

# NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL



## COUNCIL

Monday, 28 April 2014

**YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL, WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE GUILDHALL NORTHAMPTON ON MONDAY, 28 APRIL 2014 AT 6:30 PM WHEN THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS IS PROPOSED TO BE TRANSACTED**

**1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**2. MINUTES.**

To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Meeting of the Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014 and the adjourned meeting of the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014.

**3. APOLOGIES.**

**4. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS**

**6. MEMBER AND PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

(Copy herewith)

**7. CABINET MEMBER PRESENTATIONS**

(Copy herewith)

**8. OPPOSITION GROUP BUSINESS**

Councillor Stone to make a statement on 'Women's Issues'.

## **9. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS**

(Copy herewith)

## **10. PINEHAM BUSINESS PARK**

(Copy herewith)

## **11. NOTICES OF MOTION**

i) Councillor Eldred to propose and Councillor Larratt to second that:

“This Council recognises the importance of the town's three sports clubs and celebrates having cricket, football and rugby teams in Northampton.

Despite years of delays under the Liberal Democrats, this Council is pleased that, under Conservative control, we have now seen developments agreed at Sixfields Stadium, Franklin's Gardens and the County Ground.

This Council welcomes the positive attitude demonstrated by all the clubs and their help in promoting the town and wishes them every success for the coming seasons”.

ii) Councillor Hadland to propose and Councillor Nunn to second:

“This Council welcomes the announcement by leading financial company Experian that Northampton is the number one place in Britain to do business.

The company released its findings in March outlining the four key areas it measured with the number of start-ups, rate of insolvencies, level of financial health and business turnover.

Council recognises that Northampton achieved top marks for turnover, start-up and insolvency rates and dropped just one point for financial strength.

Council welcomes this report which recognises the important partnerships with leading businesses, public authorities and the local enterprise partnerships as part of the Northampton Alive programme”.

iii) Councillor Markham to propose and Councillor Oldham to second:

“This Council recognises the benefit of Tenant Engagement which, which has been absent for many years.

This Council has benefited since opening the doors and introducing not only the Tenant Panel but also the additional six service improvement panels.

This Council is committed to continue to engage with tenants and recognises the added value it brings to the authority”.

iv) Councillor Markham to propose and Councillor Bottwood to second:

“Council congratulates this administration's commitment to the creation of new council houses in Northampton, and welcomes the announcement that this Conservative administration will be building 100 new council houses at Dallington Grange.

This project will bring the first significant development of new council homes in our town for two decades, and as one of the largest in the country, will put Northampton at the forefront of the creation of new council homes.

Council also welcomes the Government's efforts to address the national housing shortage, increase the supply of affordable housing and to help people get on the housing ladder".

v) Councillor Beardsworth to propose and Councillor Glynane to second :

The Conservative election manifesto of 2011 made several pledges, including "Northampton needs a Council that listens and delivers what the people want; not one that is out of touch."

Council therefore calls upon the administration to deliver on this manifesto promise as a priority.

vi) Councillor Eldred to propose and Councillor King to second:

'Council welcomes the opening of the new Northamptonshire Credit Union access and information point at the Guildhall One Stop Shop. The new access point will make it easier for people in Northampton to use the services offered by the Credit Union and help those experiencing financial difficulties.

'Council supports the work of Northamptonshire Credit Union and their efforts to help those experiencing financial hardship, and to give people alternatives to loan sharks and pay day lenders.'

vii) Councillor Markham to propose and Councillor King to second:

'Preventing abuse and domestic violence is a high priority for this Administration.

'Council notes that the Borough Council is working closely with relevant organisations in Northampton that deal with issues around abuse and domestic violence, and that officers from the Borough Council are working proactively with Northamptonshire County Council on this issue.

'Council supports the work of these associated organisations, and notes that the Administration will continue to monitor this situation to see what further support can be given to help victims of domestic violence.'

viii) Councillor Mason to propose and Councillor N Choudary to second:

This council is committed to ensuring that all people can live free of fear of violence at home, and is totally opposed to the domestic violence that led to women in our county making 12,000 complaints to the police in the last year for which figures are available

This council is aware of the difficulties that agencies working with women who are victims of domestic abuse are facing.

This council recognises that this is a safeguarding issue and resolves to work with the relevant agencies in the town to find local solutions to these difficulties.

This council further resolves to work with county wide agencies to develop a strategy for support that meets the needs of the women and the children at risk of abuse and who are victims of abuse.

ix) Councillor Stone to propose and Councillor N Choudary to second:

This Council notes the proliferation and concentration of betting shops is contributing to community decline, especially the decline in valued community assets like pubs. England's poorest spend £13bn a year on the gambling machines in these shops according to a study published by the Campaign for Fairer Gambling. The ongoing spread of betting shops has also been linked to gambling addiction and crime.

This council also notes that gambling machines in the Betting Shops and in pubs is adding to the vulnerability of our local communities.

This Council therefore resolve to write a letter to Central Government asking them to create a separate planning use class for betting shops so that local authorities have new powers to address the problem.

x) Councillor Capstick to propose and Councillor Palethorpe to second:

“This Council notes that the WNDC finished on 31st March. This Council believes ongoing WNDC projects must still be monitored to ensure their completion. This Council resolves to establish a working party to monitor the progress on the completion of the WNDC legacy projects. The working party would receive bi-monthly reports of progress and in turn the Working Party reports back to Full Council”.

## **12. MATTERS OF URGENCY WHICH BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE MAYOR IS OF THE OPINION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED.**

The Guildhall  
Northampton

D. Kennedy Chief Executive

### **Public Participation**

#### **1. Comments and Petitions**

- 1.1 A member of the public (or an accredited representative of a business ratepayer of the Borough) may make a comment or present a petition on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers. A comment or presentation of a petition shall be for no more than three minutes. No notice of the nature of the comment to be made or of the petition is required except for the need to register to speak by 12 noon on the day of the meeting.

(Public comments and petitions will not be taken and the Annual Council Meeting or other civic or ceremonial meetings.)

## NOTES

- i. *Comments may be on one or more subjects but each person has no longer than three minutes to have their say.*
- ii. *The same person may make a comment and present a petition on different subjects. In such instances that person will have three minutes to make their comment and a separate three minutes to present a petition.*

## 2. Member and Public Questions

- 2.1 A member of the public (or business ratepayer of the Borough) may ask a maximum of two written questions at each meeting, each limited to a maximum of 50 words, on any matter in relation to which the Council has powers. Each question shall:
  - be submitted in writing and delivered, faxed or e-mailed to Democratic Services no later than 10.00am seven calendar days before the day of the meeting; and
  - include the name and address of the questioner and the name of the Cabinet member/Committee Chair to whom the question is put.
- 2.2 At the meeting, copies of all questions and the responses to them from the public and Members will be made available to the public and press. The Mayor may allow one supplementary question, without notice, that arises directly from the original question or response.

(Questions will not be taken at the Annual Council Meeting or at civic or ceremonial meetings or meetings called to deal with specific items of business.)

## NOTES

*In respect of paragraph 2.1 above, questions may be rejected on certain grounds that are set out on page 4-12 of the Council's Constitution and which may be viewed at [www.northampton.gov.uk/site/scripts/download\\_info.php?fileID=1919](http://www.northampton.gov.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?fileID=1919) or by seeking advice using the contact details below.*

## 3. Motions

- 3.1 A member of the public may register to speak to a motion under the 'Notices of Motion' item on the agenda. Registration to speak must be made to Democratic Services by 12 noon on the day to the meeting. Speaking to a motion is restricted to three minutes per person.

(The 'Notices of Motion' item will not be taken at the Annual Council meeting or meetings called for civic or ceremonial purposes.)

## 4. General

A member of the public may make a comment, present a petition, ask a question or speak to a motion at the same meeting subject to the restrictions set out above.

## 5. Contacts

Democratic Services: e-mail [democraticservices@northampton.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@northampton.gov.uk)

Tel 01604 837722

Mail Democratic Services  
Northampton Borough Council

The Guildhall  
St Giles Square  
Northampton NN1 1DE

## MINUTES

OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD AT THE GUILDHALL, NORTHAMPTON, ON Monday, 10 March 2014 AT SIX THIRTY O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

**PRESENT:** HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR Councillor (in the Chair).

**COUNCILLORS:** Marriott, Caswell, Ansell, Aziz, Beardsworth, Begum, Bottwood, Capstick, I. Choudary, N Choudary, Conroy, Davies, Duncan, Eales, Eldred, Flavell, Ford, Glynane, Golby, Hadland, Hallam, Hibbert, Hill, Lane, Larratt, Lynch, Mackintosh, Malpas, Markham, Mason, Mennell, Meredith, Nunn, Oldham, Palethorpe, Parekh, Patel, Sargeant, Stone, Strachan, Subbarayan, Wire DL and Yates

### COUNCIL TAX 2014/15

Councillor Mackintosh submitted a report that sought Council's approval of the Council Tax resolution shown at Appendices A, B, and C of the report.

Councillor Bottwood seconded the recommendations;

In accordance with the principles of the 2014 Regulations a recorded vote was held:

There voted for the Council Tax 2014/15: Councillors Ansell, Bottwood, Caswell, I Choudary, Duncan, Eldred, Flavell, Ford, Golby, Hadland, Hallam, Hibbert, Hill, Lane, Lynch, Mackintosh, Malpas, Markham, Nunn, Oldham, Parekh, Patel, Sargeant and Yates.

There voted against: Councillors Aziz, Beardsworth, Begum, Capstick, N Choudary, Conroy, Davies, Eales, Glynane, Mason, Meredith, Palethorpe, Stone, Strachan, Subbarayan and Wire.

There abstained the Mayor.

The recommendations in the report were agreed.

