

## ROTHWELL TOWN COUNCIL

A Meeting of Rothwell Town Council was held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 14th February 2006 in the Market House, Market Hill, Rothwell.

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Councillor P G Weston Councillor C W Cross Councillor N A Matthew Councillor Mrs C M Mullett Councillor A C Pote Councillor Mrs M E Talbot Councillor Mrs G Weston	<u>In the Chair</u>
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### 392 NEW COUNCILLOR

Councillor Weston welcomed Councillor Mrs Mullett, who had just been elected to the Town Council. She had completed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and handed this to the Clerk.

### 393 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillors Mrs Brown, Jones, Whitlam and Whyte, and from Councillor Spendlove who would be late joining the Meeting

### 394 PRAYERS

The Revd Canon George Burgon said Prayers for the deliberations of the Town Council in connection with the proposal for a new Health Centre, facilities for young people and employment in the town. He also mentioned the work of the Police, and residents who are sick.

### 395 COMMUNITY POLICING

#### General Report

Sgt Burton was present at the Meeting and reported that there were 49 crimes during January, which is a slight increase on December especially for violent crimes which rose from 2 to 9 but he will check whether these are detected and E-mail the Clerk about this. He subsequently confirmed that all these were domestic related, with three relating to the same disturbance. The offences of fraud, forgery, theft and handling usually apply to the Industrial Estate which is still tied in with Rothwell and without these the total is probably about 40.

The Police were asked to look at the juvenile nuisance at the Library but the staff could not be specific about names. The Library will close at 5.00 pm until the clocks change and the nights are lighter. Parking on Kettering Road has been monitored by PC O'Hara and he still thinks this is under control.

The Police are looking at Alcohol Exclusion Zones including some parts of Rothwell and Sgt Burton understood the Town Council was to write and support this. It was explained that Councillor Mrs Brown has been looking at this with the Police but she is unable to attend this evening because she is unwell. The areas which are being discussed are the Well Lane Recreation Ground, Market Hill, Squires Hill and Manor Park. This would stop people having alcohol in open vessels in these areas. The Police can then take the alcohol from them and dispose of it as they see fit.

It was AGREED to put this on the Agenda for the next Meeting and Sgt Burton was asked for some examples of what problems have been occurring before a decision is made.

The Mobile Police Station has been booked for Market Hill Square during the year. It was confirmed that the Christmas Gala will be held on 1st December 2006 and Sgt Burton will try and make sure it is booked for Rothwell that evening.

We understand that there has been some juvenile nuisance along Fox Street with a window being knocked in and some people thought the residents of Orton House might be involved. Sgt Burton will E-mail us on this.

#### Police Questions from the Public

(a) Slade Valley Avenue: several residents were present to explain the problems they are having with young people in this area which has been going on since about three weeks before Christmas, mostly between about 11.00 pm and 1.30 am but sometimes earlier in the evening as well. They have had trouble getting the Police to visit to try and sort this out. Some of the incidents were outlined as follows:-

- a car was kicked and the wing mirror knocked off
- three youths were on the roof of a garage about 9.00 pm one evening but they got away through the gardens. He then saw about five youths further down the road
- the property being renovated in Tenbury Way was obviously entered because the materials stored there were thrown around
- missiles have been thrown at people's windows
- fences and even a door have been kicked in.

They feel it is mainly young people who have drunk alcohol and they meet on the flood plain at the bottom of Slade Valley Avenue. Concern was expressed by the Town Council that if we have Alcohol Exclusion Zones this will move the problem to other areas in the town. Sgt Burton asked if all these incidents had been reported since January as he will check the system. Someone called the Police just before Christmas but he has only just been visited. Sgt Burton explained that the Police cannot always visit but if there are repeated incidents which are reported, with an incident number requested, then this will be shown on the records and a particular area can receive more attention. He will only receive the information if an incident number is issued. There seem to be two groups of children, the younger ones causing damage in gardens and the older ones who are under the influence of alcohol. When one resident telephoned the police about the problems she was repeatedly asked how old she was which is not relevant. This is obviously a major problem of juvenile nuisance and Sgt Burton will take action to monitor the area and report back. One resident received some information from the Police Authority, but this was addressed to Sharman Way, Desborough so the Police do not seem to know about this area of Rothwell.

