

## ROTHWELL TOWN COUNCIL

A Meeting of Rothwell Town Council was held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 11th October 2005 in the Market House, Market Hill, Rothwell.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillor P G Weston Councillor C W Cross Councillor D W Jones Councillor N A Matthew Councillor A C Pote Councillor M W Spendlove (8.25 pm) Councillor Mrs G Weston	<u>In the Chair</u>
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### 396 PRAYERS

Before the business of the Council commenced, the Revd Canon George Burgon said Prayers, including for the victims of the earthquake in Asia and those affected by the flood in Central America. He also mentioned the people working to repair the damage to the Nursery Unit at Rothwell Infant School.

### 397 APOLOGIES

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

### 398 COMMUNITY POLICING

#### General Report

PC O'Hara had a comparison of the crime figures for April to September 2004 and 2005, and for this year there was a reduction in overall crime of 32%, and in particular burglary dwelling and theft/handling were down. Theft of motor vehicles has shown a slight increase.

It was reported that there was a burnt-out vehicle at the bottom of Well Lane Recreation Ground which was put there some time on Sunday, but this has been reported and Councillors Pote and Spendlove are to arrange to have this moved up to the car park so that it can be taken away. There were barriers by the Community Centre but these were knocked down. A new post was put in about a week ago, but this has also been removed now so vehicles can get into the Park from the top.

It was AGREED to write to the Borough Council and ask for something more substantial to be put there. It was FURTHER AGREED to report that some of the knee posts are missing from around the Blythe Close Open Space and these also need to be replaced.

### 399 GROWTH AREA FUNDING BID

Mrs Cath Harvey, the Borough Head of Development Services, was at the Meeting to explain this scheme. Bids have been put in and they have succeeded in obtaining three bids which now have to be submitted in more details and as one package. They are asking for £5m for projects in Kettering, Rothwell and Desborough, although this was originally £1m for Rothwell and Desborough. The rate of providing residential units has to be increased. The finance could be used for land acquisition, feasibility and implementation studies, design preparation etc. they want to enable some employers to re-locate and stay locally. This is especially the case where they are in older buildings in residential areas. It has been easier to identify sites in Desborough than Rothwell. They want the Town Council's suggestions. Mrs Harvey has spoken to one local company which wants to stay in the area but their premises are not suitable. We need land for employment purposes.

As to timescales, the funding must be spent between April 2006 and March 2008 and if this is not done, the finance will be lost. Schemes have to be submitted by 21st October but these do not need to be detailed at this stage.

It was pointed out that we do not have the same level of industry here as in Desborough, and we would like to know if there is an progress on the site to the south of the A14. Rothwell needs jobs and the Town Council has always supported this particular site. We were not aware of this bid until a couple of weeks ago. Mrs Harvey did not have any good news on this particular site, as ProLogis are focused on the Kettering site, which is larger and more the type of development they now carry out. As to other sites, Persimmon are likely to be making an application soon for land to the north-west, including some employment land there and we will have to consider the timing as the announcement was only made at the end of August as to which sites were likely to be brought up.

There is also the Community Centre where the structure is cracking up, the acoustics are very bad and there is room to enlarge this. It is used very well now and would be used more if it was improved. Mrs Harvey thought this probably fell outside the scope of this scheme. Another suggestion was to provide more facilities for the young people in the town. The Town Council is keen on having both resident and employment uses but we would need a northern relief road to take some traffic out of the town centre. We could have smaller units which would suit Abishot which is the only factory left here now. We would not want to see all the industry in Desborough.

We would not want to lose out on our share of the funding. There is also the need for a lorry park because lorries are always left overnight in the lay-bys which is not safe. This facility was included in the plans for the industrial site to the south of the A14. If ProLogis do not want to develop this site, then someone else could do this. Mrs Harvey was sure the Government would want to see projects in each town. ProLogis have not said they are pulling out but it might be useful if they came to a decision and we could look for another developer, if necessary.

It was AGREED to hold a special Meeting to decide on projects which the Town Council would like to see, and to invite Robin Matthews from the MTI to attend this.

#### 340 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

(1) Orton House: the Town Council understands this is now a children's home for young people without any support or relatives to look after them. They are not young offenders, although they might be difficult. They did not need Planning Permission for change of use because this is still a residential home.

(2) Community Facilities: a resident agreed that we need more community facilities to suit all needs. He felt a lot of residents would support a new community hall. The history of the Community Centre was explained, including how residents had realised a proportion of the funding themselves but the original plans were cut down. There should be some new children's equipment as part of the Bovis development on land off Jubilee Street, but this was agreed at a time when the Town Council had no direct input.