### RESOLVED:

### Council Tax Resolution 2014/15

Northampton Borough Council (hereinafter referred to as "the Council" in this resolution) calculated the following

- 1 Note that on 15/01/2014 the Council calculated the Council Tax Base 2014/15:
- a) for the whole council area as: 80,851 (Item T in the formula in section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended)
  - b) for the parish precept area as: 19,491 for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a parish precept relates as in the attached appendix C.
- 2 Set the Council Tax Requirement for its own purposes for 2014/15 (including parish precepts) at £13,886,400
- |    |                                     |                   |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| a) | Net Expenditure on Council Services | £<br>12,609,979   |
| b) | Parish Council Precepts             | 1,046,282         |
| c) | Total Council Tax Requirement       | <u>13,656,261</u> |
- 3 Set the following amounts in accordance with sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:
- a) Relevant Gross Expenditure 137,411,250 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils
  - b) Relevant Gross Income -123,754,989 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
  - c) Council Tax Requirement 13,656,261 The Council Tax Requirement being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).
  - d) Basic Council Tax including Parish Precepts 225.16 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a) above), calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (including Parish Precepts).
  - e) Total of Special Items 1,795,498 This represents the total of Parish precepts and other special items in accordance with s34(1) of the Act (as shown at 2 above).
  - f) Basic Amount of Council Tax for dwellings in parts of the area to which no special items relate 195.58 Item (e) - (g) divided by tax base (resolution 2(a)) in accordance with s34(2) of the Act.
- 4 Note that the County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner have issued precepts to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table at Schedule C.
- 5 Note that the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Act hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the tables at appendix 2 as the amounts of Council Tax for 2014/15 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.
- 6 Note that the Council's basic amount of council tax for 2014 (for the borough's own purposes and excluding special expenses) is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under section 52ZB of Government Finance Act 1992



**Schedules**

| <b>Schedule A</b> |                            |                            |                                      |  |   |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|
|                   | (1)<br>Council<br>Tax Base | (2)<br>Special<br>Expenses | (3)<br>Special<br>Expenses<br>Charge | (4)<br>Basic<br>Amount of<br>Council Tax<br>excluding<br>Special<br>Expenses | (5)<br>Basic<br>Amount of<br>Council Tax<br>Including<br>Special<br>Expense |
|                   |                            | £                          | £                                    | £  | £   |
| Area:             |                            |                            |                                      |  |   |
| Billing           | 2,402                      | 165,005                    | 68.69                                | 195.56   | 264.25  |
| Collingtree       | 509                        | 30,140                     | 59.26                                | 195.56   | 254.82  |
| Duston            | 5,260                      | 423,894                    | 80.58                                | 195.56   | 276.14  |
| Great Houghton    | 279                        | 21,840                     | 78.16                                | 195.56   | 273.72  |
| Hardingstone      | 758                        | 38,401                     | 50.67                                | 195.56   | 246.23  |
| Upton             | 2,007                      | 23,000                     | 11.46                                | 195.56   | 207.02  |
| Wootton           | 6,215                      | 364,709                    | 58.69                                | 195.56   | 254.25  |
| Hunsbury Meadows  | 475                        | 13,820                     | 29.08                                | 195.56   | 224.64  |
| West Hunsbury     | 1,586                      | 52,255                     | 32.95                                | 195.56   | 228.51  |
| Unparished Area   | 41,160                     | 662,432                    | 16.09                                | 195.56   | 211.65  |
|                   | <b>60,651</b>              | <b>1,795,496</b>           |                                      |  |   |

**Schedule B Basic Amount of Council Tax for each Council Tax band**

| Valuation Bands  | A<br>£ | B<br>£ | C<br>£ | D<br>£ | E<br>£ | F<br>£ | G<br>£ | H<br>£ |
|------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Area:            |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| Billing          | 176.17 | 205.53 | 234.89 | 264.25 | 322.97 | 381.69 | 440.42 | 528.50 |
| Collingtree      | 169.88 | 198.19 | 226.51 | 254.82 | 311.45 | 368.07 | 424.70 | 509.64 |
| Duston           | 184.09 | 214.78 | 245.46 | 276.14 | 337.50 | 398.87 | 460.23 | 552.28 |
| Great Houghton   | 182.48 | 212.89 | 243.31 | 273.72 | 334.55 | 395.37 | 456.20 | 547.44 |
| Hardingstone     | 164.15 | 191.51 | 218.87 | 246.23 | 300.95 | 355.67 | 410.38 | 492.46 |
| Upton            | 138.01 | 161.02 | 184.02 | 207.02 | 253.02 | 299.03 | 345.03 | 414.04 |
| Wootton          | 169.50 | 197.75 | 226.00 | 254.25 | 310.75 | 367.25 | 423.75 | 508.50 |
| Hunsbury Meadows | 149.76 | 174.72 | 199.68 | 224.64 | 274.56 | 324.48 | 374.40 | 449.28 |
| West Hunsbury    | 152.34 | 177.73 | 203.12 | 228.51 | 279.29 | 330.07 | 380.85 | 457.02 |
| Unparished Area  | 141.10 | 164.62 | 188.13 | 211.65 | 258.68 | 305.72 | 352.75 | 423.30 |

**Schedule C Major Precepting Authorities Council Tax for each Council Tax band**

| Valuation Bands                                | A<br>£ | B<br>£ | C<br>£ | D<br>£   | E<br>£   | F<br>£   | G<br>£   | H<br>£   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Northamptonshire County Council                | 699.05 | 815.55 | 932.06 | 1,048.57 | 1,281.59 | 1,514.60 | 1,747.62 | 2,097.14 |
| Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner | 131.36 | 153.25 | 175.15 | 197.04   | 240.83   | 284.61   | 328.40   | 394.08   |

**Schedule D Aggregate Council Tax for each Council Tax band**

| Valuation Bands  | A<br>£   | B<br>£   | C<br>£   | D<br>£   | E<br>£   | F<br>£   | G<br>£   | H<br>£   |
|------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Area:            |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Billing          | 1,006.58 | 1,174.33 | 1,342.10 | 1,509.86 | 1,845.39 | 2,180.90 | 2,516.44 | 3,019.72 |
| Collingtree      | 1,000.29 | 1,166.99 | 1,333.72 | 1,500.43 | 1,833.87 | 2,167.28 | 2,500.72 | 3,000.86 |
| Duston           | 1,014.50 | 1,183.58 | 1,352.67 | 1,521.75 | 1,859.92 | 2,198.08 | 2,536.25 | 3,043.50 |
| Great Houghton   | 1,012.89 | 1,181.69 | 1,350.52 | 1,519.33 | 1,856.97 | 2,194.58 | 2,532.22 | 3,038.66 |
| Hardingstone     | 994.56   | 1,160.31 | 1,326.08 | 1,491.84 | 1,823.37 | 2,154.88 | 2,486.40 | 2,963.68 |
| Upton            | 968.42   | 1,129.82 | 1,291.23 | 1,452.63 | 1,775.44 | 2,098.24 | 2,421.05 | 2,905.26 |
| Wootton          | 999.91   | 1,166.55 | 1,333.21 | 1,499.86 | 1,833.17 | 2,166.46 | 2,499.77 | 2,999.72 |
| Hunsbury Meadows | 980.17   | 1,143.52 | 1,306.89 | 1,470.25 | 1,796.98 | 2,123.69 | 2,450.42 | 2,940.50 |
| West Hunsbury    | 982.75   | 1,146.53 | 1,310.33 | 1,474.12 | 1,801.71 | 2,129.28 | 2,456.87 | 2,948.24 |
| Unparished Area  | 971.51   | 1,133.42 | 1,295.34 | 1,457.26 | 1,781.10 | 2,104.93 | 2,428.77 | 2,914.52 |

**Parish & Town Council Precepts**

|                  | 2013/14  |               |                              | 2014/15     |                   |                                 |                         |
|------------------|----------|---------------|------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
|                  | Tax Base | Precepts<br>£ | Council<br>Tax Band<br>D (£) | Tax<br>Base | Precept<br>s<br>£ | Council<br>Tax<br>Band D<br>(£) | Council Tax<br>Increase |
| Billing          | 2,394    | 141,796       | 59.22                        | 2,402       | 141,796           | 59.03                           | -0.3%                   |
| Collingtree      | 443      | 18,122        | 40.88                        | 509         | 30,140            | 59.26                           | 45.0%                   |
| Duston           | 4,748    | 367,780       | 77.46                        | 5,260       | 407,460           | 77.46                           | 0.0%                    |
| Great Houghton   | 247      | 18,356        | 74.38                        | 279         | 21,840            | 78.16                           | 5.1%                    |
| Hardingstone     | 658      | 67,631        | 102.72                       | 758         | 38,401            | 50.67                           | -50.7%                  |
| Upton            | 1,688    | 15,000        | 8.89                         | 2,007       | 23,000            | 11.46                           | 29.0%                   |
| Wootton          | 5,443    | 299,244       | 54.98                        | 6,215       | 324,825           | 52.27                           | -4.9%                   |
| Hunsbury Meadows | 370      | 10,547        | 28.51                        | 475         | 13,820            | 29.08                           | 2.0%                    |
| West Hunsbury    | 1,448    | 75,280        | 52.00                        | 1,586       | 45,000            | 28.38                           | -45.4%                  |

**Parish & Town Council Precepts including Special Expenses**

|                  | Precepts<br>Band D<br>(£) | Special<br>Expenses<br>Band D<br>(£) | Total<br>(£) |
|------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Billing          | 59.03                     | 9.66                                 | 68.69        |
| Collingtree      | 59.26                     | 0.00                                 | 59.26        |
| Duston           | 77.46                     | 3.12                                 | 80.58        |
| Great Houghton   | 78.16                     | 0.00                                 | 78.16        |
| Hardingstone     | 50.67                     | 0.00                                 | 50.67        |
| Upton            | 11.46                     | 0.00                                 | 11.46        |
| Wootton          | 52.27                     | 6.42                                 | 58.69        |
| Hunsbury Meadows | 29.08                     | 0.00                                 | 29.08        |
| West Hunsbury    | 28.38                     | 4.57                                 | 32.95        |
| Unparished       | 0.00                      | 16.09                                | 16.09        |

The meeting concluded at 6.34pm

## **MINUTES**

OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD AT THE GUILDHALL, NORTHAMPTON, ON Monday, 10 March 2014 AT SIX THIRTY O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

**PRESENT:** HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR Councillor Marriott (in the Chair).

**COUNCILLORS:** Caswell, Ansell, Aziz, Beardsworth, Begum, Bottwood, Capstick, I. Choudary, N Choudary, Conroy, Davies, Duncan, Eales, Eldred, Flavell, Ford, Glynane, Golby, Hadland, Hallam, Hibbert, Hill, Lane, Larratt, Lynch, Mackintosh, Malpas, Markham, Mason, Mennell, Meredith, Nunn, Oldham, Palethorpe, Parekh, Patel, Sargeant, Stone, Strachan, Subbarayan, Wire DL and Yates

### **1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Capstick declared a personal non-pecuniary interest in Item 6 – Cabinet Member Reports as a board member of WNDC.

Councillor Hadland declared a personal non-pecuniary interest in Item 6 – Cabinet Member Reports as a board member of WNDC.

### **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Councillors Gowen and King.

### **3. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor informed Council a painting had been commissioned by the pupils and staff of the Caroline Chisholm School and was on display in the Mayor's parlour. It was noted that a book of condolences for the former Councillor Don Edwards was still available for members to sign and noted that the tributes paid at the last meeting of Council were much appreciated by the widow of Mr Edwards, who had written to express her appreciation. The Mayor reminded members that there would be a tree-planting occasion, carried out by the Mayoress on the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2014 at 11am and invited all members to attend.

