also get an incident number which means the incident will get into the data base. The Town Council can then refer to the figures when asking for special attention. A resident did not think members of the public knew this. It was AGREED to ask the Police to ensure this advice is put in the next edition of Frontline First.

At the last A6 Towns Forum concern was raised for the Burton Latimer area and it might be that the problem has moved from that town to Barton Seagrave. Every month the Town Council raises issues with the Police, but they need to prioritise. We could also take this back to the A6 Towns Forum. Councillor Pote said the 31 items of fraud are mainly people driving away from the petrol station without paying. Another resident wanted the Police to prevent crime so perhaps we could ask how much time they actually spend walking round Rothwell. The Town Council has asked this previously and the answer was always that they spend as much time as possible here, but it is not possible to quantify this. We will raise this with them again. As to the reduction in crime, Councillor Cross said we have been informed by the Police that when they have caught certain individuals the figures do drop, but go up when these people are out again.

A resident asked the Town Council to find out whether a vehicle left in Baffin Close without any tax was abandoned and it was AGREED to do this.

370 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Councillor Weston explained that any maintenance issues should be put in the book available for this purpose. Other issues were raised as follows:-

(1) Tommy Nichols Seat: this has been put back, but there is now a lot of litter left around this, although there is a rubbish bin next to the seat. It was AGREED to ask if the street cleaning operator can pay special attention to this area.

(2) Can Bank: this has been full for four weeks now. The Clerk has reported this on two occasions, but this is up to the contractor, and we had been informed previously that he is the only one doing this work in our area so the Borough cannot move this to anyone else at the present time. There are also boxes and bags left in the area. We had asked the Borough to clear this away after the last Meeting and it was AGREED to ask the Borough Council to ask them again about this. The rest of the town will be on the recycling scheme between April and October 2006.

(3) Sovereign Heritage: residents from the Attridge developments explained they have problems about recycling because they have not received any instructions from the Borough or the Management Committee. The Borough did send a cart out to do an extra collection but their bins are full again now. It was explained it is early days for the recycling scheme and the Borough is still monitoring this. This issue was raised at the Neighbourhood Meeting on 18th July, and the Clerk explained that Councillor Mrs Brown is pursuing this and will try and set up a Meeting with the Borough Council and representatives from the Town Council as well as the residents. It is hoped that Mr Green from Attridge will also be able to come and the Clerk had spoken to him and understood that he was considering putting in an extra bin store now that these are only emptied once a fortnight.

It was AGREED to ask the Borough to inform all the residents about the Site Meeting.

We understand that the big grey bins also smell in this hot weather and the Town Council could provide a link between residents and the Borough. People in terraced houses have problems with storage of these bins, although we all want to see the recycling scheme succeed. There can also be a problem with pavement space for the extra bins. We had been informed that householders could share bins if they wanted to and the Borough will try and sort out any difficulties.

It was FURTHER AGREED to ask the Borough Council about any other difficulties being experienced in Rothwell.

(4) Weed Killing: a resident asked when the weed killing would be completed. It was felt that they have done parts of the town quite well, but there are other areas which have not been touched. The resident had telephoned the Borough on 29th June and they gave her the telephone number of the Street Doctor. She phoned them and was told they would get back to her but they did not do this. She telephoned again and was told she should have contacted 01604 88340 which she did and was told they would get back to her but three weeks later they rang to see where the overhanging trees were that she had reported but they had no record of her query about weed killing. She did not have any incident number for the Street Doctor.

It was AGREED to take up the issue of killing the weeds, direct with Weed Wise if they still carry out this work.

(5) Seat, Glendon Road: a resident complained that he has been campaigning to get rid of this seat opposite Ragsdale Street for four years and the Borough took this away, but have now put it back again at the request of the Town Council. The Chair explained that seats around the town are an amenity we do not want to lose but if they are being mis-used you do not solve the problem by removing the seat but by dealing with the problem. The resident said his car has been scratched since the seat came back. He had contacted ex-Councillor Hughes and the Borough. He managed to get rid of the bench and there were no problems when it had gone. However the Town Council had done nothing to help him. The Chair said we had discussed this in 2001 and had written to this resident at that time that we did not agree to this bench being removed, because it has brought many years' enjoyment to a lot of people who sit there, but we did ask the Police to keep an eye on the situation and speak to the young people who meet there, Members of the Town Council also monitored the area at that time. Councillor Mrs Brown has recently asked PC O'Hara to look at this area again and understood he was doing this. She had also had three or four residents complain about the seat being taken away. The resident understood Councillor Mrs Brown to say it could be moved down the hill.

