

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

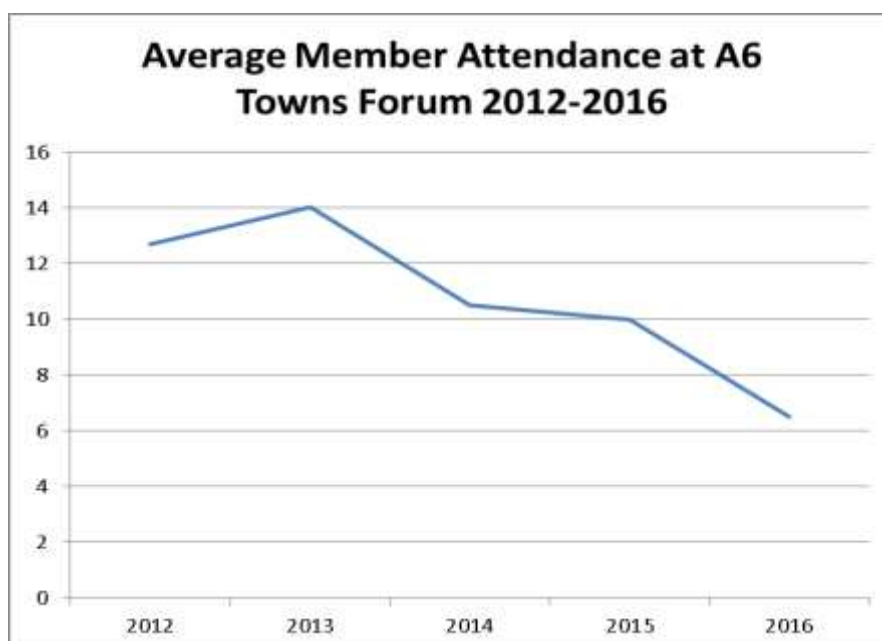
Committee	A6 TOWNS FORUM	Item 9	Page 1 of 2
Report Originator	Martin Hammond	<i>Fwd Plan Ref No:</i>	
Wards Affected	Barton Seagrave, Burton Latimer, Desborough Loatland, Desborough St. Giles, Rothwell.	12 th October 2016	
Title	FUTURE MEETING FORMAT FOR THE A6 TOWNS FORUM		

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider the future format of A6 Town Forum meetings.

2. INFORMATION

- 2.1 The A6 Towns Forum provides relevant County, Borough, Town and Parish Councillors with the opportunity to establish regular methods of communication on matters of joint concern.
- 2.2 Members will note that attendance at the A6 Towns Forum has been in decline in recent times, with the number of members, particularly by town & parish councillors attending meetings, having halved over the last three years, as can be seen in the graph below.



- 2.3 The forum also provides an opportunity for local organisations and agencies to express their views and join debate on issues affecting them directly. However, few external stakeholders now attend meetings unless directly invited.

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

Committee	A6 TOWNS FORUM	Item 9	Page 2 of 2
-----------	-----------------------	-----------	----------------

- 2.4 The agenda is now sent to all town and parish councillors for the four constituent councils, with an open invitation to all to attend. (Previously it was those notified by their council).
- 2.5 Members are invited to consider how the forum currently operates and whether the format of the meeting could be amended to provide increased input from councils that constitute the A6 Towns.
- 2.6 Possible changes that members may wish to consider include:
- Meetings to be held in each of the A6 Towns to encourage local participation
 - Adopting a different room layout, possibly providing a less formal setting
 - Amending the content or running order of agendas
 - Introducing an over-arching theme to each meeting
- 2.7 As noted above, a suggestion was made at a previous meeting of the forum to potentially have future meetings hosted by the A6 Towns themselves. A similar system is currently in operation for the Rural Forum which has successfully held meetings in rural parishes across the borough over the past 18 months.

3. RECOMMENDATION

Forum members are requested to consider and discuss the future format of A6 Towns Forum meetings

Background Papers:

None

Previous Reports/Minutes:

None