ROTHWELL TOWN COUNCIL

A Meeting of Rothwell Town Council was held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 11th November 2014 in the Market House, Market Hill, Rothwell.

PRESENT:  Councillor R Wilson  Town Mayor  
           Councillor Mrs C M Brown
           Councillor C W Cross
           Councillor M E Jones
           Councillor A J Mills
           Councillor K D Sumpter
           County Councillor J Hakewill (7.40 pm)

CHAIRMAN

As the Town Mayor was obliged to join the Meeting a few minutes late, Councillor Mills took the Chair for the beginning of the Meeting.

PRAYERS

Before the business of the Council commenced, the Revd Canon John Westwood said Prayers and referred to the fact this was Remembrance Day, and also spoke of the work of the local Police.

APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillors Mrs Draper, Jelley and Matthew, and from County Councillor Hakewill who would be joining the Meeting late.

COMMUNITY POLICING

General Report

PCSO Kirsty Ellerby was due to attend the Meeting, but she had not yet arrived. We had received the crime numbers for October, which is now in a different format, and showed that there were 22 incidents that month as follows:-

- Burglary dwelling - 1
- Burglary other - 4
- Criminal damage - 3
- Drug offences - 1
- Other offences - 3
- Theft from motor vehicles - 2
- Theft/handling - 4
- Theft of motor vehicles - 1
- Violence offences - 3.

The Town Council was concerned about the number of shop burglaries which had occurred recently as there were seven that the Town Council knew of, and some premises had been targeted three times. We had been informed at the Partnership Meeting that someone had been arrested for the first spate of shop burglaries, but there had since been several more. It was reported that there has been a 61.5% increase in the costs of the Police Force since the Police and Crime Commissioner took office.
It was AGREED to write to the Chief Constable, and to send copies to the Police and Crime Commissioner, County Councillor Hakewill and our MP regarding the shortage of manpower in the Kettering Rural North Area, which covers Desborough, Rothwell, Burton Latimer and all the surrounding villages.

The Town Mayor, Councillor Roger Wilson, joined the Meeting at 7.12 pm and took the Chair. In addition PCSOs Kirsty Ellerby and Laura Mitchell also arrived at the Meeting. They said that the crime figures are not too bad this month with the number of dwelling burglaries much lower than this time last year. The criminal damage offences were all at Orton House. Councillor Mills said that the Salvation Army premises in Bridge Street have been broken into again, as well as the Community Centre. PCSO Ellerby has been on leave for a few days but confirmed that the Police were fairly certain they had the person who committed the first lot of burglaries of shops. However, Rothwell is one of the communities with the highest crime figures so it was felt the reduction does not mean a lot. The PCSOs said a lot of these offences could be stopped if people locked their car and house doors securely. Councillor Mrs Talbot asked if they had been using the CCTV cameras and if these were checked and the PCSOs thought this was the case.

551 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

(1) Shop Burglaries: Major Pauline Cook from the Salvation Army said they always locked the Bridge Street premises securely. She felt they were victims of crime but were told it was the premises which was the victim. The PCSOs will take this back to the Police Officers. PCSO Ellerby said they should be updated on their break-ins and they could telephone 101 if they do not receive this. The Police and Crime Commissioner had said the number of front line Officers would not be cut but this has happened in this area.

Major Richard Cook asked if the Borough Councillors could raise this issue at the Borough that we do need more Police Officers in this area. It was confirmed that the Police and Crime Commissioner is paid from the Council Tax.

Councillor Sumpter wanted to thank the Police Officers and PCSOs who had attended the Remembrance Sunday Service.

(3) Footpath Repair: Councillor Sumpter had been asked to report that there is a very uneven pothole repair in the pavement outside No.5 Spencer Street, where a tree was removed and the area has now sunk.

552 MINUTES

It was MOVED by Councillor Mrs Brown, SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Talbot and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th October 2014 be confirmed and signed.

553 ENVIRONMENT/COMMUNITY

Church Walk Footpaths

A letter had been received from District Law that the Borough Council has looked into this matter and they confirmed that it is accepted the Borough has a duty of maintenance as regards the two footpaths within the closed churchyard at Holy Trinity Church and that this duty extends to the fences running alongside the footpaths. The Borough also accepts that the duty of maintenance includes the paved area at the front of the Church as part of the closed churchyard. In future, if any specific issues arise regarding maintenance, we should contact Dawn Hughes of the Council's Grounds Maintenance Team.
The Clerk had already let the Revd Canon John Westwood have a copy of this letter, and he was concerned there was some work which was needed urgently as there are some trip hazards on the footpaths. It was AGREED to write to Dawn Hughes and ask if the area could be inspected and a schedule of work prepared for this area to be done as and when finances permit, but to ask that any dangerous trip areas be dealt with as soon as possible.