The Town Council had not been informed by the Borough that there was a problem here, or that the bench was being taken away. The Town Council does discuss seats regularly and moving one is not the answer. The resident had previously been in touch with the Tenants and Residents Association, the Housing Department and Environmental Health. The Town Council was angry that a Borough Officer decided to remove the bench without any consultation with us so we have asked them to discuss these issues with us in future. There is the other seat in Fox Street which has been away for some time and we have had residents complaining about this. We do not remove amenities from the town which are used by a lot of people.

It was AGREED to put this item on the Agenda for the next Meeting when the Chair will be here as she has been dealing with this, and we will discuss the issue again. The resident was invited to send copies of his correspondence to us for information.

(6) Parking Area, Market Hill: it was reported that a small lorry owned by Glendon Grafter was left in Market Hill all weekend which the resident felt could be a health and safety issue as there was rubbish in the back of the lorry and children were climbing into this. There are also the 5-Star vans left there. We believe these are all below 7.50 tonnes so no offence is being committed. The residents will let us have photographs at the next Meeting.

(7) Traffic Calming: a resident felt this was also needed in Fox Street and Harrington Road because of vehicles speeding there. this has been discussed with the County Highways Department and they are to improve the build-out and put better lighting in there so it is more easily seen at night. We are looking to use the small amount of finance to stop traffic and we have reported the fact that vehicles do go too fast along Harrington Road rather than using the bypass. It was reported there was a speed van there the previous week. A resident suggested having a zebra crossing by the bus stop to help people cross the road there. Another resident said there are no white lines in Fox Street and a zebra crossing would prevent parking there, but a school sign on the ground might help.

(8) Town Benches: a resident thought all the benches should be retained all over Rothwell for people walking to and from the town centre.

(9) Planning: several residents were present and referred to the new Application for the land adjoining 1 Lancaster Road. Their spokesman said he has objected on line although this was changed from flats to a detached dwelling. He did not think the plans were appropriated. Councillor Weston confirmed the Town Council opposed the flats development but in the light of current planning guidance, we have not objected to this house and it is quite usual to have this sort of infill development.

The residents will put in their own objections as they felt this would affect the appearance of the estate and they have put in 20 points against this. There is plenty of development and vacant properties in the town but all these small green areas are being lost. So far in Kipton Field, every corner plot has retained the green area although there are some extensions. There is off-road parking included and this makes another opening across the pavement. they felt the Application went against the original principle of this estate to have open areas. This would set a precedent because there are other large gardens which could be built on and this will put a strain on

services. They would not object to an extension. It was agreed that when we get large developments, the builders are obliged to look at the services and make a contribution.

(10) Zebra Crossing, Desborough Road: a resident said this has been put level with her driveway and she felt it was in the wrong position and should be further up the road because it is too close to the corner and will not be seen. Children will not use this. We had a plan of the original proposal which showed the crossing just past her driveway, but we will raise these concerns with Mr Trimble. The resident had a copy of the plan from the display in the Library. It was felt there would be warning signs for the crossing so drivers would be aware it is there. Before the County decided on the best location, they did visit just after 3.00 pm to watch where the school children crossed and mostly they went over the road here, because the pavement narrows at this point. In addition, there are very few windows here, so people will not be disturbed by the beacons.

(11) Parking, Bridge Street: a resident did not like the parking in Bridge Street because this narrows the road and vehicle have to go on the pavement to get past. She suggested all the parking could be removed. It was explained that we had discussed this but the police recommended that if there was no parking there, vehicles would go much faster. When we have decriminalised parking when the Borough will be able to employ their own Traffic Wardens, but then there will be complaints about the number of tickets being issued. We have asked the Police to give fixed penalty tickets to anyone parking on the double yellow lines. Councillor Pote said the decriminalised parking is only proceeding slowly. When the display was in the Library and every house was leafleted by the Councillors, there were only 38 replies from Rothwell. We are working together to get the best parking we can for Rothwell and have suggested reducing slightly the amount of parking in Bridge Street.

371 MINUTES

It was MOVED by Councillor Cross, SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Weston and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th July 2005 be confirmed and signed.

372 HIGHWAYS

Post-Bypass Works

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 19th July 2005 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was MOVED by Councillor Cross, SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Weston and RESOLVED that the Report be approved and adopted.

