



MINUTES OF THE FULL KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE TOLLER CHURCH ROOMS, MEETING LANE, KETTERING AT 7PM ON 23rd OCTOBER 2024

Attendees: Cllr Craig Skinner (Mayor) (Chair)

Cllrs Lloyd Bunday, Carolyn Carter, Robin Carter, Dez Dell, Maggie Don, Alexander Evelyn, Kieran Farrow, Emily Fedorowycz, Clark Mitchell, Anup Pandey, Mark Rowley, James Towns, Keli Watts and Bev Wright

Officers:- Martin Hammond and Emma Dezelu

No of Public Present: four

Item No	Item Description
2024/031	Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Eve Edwards, Scott Edwards and Sarah Tubbs
2024/032	Declarations of Interest None made
2024/033	Minutes The minutes of the last meeting held on 12 th July 2024 were approved and signed as a correct record,
2024/034	Public Speakers Notification had been received from Daniil Andrejev who had asked to speak on item 39.
2024/035	Announcements from the Mayor The Mayor outlined some of his activity since the last meeting and reminded members about forthcoming events, the recently opened grants round for environmental projects and winter fuel grants.



	<p>He also drew members' attention to the mental health Z cards which had been a collaborative piece of work between the Town Council, NNC and the Local Area partnership to provide information about mental health services in a handy format.</p>
2024/036	<p>Announcements from the Leader</p> <p>The Leader was pleased to show members the Civic Society Rose Bowl which had been awarded jointly to the Town Council and NNC gardeners for the hanging baskets and town centre planting carried out in summer this year. Members also noted the Civic Society's own effort to improve planting at the railway station.</p> <p>He also referred to developer funded contributions for solar panels on the roof of the Ise Community Centre and various road safety measures on the Ise estate which had been or were being implemented this autumn.</p>
2024/037	<p>Crime and anti-social behaviour figures for year to date</p> <p>Sgts Hollie Callaghan and Mark Walsh attended to outline crime and community safety measures which the police had or were about to implement in Kettering. There had been a positive impact on anti-social behaviour through a combination of interventions and an overall reduction in crime . Retail crime had also bene the subject of focused effort. Members asked about measures to deal with ASB associated with Hallowe'en.</p>
2024/038	<p>Carbon Literacy Training</p> <p>Cllr Fedorowycz, as climate change champion, gave a presentation on the scope and content of carbon literacy training and encouraged members to take up a free course over the next few months.</p>
2024/039	<p>Motion</p> <p>Cllr Fedorowycz moved and Cllr Towns Seconded that</p> <p>"Local leisure and sport is a key part of what makes living in Kettering so great, and there are a wealth of opportunities locally, but we recognise that there are always ways to improve. Increasing awareness, improving accessibility, and supporting others to fill gaps in the local offering are all meaningful ways we can assist as a Town Council. We will therefore explore the options to support within our scope, and look to see ways to increase and improve the leisure and sport offering locally"</p>



	<p>Before the debate, Daniel Andrejev from Kettering Science Academy addressed the meeting, to explain that young people in Kettering were not often aware of the events that were being organised in town, and had limited access to some facilities, such as astro-turf pitches, which were not available for casual use. He also believed there was scope to engage with schools on event promotion and provision and there could be more inter-schools competitions.</p> <p>Members debated the motion, noting that Kettering did offer a wide range of facilities and events, some of them at a national standard, but that promoting them was always going to be challenging given the diversity of today's media, none of which had mass market penetration across the board.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED unanimously that the motion above be approved and that the Council seek to widen awareness of local services, facilities and events, in conjunction with partner organisations.</p>
2024/040	<p>Appointments</p> <p>Following a report on these appointments, it was</p> <p>RESOLVED that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Mr Lee Watkiss be appointed as a parish path warden andb) Cllr Mitchell be appointed as the Council's representative on Kettering Pubwatch <p>Cllr Mitchell also reported back on the meeting that he had attended in September, and that the Town Council was asked to communicate beforehand with pubs where an event was taking place nearby so they could be prepared for extra trade</p> <p>The Town Council was also being asked if it would fund the publicity for a scheme operated by Kettering pubs to provide a free soft drink to designated drivers in any group over the Christmas period.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Council would support this publicity by printing leaflets and posters and through its social media.</p>