It was reported that there are still problems with juvenile nuisance in Glendon Road with young people going into the gardens. They have telephoned the Police but they do not get anyone to answer. Sgt Burton said people should use the new telephone number of 0845 3 700700 to contact the Police. It was AGREED to write to Chief Superintendent Dean Smith.

(b) Traffic, Kettering Road: vehicles are still travelling too fast here. They did slow down when the vehicle actuated signs were first put in but they are now speeding up again. We could request the Police speed van to look at this if it continues. The Town Council did get the illuminated signs put in, but the one coming into Rothwell from the A14 is still not working. The Clerk had understood this should have been put back on by now. The sign in Kettering Road, going out of Rothwell has been set to come on just under 30 mph to give people the opportunity to slow down before they reach the Gordon Street junction but if people feel this is too low, we can discuss this with the Highways Engineers.

(c) Youth Service: it seems that this will be reduced and Mr Baines-Davies asked if there were any funds through the Police to pay for a Youth Worker. We are to hold the Public Meeting on 28th February in the Trinity Centre, and Mr Baines-Davies should have received a letter about this. The Clerk is to E-mail the Police about this event but has not done this yet. Councillor Pote confirmed that the Borough Council is looking at various ways to get assistance for funding the Youth Service.

(d) Weight Restriction, Glendon Road: Mr West said there have been a lot of tipper lorries coming through Glendon Road carrying earth. It was confirmed that these come from Scott Avenue and this is the only access for them, so they are not therefore breaking the weight restriction limit.

(e) Fox Street/Harrington Road: some residents have had a lot of trouble with the residents of Orton House, with these young people standing at the gates of that property throwing stones at vehicles. Sgt Burton was asked if the Police could make an official visit to these premises, which is a residential home for young people.

### 396 BOROUGH CASHIER SERVICE

Marion Goodman and Allen Graham from the Borough Council were present to explain the changes to their Service Centre in Rothwell; Mr Strachan had sent his apologies because he is on holiday. This will be based in the Library and will take queries for the Borough, the County, the Police and Fire Service. This is the first of the three centres in the A6 towns. People will be able to report incidents so there will be another option to telephoning the Police. They will get a crime number and collate the information. Juvenile nuisance and anti-social behaviour might be dealt with by the Borough staff to obtain ASBOs. Ms Goodman had some written information for the Members of the Town Council. They had Customer Service Advisers in the Library the previous day to test all the systems and talk to people on an informal basis. They had about twenty customers although this was not advertised. This afternoon there were about eight people. There is a question and answer sheet to help Members respond to queries. They will cover all the Borough services, together with some County ones. As to cash payments, the Allpay cards will be with customers by the end of April and they will be able to use these by the end of May. There are five outlets in Rothwell where payments can be made, namely the Post Office, the Co-op Store, Jay Bahanani Stores, Ram's Supermarket and High Street News. There is no charge to the customer for paying at these places. The bus and taxi tokens will still be available through the Sub-office this year and they will inform people for next year.

Councillor Pote had inspected a few days previously and if it is not very busy at Rothwell, the staff can link into the Borough's main part, and answer queries from other areas. Ms Goodman said they had hoped to let Councillors look at the facility this evening, but they are now open so people can visit. They can screen documents in and send them immediately to Kettering. The Centre will be open the same hours as the Library, including up to 7.00 pm when the hours are extended again. A resident queried whether the bus tokens were necessary as he understood there was to be free bus travel. Mr Graham said this is a national scheme and the County is rolling this out in the area but you will be charged for longer journeys. Some people use the bus tokens for taxis so these are still necessary. He understood the bus passes would allow free travel within the Borough but this will be clarified. As to the payment card, you just take this and the cash into one of the outlets. Councillor Weston thanked Mr Graham and Ms Goodman for attending this Meeting.

Councillor Spendlove joined the Meeting at 8.05 pm.

### 397 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

(1) Groococks Factory: some residents of Gordon Street are concerned about this development with the two entrances and the amount of traffic which will be using Gordon Street. This is already a narrow and crowded street especially at peak times and they wonder why this cannot be put into Kettering Road. The Town Council did suggest having Gordon Street and Jubilee Street made one way but we had two or three strong objections so we could not do this. The Town Council is a consultee and the County Highways Department has also looked at this scheme and has the final say on traffic issues. The Marlow House mini-bus could not get through recently and the resident was concerned about emergency vehicles.