The Clerk also had copies of the Emails between Robin Matthews of the Market Towns Initiative and Paul Tysoe of the County Council about sponsorship of the roundabouts and the maintenance agreement with Birse. These were read to the Meeting in full, and it was thought it would probably be better to proceed with this through Marketing Forces. Councillor Cross said there were some workmen on the bypass roundabouts recently.

Drain Cleaning

The Clerk reported that Atkins had manually cleaned out the drain in Crown Yard, so they have now done all of these. She had written to thank Mr Foster for carrying out this work after the last Meeting. The Town Council is pleased that they can manage to clean drains which the machine cannot reach.

Parking

(a) Local Parking Controls:

Copies of the letter from the County Council to explain the procedures for amending parking had been circulated prior to this Meeting. There will be a public briefing in October 2005 and will include consultation with all those affected by any proposed changes to the existing parking restrictions. The formal Traffic Regulation Order Consultation will take place in January 2006. It was suggested that any concerns are raised with the Borough Council. The Clerk had ascertained that Mr de Boer will be dealing with this at Kettering.

(b) Squires Hill

Canon George Burgon had written to the Town Council about the problems caused by the unrestricted parking in Squires Hill, and the letter was read to the Meeting in full. From time to time there is inconsiderate double parking which inhibits vehicular movement to and from the Parish Church, The Vicarage, Manor House and Manor Park. He is unable to enjoy free movement to carry out his duties, cutting time very fine at the Crematorium and the General Hospital. It is extremely frustrating for everyone affected by the obstruction of Squires Hill, and the unrestricted parking also denies access and egress for the emergency services. He asked if the Town Council could initiate the procedures to rectify the situation, or advise him as to who to contact at the Borough or County.

We were previously contacted by the occupants of the manor House because they could not get into their car park because of vehicles parked too close to the entrance. We did try and get some double yellow lines but the Chamber of Trade and Eden & Company objected to these. It was AGREED to write to the County and Borough Councils on this.

(c) Disabled Parking

We had received a reply from the County Council that to be legally enforceable, disabled parking spaces do require a Traffic Order and have to be larger than standard parking bays to allow to wheelchair access and loading. The Borough Council has opted for the enhanced level of involvement under the Countywide decriminalised parking review, and a copy of our letter and plan has been sent to the team undertaking the review, who will assess and consider our request. This review should be completed by October 2006, but in the meantime we can obtain further information or advice from Mr Avallone at Atkins, or Mr Sharpe at the County.

It was not felt this was good enough, as there are currently no disabled parking spaces in the town and we would only need to paint the markings on the ground because we would not be altering any of the highway use just amending who can park in these particular spaces. It now seems that you need a Traffic Order for everything.

It was AGREED to put this on the Agenda for the next Meeting.

Temporary Road Closures

The Order to close Rushton Road and Rock Hill so that the resurfacing work can take place came into effect on 14th July 2005 and will last for a period of 18 months. In addition, we had received details of proposed temporary road closures in Arthingworth, for which part of the diversion will be through Rothwell. It was not thought this would noticeably add to the traffic coming through the town.

Highways Representatives Scheme

Copies of the Annual Parish Questionnaire had been circulated prior to this Meeting and Members will complete and return this direct if they wish to. In addition, copies of the latest edition of Rep's Review were available at this Meeting.

Cross Street

The Clerk had received a reply from Atkins about the failed reinstatements by the Electricity Company in Littlewood Street and Cross Street. Our letter has been sent to the County's new Roads and Street Works co-ordinator who will arrange for a repair.

Underwood Road

It was reported that Underwood Road is in a very bad state of repair, with the surface breaking up and a lot of potholes which keep re-appearing. We had shown this area to the Highways Engineer some time ago. It was AGREED to write to Atkins about this.

Highways Work Data

The Clerk had updated this schedule with the following items:-

- Market Hill – York stone and bollards
- Rushton Road – Resurfacing
- High Street – Footway repairs
- Sun Hill – Uneven surface
- Sun Hill – Access to Rowell Charter Inn
- Wales Street – Uneven footpath
- Castle Hill – White lining
- A14 Junction 4 On-slip – Extension of safety barrier
- A14/ Lamport Road – Fencing and hedge.

It was AGREED to chase all these issues, apart from the A14/Lamport Road as the work has been done. Work also started on the Charter access before the letter was sent.

373 PLANNING

Report of the Planning Referee

Councillor Weston report that we had received notification that Bovis has lodged an appeal in connection their proposal for their site at Jubilee Street that the Borough Council should deal with the detailed plans as Approval of Reserved Matters rather than a full Planning Application.