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PETITIONS**

Mrs Sibley addressed Council and expressed concern about the amount of dog faeces that was on the streets. She stated that as a dog owner she was responsible in clearing up after her animal and requested that other people do the same or face being fined. She noted that it was against the law and people should adhere to the law or face a fine from the wardens.

Mr Leach addressed Council and thanked Councillor Beardsworth and Stone for organising the meeting with regards to the de-pedestrianisation of Abington Street and urged that the administration listen to the concerns expressed by the residents of Northampton, not only with regards to Abington Street but also the Bus Station. He urged Councillors to help with the plight of Northamptonshire couple Paul and Sandra Dunham who faced extradition to America, on fraud and money – laundering charges.

Mr Hewitt addressed Council and suggested that the new Northgate Bus Station had put Northampton back 30 years and noted that the people of Northampton would be paying for it for the next 25 years. He further expressed concerns that there would be a fatality at the bus station as he considered there to be issues with road safety in the area.

Mr Griffiths addressed Council and noted that the new bus arrangements had placed a number of challenges on the older residents of Northampton using the bus service and disabled people. He commented that he was aware of people who had missed their connections between the Bus Station by not getting to the Drapery on time, which had been an inconvenience. He further noted that the Council should pay further attention to the disabled parking facilities in the town.

Ms Wisharrt addressed Council and noted that when St Edmunds hospital had been sold by the NHS, it had been in a good condition and well secured but that it had over time, become dilapidated and derelict and asked that residents within close proximity of the building be compensated and question what the impact of the building was on tourism to the area. She asked that the Council undertake a Compulsory Purchase Order on the building.

Ms Murtagh spoke as a the joint Chairperson of the P.EM.B.A Residents Association and noted that there had been numerous ongoing problems with the building which included an increase in feral cats, pigeons and rats in the area. She further stated that the building had attracted drug users, squatters and prostitutes and not only was an eye sore to the area but caused health and safety concerns and asked that the Council redevelop it giving sympathy to the local estate.

Mr Adams addressed Council and referring to the Cabinet Member report for Housing, stated that the Tenant Panel would 'elect' and not 'select' tenants to join the ALMO Implementation Board. Referring to service improvements, he questioned whether the Council had a grasp of their current contracts. With regards to Toms Close he asked whether this would be owned by the Council and questioned if the properties would be for social rent.

## **5. MEMBER AND PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

The Mayor advised that 14 questions had been received from members of the public and Councillors and that the answers had been tabled in accordance with the Constitution.

Questions and answers given were as tabled (included in an updated agenda on the website)

In response to a supplementary question asked addressing questions one to three, Councillor Mackintosh confirmed that information with regards to the take up rates would be given at a later date when figures were available.

In response to a supplementary question asked, relating to Question 4, Councillor Hadland confirmed he would not be too busy to meet with businesses.

In response to a supplementary question asked, relating to Question 5, Councillor Markham confirmed that complaints were dealt with on an individual basis.

In response to a supplementary question asked, relating to Question 6, Councillor Markham confirmed that levels of work were undertaken seriously and that they continued to work closely with tenants.

In response to a supplementary question asked, relating to Question 7, Councillor Mackintosh commented that the administration listened to residents and were keen to consult which was demonstrated in the recent decision not to dispose of land at Blackthorns.

In response to a supplementary question asked, relating to Question 8, Councillor Hadland commented that it was too early to say if the discovery of asbestos in the Greyfairs bus station would result in an extended demolition period and stated that it was unlikely that additional costs would be incurred.

In response to a supplementary question asked, relating to Question 9, Councillor Markham confirmed that she could not confirm if the new homes in Toms Close would be for social rent but that they would be in the best interest of the tenants.

In response to a supplementary question asked, relating to Question 11, Councillor Eldred confirmed that information had been made available and was within the usual timescale.

In response to a supplementary question asked, relating to Question 12, Councillor Eldred confirmed that the Leader made decisions about appointments to forums and this was not changing.

In response to a supplementary question asked, relating to Question 13, Councillor Eldred confirmed that training was available for Councillors and that they were most qualified to decide where money was to be spent in the local wards.

## **6. CABINET MEMBER PRESENTATIONS**

At this point, each of the Cabinet Members made a presentation of their respective portfolios that had been circulated with the agenda.

Councillor Mackintosh submitted his Cabinet Member report and commented that normal services had resumed with regards to the North Gate Bus Station. He gave

his apologies to the people affected and noted that nearly all major projects experienced some teething problems but noted that those should be kept in perspective. The Leader announced that there were plans for 100 new Council homes to be built in Northampton and would be the largest social housing development in 20 years. Northampton has topped a poll highlighting the best UK towns and cities to do business in. It was further noted that research recently undertaken had shown Northampton as being awarded top marks for business turnover growth, as well as having high company start-up rates and low insolvency rates. In response to questions raised, Councillor Mackintosh commented that the problems experienced by the North Gate Bus Station was not structural, but had been caused by road traffic. He further noted that he would consider the possibility of a Scrutiny Panel being established to examine where improvements could have been made. Responding to questions regarding local businesses, Councillor Mackintosh commented that there were numerous businesses, such as Cosworth, who had demonstrated their commitment to developing in Northampton by applying for planning permission to expand their facilities in the Enterprise Zone. In relation to questions relating to Community Safety, Councillor Mackintosh commented that there had been an increase in police presence in the town centre and that the crime figures had reduced and noted that there would be continued assistance in supporting people through partnership working with the County Council and other agencies.

Councillor Markham submitted her Cabinet Member report and commented that the houses at Toms Close were being decommissioned as it was becoming increasingly expensive to run and would cost in excess of £80,000 per property to bring them up to Decent Homes Standard. She thanked officers who had worked on the project which was echoed by Councillor Hill. In response to questions asked, Councillor Markham stated that she was unable to release the specific dates of the next phase of the Decent Homes Standard due to the size of the ongoing project. She reiterated that she was unable to comment at present on whether the development on new homes would remain as Council stock, but that they would be built to a much better standard than present.

Councillor Hadland submitted his Cabinet Member report and commented that work being undertaken on the fountain in Market Square was going well. He thanked officers and partnership organisations who worked tirelessly to resolve the issues that had been experienced during the launch of the Bus Station. He requested that Members make businesses aware that there was a reserve of £50,000 Business Rate Relief for business moving into the Enterprise Zone and hoped that this would lead to an increased uptake. In response to a further question asked relating to the Bus Station, Councillor Hadland explained that with many major projects, it was not uncommon for there to be some fine tuning needed after a launch.

Councillor Eldred submitted his Cabinet Member report and commented that he was pleased to announce Simple Minds would be playing at Delapre Abbey as part of the Alive at Delapre concert. In response to a question, Councillor Eldred commented that he would not be able to release information about the sales of tickets as it was subject to commercial sensitivity but explained that it was ticket sales were doing very well.

Councillor Hallam submitted his Cabinet Member report and elaborated thereon. In response to a question, it was noted that the course of action for illegal taxi ranking

was that they were dealt with through the proper channels and were bought before the Licensing Committee.

## **7. OPPOSITION GROUP BUSINESS**

Councillor Palethorpe expressed his appreciation for the work of West Northamptonshire Development Corporation (WNDC) for the assistance given in regenerating Northampton Town Centre and commented that they had significant steps in improving the future for residents of Northampton. He commented that in terms, less than one hundred jobs had actually been created and requested that the Administration address the matter and stated that there was a need for support in taking the Enterprise Zone forward. It was noted that he considered it essential that the Director of Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning be given the resources to continue to develop major projects within the Town Centre.

The Leader, in response, stated that there was joined up working with a number of business and organisations within the Enterprise Zone and commented that he was committed to future developments within Northamptonshire.

Councillor Palethorpe commented that the regeneration of the Town should be about the people within it. He suggested that it is the people within the town who should be asked about what they want for the future and what would attract them back into the town; without this there would be a decrease in footfall and would ultimately be less desirable for businesses to invest in.

## **8. PAY POLICY STATEMENT**

Councillor Mackintosh submitted a report that sought the approval of the Pay Policy Statement for the financial year 2014/15.

Councillor Bottwood Markham seconded adoption of the report.

Councillor Begum referred to the equality implications and asked the Leader provide a breakdown of council employees pay by gender and ethnicity.

Councillor Capstick commented that more transparency was needed and requested that information be included in future where the ratio between the lowest paid and the highest paid be displayed.

Councillor Mackintosh requested that Councillor Begum's questions be submitted in full, by writing and a response would be given in due course and noted that Councillor Capstick request be considered for next year's Pay Policy Statement.

### **RESOLVED:**

Council approved the Pay Policy Statement for the financial year 2014/15 attached at Appendix 1 of the report.

## 9. NOTICES OF MOTION

Mr Adams addressed Council and expressed his support for the motion,

i) Councillor Beardsworth proposed and Councillor Conroy seconded:

“This Council notes the good work done by the administration and members of the opposition in developing the “Arm’s Length Management Organisation” that is intended to take control of the Borough’s Housing Stock, with a target date of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

The relationship between the Housing Revenue Account and the General Fund is important aspect of delivering cost effective services to Northampton council tax payers.

It is important that the Council has a detailed understanding of the support provided by the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account, and the reverse.

Council therefore requests that Scrutiny undertakes a detail review of the services provided and cost associated with the change between the two budgets presenting their findings in time for the ALMO start up and the preparation of the 2015/16 budget”

Council debated the motion

Upon a vote, the motion was carried.

ii) Councillor Glynane propose and Councillor Meredith seconded:

“The Council notes that low air quality can have serious consequences for the health of people and of the environment, making good air quality fundamental for the ongoing good of our town.

Given plans to reopen Abington Street to traffic, it is therefore essential that current air quality levels are established, so any changes in them can be properly managed in the future, and the health of residents, town centre users and the environment can be assured.

Council resolves to establish and publish air quality levels at a number of points along the stretch of Abington Street between St. Giles Terrace and Wellington Street before any work begins, and regularly afterward, so that any changes can be clearly identified and mitigated.

Council debated the motion

Upon a vote, the motion was carried.

iii) Cllr Mackintosh proposed and Councillor Hadland seconded:

“This Council recognises the importance of the St Edmund's site as a key gateway to the town.

“It is regrettable that the buildings have fallen into a state of disrepair, but Council welcomes the fact that this Administration is working with the developers of the site and English Heritage to drive forward the renovation of the buildings and bring them



back into an appropriate use.

“Council looks forward to a planning application being submitted later this year and will keep all options open to ensure that the site is properly redeveloped.”

Councillor Stone proposed and Councillor Eales seconded an amendment:

That the final paragraph be deleted and this final paragraph be inserted instead so that the motion reads:

“This Council recognises the importance of the St Edmund's site as a key gateway to the town.

