

BOROUGH OF KETTERING

A6 TOWNS FORUM

Meeting held: 3rd April 2019

Present Councillor John Currall (Chair) (KBC/BLTC)
Councillor Mark Dearing (KBC/RTC)
Councillor Maggie Don (KBC)
Councillor Christopher Groome (BLTC)
Councillor Ruth Groome (KBC/BLTC)
Councillor James Hakewill (NCC/KBC/RTC)
Councillor Allan Matthews (NCC)
Councillor Chris Smith-Haynes (NCC)
Councillor David Soans (KBC/RTC)
Councillor Dianne Miles-Zanger (BSPC)

Also Present Julie Trahern (Head of Customer Services)
Russ Howell (Health Services Manager)
Hazel Webb (Community Services Manager)
Sgt. Robert Offord – Northamptonshire Police
David Pope (Committee Administrator)

18.A6TF.36 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cedwien Brown June Derbyshire and Margaret Talbot (Kettering).

18.A6TF.37 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the A6 Towns Forum held 30th January 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

18.A6TF.38 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

18.A6TF.39 POLICE STATISTICS

Sgt Rob Offord presented the Crime and Antisocial Behaviour Statistics.

It was reported that total crime figures were up 28%, largely as a result of an increase in theft and violence against person. The theft category was largely comprised of attempted thefts from vehicles and burglaries. There had been four reported burglaries on 19th March and police were working to link these together, although they were largely reliant on witnesses and CCTV. Extra patrols were being undertaken in the area concerned.

Details were provided for specific crime statistics and offences in each of the A6 Towns while members asked questions in relation to the newly opened truck stop, travellers and animal neglect.

18.A6TF.40 HEALTH AND WELLBEING FESTIVAL

A presentation was provided to the meeting by the Community Services Manager and the Health Services Manager to promote the Health and Wellbeing Festival being organised by the Council later in the year.

A number of key public health priorities in Kettering were outlined including smoking cessation, reduced alcohol consumption, healthy eating, increased physical activity and emotional wellbeing.

It was heard the 61.3% of individuals nationally carried excess weight, however the figure for the Borough stood at 70%. Based on this and other statistics including local hospital admission figures there was a need to do something in the Borough to help residents improve their health and wellbeing.

The festival itself would provide a showcase for local sport and activity clubs, groups and organisations to the general public detailing the offer that was available locally.

It was anticipated that the event would take place across the 22nd and 23rd June at two sites, Northampton Road recreation ground and Boughton House. It was heard that Northampton Road would feature showcases of the more physical activities with Boughton House staging the more cultural elements.

The meeting heard that the event would be Borough-wide and both the A6 Towns and Rural Forums would receive the same presentations to encourage involvement from other areas. Furthermore a press release would be issued seeking involvement from local sport and activity groups, with the Kettering Sports Awards being held the same weekend. It was also hoped that the festival could become an annual event.

Details of a pilot scheme, “Discover Your Doorstep” due to commence in-house at the end of 2019 were outlined. This scheme would see the public encouraged to submit photos of interesting places in the Borough which would then be promoted. It was noted that there were a number of active local groups on Facebook that could be usefully involved with the project. Library services across the Borough could be used to promote the event

18.A6TF.41 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

A brief update was provided on the position of local government reform in the county, with the forum noting little change from the position reported at the previous meeting.

18.A6TF.42 ALLOTMENTS

A report was presented that updated the forum in relation to allotment provision in the Borough, with a list of KBC allotments provided.

Members questioned whether provision of new allotments was something that could be factored into future Section 106 agreements for new planning developments. The forum considered that this was an area for possible consideration by Planning Policy Committee.

18.A6TF.43 NEWSROUND

Burton Latimer

The Town Council for taking over library services in the town, with a precept being raised to pay for elements of the operation of the service.

Desborough

It was reported that a very successful litter pick had taken place in the town on 22nd March, with a great number of families taking part and over 50 sacks of litter being collected.

Barton Seagrave

A litter pick would be taking place in the town on April 13th April with the Women’s Institute and youngsters from the town taking part.

18.A6TF.44 FEEDBACK FROM OTHER FORUMS

None

18.A6TF.45 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- Update on Local Government Reform in Northamptonshire (to every meeting)
- Recycling Update (to next meeting)
- Health provision and primary care update (to next meeting)
- Gypsy and Traveller Policy
- Fly-tipping update

18.A6TF.46 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

18.A6TF.47 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the forum would be held on 10th July 2019.

(The meeting started at 7.00pm and ended at 8.12pm)

Signed
Chair

DJP