The following Refusal had been received:-

KET/2005/0494 20 Tennyson Road – Extension.

The following Approvals had been received:-

KET/2005/0335 Land to rear of 33/35 High Street - Pair of semi-detached dwellings.

KET/2005/0457 1 Vickers Close – Extensions.

KET/2005/0460 The Woodlands Hospital - Retention of Portakabins.

KET/2005/0480 Glendon Hall Retreat – Substitution of house type to include garage extension and pool.

KET/2005/0483 22 Moorfield Road – Extension.

KET/2005/0582 12 Matson Close – Extensions and conservatory.

The following Applications had been received and dealt with by the Deputy Planning Referees, and it was noted that Nos. KET/2005/0626 and KET/2006/0627 were dealt with by Councillor Spendlove as Councillor Weston declared an Indirect interest.

KET/2005/0074 Land at 46 Kettering Road (amended plans) – Five dwellings and garages. No objection to this amended proposal. We are pleased that all the existing trees will be retained and sufficient care must be taken to ensure they are no damaged during construction work. The building materials must be in keeping with No. 46 Kettering Road and the surrounding area.

KET/2005/0626)
KET/2005/0627) Rothwell Service Station, Kettering Road – New shop building, forecourt, canopy and pumps and various signs, some illuminated. No objections, provided none of the illuminated signs fact Rothwell, i.e. on the north or east, and there is sufficient planting round the site.

KET/2005/0629 North Kettering Business Park – Landscaped park, outdoor sports facilities and combined footpaths, bridleway and cyclepaths. This falls within a neighbouring Parish and Rothwell had received a copy of the Applications as a matter of courtesy. We had responded that this will bring enhanced facilities to the area near the town.

KET/2005/0635 25 Columbus Crescent – Demolition of garage and new double garage. No objection.

KET/2005/0646 Former Rifle Band Club, Gladstone Street – New building to form 15 apartments with integral car parking.
Rothwell Town Council objects to this proposal. However, development here would be acceptable if the front extension (which was only ever intended to be temporary) was removed. Vehicular access could then be provided with adequate sight lines which is not the case with this proposal, and this would result in a slightly lower number of units and therefore fewer cars as well, which would be preferable. This site is between the Infant School and the Junior School and many parents and children walk along Castle Hill where the exit from the car park is situated so adequate and safe provision must be made for pedestrians, as well as for other vehicles in this narrow street. The Town Council also objects to the windows and balconies overlooking the Junior School playground which we do not feel is appropriate, and which we understood was against Planning Guidance in any event.

Councillor Pote felt that if any development takes place here, then Castle Hill should be made one way from Gladstone Street to Tresham Street as this would make the traffic situation safer and there would be no right turn out of the car park. It was AGREED to add to our comments that we feel the traffic flows would need to be looked at from a safety perspective and perhaps making Castle Hill one way would be a solution.

KET/2005/0647 15-17 High Hill Avenue – Reversion to two dwellings, internal alterations and two-storey extension to No. 15.
No objection.

KET/2005/0649 Land at 3 Wales Street – Single dwelling.
We object because this would be built over a public right of way.

KET/2005/0660 Automated Telephone Exchange, Kettering Road – Replace existing boundary fence and gates with green metal palisade fencing and gates, 2.4 metres high.
No objection, provided this is kept painted green.

KET/2005/0662 1 Lancaster Road – Detached dwelling.
No objection.

KET/2005/0689 50 Underwood Road – Extension.
No objection.

KET/2005/0696 Land adjoining 57 Harrington Road – Bungalow, detached garage and new crossover.
No objection, provided the additional land is purchased and included, otherwise the proposed development is too large for the size of the plot.

The following Application had only just been received although it was connected with the previous Application, and the Town Council's observations were agreed as stated:-

KET/2005/0718 Land adjoining 57 Harrington Road – Change of use of land from amenity to residential.
We object to the total removal of the hedge and the loss of this tree.

Kettering North Business Area

We had received copy Emails about the construction traffic using Glendon Road, that they have erected “no exist for construction vehicle” signs in two locations along Glendon Road. They have also been monitoring the situation and there is a significant decrease in traffic using this as an exit route, but some of the vehicles using the road are, they believe, using the two waste tips along Glendon Road.

The second Email confirmed that the Traffic Order has now been made for the weight restriction on Glendon Road, which means that all the necessary signs have been erected and the Order is now enforceable.