It is regrettable that the buildings have fallen into a state of disrepair, but Council welcomes the fact that this Administration is working with the developers of the site and English Heritage to drive forward the renovation of the buildings and bring them back into an appropriate use.

This Council asks the Administration to accelerate negotiations with developers and English Heritage. This site has been derelict for long enough. This Council therefore would welcome a planning application for the site but in the meantime asks the Cabinet to immediately explore all options including the serious possibility of a Compulsory Purchase Order.”

Council debated the amended motion.

Upon a vote the amended motion was lost

Council debated the original motion.

Upon a vote the original motion was carried.

**10. MATTERS OF URGENCY WHICH BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE MAYOR IS OF THE OPINION SHOULD BE CONSIDERED.**

There were none.

The meeting concluded at 8.42pm

## Question for Full Council Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014

### Question 1

#### Question to Councillor Markham from Mr Norman Adams

In the Autumn Statement last year, the government announced it would raise local authority Housing Revenue Account borrowing limits, by £150 million in 2015-16 and £150 million in 2016-17. On 7<sup>th</sup> April 2014 the government published the detail of how local authorities can bid for additional borrowing. Will NBC come forward with proposals and take advantage of this opportunity?

#### ***Response***

The Borough Council has previously expressed interest in raising the debt cap on the HRA and welcomes the Government's announcement. The Borough Council has also announced that it will be building 100 new Council homes for rent.

The Government seeks competitive bids for up to £300m across the country in total, to support the building of 10,000 new homes for rent, within rules and guidance set out on the 7th April.

Work has been commissioned to frame the best possible bid for these funds within the rules of the competition and I fully expect the Council to submit a bid by the deadline set.

**Councillor Markham**  
**Cabinet Member for Housing**

## **Question for Full Council Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

### **Question 2**

#### **Question to Councillor Hallam from Councillor Stone**

What is going to be done about the littering and fly tipping that occurs on private land and blights the environment for other residents?

#### ***Response***

As Cabinet member for Environment, it is one of my major priorities to improve the cleanliness of the town. Although the Council's duties, responsibilities and powers make a clear distinction between public and private land, the cleanliness of private land is of no less importance to me, although the approach and solutions to dealing with matters such as littering and fly tipping on private land, of course, need to be different.

To assist me in keeping the town clean and tidy I have ensured continued investment in Neighbourhood Wardens and Environmental Enforcement Officers, who work closely with councillors, residents associations, community groups and Enterprise, our environmental services contractor. These officers also liaise with landlords and land owners to try to ensure they take responsibility for their property and have a wide range of enforcement powers which they use when necessary and appropriate.

**Councillor Hallam  
Cabinet Member for Environment**

## **Question for Full Council Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

### **Question 3**

#### **Question to Councillor Mackintosh from Councillor Mason**

Cllr Mason to Cllr Mackintosh

In April 2004 the following resolution was passed by full Council:

“Councillor Pritchard moved and Councillor Crane seconded:

This Council recognises that fair trade is tackling poverty by enabling disadvantaged producers from poor countries to receive a better deal, through encouraging support for the FAIRTRADE mark.

We therefore resolve to support fair trade by:

- serving FAIRTRADE tea and coffee at our meetings and offices
- encouraging the use of FAIRTRADE products in our town and local work places and community organisations
- attracting support for FAIRTRADE in eh media and in our own publications
- supporting the formation of a local steering group to ensure continued commitment to obtaining FAIRTRADE town status.”

I understand the Guildhall is no longer using Fair Trade products, why?

#### ***Response***

I am grateful for this being brought to my attention.

This has been looked into by the Guildhall Office and I understand Fair Trade products will be introduced soon.

**Councillor Mackintosh  
Leader of the Council**

**Question for Full Council Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

**Question 4**

**Question to Councillor Markham from Mr Norman Adams**

How many tenants with two or more children are living in one bedroom (council) property?

***Response***

The data that is held on the Open Housing database is only accurate at the point of sign up, unless the tenant subsequently notifies us of an addition to their household.

According to the data that is held on the Open Housing database, there are currently 4 one bedroom council owned properties with two or more children in the household.

**Councillor Markham  
Cabinet Member for Housing**

**Question for Full Council Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

**Question 5**

**Question to Councillor Bottwood from Mr Neil Clarke**

What was the cost of Councillors for year 2012/13 (including Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility, Travel & Subsistence and Mayoral Allowances)

***Response***

The total cost of Councillors for the year 2012/13 including Basic Allowance, Special Responsibility, Travel and Subsistence, and Mayoral Allowances was £430,322.99. In previous years the levels were:

2011/12 £429,060.67

2010/11 £450,795.78

2009/10 £460,304.17

**Councillor Bottwood  
Cabinet Member for Finance**

## **Question for Full Council Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

### **Question 6**

#### **Question to Councillor Markham from Mr Neil Clarke**

In June 2013 a Freedom of Information response (NBC1022-595/13) STATED that the Council Housing Stock had 23,357 rooms currently classified as bedrooms. It also stated:-'The Council does not hold any data on bedroom sizes, as this information is not held it is not covered by the Freedom of Information legislation'

Is it still the position that the Council holds no data on bedroom sizes?

#### ***Response***

The Freedom of Information Request referred to in this question asked how many bedrooms in the Council's housing stock are above 5 square metres in size and how many are below 5 square metres in size.

The Council does not hold data on bedroom size and as such it is not covered by the Freedom of Information Act.

It is of course possible that some information on room size may exist in individual property files but no data on bedroom size across the Council exists and it would be significantly in excess of the costs limit in the Freedom of Information Act to seek to compile such data.

**Councillor Markham  
Cabinet Member for Housing**

## **Question for Full Council Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

### **Question 7**

#### **Question to Councillor Markham from Mr Teddy McNabb**

Due to the on-going decent homes scandal, what if any health risk assessment of our residents and in particular our vulnerable residents were taken by Northampton Borough Council?

#### ***Response***

The Council takes its obligations to potentially vulnerable residents extremely seriously.

We have training programmes in safeguarding awareness for housing officers, support staff, operatives and caretakers and always aim to identify potentially vulnerable tenants and other members of their household.

Tenant profile information continues to be recorded, including specific vulnerabilities, which we can use to provide further targeted support where appropriate.

Every contractor used by the Council is obliged to ensure that their employees and sub-contractors are aware of any specific vulnerability of households when working in their home. Every contractor should ensure that all their operatives and sub-contractors have the appropriate documentation from the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Works in properties with vulnerable people are supervised and health workers and other agencies notified prior to commencement of any such works.

Project officers and Resident Liaison Officers deal with individual cases and assess specific needs of tenants and based on that evaluation programme works accordingly.

We work closely with our contractors to protect such tenants and continue to refine and re-evaluate our processes.

**Councillor Markham  
Cabinet Member for Housing**



## **Question for Full Council Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

### **Question 8**

#### **Question to Councillor Mackintosh from Mr Phil Leach**

Cllr Mackintosh, I hope you have listened to what the public had to say in public comments & petitions regarding Abington Street. Why do you think it is such a great idea to de-pedestrianise the area when we the public have proven that the majority of the public don't want it to happen?

#### ***Response***

The plans by the Administration to reopen of the middle stretch of Abington Street is part of our strategy to bring economic growth and improve the vitality of Northampton. We are creating an area where people can be picked up, dropped off and park in the heart of the town centre, and this will bring the area back to life as we make it easier for shoppers and support local businesses.

**Councillor Mackintosh  
Leader of the Council**

# Agenda Item 7



## Report of the Leader of the Council

### Northampton Borough Council

28th April 2014

As part of our commitment to help local businesses and bring new life to our Town Centre, we have extended our free parking scheme to allow people to park for free at weekends and for two hours on weekdays. The scheme will make it cheaper for people to visit our Town Centre, and even more convenient for them to stay and enjoy the things our town has to offer.

The economic regeneration of our town has been continuing to gain momentum with announcements that global brands Cosworth and Churches Shoes have committed to expand their businesses in Northampton. This Administration has been working closely with these and other companies for many months to help them expand and create new skilled jobs in our town that will benefit local people and the wider local economy. The commitment of firms such as these is a real vote of confidence in what this Administration is achieving in Northampton, and demonstrates why we have been named as the top place in the country to do business in a recent Experian business report.

On 9<sup>th</sup> April Cabinet approved the extension of licensing for Houses of Multiple Occupation and the structure of the Arms Length Management Organisation to provide better management of social housing in the borough. These two decisions will help improve standards and living conditions for thousands of people across our town, and together with the creation of 100 new council houses, reinforces this Administration's commitment to support council and private tenants in Northampton.

Over the Easter weekend work began on the demolition of the old Greyfriars building with the removal of the bridges linking the building to the Grosvenor Centre. With the bridges removed, demolition work on the main building can begin and the site will be cleared to make way for much needed new retail development in the heart of our town.

On 14th March I was honoured to take part in the ceremony to break the soil at the new development at Sixfields. Delivering this long overdue project has been a major achievement for this Administration, and along with the submission of planning applications from The Saints and Steelbacks, shows that we are delivering on our promise to support Northampton's sports clubs, and repairing the damage done by the previous administration.

The £400,000 project to help restore Delapre Abbey is underway, and is the latest project to safeguard Northampton's much loved heritage assets, and to bring them back into popular use. This Administration is committed to protecting our history and investing in our future, and projects such as the restoration of Delapre Abbey achieve both of those goals for the benefit of the whole town.

The Borough Council has joined forces with The Northamptonshire Credit Union to provide the public with access to their services here at the Guildhall. On 4th April I was privileged to launch the project that will make it easier for the credit union to help people who are experiencing financial difficulties or are in need of financial advice.

## **Community Safety**

All Crime, Violence and Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC) continue its downward trend and exceed the annual Community Safety Partnership targets. To date there has been a 16.3% reduction in overall crime (3,265 less crimes) and a 16.4% reduction in violence (579 less crimes), continuing the consistent downward trend and exceeding the annual target. SAC also continues on its downward trend with 25.4% reduction (1038 less crimes), with very low volume in January and February 2014.

Multi-Agency Weeks of Action continue in priority locations, the most recent being held in Spring Boroughs/Semilong and Spencer/St James. As seen in other areas, engagement with the local communities has been good, with a wide range of agencies providing advice and support around a number of topics.

The Killing with Kindness campaign continues with a multi-agency event held on the Market Square on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014. The Community Safety Partnership is now formalising activity for 2014/15, and is utilising the data from the annual Partnership Strategic Assessment.

**Councillor David Mackintosh**  
Leader of the Council



## **Cabinet Member Report for Housing**

### **Northampton Borough Council**

**28th April 2014**

#### **New Council Homes**

On 12<sup>th</sup> March Cabinet agreed the decision to build 100 new council homes at Dallington Grange. The development will be the largest social housing development in Northampton for more than 20 years. This major development will be built on land owned by the Borough Council and will be financed by selling a parcel of land in the area or with money received from ex-council houses sold under 'right to buy' legislation. This Administration is committed to increasing the number of council houses available for rent, and I am pleased that we are able to provide 100 new homes for families in our town.