2024/041	<p>Town Centre Planting</p> <p>A report was submitted reviewing the operation of the town centre planting scheme this year and making recommendations for extending the scheme in 2025.</p> <p>Various measures were proposed to extend the scheme, for an enhanced budget of £34,000.</p> <p>Members were concerned that any increase in weed spraying should be with the use of chemicals which did not have a good environmental footprint and the clerk was asked to establish the risk of the chemicals in use before implementing that element of the proposed scheme.</p> <p>Members also mentioned some areas of town which required fly tip removal or greater levels of maintenance and it was agreed that these would be passed to the relevant team within NNC.</p> <p>RESOLVED to fund the planting scheme in 2025, including the improvements listed in the report, for a total cost of £34,000, the enhancements being:-</p> <table data-bbox="491 1115 1209 1281"><tr><td>- Extra hanging baskets</td><td>£ 1318.00</td></tr><tr><td>- Horse trough, Barton Rd</td><td>£ 316.50</td></tr><tr><td>- Winter planting of beds</td><td>£ 3323.25</td></tr><tr><td>- Additional weed spraying</td><td>£ 900.00</td></tr></table> <p>.</p>	- Extra hanging baskets	£ 1318.00	- Horse trough, Barton Rd	£ 316.50	- Winter planting of beds	£ 3323.25	- Additional weed spraying	£ 900.00
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2024/042	<p>Budget for 2025/26</p> <p>A report was submitted which set out the likely out-turn for the current financial year, detailing potential areas of underspend and overspend, and looking forward to the budget for the 2025-6 financial year.</p> <p>The likely outturn for the end of 24/5 was that the Council would have a net underspend of about £55,000.</p> <p>The projected budget for 2025/6, taking into account already agreed changes to specific service areas, was £514,000, which could be met from a precept of £490,000 (the same as in 24/5), interest on reserves and by drawing down £19,000 of the underspend.</p> <p>RESOLVED that</p> <p>a) the budget envelope for 2025/6 be set at £514,000, to be funded by a precept of £490,000, interest on reserves of £5,000 and £19,000 of unspent monies from 24/5 year.</p>								



- b) the consultation on the budget for the coming year be confined to an online and paper survey and questionnaire
- c) the clerk be authorised to update the corporate plan to reflect the decisions made at this meeting ahead of the consultation process.

2024/043

Fees and Charges

A report was submitted, setting out the proposed fees and charges for the next financial year for markets and events. A distinction was proposed to charge more for hot food traders at some higher profile events and for a general increase in charges where the Council was currently not asking as much as other areas for event and general market pitch and stall hire.

RESOLVED that the following charges be applied from 1st April 2025

General market - pitch only/day	£9
General market pitch and stall/day	£14
Event market pitch and stall/day	£25
Christmas Lights switch on	
- Hot Food	£75
- Non hot food	£40
Love Food outdoor pitch	£100
Kettfest	
- Hot Food	£75
- Non hot food	£40
Ice cream concessions/day	
- Bands in the park/town	£50
- Kettering by the Sea	£75

2024/044

Allotments lease

A report was submitted setting out the proposed terms for a new lease of the four allotments managed by the Kettering Allotment Association to run from 2025 to 2027. The new lease brought all four allotments into one document and the term ran so as to expire at the same time as the lease for the Whiteford Drive allotment held by the South End Allotment Association. The new lease tied up some matters and



	<p>applied consistency across all the Council's allotments, and also applied a 2% uplift in the annual fee each year. The terms had been provisionally agreed by the association.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the proposed terms of a lease for the four allotment sites at Margaret Rd, Northfield Ave, Scott Rd and Windmill Avenue, as set out in the report be approved.</p>
2024/045	<p>Lease of the War Memorial</p> <p>A report was submitted proposing that the Council take on a 25 year lease of the Kettering war memorial from NNC. The proposed terms were set out in the report. Taking on responsibility for the war memorial would enable it to be cleaned regularly and for any repairs to be carried out promptly, and there was the additional possibility that grant aid would be forthcoming for such work, which would not be the case for NNC. NNC had yet to make a corporate decision on the creation of a lease.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the proposed terms of a lease for the war memorial be agreed</p>
2024/046	<p>a) Staffing Committee minutes</p> <p>Cllr Bunday introduced the minutes of the Staffing Committee meeting of 10th October and referred to the next items which comprised three sets of recommendations from that meeting to Council,</p> <p>b) Recommendations from the Staffing Committee</p> <p>Three recommendations were made and described to the meeting and it was</p> <p>RESOLVED that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The proposed training policy and plan be adoptedb) The proposed equalities and diversity policy be adopted andc) Approval be given for an increase in the number of hours that the administrative officer is employed from 15 to 20 per week



Kettering

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2024/047	Planning Committee Cllr Rowley introduced the last four sets of Planning committee minutes and advised members that he would be attending the next NNC Planning cttee meeting to make representations against the planning application to convert the snooker club on Montagu St into residential apartments.
2024/048	Finance and Governance Committee The minutes and proceedings of the Finance and Governance Committee on 17 th July and 18 th September were reported and noted. The chair drew attention to the grant of £3000 to the Kettering Amateur Boxing Club for new floor matts and canvass and to the experience of running a blister pack recycling scheme which had proved to be too successful to continue to be afforded.
2024/049	Market and Events Committee The minutes and proceedings of the Market and Events Committee on 24 th July was reported and noted
2024/050	Town Meeting The notes of the Town Meeting on 11 th September were reported and noted.
	The meeting was closed at 8.35 pm.

Signed

Date