Councillor Matthew said the possibility of access onto Kettering Road was considered but there is even less visibility further up that road. The residents felt that Gordon Street was now busier since the factory was vacated because so many people have more than one car. We have already submitted our observations but it was explained that residents can go to the Planning Meeting although there is only three minutes in which to speak. We will find out who at the County Council looks at the highway issues for Planning Applications and what criteria they use when making a decision. Councillor Pote said Councillor Bob Seery is the County Portfolio Holder for Transport.

As to parking by Contractors and delivery vehicles when the building work is being carried out, due consideration should be given to pedestrians and the residents of Gordon Street. It was AGREED to ask the Borough Council to look at this. A resident asked if a Member of the Town Council could look at this but it was felt we would have to go through the Borough Officers.

(2) Seats in front of the Library: these are being refurbished and we do not yet have a date when they will be returned.

(3) Can Bank: this was full from November all over Christmas and was eventually emptied on 10th January 2006. The Clerk had reported this four times but there is only one contractor in the area doing this work, so the Borough Council cannot change to another one. The Borough did arrange to take away the bags and boxes which were left around the bins. The doorstep recycling scheme is being extended to the whole town as from April. Some residents felt the present bins are not large enough for some households, but it was explained they could have another one, if necessary. The recycled articles are taken into Telford Way for sorting into the different items.

(4) Council Precept: this is being considered by the Borough but the Town Council is not supporting this. We have got another year of grants but this is almost the only Borough in the country to use the grant system rather than the precept. This is still being considered and might come in eventually. This subject often arises but the Town Council is concerned it would amount to double taxation, so unless the whole of the Borough was parished it would be unfair, and there is the issue of how a small town like Rothwell could deal with the maintenance issues. Councillor Pote said there is the possibility of creating larger Unitary Authorities and this might be the reason a decision has been delayed on whether the Parishes should raise a precept.

(5) New Health Centre: the Planning Application has been received by the Town Council and will be discussed later in the Meeting. A resident felt they could demolish the existing building and make this two storey rather than moving it to the edge of the town. This has been raised by the Town Council and we have met the Doctors and representatives from the Company which is building the new Health Centre. We are told it would be too expensive to do this because they would have to find alternative accommodation, and there would not be sufficient parking especially as they will be offering additional facilities and services.

Councillor Matthew said the Town Council is united in opposing the new Health Centre being put at the top of Desborough Road. We have made them look at 18 alternative sites and on every one they have come back with a reason why they cannot build there, but basically it is down to money. Councillor Mrs Weston said at the various Meetings, we had threats that the Doctors would take their services out of the town if we continue to object. We had a recent Meeting with another option they could look at; the Planning Application is dated the day after that Meeting but they never mentioned submitting this immediately although they were asked about the plans. Everyone wants the new Health Centre to remain in the middle of the town. We have been accused of being awkward and changing the goal posts.

Councillor Weston referred to the results of the survey in the town, when over 98% of the people who responded wanted to retain it in the town centre. They had over 300 replies, which was about a 15% return which is quite good for a survey. Rothwell residents can write in to the Planning Committee and object to this proposal. The Doctors need a larger Surgery because of the increased facilities and say this should be a 1.2 acre site but they cannot find anything else in the town which would give this.

(6) Bus Shelter, Market Hill: the Clerk explained that after the last Meeting, Councillor Pote had told her that responsibility for bus shelters was being passed from the Borough to the County. She had therefore deferred writing to the Borough and instead had written to the County again. The correspondence was read to the Meeting in full. The County said the transfer is still being finalised but even when this is completed, it is unlikely there will be further improvements to stops in Rothwell. This is because any budget will be for routes which are on a "corridor" as part of a partnership between the County and the bus operator and they claimed that the service that passes Rothwell Library is of relatively low frequency.

The Clerk had queried this statement as this is an hourly service and public transport will be an important part of the improvements intended to cater for the additional houses to be built here. The County maintains that the budget will be for ongoing maintenance. If any budgets are made

available for bus shelters, future schemes will be prioritised through the Local Transport Plan process so it is unlikely we will get a shelter for the stop in front of Rothwell Library.