Development Adjoining Market Hill

The Borough Planning Monitoring & Enforcement Officer had written that the new properties adjacent to the Methodist Church have been constructed in accordance with Planning Approval KE/03/0035 but this does not include any conditions relating to boundary treatments and contains no other information regarding the trellis which has been recently erected.

Theoretically, this trellis is not therefore authorised. However, as soon as the new dwellings are occupied they will benefit from permitted development rights which will include the erection of fences of up to 2 metres in height immediately adjacent to the windows of the Church and therefore it is not expedient to require the removal of the trellis. He felt it was a preferable form of boundary treatment to the solid wooden fence which future householders could erect in the same location and which would cause much greater loss of light to users of the Church. The trellis will also serve to provide some physical separation between the users of the new gardens and the windows of the Church from which both parties will benefit.

Councillor Cross declared an Indirect Interest as a members of the Methodist Church.

It was AGREED to reply that we feel access will be necessary to the walls and windows of the Methodist Church for general repairs and cleaning the windows. It was FURTHER AGREED to send a copy of the Church that we would advise it is in their interests to contact the developers and see if there can be a formal agreement about access and what type of plants can be used.

374 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY

New Health Centre Site

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 25th July 2005 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was MOVED by Councillor Mrs Weston, SECONDED by Councillor Cross and RESOLVED that the Report be approved and adopted.

Travellers' Sites

The Clerk had received a letter from the County Traveller Liaison Officer that she has visited the areas in question, but some confusion appears to have arisen as they know the roads by different names than those we had referred to. The small gated disused road off Harrington Road was left very clean and as of 12th July 2005 was still unoccupied, with no fly-tipping. The areas on the old Rothwell Road that had been recently occupied by travellers has been cleaned as requested. The gated lane attached to this area does have a small quantity of dumped waste, but this was cleared at the time and the rubbish has been left recently. It appears that ownership of these areas may now have passed to the County Highways Department, but we might want to confirm this. They are unable to assist in any practical way with our requests to secure these areas but are willing to offer support and advice if needed. Councillor Spendlove had confirmed to the Clerk that there is still some rubbish on the old Lamport Road.

Councillor Pote said the landowners are trying to gate of the section of the old Lamport Road, and it was AGREED to pass the papers to him to deal with.

There is also water in this area and this could be dangerous because while the travellers were there, the gate disappeared. It was thought this is a balancing lake and it was AGREED to write that there needs to be a gate on this land.

Housing

As to Spring Gardens, a letter had been received from Mr Smith, the Housing Team Manager, with the following comments:-

1. Youths are still causing problems for residents whose gardens back onto the recreation area. He has given details of the complaint to their Anti-social Behaviour Officer who will look into the problems.
2. He obtained the money from a special security fund to purchase the locks and had understood these had been fitted. However, on investigation he finds, as we say, that

the work has not been done. He has contacted the Property Maintenance Team and asked for the fitting of the locks to be regarded as a priority.

3. He apologised for not replying to Mr Glover earlier, but having now obtained the name of the person who is using the residents' car park, a letter has been sent requesting that they refrain from doing so. He has written to Mr Glover asking him to contact the Housing Department again if the problem persists.

Mr Smith will speak to Mr John Conway, the Head of Housing, when he returns from holiday regarding attending a Meeting and Members' concerns about the Spencer Street area so that we can discuss these with him.

Neighbourhood Meeting

Various concerns were raised at the Neighbourhood Meeting held on 18th July 2005, but most of these have been dealt with.

Brachers Wood

The Clerk had received a telephone call on 20th July from a resident who walks in Brachers Wood a lot, asking if the area will be mowed and cleared again this year. It is overgrown with nettles and bushes near the entrance, and the grass needs cutting. There is a lot of dog mess which cannot be seen because the grass is so long, and this also obscures the dips in the ground. There is not as much rubbish because of the gate, but some is thrown from the tarmac access. Last year there was maintenance throughout the summer.

Subsequently the Clerk had telephoned Mr Jonathan Plowe, the Woodland Trust Officer with responsibility for Brachers Wood and he confirmed that mowing should have been carried out in May and he will schedule another cut shortly. This has now been done.

We had previously requested a dog waste bin just outside the entrance to Brachers Wood, so it would be convenient for the wood and for people walking their dogs in Loddington Road but the Borough Council had not been able to do this. In fact, if the borough will carry out the emptying and maintenance of the dog waste bin, the Woodland Trust would contribute towards the capital cost either on their own land or just outside. It was AGREED to write to Mr Martin Hammond, Borough Deputy Chief Executive, to ask if they can work with the Woodland Trust to provide a dog waste bin in this area.