#### **ALMO**

The work programme for the creation of the ALMO is progressing well. The ALMO will have a new Shadow Board which will make decisions relating to the set-up of the ALMO, which is due to launch on 5th January 2015. Cabinet has agreed that the ALMO Board structure will comprise of five tenants, five council nominees, four independent members and two employees.

#### **HMOs**

On 9th April Cabinet agreed to introduce additional licensing for Houses of Multiple Occupation in Abington, Castle, Kingsley, Delapre & Briar Hill Kingsthorpe, Obelisk, part of Phippsville, Semilong, Spring Park, part of St James, St David's, Sunnyside and Trinity. The additional licensing has been introduced to help protect tenants from unscrupulous landlords by bringing smaller properties into the licensing regime that are currently not included. Cabinet has also agreed to consult on the possibility of extending the scheme to other parts of the town. This Administration supports and welcomes responsible landlords in our town, and is committed to protecting tenants from landlords who fall below the standards expected.

#### **Decent Homes**

The Decent Homes Programme has now entered the final year of funding and we have four contractors delivering approximately £1m of work every week. With such a large programme it is inevitable that some problems will arise but the vast majority of customers are happy with the end product, and we are working with both tenants and the contractors to ensure they meet their targets.

## **Fire Safety**

We have been advised by the Fire Service that the Borough Council is one of the top performing landlords in the county. We have developed a strong working relationship with the Northamptonshire Fire & Rescue Service and have been commended for the work carried out in ensuring that all our dwellings with communal areas comply with fire regulations.

## **Welfare Reform**

As a result of the changes in Housing Benefit for under occupiers, we have seen a reduction in demand for family homes, and are now implementing a low demand strategy in some areas. This year we will focus on preventing more homelessness to help at risk families and reduce temporary accommodation costs to the tax payer.

**Councillor Mary Markham**  
Cabinet Member for Housing



## **Cabinet Member Report for Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning**

**Northampton Borough Council**

**28th April 2014**

### **Town Centre Operations**

Free weekend parking and two hours free parking on weekdays began on 1<sup>st</sup> April in Northampton's multi-storey car parks. The scheme is designed to make it more convenient for people to visit our Town Centre and is part of this Administration's commitment to support local traders and the Town Centre economy. This initiative has been introduced after successful summer and Christmas free parking trials, which was received positively by shoppers and businesses. Visitors to Northampton Town Centre will be able to park free of charge on Saturdays and Sundays and for up to two hours free every week day at St John's, St Michael's, Grosvenor Centre and Mayorhold car parks. Parking remains free on Sundays and bank holidays in all Northampton Borough Council car parks.

### **Regeneration**

Northampton has been named top for business according to the latest report from finance data specialist Experian. The key criteria measured were number of start-ups, rate of insolvencies, level of financial health and business turnover. Northampton was the only place in the country to achieve a score as high as 19. We achieved top marks for turnover, start-up and insolvency rates and dropped just one point for financial strength.

Businesses locating to the Northampton Waterside Enterprise Zone will benefit from tax incentives for a further three years, under measures announced by the Chancellor. This means that businesses moving to the Northampton Waterside Enterprise Zone will benefit from business rate discounts for five years, with the offer extending until March 2018. Our Enterprise Zone is already giving the local economy a major boost with 465 jobs having been filled in the area from January 2013 to March 2014.

Earlier this month we announced the timetable for the demolition of the old Greyfriars Bus Station. Some internal stripping of fittings had already taken place before contractors moved into the site at the beginning of March to clear the mess left by pigeons and overgrown shrubs from interior courtyards. On 7<sup>th</sup> April work began to strip asbestos from the building, before the final stripping of internal fixtures and fittings such as lights, power sockets and wall and floor coverings. On Easter Sunday the bridges that link Greyfriars to the Grosvenor complex were removed. Demolition work is scheduled for completion by the end of 2014.

Work has started on a £400,000 project to carry out urgent repairs to the roof of Delapre Abbey. The project is being jointly funded by the Borough Council and English Heritage, and is part of the multi-million pound restoration of the abbey. Building work to repair the roof of the main building has begun, and is essential to prevent leaks into the building that has caused damage to the interior of the abbey. At the same time there are also urgent structural repairs to the north wing of the building. A £200,000 grant has been awarded

from English Heritage's Historic Buildings, Monuments and Designed Landscapes Scheme. English Heritage makes this funding available for conserving and restoring the country's most significant historic assets. This Administration has also committed £200,000 to the project to preserve this much loved treasure.

The Borough Council has now taken over the responsibilities of the development quango WNDC following its demise on 31<sup>st</sup> March. This Administration will continue to push forward with the regeneration of our town, and we thank WNDC for its assistance.

Carlsberg UK has announced plans to increase its distribution capacity in Northampton with a move from Swan Valley to Brackmills. The move follows completion of Carlsberg UK's new bottling plant in the Waterside Enterprise Zone, further cementing the firm's relationship with our town. If planning permission is granted, the £35million facility at Brackmills will create 50 new jobs and double the company's present capacity.

Church's Shoes are set to press ahead with the expansion of their factory in St James. The Borough Council has worked closely with the Homes & Communities Agency and private landowners to assemble a 4.5-acre site adjacent to the company's headquarters in St James. The company is now in a position to forge ahead with the application process for a new facility which will create up to 140 new skilled jobs at the heart of the Northampton Waterside Enterprise Zone. The company intends to submit a planning application for the multi million project in June, and work is expected to start on site by late summer.

**Councillor Tim Hadland**

Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning



## Cabinet Member Report for Community Engagement

Northampton Borough Council

28<sup>th</sup> April 2014

### Community Engagement

There have been a total of 161 applications received for the Councillor Community Fund for 2013/14. This equates to £108,037.80 of the funding being spent. The funding has been made available by this Administration to help elected members and their local communities to allocate money where it is needed in their areas.

66 applications have been received for the 2014/15 Partnership Grant, totalling £1.6 million. Evaluation of the applications has taken place and the grants were awarded at the beginning of April 2014.

Congratulations to Susanne Rees who has been declared the winner of Northampton's Inspirational Woman Award for 2014. Over 60 women were nominated for the award, which aims to celebrate and showcase Northampton's unsung heroines who work hard all year and are committed to making a difference in their community. The annual award is run by the Borough Council and BBC Radio Northampton, and was presented during the International Women's Day event on 8<sup>th</sup> March.

The Borough Council has joined with the not-for-profit financial co-operative Northamptonshire Credit Union to open a new access and information point at The Guildhall One Stop Shop. The new access point will mean that the credit union's advisors are more accessible to the general public for longer opening hours. The credit union is available to anyone and offers money management and budgeting advice, saving schemes and, where appropriate, low cost loans that are charged at much lower interest rates than doorstep and payday lenders. The new partnership was launched at The Guildhall on 4th April, and this Administration is proud to be able to work with organisations such as the Northamptonshire Credit Union to help people experiencing financial problems in these difficult times.

### Events and Culture

Abington Park is once again playing host to this year's summer Bandstand programme, providing a mix of traditional music for all to enjoy in a beautiful and relaxing location. The programme will run on Sundays from 6th April to 21st September from 2pm to 5pm on the park's bandstand.

An exhibition celebrating the UK's recent international successes in women's cycling and Northampton's role in the forthcoming Women's Cycling Tour is on display at Northampton Museum & Art Gallery until 1<sup>st</sup> June. Women on Wheels (WOW), coincides with the Women's Cycling Tour, the first stage of which will finish in Northampton on 7th May. More than 100 of the best female riders will take part,



including past and current Olympic medallists and World Champions who will compete to become the first ever Women's Tour champion. The exhibition aims to inform and inspire the next generation of female cyclists with a striking display of memorabilia and photography. Alongside the exhibition and tour, there will be a programme of events, including a Q & A evening with one of the UK's top professional cyclists, Hannah Barnes, and an organised town bicycle ride with local cycling enthusiast group, Critical Mass.

To mark the 150th anniversary of the death of John Clare "The Northamptonshire Peasant Poet" we have an exhibition of works by Peter Newcombe illustrating his poetry collection "The Shepherd's Calendar" together with a number of portraits and original manuscripts.

### **Northampton Leisure Trust**

The Disability Sports Open Day, funded through the Councillor Community Fund, will take place at Danes Camp on 26th April for young people and their families. There will be around ten different sports on offer with a number of local clubs supporting the event. Activities will include football, kurling, boccia, climbing, swimming, goalball, cricket, athletics and more.

The Northampton Sport Relief Mile took place at Becket's Park on 23rd March. Over 350 people took part in either one, three or six miles all raising money towards Sports Relief.

**Councillor Brandon Eldred**  
Cabinet Member for Community Engagement



## **Cabinet Member Report for the Environment**

### **Northampton Borough Council**

**28<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

#### **Environmental Services**

Preparations are in hand for this year's Northampton in Bloom planting, and additional displays are planned for St James and along the road leading to the new railway station. Businesses are being asked to support this year's East Midlands in Bloom competition, and the team behind Northampton in Bloom are rallying businesses to support and sponsor the event.

The theme of this year's Bloom is 'Remembrance and Celebration', as 2014 marks the centenary of the outbreak of WWI and the 825th anniversary of Northampton's town charter which was granted by Richard 1 in 1189. To commemorate the centenary of WW1 a number of wild poppy beds are being prepared at various locations in the town adjacent to the main entrance roads and the three main cemeteries have had plaques attached to their gate pillars to indicate they contain war graves.

#### **Environmental Health**

The first round of meetings of the new park management committees for our major parks will start taking place from May. The committees will develop action plans to shape the future of our parks and fully involve members of local community. Interviews have recently taken place to recruit two new Park Rangers, who will help put these plans into action.

Neighbourhood Wardens and Park Rangers are working together to take enforcement action to deal with the ongoing problem of dog fouling. Coordinated enforcement operations are taking place across the borough, and one persistent offender in the Phippsville area has already been issued with a fixed penalty notice.

The Borough Council's Neighbourhood Wardens are holding drop-in information and advice sessions in the Guildhall One Stop Shop every Monday afternoon from 1pm to 3pm. The drop-in sessions are being held so that members of the public can meet wardens and raise any issues or concerns they may have about the area they live in or the town as a whole.

#### **Licensing**

Vehicle enforcement checks continue, with 28 vehicles being stopped during a recent multi-agency taxi/private hire check. Seven of the vehicles stopped failed the checks.

Three premises licence review hearings were undertaken which led to one revocation, one premises closing down pending new management and one having modified conditions attached to the license.