The Clerk had then written to the Borough Deputy Chief Executive to see if they could assist, before responsibility for bus shelters is passed to the County. Councillor Pote had spoken to Mr Hammond the previous evening and he is writing to Adshel to see if they will provide a free bus shelter themselves, but this would have to have advertisements on because this would pay for the shelter. We will have to wait and see if anything is offered. Even if we get this, there will not be any budget for cleaning and maintaining it.

### 398 MINUTES

It was MOVED by Councillor Mrs Weston, SECONDED by Councillor Pote and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th January 2006 be confirmed and signed.

### 399 HIGHWAYS

#### Vehicle Actuated Signs

The Clerk had chased the work to the sign in Kettering Road as you come into Rothwell and received a response that it was programmed to be re-connected during the week commencing 23rd January 2006. The sign by the Cricket Club in Desborough Road will be adjusted to stay on for just one second as soon as they can get an engineer out to do this.

#### High Street Footway Repairs

The County Council had confirmed that the Highways Agency will fund the resurfacing at Sun Hill as well as the repairs to the replacement paving slabs in the High Street. They have asked Atkins to proceed with this work as soon as possible.

Notification had also been received of footway resurfacing and repaving on the old A6 during the next financial year, April 2006 to March 2007. It was assumed this related to this High Street work and also the extension of the work into Kettering Road and Desborough Road which was always to have been carried out by Atkins.

#### Trinity Road

The Maintenance Engineer from Atkins had written to confirm that this has been inspected and he has arranged for the potholes to be made safe as an interim measure, and the permanent repair will be programmed. This will be part of the current trial which they are carrying out with the County Council in an innovative patching process which involves recycling and rejuvenating the current material and this will produce a new surface. This has been a success in other areas, and he hoped it would have the same result in Trinity Road.

#### Red Lion Square/Market Hill

Notification had been received that Atkins, on behalf of the Borough Council, is to undertake a Feasibility Study and Delivery Scheme for public realm improvements and development opportunities in and around the Market Square. As part of the consultation process, they are running a workshop session in the Trinity Centre from 9.00 am to 12.30 pm to discuss key issues and initial design ideas. Two representatives are invited from the Town Council and two from the Town Centre Partnership. The Clerk had already asked the three Partnership Members from the business community if they wished to go, but they were not able to represent the Partnership. However, from 3.30 pm to 7.00 pm there is an open session which anyone can attend. Councillor Pote had some information on the previous Study which referred to Red Lion Square.

It was AGREED that Councillors Cross and Weston and the Clerk would represent the Council and the Partnership.

#### Speed Boards

We had received notification that 12 speed boards will be delivered on Wednesday, 26th April 2006 and these should be ready for collection on Wednesday, 24th May.

#### Rights of Way

We had received a letter and statement from the County Rights of Way Manager, copies of which had been circulated prior to this Meeting, about the cuts to the public rights of way service. He asked if the Town Council could respond by the middle of February, so it was felt we had probably missed the relevant date. The comments were noted.

#### Highways Representatives Scheme

Copies of the December Rep's Review had been circulated, for information.

#### A14 West of Rothwell

The Clerk had received a reply from Carillion-URS to our complaint about vehicles coming off the A14 eastbound carriageway by bridleway UH7. They did not receive our original letter, but have now passed a copy of the correspondence to the Highways Agency's Route Performance Manager and arranged to visit the location with him during February. They will be reviewing the personal injury accident data for this location. It is a prime object of the Highways Agency to improve road safety, but all schemes have to be considered for funding on their merits in comparison with other competing schemes.

It was AGREED to write and ask if representatives from the Town Council could be present at the Site Meeting.

#### Market Hill Footpath

Councillor Cross reported that there is now white paint on the footpath in front of the Methodist Church but no repairs have yet been carried out. It was AGREED to chase this work.

#### Zebra Crossing, Desborough Road

Councillor Matthew said the new zebra crossing is being used and he has noticed several children using it to cross the road, although vehicles do not always stop at the crossing.

### 400 PLANNING

#### Report of the Planning Referee

Councillor Weston reported that Application KET/2005/1124 in respect of a replacement dwelling and garage at Glebe Farm, Desborough Road had been withdrawn. We had received an amended plan for Application KET/2005/1147 in respect of Approval of the Reserved Matters for the erection of two bungalows at 68/70 Rushton Road, but there was no objection to these amendments.