When the larger development takes place, the Town Council will try and ensure that we do get the facilities which residents want. Mrs Harvey did raise the question of social infrastructure and the building we have now is not suitable and there will be more young people coming to the town who will need facilities. We are having the swimming pool refurbished which the Town Council has pushed for over several years. There is also the Arts & Heritage Centre which young people are interested in as well as older residents. We also hope the new sports hall at Montsaye will be a community facility but we are concerned about the cost.

#### 341 MINUTES

It was MOVED by Councillor Mrs Weston, SECONDED by Councillor Pote and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th September 2005 be confirmed and signed.

#### 342 HIGHWAYS

Old A6 Through Rothwell

The Clerk had been able to obtain the results of the original traffic impact study carried out on the old A6 in September 2003 (just after the bypass opened) and copies of this had been circulated prior to this Meeting. We understood that a further study was carried out about a year later, but we have not yet been able to get these figures. When we do have them, we will carry out a comparison.

#### Amenity Weight Restriction

The County Traffic Project Engineer had sent two plans showing the length of the old A6 on which a 7.5 tonne weight restriction can be imposed to legally prevent HGVs from travelling through both Rothwell and Desborough. There was a problem in getting this down the High Street from the Bridge Street junction. It was AGREED that we accept this proposal.

#### A6 Roundabouts

Copies of the Emails between Robin Matthews of the MTI and Marketing Force which organises the sponsor ship of roundabouts on behalf of the County Council/Atkins had been circulated prior to this Meeting. This does seem quite expensive, but they wanted to know about possible sponsors. We will write with the information that McDonalds and BTS Developments had both indicated they might be prepared to sponsor these, and also suggest they get in touch with Bovis and Persimmon to see if they would assist.

#### A14 Junction 4 On-Slip

A reply had been received from Carillion-URS to our latest letter that we feel the best way to make this on-slip safer is to extend the safety barrier. They still feel that this is treating the result of an incident and not the cause. However, they hope to meet the County again to discuss the improvement works that were proposed for the approach from Rothwell, and they will then contact us again.

#### Disabled Parking Spaces

The County Area Community Technician had responded that both the Streetworks Manager and Network Manager both support her opinion that disabled bays must be supported by a Traffic regulation Order. However, the County is reviewing parking restrictions countywide and are currently working on the Kettering District. As the requested disabled bays are located in the town centre, it should be possible to include them in the review. She sent a plan and asked if we would indicate the preferred location for the bays and return it to her as soon as possible, when she will forward it to the team undertaking the review. We had originally wanted these by the east door of the Market House, but it was now felt they would be safer to the rear of the Market House, either side of the dropped kerb there. It was AGREED to return the plan with this location marked.

As to repainting the white lines across the dropped kerb, she said this was the responsibility of Atkins. Although copies of her letter had been sent to various contacts at Atkins, it was AGREED to repeat our request for these to be repainted.

#### Castle Hill White Lining

Our letter had been passed to the County Area Community Technician for her to respond, due to a re-organisation, and she thanked us for informing them that this white lining work has not been carried out. Atkins has advised that the best course of action to re-order the work which she has done. In response to people ignoring the No Entry signs, she has also ordered 'NO ENTRY' to be painted on the road at the School Lane junction. Provided that the contractor will give a reasonable amount of notice when they intend to carry out the work, she has agreed to letter drop the nearby properties and any vehicles parked in the area at the time.

#### Rep's Review

Copies of the September issue had been circulated prior to this Meeting, and copies of the October issue were available at the Meeting, for information.

Glendon Road

It was reported that large lorries are still using Glendon Road. It was thought some of these at least are going to the tip in Glendon Road.

A14 Junction 7 at Kettering

The Highways Agency had sent a further letter that they are aware that some drivers are finding some of the directions difficult to follow here and they have been monitoring the junction, but as said previously, due to the number and proximity of roads that join this roundabout, there is a limit to what can be done to make the signs and markings clearer. They plan to improve the signing for Kettering shortly by providing extra marking on the carriageway for the town on the eastbound off-slip from the A14 thus increasing the number of lanes marked for Kettering from one to two. They have no plans at present to provide gantries at this junction, but our concerns have been passed to Mr Bob Gale, the Route Performance Manager for this section of the A14. He will monitor the new carriageway markings to see if they improve safety and traffic flows and will also monitor the performance of this junction in the longer term. We could contact him if we wished to. It was felt that they keep altering the traffic lights, but this makes the situation worse. We will continue to monitor this and raise any specific concerns.