Christmas Lights

A letter had been received from the Borough Economic & Community Development Manager in connection with the grant they can offer as a contribution to the cost of purchasing, installing and maintaining Christmas lights in Rothwell for the 2005 season. This is subject to various conditions, including the fact that £500 is spent on the purchase of new lighting or decorations, but it was felt the grant will enable Rothwell to do this. It was suggested we could have some more decorations in the High Street because this is rather dark, whereas we do have quite a lot of lights now in Bridge Street and Market Hill. As an alternative to decorations, we could consider having lights in one of the trees in Squires Hill.

It was AGREED to arrange a Meeting of the Rothwell Gala Committee as soon as possible and to put forward the Town Council's suggestions to them.

15 Wales Street

The neighbouring resident had sent us copy of a letter she had received from the Borough Council that further visits are being made to the property at regular intervals to ensure security is maintained and that the boarding up of the front remains intact. She confirmed they have received our letter suggesting compulsory purchase of the premises, and this will be discussed with the Borough's Legal Services and a further reply sent once the research has been done.

In view of this, the resident is prepared to defer posting her letter to the Local Government Ombudsman until the beginning of October.

375 MATTERS OF BUSINESS

Electoral Review

Copies of the letter and summary from the Boundary Committee had been circulated prior to this Meeting. Councillor Pote declared an Interest as a Member of the Borough Committee looking at this.

It was AGREED to write to the Boundary Committee that the Town Council is unhappy about the reduction in our representation on Kettering Borough Council, particularly as Rothwell is now a growing town, being included as a Strategic Development Area. Residents have got used to voting for two Wards for both the Town and Borough Councils and it will be confusing to have two Wards for one Council and one for the other Council, especially as these two elections usually take place on the same day. We would accept having one Ward for all elections, i.e. the Town, Borough and County Councils. We also feel that the Boundary Commission seems to have taken a lot of notice of one individual in the Borough, rather than the elected Members of Rothwell Town Council.

Market Towns Initiative

The Members of the Town Council and the Town Centre Partnership are invited to the Annual General Meeting of Rothwell & Desborough Futures Limited and copies had been circulated prior to this Meeting for everyone to respond individually.

Licensing Applications

Councillor Pote sits on the Borough Licensing Committee and so declared an Interest and did not speak on this matter.

The Clerk reported that we had received two notifications from the Licensing Partnership of applications in connection with Tesco Express and The Pub (Blue Bell Inn). In addition, we had received copies of the actual applications in connection with the Red Lion, The Woolpack, the Rowell Charter and the Taste of India. Apart from the last one which only wanted an applications for their standard licensing hours, Licensees seem to be asking for longer hours.

It was AGREED to send a blanket statement to the Borough Council that licensed premises in Rothwell should not be open after 1.00 am even on New Year's Eve because there are residential properties close to all the licensed premises in the town. It was FURTHER AGREED to ask for a condition that no music should be allowed in gardens of the premises except on special occasions, and the gardens should always be emptied by 11.00 pm and the windows and doors of the licensed premises closed by this time to stop noise nuisance.

County Priorities

Copies of the questionnaire supplied by the County to obtain views on their priorities for next year, and what County services people think should be reviewed in detail had been circulated prior to this Meeting. Members of the Council will return these direct, if they wish to.

County Structure Plan

The Clerk reported that the County Structure Plan 1996-20016 Annual Monitoring Report 2005 had now been published.

Parish Boundary

We had received the conclusive map of registered common land and open country from the Countryside Agency, and as previously reported, there is no such land in our Parish. However, the latest plan showed a different boundary to that on the previous one for common land and on the definitive map for rights of way in that it omitted the Furnace Lane area and showed our boundary stopping at the A43. It was AGREED to write to Martin Hammond, the Borough

Deputy Chief Executive to ask if the boundary had changed or if there was an error on the Countryside Agency's latest plan.

376 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk submitted a written Report as attached. It was **MOVED** by Councillor Mrs Weston, **SECONDED** by Councillor Cross and **RESOLVED** that the Report be approved and adopted and the following amounts paid:-

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Service or Goods</u>	<u>Amount</u>
NRG Group UK Ltd	Photocopier Maintenance (Paid 21.7.05)	£37.99
Mrs C E Mackay	Clerk's Salary	£501.60
Cash	Petty Cash	£10.00

377 ADMISSION OF PRESS PUBLIC

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was **AGREED** that the Press and Public be asked to withdraw.