The following Approvals had been received:-

KET/2005/1079	46 Kettering Road – Five dwellings and garages.
KET/2005/1097	Land adjoining 92 Littlewood Street – Two dwellings.
KET./2005/1103	6 Moorfield Green – Demolish existing and new attached garage.
KET/2005/1104	Kettering North Business Park – New access road to serve Zone A Plot 1.
KET/2005/1147	68/70 Rushton Road – Approval of Reserved Matters for two bungalows.

The following Applications had been received and dealt with by Councillor Weston:-

KET/2006/0033	Plot 2 North Kettering Business Park – Six signs. No objection.
KET/2005/0057	28 Bridge Street – Change of Use to hot food takeaway.

We object as there is already an over-provision of this type of outlet in Rothwell with the additional litter problems, noise and parking in the centre of the town.

- KET/2005/0073 Land adjoining 21 Littlewood Street – Detached dwelling.  
We object as we are concerned about the access and egress to the proposed development. Littlewood Street is a busy thoroughfare to other town areas and visibility is obstructed by parked cars.
- KET/2005/0116 34 Kipton Field – Single storey rear extension.  
No objection.
- KET/2005/0119 The Woodlands Hospital, Rothwell Road, Kettering – revisions to and surfacing of existing parking area and upgrading of link path.  
No objection.

The following Application relates to the property owned by the Clerk and her husband, and she therefore declared a direct Pecuniary Interest and left the room. Councillor Weston had responded direct to the Borough Council by way of a letter and explained the situation as to why the Clerk had not returned the comments in the usual way. The observations made by Councillor Weston were as stated below:-

- KET/2005/1157 23 High Street – Change of Use, extension and sub-division to create two shops, one additional shop, four B1 units and six flats.

I would have preferred to consult with all the Town Councillors at the next Meeting of the Council but we would have been outside the time limit of 21 days. The Town Council did look at, and made observations on, the original Planning Application and much of those observations are relevant to this Application. The proposed access and egress to the site from the High Street causes considerable concern. It would appear to be on the warning lines of the pedestrian crossing at that point, a crossing that is well used by children going to school. There are already two access and egress drives in close proximity and it is felt that a third one would be very dangerous. There is concern that the proposed new building on the front of the property would be very close to No.19 High Street and may deprive that property of light. In addition it may also make maintenance of that property very difficult. For these reasons, the Town Council objects to the proposed Application.

The following Application in respect of the new Health Centre in the town had just been received and Councillor Weston had prepared draft observations on the Applications. These were discussed by the Town Council and agreed as stated below:-

- KET/2006/0063 Desborough Road, Rothwell – New two-storey Health centre with attached Pharmacy.

Rothwell Town Council strongly objects to this Planning Application. Whilst welcoming the prospect of better health provision in the town and fully understanding and acknowledging the views of the Health Professionals who provide the health care in the town, the Council cannot support the application for the following reasons.

1. The current health centre is situated in a very convenient site in Bridge Street, Rothwell. It is very much in the centre of the town, with the main town car park close by, on the route of the shuttle bus service, which serves the town from East to West, within a very short distance of all of the shops, including two pharmacies, the Post Office and the Junior and Infants Schools. The policy of Rothwell Town Council, expressed at many consultation and planning events organised by the Kettering Borough Council and supported by both political groups on the Town Council is to support an economic and socially vibrant town centre whilst recognising the role that the small “corner shops” play serving the community. We strongly contest the statement on page 20, paragraph 6.34 of the Town Planning Statement in support of the application by Primary Asset that the application site is located in close proximity of the primary shopping area of Rothwell. This is not the case and we enclose a map of the town centre that may help demonstrate this. The maps showing the general site location (figure 1 and 2) in the Transport Assessment show just how far the proposed site will be from the town centre area. The plans perhaps do not indicate the gradient of the road from the junction of Bridge Street and the road marked A6 (now the B669) to the junction of Nunnery Ave. This is a fairly steep hill, making it difficult for many people to walk from the town centre to the proposed site.

2. The proposal includes the provision of a pharmacy on the site. Rothwell is well served by two excellent chemists and pharmacies at the present time, both of which are in close proximity of the current Health Centre. The Town Council is very concerned that should they lose the NHS prescription work to an on-site pharmacy then the viability of the two shops may be at risk, causing shop closures. Kettering Borough Council rejected a planning application for an edge of town supermarket in Rothwell some years ago, partly because of the impact this would have on the shops in the town centre. The Town Council fully supports that policy and asks that the Borough Council be consistent in their policy.