## **Carbon Management**

Work is underway to replace more of the lighting in our car parks with more energy efficient fittings to reduce the amount of energy used.

### **Councillor Mike Hallam**

Cabinet Member for the Environment



## **Cabinet Member Report for Finance**

### **Northampton Borough Council**

**28th April 2014**

#### **Finance**

Following the budget setting Full Council meeting in February there has been significant work to ensure the plans and proposals approved are delivered, to time and to budget, during the financial year ahead.

To facilitate this, work has focused on improving the financial management processes, capabilities and systems throughout the Borough Council. Specific actions include staff responsible for managing budgets receiving financial management training, an improved budget monitoring process has been implemented and the authority's Agresso financial system is being updated to provide managers with better and more up to date information.

These changes are part of the Finance Improvement Plan, which is essential to ensure the organisation can deliver the administration's priorities of reducing waste, increasing value for money and redirecting more resources to front line services.

It is essential that the organisation is not allowed to become complacent in its financial management at a time when it is more important than ever that tax payers money is spent carefully, and work is also continuing to identify further options to bridge the continuing financial pressures over the medium term.

The attention of the finance team is currently focused on closing the Council's accounts for 2013/14. The Borough Council is working closely with its external auditors to achieve this and to ensure the process is thorough and runs as smoothly as possible.

#### **Revenues and Benefits**

Although last year there was a drop in Council Tax Reduction Scheme claims, the overall number of claimants has been static for some time, but remains 25% up on 2008 when we started to see the initial impact of the recession.

**Councillor Alan Bottwood**  
Cabinet Member for Finance

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <p><b>Appendices:</b><br/>1</p> |
|---------------------------------|



**NORTHAMPTON**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

**COUNCIL**  
**28<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

**Agenda Status:** Public

**Directorate:** Chief Executive's

|                     |                              |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Report Title</b> | <b>Meeting Cycle 2014/15</b> |
|---------------------|------------------------------|

**1. Purpose**

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1.1 To seek the approval of Council to the Meeting Cycle for 2014/15

**2. Recommendations**

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2.1 That the Meeting Cycle for 2014/15 be approved.

**3. Issues and Choices**

---

It is necessary for the Council to agree a Calendar of meeting to enable the business of the Council to be programmed appropriately.

The draft Calendar of meetings is attached at appendix 1 and follows an established practice and reflects comments made in consultation with Councillors, Directors and Heads of Service so that:

- There are no main Committee meetings on the Tuesday evening following Council; and
- The commencement time of meetings remain as for the existing cycle.

**4. Implications (including financial implications)**

---

**4.1 Policy**

4.1.1 The report continues existing policy.

## **4.2 Resources and Risk**

There are no particular implications arising from the Meetings Cycle.

## **4.3 Legal**

4.3.1 None

## **4.4 Equality**

None

## **4.5 Other Implications**

4.5.1 None

## **5. Background Papers**

---

5.1 None

Emma Powley, Democratic Services Officer (0300 330 7000)  
epowley@northampton.gov.uk

| July 2014 |    |   |
|-----------|----|---|
| 1         | Tu | Planning – 6pm                                      |
| 2         | We |   |
| 3         | Th |   |
| 4         | Fr |   |
| 5         | Sa |   |
| 6         | Su |   |
| 7         | Mo | Wk 28   |
| 8         | Tu | General Purposes – 6pm<br>FORUM – LGBTQ – 6.30pm    |
| 9         | We | Cabinet – 6pm                                       |
| 10        | Th | SP2 (New Topic) – 6pm                               |
| 11        | Fr |   |
| 12        | Sa |   |
| 13        | Su |   |
| 14        | Mo | Council – 6.30pm Wk 29                              |
| 15        | Tu | Womens Forum  |
| 16        | We |   |
| 17        | Th |   |
| 18        | Fr |   |
| 19        | Sa |   |
| 20        | Su |   |
| 21        | Mo | SP1 (New Topic) – 6pm Wk 30                         |
| 22        | Tu | Licensing – 6pm<br>Disabled People’s Forum – 5.30pm |
| 23        | We |   |
| 24        | Th | SP3 – 6pm<br>FORUM – Pensioners – 2pm               |
| 25        | Fr |   |
| 26        | Sa |   |
| 27        | Su |   |
| 28        | Mo | Audit – 6pm Wk 31                                   |
| 29        | Tu | Planning – 6pm                                      |
| 30        | We | FORUM - DCEF  |
| 31        | Th | Youth Forum   |

| August 2014 |    |                           |
|-------------|----|---------------------------|
| 1           | Fr |                           |
| 2           | Sa |                           |
| 3           | Su |                           |
| 4           | Mo | Wk 32                     |
| 5           | Tu |                           |
| 6           | We |                           |
| 7           | Th |                           |
| 8           | Fr |                           |
| 9           | Sa |                           |
| 10          | Su |                           |
| 11          | Mo | Wk 33                     |
| 12          | Tu |                           |
| 13          | We |                           |
| 14          | Th |                           |
| 15          | Fr |                           |
| 16          | Sa |                           |
| 17          | Su |                           |
| 18          | Mo | Wk 34                     |
| 19          | Tu |                           |
| 20          | We |                           |
| 21          | Th |                           |
| 22          | Fr |                           |
| 23          | Sa |                           |
| 24          | Su |                           |
| 25          | Mo | August Bank Holiday Wk 35 |
| 26          | Tu |                           |
| 27          | We |                           |
| 28          | Th |                           |
| 29          | Fr |                           |
| 30          | Sa |                           |
| 31          | Su |                           |

| September 2014 |    |  |
|----------------|----|--|
| 1              | Mo | General Purposes – 6pm Wk 36                                       |
| 2              | Tu | Planning - 6pm   |
| 3              | We |  |
| 4              | Th |  |
| 5              | Fr |  |
| 6              | Sa |  |
| 7              | Su |  |
| 8              | Mo | Overview & Scrutiny – 6pm Wk 37                                    |
| 9              | Tu | Audit – 6pm<br>Womens Forum  |
| 10             | We | Cabinet  |
| 11             | Th | FORUM – Pensioners<br>Scrutiny Panel 2 (New Topic) – 6pm           |
| 12             | Fr |  |
| 13             | Sa |  |
| 14             | Su |  |
| 15             | Mo | Council – 6.30pm Wk 38   |
| 16             | Tu | FORUM - LGBTQ  |
| 17             | We | SP3 (New Topic) – 6pm  |
| 18             | Th | Scrutiny Panel 1 (New Topic)<br>FORUM – DCEF<br>FORUM - Pensioners |
| 19             | Fr |  |
| 20             | Sa |  |
| 21             | Su |  |
| 22             | Mo | Wk 39  |
| 23             | Tu | Licensing – 6pm<br>Disabled People’s Forum                         |
| 24             | We |  |
| 25             | Th |  |
| 26             | Fr |  |
| 27             | Sa |  |
| 28             | Su |  |
| 29             | Mo | Wk 40  |
| 30             | Tu | Planning – 6pm   |
| 31             | Th |  |

## October 2014

|    |    |  |
|----|----|--|
| 1  | We |  |
| 2  | Th |  |
| 3  | Th |  |
| 4  | Sa |  |
| 5  | Su |  |
| 6  | Mo | Wk 41                                      |
| 7  | Tu |  |
| 8  | We | Cabinet – 6pm                              |
| 9  | Th | O & S Reporting & Monitoring Working Group |
| 10 | Fr |  |
| 11 | Sa |  |
| 12 | Su |  |
| 13 | Mo | Wk 42                                      |
| 14 | Tu | FORUM – Disabled                           |
| 15 | We |  |
| 16 | Th | Scrutiny Panel 3 (New Topic)               |
| 17 | Fr |  |
| 18 | Sa |  |
| 19 | Su |  |
| 20 | Mo | General Purposes Wk 43                     |
| 21 | Tu | FORUM - LGBTQ                              |
| 22 | We |  |
| 23 | Th | Scrutiny Panel 1 (New Topic)               |
| 24 | Fr |  |
| 25 | Sa |  |
| 26 | Su |  |
| 27 | Mo | Council Wk 44                              |
| 28 | Tu |  |
| 29 | We | Planning 6pm                               |
| 30 | Th |  |
| 31 | Fr |  |

## November 2014

|    |    |   |
|----|----|---|
| 1  | Sa |   |
| 2  | Su |   |
| 3  | Mo | Audit – 6pm Wk 45                         |
| 4  | Tu | Licensing – 6pm<br>Womens Forum           |
| 5  | We |   |
| 6  | Th |   |
| 7  | Fr |   |
| 8  | Sa |   |
| 9  | Su |   |
| 10 | Mo | Overview & Scrutiny Wk 46                 |
| 11 | Tu | FORUM - Disabled                          |
| 12 | We | Cabinet – 6pm                             |
| 13 | Th | FORUM – Pensioners<br>YOUTH Forum         |
| 14 | Fr |   |
| 15 | Sa |   |
| 16 | Su |   |
| 17 | Mo | Wk 47                                     |
| 18 | Tu |   |
| 19 | We | Scrutiny Panel 2 (New Topic) – 6pm        |
| 20 | Th |   |
| 21 | Fr |   |
| 22 | Sa |   |
| 23 | Su |   |
| 24 | Mo | Wk 48                                     |
| 25 | Tu | Planning – 6pm<br>Disabled People's Forum |
| 26 | We | Scrutiny Panel 3 (New Topic) – 6pm        |
| 27 | Th | FORUM - DCEF                              |
| 28 | Fr |   |
| 29 | Sa |   |
| 30 | Su |   |

## December 2014

|    |    |                                    |
|----|----|------------------------------------|
| 1  | Mo | Wk 49                              |
| 2  | Tu | Licensing – 6pm                    |
| 3  | We |                                    |
| 4  | Th | Scrutiny Panel 1 (New Topic) – 6pm |
| 5  | Fr |                                    |
| 6  | Sa |                                    |
| 7  | Su |                                    |
| 8  | Mo | Council – 6.30pm Wk 50             |
| 9  | Tu |                                    |
| 10 | We | Cabinet – 6pm                      |
| 11 | Th |                                    |
| 12 | Fr |                                    |
| 13 | Sa |                                    |
| 14 | Su |                                    |
| 15 | Mo | Wk 51                              |
| 16 | Tu |                                    |
| 17 | We | Cabinet (B) – 6pm                  |
| 18 | Th |                                    |
| 19 | Fr |                                    |
| 20 | Sa |                                    |
| 21 | Su |                                    |
| 22 | Mo | Wk 52                              |
| 23 | Tu | FORUM – LGBTQ - Planning 6pm       |
| 24 | We |                                    |
| 25 | Th | Christmas Day                      |
| 26 | Fr | Boxing Day                         |
| 27 | Sa |                                    |
| 28 | Su |                                    |
| 29 | Mo | Wk 1                               |
| 30 | Tu |                                    |
| 31 | We |                                    |