343 PLANNINGReport of the Planning Referee

Councillor Weston reported that we had received a copy of the Planning Inspector's decision on the Appeal by Bovis for the site off Jubilee Street. This Appeal had been allowed for 227 dwellings, as opposed to the original Application for 245. Bovis had already received Consent for 160 dwellings here.

The following Applications had been withdrawn:-

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| KET/2005/0626 ) | Esso Service Station, Kettering Road, Rothwell – New shop building,  |
| KET/2005/0627 ) | forecourt, canopy, pumps and signs.  |
| KET/2005/0629   | North Kettering Business Park (North and South of Glendon Road)<br>Landscaped park, outdoor sports facilities, footpaths, bridleway and<br>cyclepaths. |
| KET/2005/0696   | Land adjoining 57 Harrington Road – Bungalow and garage.   |
| KET/2005/0718   | LAND adjoining 57 Harrington Road – Change of use of land from<br>amenity to residential.  |

On the last-mentioned Application, a letter had also been received from the Borough Council, asking if the Town Council had any objection to them selling this land, and it had been confirmed that we do not object, but we would not want the tree to be taken down and lost to the street scene, or see the total removal of the hedge.

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| KET/2005/0739 | Glenhill Farm, Glendon Road – Amendment to domestic curtilage,<br>retention of imported spoil and amendments to access, fences etc. |
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The following Refusals had been received:-

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| KET/2005/0649 | Land at 3 Wales Street – Single Dwelling. |
| KET/2005/0740 | 7 Wales Street – Siting of Mobile Home.   |

The following Approvals had been received:-

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|---------------|---|
| KET/2005/0232 | 24 Dempsey Drive – Extension over garage. |
| KET2005/0662  | 1 Lancaster Road – Detached Dwelling.     |
| KET/2005/0689 | 50 Underwood Road – Extension.            |

The following Amended Plans had been received and our comments had been submitted:-

- KET/2005/0783      1 Sharman Way – Demolition of existing garage and construction of detached double garage.  
No objection.
- KET/2005/0794      3 Tasman Way – Single Storey rear and front extensions and canopy.  
No objection.

The following Applications had been received and dealt with by the Deputy Planning Referee:-

- KET/2005/0830      The Thai Garden, 3 Market Hill – Two-storey rear extension.  
No objection.
- KET/2005/0860      Slade Valley House, Orton Road – Change of use of agricultural building to Class B1, B2 and B8 uses.  
No objection, provided no traffic access the site via Orton village.
- KET/2005/0872      North Kettering Business Park, Glendon Road – Implementation of development without compliance with Condition 5 of KET/2005/025 (relating to alternative surface water drainage).  
No objection.
- KET/2005/0874      Grange Farm, Shotwell Mill Lane – Erection of 12m 2.5kW grid-linked wind turbine to provide renewable energy for home and grid.  
No objection.

On this last Application, it was AGREED to add to our comment as follows: “No objection, due to the unique location of this proposed development.”

- KET/2005/0887      101 Desborough Road – Rear extension.  
No objection.
- KET/2005/0888      Land adjoining 101 Desborough Road – New dwelling.  
No objection.
- KET/2005/0903      25 Evison Road – Rear extension.  
No objection.
- KET/2005/0905      50 Rushton Road – Off-road parking area in front garden.  
No objection.

The following Applications had just been received and the Deputy Planning Referee wished to consult with other Members. Our observations were agreed as stated:-

- KET/2005/0908      ) 6 The Maltings, Desboroug Road – Removal of existing conservatory and  
KET/2005/0909LB ) erection of single storey rear extension.  
We object as this would alter the nature of this Listed Building and in particular is in front of the existing building line.

#### SDA Consultation

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 14th September 2005 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was MOVED by Councillor Cross, SECONDED by Councillor Pote and RESOLVED that the Report be approved and adopted.

#### 344 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY

##### Seat, Glendon Road

Copies of the Report of the Site Meeting held on 14th September 2005 had been circulated prior to this Meeting.

The Members who had inspected recommended that the seat should stay where it is as a town facility, because it would be closer to other houses if it was moved. We should also ask if the litter bin could be moved up Goendon Road so that it is next to the seat.

Councillor Mrs Weston reported that the Head of the Youth Service was present at the A6 Towns Forum and so she had mentioned the issue of juvenile nuisance in this area and they will ask their peripatetic workers to visit this area. We had already asked the Police to monitor the area as well, and understand they are doing this. Some of the young people who use this seat had asked for other facilities for them, and we are attempting to get these.

