

**BOROUGH OF KETTERING**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Meeting held: 11th June 2014**

**Present:** Councillor Russell Roberts (Chair)  
Councillors Steve Bellamy, Michael Brown, Mark Dearing,  
Ian Jelley, Christopher Lamb, Jan Smith and Derek  
Zanger.

**Also Present** Councillors Maurice Bayes, Lloyd Bunday, David Howes,  
Paul Marks, Michael Tebbutt and Jonathan West

**14.EX.01     APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from David Cook (Chief Executive),  
Graham Soulsby (Deputy Chief Executive) and Julia Beckett  
(Deputy Chief Executive).

**14.EX.02     MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the  
Committee held on 16th April 2014 be  
approved and signed as a correct record.

**14.EX.03     DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**14.EX.04     HS2 – REPORT OF THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP**

A report was submitted seeking endorsement of a lobbying  
position in respect of future rail services. It was noted that the  
report of the task and finish group had been discussed and  
recommended to the Executive by the Research and  
Development Committee.

Councillor Paul Marks, Chair of the Research and Development Committee, addressed the Executive in respect of the report and highlighted the main conclusions of the Task and Finish Group.

Councillor Tebbutt also addressed the Executive and recommended that a Working Group be set up to bring together representatives of groups already involved in lobbying, for example East Midlands Trains, East Midlands Councils, LANRAC, the Northamptonshire Enterprise Partnership, the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership and Kettering Borough Council.

It was felt the Working Group could work together and ensure the area derived the maximum benefits of electrification proposals for the Midland mainline and also supported East Midlands Trains to obtain improved signalling and suitable rolling stock.

**RESOLVED** that: the report of the Research and Development Committee be endorsed and its conclusions inform the Council's future lobbying strategy; and that the Council work closely with its partners to realise that strategy.

#### **14.EX.05     THE COUNCIL'S WORK PROGRAMME**

Members noted the contents of the draft Work Programme to be published on 17th June 2014.

#### **14.EX.06     TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION**

A report was submitted which provided an update to the Executive in relation to the following:-

- Summer celebrations
- Market
- Big Screen
- Purple Flag
- Freedom of the Borough march

Councillor Jonathan West addressed the Committee in support of the key projects outlined in the report. Cllr West referred to previous conversations in respect of transport between Wicksteed Park and the Town Centre and the need to raise awareness of special events in both locations. It was noted that more discussions were now being held in this respect.

During debate, members suggested that the big screen could be deployed in the A6 towns and villages as well as in Kettering town centre. It was noted that the Council was happy to receive requests and suggestions regarding the use of the big screen in locations throughout the Borough.

Following an update on Purple Flag, it was noted that the self-assessment audit carried out on 7th June had been successful and good feedback was being received. If successful, the Council could look at taking the same approach in other town centres in the Borough.

Debate ensued on the Kettering Market update and the recent Teenage Market was commended. It was noted that the Town Centre Regeneration report for the next meeting would include a more detailed update on markets, including data as to usage.

**RESOLVED** that the Executive:-

- (i) endorses the hard work and preparation being done to deliver a programme of events over the summer that cements Kettering Town Centre as the place to be;
- (ii) celebrates the successful teenage market and welcomes news of the new incentive scheme for traders;
- (iii) supports the programme of events for the big screen over the summer;
- (iv) acknowledges the recognition the team is getting from partner organisations and the Home Office for the great work on delivering a Purple Flag for Kettering;
- (v) looks forward to the Freedom of the Borough march.

**14.EX.07     MAINTAINING A DURABLE BUDGET**

A report was submitted which:

- (a) provided members with a further case study on attracting external funding;
- (b) provided a reminder of the Council's medium term financial strategy and associated guiding principles;
- (c) highlighted the success of the Council's financial strategy, in particular through the delivery of efficiency savings for 2013/14;
- (d) illustrated the medium term financial modelling and the estimated levels of efficiency savings required for future years.

It was noted that a further report on Council Tax Support would be submitted to the Executive later this year.

**RESOLVED** that:-

- (i) the success the Council has achieved in attracting external funding be noted;
- (ii) the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy and associated guiding principles be noted;
- (iii) the Council's current Medium Term Financial Forecast and the progress being made for the delivery of efficiency savings for 2014/15 and future years be noted;
- (iv) the need to consider the future operation of the Council Tax Support Scheme at a future meeting be noted.

**14.EX.08     THE COMMUNITY FUND**

A report was submitted which considered how the new Community Fund would operate.

Councillor West addressed the committee commending the report. However he expressed concern regarding the definition

of community group and the need to ensure such groups were properly constituted. He also recommended to the Executive that officer support be given to community groups, if required, to help them bid for money from the fund.

It was noted that the Monitoring and Audit Committee would receive a report on the Community Fund in approximately ten months' time.

**RESOLVED** that the Terms of Reference attached as an Appendix to these minutes be approved.

**14.EX.09 BROADBAND - UPDATE**

A report was submitted which provided an update to Committee and sought a decision on whether to enter into an agreement with Northamptonshire County Council in the light of new information received.

**RESOLVED** that an agreement with Northamptonshire County Council be entered into on the basis that the Borough Council's contribution is matched at least 2-1 by NCC/BDUK and that a claw-back provision be included in the agreement setting out the basis for a proportionate share of any claw-back at the end of the contract term.

*(The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 7.55 pm)*

Signed .....  
Chair

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## **COMMUNITY FUND – HIGH LEVEL TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **1. Who May Apply** (within the Borough)

- Community Groups
- Town & Parish Councils

### **2. Project Criteria**

- Community based projects
- Environmental Improvements
- Health & Safety Improvements
- The project should generally be in line with the Council's stated aims, objectives and policies
- Capital based projects

*Please Note – the Community Fund is not available for revenue projects or for meeting an organisation's running costs.*

### **3. Application Review Period**

- Annually / On-going (subject to funding availability)

### **4. Funding Criteria**

- Grants will normally not exceed £2,500.
- Preference will normally be given to projects where (1) some form of match-funding exists, (2) are not subject to other KBC funding
- Organisations that have financial balances in excess of three months running costs will be required to match fund any KBC contribution.
- Organisations must have a bank / building society account in the name of the organisation (as per the current terms and conditions of the Village Hall Grant Scheme)

### **5. Administered By**

- Community Services (as per the Village Hall Grant Scheme)
- More detailed terms and conditions will be required (eg, grant timescales etc...) and a detailed application form will be worked-up.