

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

A6 TOWNS FORUM

Meeting held: 29th November 2017

Present: Councillor John Currall (KBC/RTC) - Chair
Councillor Ruth Groome (KBC/BLTC)
Councillor Andrew Dutton (KBC)
Councillor June Derbyshire (KBC)
Councillor Christopher Groome (BLTC)
Councillor James Hakewill (NCC)
Councillor Chris Smith-Haynes (NCC)
Councillor Dianne Miles-Zanger (BLTC)
Councillor Jenny Davies (BLTC)
Councillor Raymond Davis (RTC)
Councillor Mark Cox (RTC)
Councillor Robin Carter (BSPC)
Councillor Mike Tebbutt (KBC/DTC)

Also Present: Julie Trahern (Kettering Borough Council)
Sgt Robert Offord (Northamptonshire Police)
Callum Galluzzo (Committee Administrator – KBC)

17.A6TF.12 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Allan Matthews
Councillor Ian Jelley (KBC/RTC), Councillor Mark Dearing (KBC),
Councillor Karl Sumpter, Councillor Carolyn Carter and Cllr Cedwien
Brown (KBC).

17.A6TF.13 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the A6 Towns
Forum held on 28th June 2017 be approved as a
correct record and signed by the Chair

17.A6TF.14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

17.A6TF.15 POLICE STATISTICS

Neighbourhood Sergeant Robert Offord was welcomed to the forum and gave an update on the latest crime statistics for the A6 Towns. The Forum heard that there had generally been an increase in criminal activity across the borough but this related to the increased reporting and changes in the way the police records crime statistics.

Members of the forum heard that there had been a decrease in the number of Drug Offences and Criminal Damage/Arson in Barton Seagrave. The number of Sexual Offences had increased partly due to historical offences recently being reported to the police.

Burton Latimer had seen a number of positive changes in statistics compared to the last year, with reductions in the number of reported Drug Offences, Thefts and reports of Criminal Damage/Arson, although there was an increase in the number of reported Public Disorder Offences.

It was heard that the number of reported Public Order Offences in Rothwell and Desborough had increased. Members heard of a case of indecent exposure in Rothwell in which the Police were able to respond positively arresting the guilty party following information from the public.

Reports of Anti-Social Behaviour had reduced by 10% across the borough.

Members of the forum heard that the new Police Delivery Model had been set up and running for over a month and had proved to be a positive change for how the police service operated. Officers were encouraged to be in the community as opposed to the Northern Accommodation Block, including at touch down points such as Desborough Police House where officers were requesting 24 hour access.

Dates of future Police surgeries at Rothwell Library were shared to members, these were;

- 8th December 2017
- 6th January 2018
- 9th February 2018
- 9th March 2018

It was heard that the Local Identified Priorities for the borough of Kettering were Speeding, littering and anti-social parking and that the Neighbourhood team had recently completed an Animal Handling course.

17.A6TF.16 NCC BUDGET CHANGES

Northamptonshire County Councillor Bill Parker attended the meeting and gave a brief overview of the difficulties and issues currently facing the finances at Northamptonshire County Council. Councillor Parker stated that there was a consultation that was live so people could decide on a number of different budget changes as well as stating that there were a number of county wide meetings for people to consider the options to determine the priority for spending. .

Members heard that Northamptonshire County Council was not alone in facing financial difficulties. The central Governments grant to the County Council had reduced drastically since 2010/11 where the grant made up 77% of the County Council's revenue budget.

The County Council is currently consulting on £9.6 Million worth of savings, another £27 Million worth of savings will also need to be acquired in the future. Statutory Obligations such as Adult/Children Services will be maintained.

Northamptonshire represents the 2nd biggest growing county in the country and has been underfunded for a number of years due to the Governments funding formula not being updated to represent the growth of the county.

| Item / Question | Summary of Response Given |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| How many librarians are currently employed by Northamptonshire County Council and how many of these will face losing their jobs due to the possible closure of the libraries. | There are currently between 50-60 paid librarians that operate across all 33 libraries. As you may be aware the consultation at the moment is seeking people's views on three options with regards to libraries. This consultation ends on the 13 th January where we will have a better picture of the situation. |
| Far more clarity is need from the County Council whether or not Parish/town councils will be able to purchase/lease the libraries from the County Council. Parish Councils will need time to sort through their own budgets should the need and demand to purchase the library come about. | Facts and figures with regards to each library are available to county councillors. These information packs state the running costs of each library. Greater clarification on the proposals will be brought forward. Parish/Town Councils should submit an expression n of interest to their County Councillor. |

17.A6TF.20 INFORMATION ITEMS

Newsround

Rothwell

The Rothwell Christmas Gala Evening would be held on Friday 1st December 2017

Burton Latimer

The Remembrance Day ceremony and parade was successful and well attended by all. The Christmas lights were switched on, on Friday 24th November and were a very successful night with late night shopping also starting. Two well attended public meetings had taken place with regards to local policing and the possible closure of the library. Over 200 people were in attendance at both.

Desborough

The Desborough Christmas Gala Night took place on Friday 24th November.

Feedback from other Forums

None

17.A6TF.21 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- Health Trust

17.A6TF.22 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

17.A6TF.23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would take place on 31st January 2017

(The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 8.37 pm)

Signed.....

Chair

CJG