554 REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Councillor Hakewill joined the Meeting at 7.40 pm and, as he had another Meeting to attend, it was AGREED to deal with this Agenda item now. The following matters were discussed:-

(1) Sure Start Centre: Councillor Hakewill said Action for Children has taken over this work in Kettering and they are contracting Home Start to work with families in need and these premises will now be called Children's Centres. The Library will offer various universal services. Councillor Hakewill had been approached by two young mothers who appreciated being able to attend the Sure Start Centre and he will contact the relevant parties to see if he can use some of his Ward Initiative Money to set up a group for young mothers to meet at the Centre. He was pleased to confirm there will still be services in Rothwell. Councillor Mrs Talbot said there is a Mums and Toddlers Group at The Well and The Bridge and if Health Visitor or someone similar wanted to visit this Group, they can do so and there could be an area for privacy. There is also a Church group for young mothers.

(2) Rothwell Road, Harrington: there was a barrier to stop drivers going into the field here and Councillor Hakewill had suggested a change of priorities in this part of the road. He understood they will take the barriers down, take the hedge back so there is a proper verge and install some chevrons to indicate where drivers should go.

(3) Infant and Junior Schools: Councillor Hakewill has heard very little about the proposed extensions here, but has put forward the following suggestions for when the work is being done:-
   (a) Gladstone Street is not suitable for construction traffic
   (b) it is not appropriate for the compound to be at the back of the houses
   (c) there needs to be a permanent turning circle put down.

The Planning Permission was to be refused for the development at the former Football Club site because Sport England said they could not remove the football pitch. Councillor Hakewill thought perhaps the construction traffic for the work at the Primary Schools could go along Cecil Street and use the old Football Club car park for a compound and he wants the respective parties to talk to each other about this. Councillor Cross thought the only real solution was to put a road through from Desborough Road or Rushton Road and Councillor Jones said there would be a problem along Cecil Street and Rushton Road. The Town Council has talked about Fanny Joyce's Lane being the entrance to this area. It was AGREED it will be impossible to use Gladstone Street and Cecil Street would be very difficult. Councillor Mills said we do not want to lose the facilities which we have been offered at the Infant and Junior Schools. Councillor Hakewill agreed and wants to get the County Council and Home Group (who want to develop the former Football Club site) to work together on the issues of the construction traffic and compound.

The Clerk confirmed that it has been arranged for representatives from Home Group to meet the Town Council on 26th November and Councillor Hakewill is also invited to this Meeting.

(4) Harrington Road Hedge: this has been done but Councillor Cross felt that next year we will have the same problem.

Councillor Hakewill left the Meeting and the section on Environment and Community was resumed.
**Town Centre Partnership**

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 22nd October 2014 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was MOVED by Councillor Cross, SECONDED by Councillor Sumpter and RESOLVED that the Report be approved and adopted.

**Gala Committee**

Copies of the Report of the Meeting held on 27th October 2014 had been circulated prior to this Meeting. It was MOVED by Councillor Sumpter, SECONDED by Councillor Mills and RESOLVED that the Report be approved and adopted.

**Former Health Centre**

A letter had been received from HB Villages to explain that they intend to submit an application to develop 14 supported living apartments on the site in Bridge Street. These units will be for adults with learning and physical disabilities to living independently with the right support. Each tenant is carefully assessed by commissioning teams and granted a suitable apartment.

**Northamptonshire Enterprise Agency**

Councillor Jones had invited David Burrows of this Agency to attend our next full Town Council Meeting but as we might want to discuss matters for longer than would be possible then, it had been agreed to have a special Meeting and Mr Burrows will come to us with a couple of suggested dates.

**Rothwell Logo**

Councillor Mills had brought a suggested Rothwell logo with the coats of arms of (a) the lions for the Royal Family, (b) the chevron for King John, (c) the trefoils for the Treshams and (d) the letter 'M' for the Maunsell family. The cost for doing the design was £40 and the badges will cost £7.50 each so he thought there should be one for the Mayor's robe. It was MOVED by Councillor Sumpter, SECONDED by Councillor Mrs Talbot and RESOLVED that the Town Council will pay for these.

**Civic Service**

The election is just before Rowell Fair Sunday on 31st May 2014 so it would be difficult to organise the Civic Service as the Town Council must not pre-judge the result of any election. It was suggested there would be a parade from the Church to the Blessing of the Fair. Councillor Mills declared a Personal Interest as Deputy Bailiff. It was felt the Town Council would have to organise this on behalf of the next Town Mayor. The last two years we have had horses and a parade to the Church and Councillor Mills wondered if the Town Council would fund these. Some Members felt this was a good promotion of the town. Councillor Sumpter felt the parade should be paid for by the Town Council, and Rowell Fair Society will pay for the band in both directions.