It was MOVED by Councillor Jones, SECONDED by Councillor Weston and RESOLVED to suspend Standing Orders to allow the resident to speak. He felt if the litter bin was moved, they would soon have fires in that. However, we cannot be sure that the damage to vehicles has been done by the young people who sit on this seat, because this has happened in other areas of the town where there are no seats. There are older people who use this seat and it has been there for many years, since before the Columbus Crescent houses were built. Several Councillors have monitored the seat during various times of the day and evening and have not seen any problems. The resident did not ask the people who live in Columbus Crescent adjacent to the seat to sign the petition because he did not have the time.

It was MOVED by Councillor Jones, SECONDED by Councillor Pote and RESOLVED that the Town Council accepts the recommendation that the seat should stay where it is, but we should ask for the litter bin to be moved nearer the seat.

### Spencer Street

Copies of the Report of the Walkabout around Spencer Street on 20th September 2005 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was AGREED that the Report be approved and adopted. This was an interesting Meeting and the Borough Council is trying to take some action to improve the matters discussed. We should have a report in from Mr Conway in due course. The Clerk confirmed she has reported the highway defects to the Street Doctor.

### Town Centre Partnership

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 26th September 2005 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. Councillor Weston had actually left the Meeting at about 6.30 pm, and not later as stated. Subject to this amendment, it was MOVED by Councillor Cross, SECONDED by Councillor Jones and RESOLVED that the Report be approved and adopted.

### Public Rights of Way

A letter had been received from the County Definitive Map Team Leader, that under their new contract with Ordnance Survey they would have to enter into a formal agreement before giving us a copy of the new Definitive Map, as has happened in previous years. Rather than incurring the expense in drawing up over 270 individual agreements before they could consult, they sent a loan copy of the Map and Statement, subject to the following conditions:-

1. The Definitive Map may only be used for the purpose that it was created, ie to assist in matters concerning public rights of way.
2. No copies may be made from the Definitive Map.
3. The Definitive Map must remain in our custody and not be passed to third parties.

The Clerk thought the Map was correct, but had picked up a few slight errors in the Statement as follows:-

- For Footpaths UH2, UH9 and UH15 they refer to the A6 but this number has changed.
- For Footpath UH12 they refer to Drone Court, rather than Droué Court.
- For Footpath UH22, they refer to Harris Close, rather than Hawkins Close.

It was AGREED to reply that we accept the loan of the Definitive Map and Statement on the conditions set out in their letter, and to point out the minor errors listed above.

### Bus Services

The County Transport Department had written to inform us that the bus service to Asda at Corby on Tuesdays will be withdrawn by Stagecoach as from Tuesday, 18th October 2005. This was noted.

#### Footpath, Glendon Road

It was reported that on the right-hand side of Glendon Road going out of the town, there are overhanging branches and brambles over the footpath, in particular by No.2 Columbus Crescent a bush is right over the pavement. This is the area where the hedges are outside the residents' fences. It was AGREED to write to the Borough Council and ask them to trim these back.

#### Travellers Camps

Some travellers have recently visited the old Lamport Road. They have now gone, but it does cost the Borough Council a lot of money to keep cleaning up this area. Councillor Pote has spoken to the Borough Council and will pursue this again on our behalf. It was AGREED that the Town Council should also write to ask for the area to be cleaned up, and to ask the County Council to contact the landowners about de-classifying the old Lamport Road as highway so that they can secure this area, because otherwise the County will have to bear the cost of clearing this area regularly.

### 345 MATTERS OF BUSINESS

#### Rothwell United Charities

The Clerk had spoken to Canon Burgon and we have now written to the Secretary of the Rothwell United Charities suggesting that they contact Mrs Sarah Stephenson to see if she would be interested in acting as a Trustee. Councillor Weston said the Secretary has moved to Corby so they will be looking for a Secretary as well.

#### Park It! Scheme

Copies of the information we had received had been circulated, for information.

#### Fair Trade Scheme

Councillor Matthew reported that he has been invited to attend the next Meeting of the Fair Trade Committee, and he will report back on this issue.

#### Visit by the Mayor

The Mayor of Kettering would like to attend one of our Town Council Meetings and the Clerk had sent his Secretary details of the dates.

#### Remembrance Sunday Service

This will be conducted by the Salvation Army, and the Parade Manager will be Mr Doughty.

### 346 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk submitted a written Report as attached. It was MOVED by Councillor Mrs Weston, SECONDED by Councillor Pote 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>
Mrs C E Mackay	Clerk's Salary	£501.83
British Telecom	Phone Bill	£86.73
BDO Stoy Hayward LLP	External Auditor's Fee	£141.00
Cash	Petty Cash	£15.00