# January 2015

|    |    |   |      |
|----|----|---|------|
| 1  | Th | New Year's Day  |      |
| 2  | Fr |   |      |
| 3  | Sa |   |      |
| 4  | Su |   |      |
| 5  | Mo | O & S Reporting & Monitoring Working Grp – 6pm                          | Wk 2 |
| 6  | Tu |   |      |
| 7  | We |   |      |
| 8  | Th | Scrutiny Panel 2 (New Topic) – 6pm                                      |      |
| 9  | Fr |   |      |
| 10 | Sa |   |      |
| 11 | Su |   |      |
| 12 | Mo | Audit – 5pm   | Wk 3 |
| 13 | Tu | General Purposes – 6pm  |      |
| 14 | We | Cabinet – 6pm   |      |
| 15 | Th | Scrutiny Panel 3 (New Topic) – 6pm<br>FORUM- DCEF<br>FORUM - Pensioners |      |
| 16 | Fr |   |      |
| 17 | Sa |   |      |
| 18 | Su |   |      |
| 19 | Mo | Council – 6.30pm<br>Scrutiny Panel 1 (New Topic)                        | Wk 4 |
| 20 | Tu |   |      |
| 21 | We |   |      |
| 22 | Th |   |      |
| 23 | Fr |   |      |
| 24 | Sa |   |      |
| 25 | Su |   |      |
| 26 | Mo | Overview & Scrutiny – 6pm   | Wk 5 |
| 27 | Tu | Holocaust Day   |      |
| 28 | We | Planning -6pm   |      |
| 29 | Th |   |      |
| 30 | Fr |   |      |
| 31 | Sa |   |      |

# February 2015

|    |    |                              |      |
|----|----|------------------------------|------|
| 1  | Su |                              |      |
| 2  | Mo |                              | Wk 6 |
| 3  | Tu | Licensing – 6pm              |      |
| 4  | We |                              |      |
| 5  | Th |                              |      |
| 6  | Fr |                              |      |
| 7  | Sa |                              |      |
| 8  | Su |                              |      |
| 9  | Mo |                              | Wk 7 |
| 10 | Tu |                              |      |
| 11 | We | Cabinet - 6pm                |      |
| 12 | Th | Scrutiny Panel 2 (New Topic) |      |
| 13 | Fr |                              |      |
| 14 | Sa |                              |      |
| 15 | Su |                              |      |
| 16 | Mo | Standards - 5pm              | Wk 8 |
| 17 | Tu | Planning 6pm                 |      |
| 18 | We | Cabinet - 6pm                |      |
| 19 | Th |                              |      |
| 20 | Fr |                              |      |
| 21 | Sa |                              |      |
| 22 | Su |                              |      |
| 23 | Mo | Council (B) – 6.30pm         | Wk 9 |
| 24 | Tu |                              |      |
| 25 | We |                              |      |
| 26 | Th |                              |      |
| 27 | Fr |                              |      |
| 28 | Sa |                              |      |
|    |    |                              |      |
|    |    |                              |      |
|    |    |                              |      |

# March 2015

|    |    |   |       |
|----|----|---|-------|
| 1  | Su |   |       |
| 2  | Mo | Council – 6.30pm                          | Wk 10 |
| 3  | Tu |   |       |
| 4  | We | Cabinet - 6pm                             |       |
| 5  | Th | Scrutiny Panel 1 (New Topic) – 6pm        |       |
| 6  | Fr |   |       |
| 7  | Sa |   |       |
| 8  | Su |   |       |
| 9  | Mo | Scrutiny Panel 3 (New Topic) – 6pm        | Wk 11 |
| 10 | Tu | General Purposes - 6pm<br>FORUM – LGBTQ – |       |
| 11 | We | Scrutiny Panel 2 (New Topic) – 6pm        |       |
| 12 | Th | FORUM – DCEF –                            |       |
| 13 | Fr |   |       |
| 14 | Sa |   |       |
| 15 | Su |   |       |
| 16 | Mo | Audit – 6pm                               | Wk 12 |
| 17 | Tu | Licensing - 6pm                           |       |
| 18 | We |   |       |
| 19 | Th | FORUM - Pensioners                        |       |
| 20 | Fr |   |       |
| 21 | Sa |   |       |
| 22 | Su |   |       |
| 23 | Mo | Overview & Scrutiny – 6pm                 | Wk 13 |
| 24 | Tu | Planning – 6pm                            |       |
| 25 | We |   |       |
| 26 | Th | Disabled People's Forum                   |       |
| 27 | Fr |   |       |
| 28 | Sa |   |       |
| 29 | Su |   |       |
| 30 | Mo |   | Wk 14 |
| 31 | Tu |   |       |

# April 2015

|    |    |  |
|----|----|--|
| 1  | We |  |
| 2  | Th |  |
| 3  | Fr | Good Friday  |
| 4  | Sa |  |
| 5  | Su |  |
| 6  | Mo | Easter Monday <span style="float: right;">Wk 15</span> |
| 7  | Tu |  |
| 8  | We |  |
| 9  | Th |  |
| 10 | Fr |  |
| 11 | Sa |  |
| 12 | Su |  |
| 13 | Mo | <span style="float: right;">Wk 16</span>               |
| 14 | Tu |  |
| 15 | We |  |
| 16 | Th |  |
| 17 | Fr |  |
| 18 | Sa |  |
| 19 | Su |  |
| 20 | Mo | <span style="float: right;">Wk 17</span>               |
| 21 | Tu |  |
| 22 | We |  |
| 23 | Th |  |
| 24 | Fr |  |
| 25 | Sa |  |
| 26 | Su |  |
| 27 | Mo | <span style="float: right;">Wk 18</span>               |
| 28 | Tu |  |
| 29 | We |  |
| 30 | Th |  |

# May 2015

|    |    |   |
|----|----|---|
| 1  | Fr |   |
| 2  | Sa |   |
| 3  | Su |   |
| 4  | Mo | Early May Bank Holiday <span style="float: right;">Wk 19</span> |
| 5  | Tu |   |
| 6  | We |   |
| 7  | Th | *****ELECTION*****  |
| 8  | Fr |   |
| 9  | Sa |   |
| 10 | Su |   |
| 11 | Mo | <span style="float: right;">Wk 20</span>                        |
| 12 | Tu |   |
| 13 | We |   |
| 14 | Th |   |
| 15 | Fr |   |
| 16 | Sa |   |
| 17 | Su |   |
| 18 | Mo | <span style="float: right;">Wk 21</span>                        |
| 19 | Tu |   |
| 20 | We |   |
| 21 | Th | ANNUAL COUNCIL - 11am   |
| 22 | Fr |   |
| 23 | Sa |   |
| 24 | Su |   |
| 25 | Mo | Spring Bank Holiday <span style="float: right;">Wk 22</span>    |
| 26 | Tu |   |
| 27 | We |   |
| 28 | Th |   |
| 29 | Fr |   |
| 30 | Sa |   |
| 31 | Su |   |

# June 2015

|    |    |  |
|----|----|--|
| 1  | Mo | <span style="float: right;">Wk 23</span> |
| 2  | Tu |  |
| 3  | We |  |
| 4  | Th |  |
| 5  | Fr |  |
| 6  | Sa |  |
| 7  | Su |  |
| 8  | Mo | <span style="float: right;">Wk 24</span> |
| 9  | Tu | Planning 6pm                             |
| 10 | We |  |
| 11 | Th |  |
| 12 | Fr |  |
| 13 | Sa |  |
| 14 | Su |  |
| 15 | Mo | <span style="float: right;">Wk 25</span> |
| 16 | Tu |  |
| 17 | We | Overview & Scrutiny Work Prog. Event     |
| 18 | Th |  |
| 19 | Fr |  |
| 20 | Sa |  |
| 21 | Su |  |
| 22 | Mo | <span style="float: right;">Wk 26</span> |
| 23 | Tu |  |
| 24 | We |  |
| 25 | Th |  |
| 26 | Fr |  |
| 27 | Sa |  |
| 28 | Su |  |
| 29 | Mo | <span style="float: right;">Wk 27</span> |
| 30 | Tu | Planning 6pm                             |

# July 2015

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 1  | We  |
| 2  | Th  |
| 3  | Fr  |
| 4  | Sa  |
| 5  | Su  |
| 6  | Mo <b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny – 6pm</b> <small>Wk 28</small>    |
| 7  | Tu <b>FORUM – LGBTQ – 6.30pm</b>                                |
| 8  | We  |
| 9  | Th  |
| 10 | Fr  |
| 11 | Sa  |
| 12 | Su  |
| 13 | Mo <small>Wk 29</small>   |
| 14 | Tu  |
| 15 | We  |
| 16 | Th  |
| 17 | Fr  |
| 18 | Sa  |
| 19 | Su  |
| 20 | Mo <small>Wk 30</small>   |
| 21 | Tu  |
| 22 | We  |
| 23 | Th <b>FORUM – Disabled -5.30pm</b><br><b>FORUM - Pensioners</b> |
| 24 | Fr  |
| 25 | Sa  |
| 26 | Su  |
| 27 | Mo <small>Wk 31</small>   |
| 28 | Tu <b>Planning 6pm</b>  |
| 29 | We  |
| 30 | Th <b>FORUM - DCEF</b>  |
| 31 | Fr  |

# August 2015

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | Sa   |
| 2  | Su   |
| 3  | Mo <small>Wk 32</small>                            |
| 4  | Tu   |
| 5  | We   |
| 6  | Th   |
| 7  | Fr   |
| 8  | Sa   |
| 9  | Su   |
| 10 | Mo <small>Wk 33</small>                            |
| 11 | Tu   |
| 12 | We   |
| 13 | Th   |
| 14 | Fr   |
| 15 | Sa   |
| 16 | Su   |
| 17 | Mo <small>Wk 34</small>                            |
| 18 | Tu   |
| 19 | We   |
| 20 | Th   |
| 21 | Fr   |
| 22 | Sa   |
| 23 | Su   |
| 24 | Mo <small>Wk 35</small>                            |
| 25 | Tu   |
| 26 | We   |
| 27 | Th   |
| 28 | Fr   |
| 29 | Sa   |
| 30 | Su   |
| 31 | Mo <b>August Bank Holiday</b> <small>Wk 36</small> |

# September 2015

|    |                                    |
|----|------------------------------------|
| 1  | Tu                                 |
| 2  | We                                 |
| 3  | Th                                 |
| 4  | Fr                                 |
| 5  | Sa                                 |
| 6  | Su                                 |
| 7  | Mo <small>Wk 37</small>            |
| 8  | Tu                                 |
| 9  | We                                 |
| 10 | Th                                 |
| 11 | Fr                                 |
| 12 | Sa                                 |
| 13 | Su                                 |
| 14 | Mo <small>Wk 38</small>            |
| 15 | Tu <b>FORUM – LGBTQ – 6.30pm</b>   |
| 16 | We                                 |
| 17 | Th <b>FORUM - DCEF</b>             |
| 18 | Fr                                 |
| 19 | Sa                                 |
| 20 | Su                                 |
| 21 | Mo <small>Wk 39</small>            |
| 22 | Tu                                 |
| 23 | We                                 |
| 24 | Th <b>FORUM – Disabled -5.30pm</b> |
| 25 | Fr                                 |
| 26 | Sa                                 |
| 27 | Su                                 |
| 28 | Mo <small>Wk 40</small>            |
| 29 | Tu                                 |
| 30 | We                                 |
| 31 |                                    |

Appendices



**NORTHAMPTON**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

**COUNCIL**  
**28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2014**

**Agenda Status:** Public

**Directorate:** Regeneration, Enterprise and Planning

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Report Title</b> | <b>Development of land adjoining Pineham Business Park for employment purposes.</b> |
|---------------------|---|

**1. Purpose**

---

1.1 To seek authority from Full Council that on this occasion devolve this Council’s decision making authority as local planning authority to South Northamptonshire Council (SNC) in respect of the cross-boundary outline planning application for the development at Pineham Business Park.