**Anaerobic Digester**

There is sometimes still a smell from this digester, and Councillor Mills thought we should E-mail Mr Shaun Cherry and ask what the problem is, with copies to the County Planning Department, the Environment Agency and the MP. The Environment Agency have continued to monitor this site.
Nosehill Footpath

It was reported that there is now a temporary footpath from Gordon Street to the Well Lane Recreation Ground to avoid the drop but this is a danger for people using mobility scooters. It was AGREED to inform the Borough Council, and to ask when Bovis will be putting in the play areas under the s.106 Agreement.

Football Pitch

It was reported that the Red Lion Football Team is playing on the pitch in Well Lane, and they are currently top of their league.

Solar Energy

Green Energy UK had sent details of the work in bringing solar energy to local communities which can reduce the electricity costs. It was AGREED to take no action here.

PLANNING

Planning Committee

The Town Council now moved into a Meeting of the Planning Committee. The following notifications had been received:

KET/2012/0304 for a wind turbine at Aspenfield, Main Street, Orton - the appeal is to be re-determined.

KET/2014/0483 for extensions at 23 Columbus Crescent - an Appeal has been lodged.

KET/2014/0572 for change of use to a place of worship at 9 Bridge Street - the application has been withdrawn.

The following Approvals had been received:

KET/2014/0602 32 Evison Road - Extension.

KET/2014/0632 58 Desborough Road - Extension.

KET/2014/0660 18 John Smith Avenue - Extension.

The following applications had been received and the Town Council's observations agreed as stated:

KET/2014/0656 26 School Lane - Replacement windows.
No objection.

KET/2014/0672 45 Moorfield Road - Extensions.
No objection.

KET/2014/0682 34 Littlewood Street - New full width rear extension.
No objection provided the amenities enjoyed by the neighbouring properties are not adversely affected.

KET/2014/0686 4 Clipstone Court - Extension.
No objection.

KET/2014/0712 26 Meadow Road - Extensions.
No objection.
Neighbourhood Plan

Councillor Mills is on the Borough Planning Policy Committee, and there was a Burton Latimer Parish Plan put before the Committee on 5th November, and this can be seen as item 7 of Appendix 1 of that Meeting. The Clerk was asked to prepare 12 copies for all the Members of the Town Council.

556 HIGHWAYS

Parking, Market Hill

The Clerk had received an E-mail forwarded by Ian Boyes of Northamptonshire Highways from a resident who was still dis-satisfied with the Tesco delivery lorries. The Clerk had replied and given him the information about the Site Meeting and the change in delivery times, and the fact that it is not illegal to park on double yellow lines to make deliveries. He had replied that he thought it was illegal to park within 10 metres of the last curved kerb stone with Tresham Street. Mr Boyes had thought this was only a recommendation in the Highway Code and not illegal.

Road Closure

Notification had been received of the road closure of part of Rothwell Road, Harrington from 8th to 12th December to allow the carriageway alterations to take place.

Build-out, Harrington Road

It was reported that Morris Homes are moving this build-out.

Shotwell Mill Lane

Notification had been received from the Land Registry as to how the Town Council could object to the application by the Handy Brothers to register the freehold interest of a section of Shotwell Mill Lane. The residents are putting in the formal objection and have the Town Council’s letter in support.

Northern Bypass/Relief Road

Councillor Mills thought we needed a survey of the traffic movements in Bridge Street and he will obtain a quote from an experienced firm to do this.

Glendon Road

Mr Colonna had asked if he could have double yellow lines in front of the access into his property: he has already paid to have white lines there. The Town Council had previously enquired about this but it does not meet the criteria.

557 MATTERS OF BUSINESS

Borough & Town/Parish Communications

A reply had been received from Sue Lyons, the Borough Head of Democratic & Legal Services, apologising that Rothwell was not included in the list of Councils which had responded to this issue on the Rural Forum Report circulated for their Meeting on 14th October. This was an oversight on her part when preparing the Report. Burton Latimer was not included as they did not respond to the letter.
Town/Parish Council Elections

A letter had been received from Ian White, the Borough Electoral Services Manager, that if any vacancies occur within six months of the election on 7th May 2015, they must only be filled by co-option, but the vacancies must still be notified to the Borough Chief Executive as soon as possible.

Training Sessions

The Clerk reported that she had details of all the training sessions being carried out by NCALC over the next few months.

Defibrillator

An E-mail had been received from a Chairman of a Parish Council that he had investigated the availability of defibrillators and was offering a deal for the ones which he had decided were best. It was AGREED to take no action here.

558 FINANCIAL REPORT

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payee</th>
<th>Goods or Services</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs C E Mackay</td>
<td>Clerk’s Salary</td>
<td>£583.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rothwell Preservation Trust</td>
<td>Contribution to electricity bill</td>
<td>£754.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter County Cleaning Services</td>
<td>Cleaning Market House</td>
<td>£36.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs C E Mackay</td>
<td>Reimbursement for cost of floor oil</td>
<td>£27.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B T Payment Services</td>
<td>Phone Bill</td>
<td>£161.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

559 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.