

## **BOROUGH OF KETTERING**

### **A6 TOWNS FORUM**

**Meeting held: 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

**Present:** Councillor John Currall (KBC/RTC)  
Councillor Ruth Groome (KBC/BLTC)  
Councillor Andrew Dutton (KBC)  
Councillor James Hakewill (NCC)  
Councillor Chris Smith-Haynes (NCC)  
Councillor Jenny Davies (BLTC)  
Councillor Mike Tebbutt (KBC/DTC)  
Councillor Karl Sumpter (KBC/TRC)  
Councillor Dianne Miles-Zanger (BSPC)  
Councillor David Soans (KBC/DTC)  
Councillor Allan Matthews (NCC/DTC)  
Councillor Margaret Talbot (KBC/RTC)  
Councillor Cedwien Brown (KBC/RTC)  
Councillor Mark Dearing (KBC/RTC)

**Also Present:** Julie Trahern (Kettering Borough Council)  
Julia Baish (Kettering Borough Council)  
David Pope (Committee Administrator – KBC)  
Ian Smith (NCC Highways)  
Sarah Barnwell (NCC Highways)

#### **18.A6TF.01 ELECTION OF CHAIR**

It was proposed by Councillor Tebbutt and seconded by Councillor Talbot that Councillor John Currall be elected as Chair for the Municipal Year 2018/19.

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Currall be elected Chair of the A6 Towns Forum for the ensuing Municipal year.

#### **18.A6TF.02 ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR**

It was proposed by Councillor Currall and seconded by Councillor Miles-Zanger that Councillor Margaret Talbot be elected as Deputy Chair for the Municipal Year 2018/19.

**RESOLVED**

that Councillor Talbot be appointed Deputy Chair of the A6 Towns Forum for the ensuing Municipal year.

**18.A6TF.03 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Russell Roberts (KBC), June Derbyshire (KBC), Victoria Perry (NCC) and Mark Cox (RTC), Christopher Groome (BLTC)

**18.A6TF.04 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED**

that the minutes of the meeting of the A6 Towns Forum held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair

**18.A6TF.05 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Jim Hakewill declared an interest in relation to Agenda Item 10 as a landowner in Braybrooke.

**18.A6TF.06 POLICE STATISTICS**

In the absence of a member of the police the statistics were noted and the following questions raised for feedback:-

- Given the recent epidemic of thefts by criminals on scooters, was this becoming an issue locally and could police provide any advice on this sort of attack.
- Were possession of weapons offences being captured as part of stop and search procedures or in the course of detaining a suspect for another offence
- What was the current police approach to Gypsy and Traveller's in comparison to Home Office guidance
- The police statistics lacked totals for each crime type and there were no comparative figures for crimes in the previous year.

## **18.A6TF.07 PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM**

It was reported that the “Future Northants” public sector reform consultation had commenced in relation to the government request for councils in Northamptonshire to make proposals to replace the existing two tier system of local government with all-purpose councils, also known as unitary councils.

A number of specific dates were provided to the meeting relation to the consultation process ahead of the end of August submission date.

- 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Town and Parish Consultation event in Towcester
- 10<sup>th</sup> July – KBC elected member Focus Group at KBC
- 12<sup>th</sup> July - Town and Parish Consultation event in Wellingborough
- 18<sup>th</sup> July – Residents Focus Group at KBC
- 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Consultation closes
- 20<sup>th</sup> August – Member Information Session at KBC
- 29<sup>th</sup> August – Extraordinary Council Meeting

The forum discussed the consultation and the possible final submission outcomes. Queries were raised regarding the potential for misalignment of dates between district elections and town and parish elections. It was heard that the Secretary of State had the power postpone the date of elections so that all elections aligned in 2020.

It was **AGREED** that the forum strongly supported the concept of Borough and Town and Parish elections being postponed to the same date in 2020.

It was heard that physical copies of the consultation document were available in libraries across the Borough and online.

## **18.A6TF.08 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HIGHWAYS**

Ian Smith, Northamptonshire Highways (NH) maintenance manager for Kettering and Daventry attended the meeting alongside NH Community Liaison Officer, Sarah Barnwell.

The meeting heard that all highways and streets were visually inspected a minimum of annually. It was reported that the service was doing what it could with the resources available to it and having just faced a very challenging winter that had adversely affect the road network.

Members asked questions on the following topics:-

- The length of time potholes took to be repaired

- The number of times temporary repairs were made before potholes were permanently repaired
- Whether the service looked at new road surfacing innovations and the use of recycled materials
- Sunken utility cover responsibility
- Whether a white-lining programme for roads was in effect
- The winter gritting programme and the possibility of town and parish councils precepting to cover gritting
- Insurance claims for damage to vehicles caused as a result of potholes

The forum thanked both Ian Smith and Sarah Barnwell for attending the meeting.

### **18.A6TF.09 SITE SPECIFIC PART 2 (SSP2) LOCAL PLAN**

The forum was provided with details of the ongoing consultation in relation to the draft SSP2 local plan that would run until 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2018.

The SSP2, when adopted, would form part of the development plan for the Borough situated below the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and would set out allocations and local policies. A number of consultations had been undertaken since the SSP2 process commenced in 2012, and a further stage of consultation would take place ahead of the pre-submission for the plan.

The SSP2 document contained the following details:

- Allocations (housing, employment, open space)
- Settlement boundaries
- Local Green Space
- Green Infrastructure corridors
- Development criteria for allocations
- Protection and enhancement of town centres and local centres

A series of consultation events were being arranged and the public and all stakeholders were encouraged to attend. Presentation material would be available and KBC officers would be in attendance to discuss the plans and answer questions.

It was noted the information packs and consultation material had been sent to town and parish councils and councils were requested to display posters where possible.

The forum raised concerns regarding the inclusion of Rothwell Library and Fire Station as a proposed development area. It was heard that

should specific sites become vacant in future it was important to have a policy in place for suitable future use.

## **18.A6TF.10 INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **Newsround**

#### Rothwell

It was reported that Rowel Fair held on the previous Bank Holiday weekend had been a great success with an estimated 7,000 in attendance.

Rothwell Carnival would take place on 7<sup>th</sup> July with an invitation extended to other A6 Towns organisations to take part in the parade.

#### Burton Latimer

The annual Burton Latimer Duck Race would take place on 1<sup>st</sup> July, at the Pocket Park.

#### Desborough

Carnival this weekend

### **Feedback from other Forums**

#### Kettering Town Forum

It was noted that as Deputy Chair, Cllr Talbot would now be the A6 Towns Forum representative on the Kettering Town Forum.

Cllr Tebbutt provided a brief update from the Kettering Town Forum meeting earlier in the week.

#### Rural Forum

It was noted that the next meeting of the forum was scheduled for the following day, 28<sup>th</sup> June.

## **18.A6TF.11 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

The existing list of future agenda items was noted and the following items added:-

- To invite Jane Calcott of Neighbourhood Watch to the forum on an annual basis for an update on the work of the organisation in the A6 Towns
- Public Sector Reform be added as a standing item for future meetings

- Details regarding the future of the KBC customer service points at Rothwell and Desborough libraries.

**18.A6TF.12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**18.A6TF.13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018

(The meeting started at 7.00 pm and ended at 8.18pm)

Signed.....

Chair

*DJP*