3. Quite apart from the economic impact the proposed site will have on the town centre, it will be a considerable distance from the main residential areas of the town. This is clearly indicated by figures 1 and 2 in the Transport Assessment document. The Town Council is very sceptical of any possible increases to the bus service, having received promises by the bus companies to improve those services in the past, only to see them withdrawn after a few months. In the absence of any evidence that Primary Asset, the Primary Care Trust or the Doctors have carried out any patient consultations or surveys to find out the views of the people of Rothwell, one organisation in the town did send out a survey form to around 2000 households. 15% were returned of which 98% indicated that they wished any new facility should be close to the town centre. Most of the comments on the forms related to the difficulty they, or other people, would have in getting to a Health Centre on the proposed site. In general discussions that Councillors have had with the people of Rothwell there is no doubt that the proposed site is totally unacceptable to most people and if the proposal goes ahead then it will cause great hardship and inconvenience to many people. It was noticed that in the documentation sent to the Town Council, several of the sites examined by Primary Asset were rejected as being unacceptable to the Doctors. The Town Council believes that similar consideration should be given to their patients. Who exactly is the Health Centre being built for? We are also concerned that should the health centre be built in the area of the new build associated with the Strategic Development then it could cause great resentment to the current residents and do nothing to develop a cohesive community.

4. The Town Council is not convinced that Primary Asset has fully explored all possible alternative sites that would be nearer the town centre. We are particularly disappointed that this Planning Application was received by the Borough Council one day after the Town Council met yet again with representatives from Primary Asset, the Senior Partner in the Rothwell practice, the Chief Executive and other Officers of the Primary Care Trust and Simon Richardson from the Planning Department of the Kettering Borough Council to discuss our continued concerns about the proposed site and also to explore alternatives. The Town Council made a number of alternative suggestions but settled on a promise that the Planning Officer would go back to look at the possibility of developing a site called "Coopers Yard" together with a section of the Greening Road Park. We believe that green areas in the Strategic Development Area could compensate the loss of some of the Greening Road Park.

5. We were very surprised and concerned that Primary Asset appear to have ignored the agreement that was reached at the meeting by submitting the Application as stated above. Members of the Town Council feel that their attempts to reach a compromise agreement on the site have been treated with a lack of respect and with total disdain by Primary Asset. By ignoring the wishes of the people of Rothwell who do not wish to have their Health Centre developed on a site on the edge of town, they insult the Rothwell citizens.

6. The Town Council has serious concerns about the possible impact of the additional traffic that will occur if the site is developed as planned. The large Montsaye Comprehensive School is situated at the top of Greening Road next to the site. This school serves both Rothwell and Desborough and generates considerable traffic from both towns. At the moment school buses run from Desborough to the school but this provision is under constant review. Should this be withdrawn the volume of car traffic, pedestrian traffic and cycle traffic will increase significantly. We do not think that this has been taken into account in the planning proposals.

7. We recognise that this opportunity for a new and improved health centre will not happen again for many years so it is vitally important to get it right from the outset. We do not think that the site, as proposed, is the correct site for the reasons stated above, and we ask the Planning Committee to reject this application.

The Planning Officer had telephoned that he had been able to obtain some information, but was still trying to get an answer for us. The Clerk had also tried to put Primary Asset in touch with the owners of Cooper's Yard.

It was AGREED to circulate copies of our Response in full to all the Members of both the Borough Planning Committees and to Philip Hollobone MP. It was FURTHER AGREED to send a Press Release and Councillor Mrs Weston will prepare this.

Councillor Weston declared an Indirect Interest in the following two Applications, as a friend of the franchisee of McDonalds and therefore Councillor Spendlove had dealt with these and our observations were as stated:-

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|---------------|---|
| KET/2006/0070 | Esso Service Station, Kettering Road – Signs.<br>No objection, provided none of the illuminated signs face Rothwell, i.e. not on the north or the east of the site and there is adequate planting on these sides. |
| KET/2006/0081 | Esso Service Station, Kettering Road – New 20,000 litre tank.<br>No objection.  |
| KET/2006/0101 | McDonalds Restaurant, Kettering Road – Boards and signs.<br>No objection, provided none of the illuminated signs face Rothwell and there is adequate planting to the north of the site.                           |

#### Land off Jubilee Street

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

### 401 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY

#### New Health Centre Site

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 18th January 2006 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was MOVED by Councillor Pote, SECONDED by Councillor Spendlove and RESOLVED that the Report be approved and adopted.

