

Kettering Town Council

MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING HELD AT THE KETTERING ARTS CENTRE
AT ST ANDREWS CHURCH, ROCKINGHAM ROAD, KETTERING AT 7PM ON
11th SEPTEMBER 2024

Attendees :

The Mayor, Cllr Craig Skinner (Chair)
Councillors Lloyd Bunday, Dez Dell, Maggie Don, Alex Evelyn, Clark Mitchell,
James Towns and Bev Wright

Presenters

Amy Donovan Support North Northants
Cheryl Brading Groundwork Trust Green Doctor Scheme
Barbara Lewis Kettering Complimentary Therapy Group

Attendees

Cllr Paul Marks NNC
Cllr John Hunter Barton Seagrave Parish Council.
Chris Dickinson Kettering Complimentary Therapy Group
Rajbeer Kaur Accommodation Concern
Tom Houston St Andrews Church
Andrew Hunt Salvation Army
Josie Pearce SS Peter and Paul Church
David Roberts Kettering Vineyard Trust
Frank Rodgers St Edwards Food Kitchen
Irene Robinson MOP
David Walsh SS Peter and Paul Church

Martin Hammond, Town Clerk, Emma Dezelu, Deputy Clerk, Zuzanna Brzostowska,
Administrative Officer

Item No	Item Description
1	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Apologies were received from Cllrs Carolyn Carter, Robin Carter, Keli Watts and the Civic Society.</p>
2	<p>Welcome from the Mayor</p> <p>The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to explore what was being done to support vulnerable people over the winter and identify gaps or opportunities for organisations to consider.</p>

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3	<p>Presentations</p> <p>a) Kettering Charities (Martin Hammond, KTC) – Fuel Grants a summation of the fuel grants awards made each December. With the restriction of winter fuel allowance by government, there was likely to be more interest in this scheme but it was equally unlikely that anyone set to lose their winter fuel allowance would qualify for this scheme. It was agreed that the cohort of potential applications could also be referred into other schemes such as the Stockburn Memorial Trust, the green doctor scheme and to claim pension credit.</p> <p>b) Support North Northants (Amy Donovan SNN) This was a relatively new arrangement, to provide a single front door for vulnerable people with multiple needs who would otherwise not necessarily qualify for statutory support or whose complex needs required careful navigation to access the care services available. Amy explained how the small team operated and that they largely relied on referrals from agencies rather than self referrals – they had at any one time 90-100 live cases and welcomed referrals from any organisation, including on behalf of homeless people,</p> <p>c) Green Doctor Scheme (Cheryl Brading, Groundwork) Cheryl set out the range of services that green doctor provided, from improving the energy efficiency of homes, to providing advice and tips on energy usage and keeping warm. The service was free to the user.</p> <p>d) Kettering Complimentary Therapy Group Barbara Lewis and Chris Dickenson explained the work of the KCTG – essentially as health and wellbeing therapists and highlighted some of their activities as well as inviting organisations to provide information to them that they could disseminate to clients.</p>
4	<p>Other Input</p> <p>Frank Rodgers on behalf of St Edwards Food kitchen highlighted that there were looking for venues on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays to provide hot meals to those who needed them</p> <p>Davis Walsh advertised the Christmas Fayre at SS Peter and Paul church and the town carol service in December, also at the church</p> <p>Tom Houston welcomed everyone to the newly refurbished church and art centre at St Andrews and invited organisations to make use of the space .</p>

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5	Discussion a) Benefits and debt advice – Accommodation Concern were the principal providers of advice about entitlement to benefits and they were asked to consider more outreach to improve access to their services. b) Warm Spaces were being provided by some organisations, but it was not clear what the full offer was across town and it was agreed that the Town Council would collate and publish a list which everyone else could also have and re-publish. c) Similarly a list of food banks and hot food providers was required to share and disseminate and the Town Council would collate this as well. d) The Mayor highlighted that he was bringing together local armed forces charities to co-ordinate their efforts to support ex service personnel. e) Loft insulation grants might be sourced through Care and Repair service (Green doctor to explore) f) It was not yet clear what the criteria was for using Household Support Funds and how much NNC would have access to.
	Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed
Date

(chair)