

# BOROUGH OF KETTERING

## A6 TOWNS FORUM

Meeting held: 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019

**Present** Councillor John Currall (Chair) (KBC/BLTC)  
Councillor Mark Cox (RTC)  
Councillor Maggie Don (KBC)  
Councillor Andrew Dutton (KBC)  
Councillor Ruth Groome (KBC/BLTC)  
Councillor James Hakewill (NCC/KBC/RTC)  
Councillor Dianne Miles-Zanger (BSPC/BLTC)  
Councillor Karl Sumpter (KBC/RTC)  
Councillor Margaret Talbot (KBC/RTC)  
Councillor Mike Tebbutt (KBC)

**Also Present** Julie Trahern (Head of Income and Debt Management & Customer Services)  
Heather Jackson (Senior Electoral Services Officer)  
Julie Lemmy (NENE & Corby CCG)  
Sgt. Robert Offord – Northamptonshire Police  
David Pope (Committee Administrator)

### **19.A6TF.15 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jenny Davies, Ray Davies, Mark Dearing, June Derbyshire, Christopher Groome, Allan Matthews and Jan Smith.

### **19.A6TF.16 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting of the A6 Towns Forum held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **19.A6TF.17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

## **19.A6TF.18 POLICE STATISTICS**

Sgt Rob Offord presented the Crime and Antisocial Behaviour Statistics to the forum and provided details of statistics that had been published that day.

The meeting heard that total crime levels had risen by 2% across the Borough compared with the previous year. Figures were then provided for overall crime for each of the A6 Towns, with moderate increases in total crime noted for all areas except Desborough St Giles.

Sgt Offord reported the following:-

- Operation Lapland would be in place to deter theft offences in the run up to Christmas
- Incidents of Anti-social Behaviour had been reported at The Grange and the Rec in Desborough
- An update was provided on the recent National Knife Crime Week initiative
- A new Facebook page for the local area police force aimed to provide better public engagement.
- Parking was not a locally identified priority for police, although PCSOs had issued four parking tickets in the last month. KBC warden Geoff Stobbart was now covering rural areas.
- Reports of anti-social motorcycle use in Barton Seagrave had ceased, although it was considered that this remained an issue but was not being reported
- Crime Prevention Information circulated to the meeting detailed the make-up and methods of house break-ins
- A new officer had been added to the neighbourhood team in the last two weeks
- The force was currently recruiting for new officers, with 200 new officers to be recruited following an increase in the OPCC precept. Nationally, further increases in numbers had been promised by the government.

Members asked questions in relation to parking enforcements, overweight lorries in Burton Latimer and police presence at town council meetings.

## **19.A6TF.19 HEALTH PROVISION AND PRIMARY CARE UPDATE**

The meeting welcomed Julie Lemmy, Deputy Director of Primary Care for Nene and Corby CCGs who attended to provide an update in regard to primary health care across the county.

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It was reported that there was an increasing demand on GP practices and that services were going through a period of national change. Given the shortage of medical professionals such as GPs and nurses, there was a need to change how services were delivered. It was noted that approximately 70% of all GP visits did not necessarily require a patient to be seen by a GP, other medical professionals could be more appropriate such as pharmacists or physiotherapists and service models needed to be amended to reflect this position.

Services were being developed to ensure they were located in the best location for local communities to access them. Primary health care practices were coming together to provide a level of resilience that would allow services to continue to be delivered.

The health service was aware of the level of housing development in the county, with 25,000 houses planned for the north of the county alone, all requiring access to services. Hospitals in the north of the county were running at their capacity and had not been developed to support the current or future level of patients.

The CCG was mapping where new housing developments were coming through with an aim to understand where investment could best be made, although it was noted that this was a significant piece of work.

Members asked questions in relation to:-

- Corby walk-in medical Centre
- Dental Access Centres
- Care navigation
- Mental health services
- Nurse practitioners
- How to reduce GP visits that could be seen by a different medical practitioner
- The merger of Corby and Nene CCGs
- The difficulties in accessing GP appointments

## **19.A6TF.20 PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM UPDATE**

A brief update was provided in relation to the current position of local government reform in the county.

It was reported that the Minister for Local Government had written to the leaders of Northamptonshire Councils confirming that the legislation necessary to establish the two new unitary authorities would be in Parliament as soon as practicable during autumn. In addition, the legislation would provide for elections to the new shadow authorities being held in May 2020. At a recent meeting, civil servants from the

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government had explained the process for this legislation, with an expectation that it would take around eight weeks to go through the Parliamentary stages. Northamptonshire councils would remain in regular contact with MHCLG as this work progressed.

#### **19.A6TF.21 NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE FUNDING DAY 2019**

The forum noted details of the North Northamptonshire Funding Day that would take place at the Council offices on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October, with presentations due to be provided from a number of community funding organisations.

#### **19.A6TF.22 NEWSROUND**

##### **Rothwell**

Three future events were reported, the Mayor's Winter Ball set for 2<sup>nd</sup> November at Tresham Hall., the Christmas Dinner for the Compassionate Friends to be held at Barton Hall on 22<sup>nd</sup> November and the Rothwell Christmas Gala on the 6<sup>th</sup> December.

In addition, the purchase of Rothwell Library was moving forward to the creation and submission of a business plan. It was also reported that Rothwell Royal British Legion branch was being resurrected.

##### **Desborough**

A successful 40's Day event had been held on 14<sup>th</sup> September. The forthcoming Sunday would see the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the combination of St Giles and the Methodist Church. The Desborough Christmas Gala was set to take place on 29<sup>th</sup> November with a Christmas Tree Festival taking place at the same time.

##### **Burton Latimer**

It was reported that there was now a contractor engaged in Pocket Park maintenance. It was noted that the Christmas light switch on would take place on 29<sup>th</sup> November, the Town Council takeover of Burton Latimer Library was ongoing and moves were afoot to have a defibrillator installed in a phone-box on Cranford Road. A singing around the Christmas tree event would take place on 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

##### **Barton Seagrave**

The meeting heard that bookings for the new Village Hall were going well, with a number of new groups involved and the hall being in daily

use. A litter pick organised by the Rotary Club would take place on the forthcoming Saturday.

**19.A6TF.23 FEEDBACK FROM OTHER FORUMS**

Councillor Talbot provided an update from the Kettering Town Forum held on 30<sup>th</sup> September, with updates provided in relation to the Beat the Street initiative, Meadow Road Park improvements and the recent successful Heritage Action Zone funding bid

It was noted that the Rural Forum would be held the following evening, 3<sup>rd</sup> October at Pytchley Village Hall.

**19.A6TF.24 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

- Update on Local Government Reform in Northamptonshire (to every meeting)
- Recycling Update (to next meeting) and a review of litter bins
- Progress update on the Parishing of Kettering
- Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment

**19.A6TF.25 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**19.A6TF.26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the forum would be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020.

*(The meeting started at 7.00pm and ended at 8:35pm)*

Signed .....  
Chair

DJP