**2. Recommendations**

---

2.1 Full Council to agree to devolve this Council’s decision making authority as local planning authority to South Northamptonshire Council as set out in this report.

**3. Issues and Choices**

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**Report Background**

3.1 The Prologis site at Pineham, adjacent to the M1, has gradually developed over the last few years and is now an established employment site.

3.2 An expansion of this site is now proposed to the west and north-west of the existing development on 34.15 hectares of green field land. This further development would provide approximately 105,000 square metres of B1(C) (Industrial Processes) and B2 (General Industrial) and B8 (Storage and Distribution) floor space. The proposed development will provide additional employment land not only for local requirements. A request for a Screening Opinion under the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations has already

been submitted to this Authority and SNDC, on behalf of Prologis, to be followed by the submission of an outline planning application.

- 3.3 The significant majority of the application site lies within the administrative boundary of SNC.
- 3.4 In circumstances where an application site crosses the administrative boundary between two Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) two identical applications should be submitted, one to each LPA, seeking planning permission for the development of land falling within each LPA's administrative area and identifying the relevant area on the site plan.
- 3.5 Paragraph 73-74 of Circular 04/2008 set out the applicable procedures in respect of payment of the application fee:-

*“The planning fee is payable solely to the authority of whichever area contains the larger or largest part (within the red line) of the whole application site.”*

- 3.6 In this case, the significant majority of the application site falls within the administrative area of SNC, accordingly, the application fee is payable solely to SNC.
- 3.7 Paragraph 73 of Circular 04/2008 states that where an application site straddles one or more LPAs boundaries, it is necessary to submit identical applications to each LPA, identifying on the plans which part of the site is relevant to each. Although it is possible and lawful for an applicant to formulate two distinct planning applications for each LPA where each application only describes and seeks consent for the development proposed with each LPA's administrative area, such an approach would be artificial since the LPA would need to know details of the development proposed in the other LPA's administrative area in order to make an appropriate determination of the application.
- 3.8 In the absence of alternative administrative or statutory arrangements, a planning application should be determined by the LPA in whose administrative area the development is proposed to be carried out. In the case of cross-boundary applications, this can lead to two LPAs making individual determinations, imposing different conditions on the permissions and entering into separate S106 agreements. This is not recommended as it does not promote a coordinated approach to development management and the permissions granted by each LPA may be inconsistent in terms of the conditions attached to them and the obligations entered into the related S106 agreements. This is, of course, highly undesirable in terms of achieving a coordinated approach to delivering development. It is also contrary to Government guidance, which encourages joint working between LPAs in relation to the use of their planning powers. Paragraph 178 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) advises that public bodies have a duty to cooperate on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries, particularly those which relate to strategic priorities. The Government expects joint working on areas of common interest to be diligently undertaken for the mutual benefit of neighbouring authorities, a concept that underpins the approach to

strategic plan-making pursued jointly by Northampton Borough Council, Daventry District Council and South Northamptonshire Council.

- 3.9 Section 101(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 authorises a local authority to arrange for the discharge of functions by any other local authority. This provision could be relied on by a LPA to delegate its development control functions to another local authority in respect of a specific cross-boundary planning application.
- 3.10 Accordingly, Northampton Borough Council could delegate its decision making powers to SNC in respect of its determination on this particular cross-boundary planning application in relation to the expansion of the Pineham Prologis site. SNC, which would have been paid the full application fee in any event, would then determine both the applications submitted directly to them.
- 3.11 In this case, given the small proportion of the overall development which would be located within the Borough Boundary (approximately 25%), it is considered that it would be appropriate for Northampton Borough Council to delegate its development control functions to SNC in respect of this particular application.
- 3.12 A secondary consideration is that as Northampton Borough Council would not receive a planning fee for the application and so would assume all of the costs associated with the processing of the application, including publicity (notification letters, site and press notices), administration, Officer and Member time would be borne by SNC. This approach would also be beneficial in that consultees and members of the public would not be confused by the roles of the respective LPAs when receiving separate consultation correspondence from the two Authorities concerned.
- 3.13 Full Council should also note that Northampton Borough Council will have the opportunity to comment on the application following its submission to SNC and formulate its consultation response and it can be considered by the Planning Committee.

## **CONCLUSION**

- 3.14 It is considered that due to the nature and extent of the proposed development associated with the expansion of the Prologis site at Pineham that falls within Northampton Borough's administrative boundary, it is recommended that Full Council delegate its development control powers to South Northamptonshire Council in respect of any planning application for this development in accordance with Section 101(1) of the Local Government Act 1972. For the avoidance of doubt, the Full Council is being recommended to delegate its powers only in respect of the outline planning application and reserve the right to re-consider the decision for the submission of reserved matters and other matters pursuant to any planning permission which may be granted.

## **4. Implications (including financial implications)**

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### **4.1 Policy**

- 4.1.1 This has no policy implications.

## **4.2 Resources and Risk**

- 4.2.1 Costs for public consultation and associated administrative costs would be borne by SNC and they would be receiving the planning application fees of approximately £46,000. Council should note that no planning application fee would be payable to the Borough and in the event that this Council decides not to delegate its decision making powers the full cost of the administration of the application would fall to the Council.

## **4.3 Legal**

- 4.3.1 None

## **4.4 Equality**

- 4.4.1 There are no equality issues all sections of the population will be consulted by SNC

## **4.5 Other Implications**

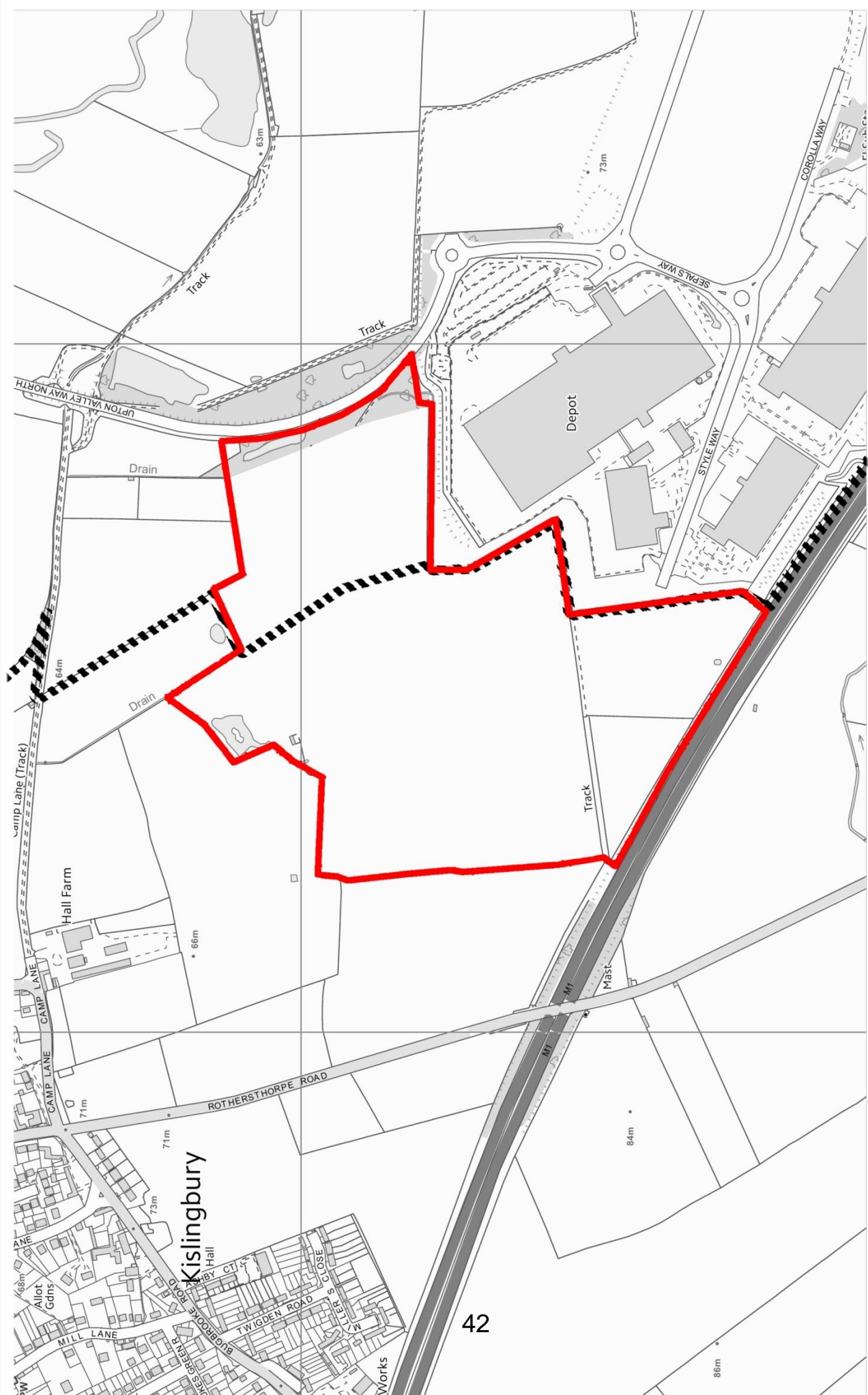
- 4.5.1 None.

## **5. Background Papers**

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- 5.1 West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy.

**David Kennedy**  
**Chief Executive**



Site Boundary  
 NBC Boundary

**Pineham Business Park**  
 1:7500 @ A4  
 8th April 2014  
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