#### Facilities for Young People

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 31st January 2006 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was MOVED by Councillor Mrs Weston, SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Talbot and RESOLVED that the Report be approved and adopted.

#### Housing

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 13th February 2006 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was MOVED by Councillor Pote, SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Weston and RESOLVED that the Report be approved and adopted.

#### Library Opening Hours

A reply had been received from Principal Librarian for the Northern Area that the decision to close the Library at 5.00 pm every evening was not taken lightly and was done in full consultation with the staff and after a careful risk assessment. The safety of the staff and customers is of paramount importance and the seriousness of some of the incidents at the Library was such this could not be guaranteed. They have been in touch with the Police in connection with the incidents. As the situation has become worse during the winter, with the Library becoming a meeting place for disruptive youths, their intention is to review the situation as the evenings become lighter. They are investigating the possibility of installing CCTV at the Library.

With regard to the shrubbery at the front of the Library, the Principal Librarian said the bushes were cut down on the grounds of health and safety. The area was being used as a dumping

ground for all sorts of rubbish, and on occasions as a public toilet. The caretaker regularly clears this area and they are monitoring the situation. She was unaware of any plans to re-landscape the area but will make enquiries with the relevant department.

It was understood that the situation has settled down now, although it is half term at present so there is a bit of a problem. It might be that they are going to reduce the opening hours at Libraries in any event.

#### Country Parks/Pocket Park

We had received details of the effects of the County budget reductions on the Country Parks. There is no intention to close any of these, and the Pocket Parks scheme will continue to be supported by the County.

#### Town Centre Partnership

We will put this on the Agenda for the next Meeting to arrange the delivery of the new town booklets.

### 402 MATTERS OF BUSINESS

#### Licensing Application

We had received notification that an Application has been made for a Premises Licence at the Manor Park Bowling Club. They intend to operate as they have done for many years.

#### Primary Care Trusts

We had received details of the Public Consultation on the reconfiguration of the Primary Care Trusts in the area. It was felt we should respond to this and Councillor Mrs Weston will put this together. We need to send in any observations by 22nd March 2006, so this can be approved at the next Meeting.

#### Two Shires Ambulance Trust

We had received a letter from the Patient and Public Involvement Forum relating to the proposed merger of the Ambulance Trusts. It was AGREED to respond that we would prefer to see this Trust remain as it is, especially as it has had a three star rating since it has been in existence.

### 403 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk submitted a written Report as attached. It was MOVED by Councillor Pote, SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Talbot 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>
Cash	Petty Cash (paid 20.01.06)	£30.00
Mrs C E Mackay	Clerk's Salary	£501.82
Zurich Insurance Company	Annual Insurance Premium	£920.41
NRG Group UK Limited	Photocopier Maintenance	£39.29
Cash	Petty Cash	£30.00

In addition, a cheque was drawn on the Town Centre Partnership Account for the printing of the town brochures.

### 404 ADMISSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, the Press and Public were asked to withdraw.

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

405 INDUSTRIAL SITE

Councillor Spendlove wanted to give an up-to-date Report on the Industrial Site. He has received this information in confidence but with permission to tell the Town Council. He knows one or two families involved well, so he declared an Indirect Interest and will not be able to be involved in any discussion or decision.

The Borough Council wanted to let this site go and not be developed. There is to be a Meeting between all parties to see what they should do now. The site might not be considered viable because of the proposed footbridge over the A14 which would cost £250,000, together with the provision of a Police Station, which would make this development unprofitable. These elements might need to be left out if we are to have the Industrial Site. We had understood that the Police no longer wanted an office there in any event as they are planning a new large Police Station between Kettering and Corby.

It was AGREED to ask Mrs Harvey, Borough Head of Development Services, to come to a Meeting so that we can discuss progress on implementing our Industrial Site.

The Meeting closed at 10.10 pm

Chair

Date