

## **NUNEATON AND BEDWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **COUNCIL**

**13<sup>th</sup> December, 2023**

A Council meeting of the Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council was held on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December which was recorded and uploaded to the Council's website.

### **Present**

The Mayor (Councillor M. Walsh)  
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor B. Hammersley)

Councillors R. Baxter-Payne, B. Beetham, D. Brown, J. Clarke, T. Cooper, J. Coventry-Moreton, S. Croft, L. Cvetkovic, L. Downs, C. Golby, M. Green, J. Gutteridge, S. Harbison, J. Hartshorn, J. Kennaugh, K. Kondakor, S. Markham, G. Moreton, B. Pandher, E. Shiers, J. Singh, R. Smith, M. Tromans, R. Tromans, C. Watkins, K. Wilson, and M. Wright.

Apologies were received for Councillors C. Cape, K. Evans, N. Phillips J. Sheppard, and T. Sheppard

#### CL33 **Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Ordinary Council held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and the minutes of the Extraordinary Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

#### CL34 **Declarations of Interests**

**RESOLVED** that the Declarations of Interests for this meeting are as set out in the schedule attached to these minutes. In addition, the following were declared:

Councillor R. Tromans declared by way of an Other Interest that he is a representative of the West Midlands Combined Transport OSC

#### CL35 **Announcements**

The following announcements were made:

The Leader Councillor K. Wilson announced that Councillors were wearing their Christmas Jumpers in aid of raising money for the Mayor's Charity. A total of £280 was raised.

Councillor J. Clarke presented his donation of silver to the Mayor's Parlour in the form of a Market Stall marking his mayoral year 2022/23.

Councillor C. Golby announced that an agreement has been reached with Warwickshire County Council for the highway and footpath at Cleaver Gardens to be adopted by Warwickshire Highways. The Housing Revenue Account will contribute 50% of the costs to bring it upto an adoptable standard.

CL36 **Public Participation**

**Question 1** – Mrs Michele Kondakor submitted the following question to the Leader of the Council.

How many empty retail premises in Council ownership are there in the Borough, including those that have been vacated for the stalled Bridge to Living project in Nuneaton? How many additional retail units will the Council be building if all the Regeneration projects go ahead?

**Councillor K. Wilson, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:**

We currently have three vacant retail commercial units empty in Nuneaton town centre, and a total of 14 other empty units as part of the acquisitions made to support the redevelopment plans at Grayson Place, Abbey Street and the Bridge to Living schemes. This means that subject to the financial viability work that is underway, we'll be in a position to move quickly to get construction underway - should we be able to meet the financial obligations.

The retail element of Grayson Place is designed to offer flexible retail units, which can be used to meet the needs of the occupiers unlike the traditional bricks and mortar units. As such it is difficult to say exactly how many units this will create at this stage, as it will very much be based on the demand and requirements of the occupiers. Obviously once they start working with us and shown interest we can then work with them on their specific requirements. The Bridge to Living scheme is aiming to replace the dated retail units with modern incubation, or what are commonly known as starter spaces, to cater for all commercial work rather than traditional retail. Thank you, Mr Mayor.

**Question 2** – Mr Mark Axon asked the following question to the Leader of the Council:

This question is on behalf of Nuneaton Borough Supporters Co-operative. As you may be aware, Nuneaton Borough Football Club is currently unable to play home matches in the town at Liberty Way due to a dispute with the ground owner, Arden Tigress Ltd. This situation threatens the very existence of the town's football club and is at a critical juncture.

The Boro have a strong place in the heart of the town. Whether this be the club's dedicated fanbase who have been travelling outside of the town to see the club's 'home' fixtures, those who keep an eye on the club's results and fortunes, or those with relatives who play for one of the club's junior sides.

As highlighted in the Fan-Led Review of Football Governance, which was mentioned in the King's Speech last month, football clubs are integral parts a town's cultural identity and heritage, and more involvement from local Government is required to ensure that they are safeguarded. We know that the Council share this belief as this is seen through their ongoing support to Nuneaton Griff through their lease of the Pingles and to Bedworth United through leasing of The Oval. As well as agreeing to lift the covenant at the Boro's old Manor Park ground, following recommendation from Council Officers, in order to move to the new Liberty Way site 17 years ago.

Earlier this month, Frome Town Council won the Football Supporters Federation's Non-League Award for their efforts in buying their football club's ground, and Scunthorpe United's Glanford Park stadium has recently been brought into community ownership thanks to efforts involving North Lincolnshire Council and the local MP. Whilst back in May, Bury Council part-funded the purchase of Gigg Lane for Bury FC stadium.

Through the work of the Supporters Co-Operative, the stadium at Liberty Way is listed as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) with Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council and there is a renewal application being processed now. As you may be aware, this means the supporters and community could bid to buy the stadium should it become available for sale, and it gives the local planning authority powers to stop the land being changed to other uses.

Should the council believe that Nuneaton Borough FC is important to the town and its people, would they be able to support with any of the following in order to try and help secure the ground and future of the football club:

- Support the Supporters' Co-Operative's renewal of the Asset of Community Value (ACV) status for Liberty Way and ensure that this is high in the minds of the Planning Department.
- The Council send a united message to the ground owner and football club to work towards resolving the dispute, so that Nuneaton Borough Football Club can return to play at Liberty Way whilst meeting their lease requirements.
- Offer to act as an 'honest broker' between the Football Club and Arden Tigriss to aid ground lease negotiations.
- The Council could remind the ground owners of their obligations as part of the ACV and that should they attempt to change the use of the land that the Council will view the ACV as a 'material consideration' in any planning applications.

We thank you for considering our concern and hope that you are able to join us in supporting the continued existence of such a valued part of our town's culture and heritage. Thank you.

**Councillor K. Wilson, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:**

The football club has a long and proud history in our town but unfortunately it also has a checkered history of late to go with it. Many of us have read in the papers and on social media about the financial woes that the club is also going through. Let me be clear from the outset that as a Borough Council we

will not be bailing anyone out. We do not have the financial resources to do this, nor do we have the knowledge or capacity to run a club ourselves. This Council has a poor track record of managing and financing leisure facilities and we will not get involved in such high-risk ventures again.

I met the supporters group with Councillor Markham a few weeks ago, and it is important to stress that they are completely separate from the management of the club itself, but they are rightly passionate about the football club they support and want to see it return to its former glory. This is ultimately a dispute between the club, its creditors and the owners of the land, therefore we have no standing in this situation. What we do have an obligation to do, is process the renewal of the Asset of Community Value designation, and I can assure residents and the Council that this application will be processed according to the legal regulations. This will give some comfort to the local fans. I should also confirm that whilst I can 'never say never', under the Borough Plan, both as it stands and under the review, the land is not designated for any kind of development whatsoever, and as local residents will attest to, the land regularly floods from the river Anker during heavy downpours. What we as a Council, and I am sure the fans and local residents want to see, is the parties get together and put together a responsible and businesslike rescue plan for the football club that is sustainable for the long term.

**Councillor K. Kondakor moved that the matter be referred to the relevant OSP for further discussion.**

**Councillor M. Wright seconded the motion.**

**A vote was taken**

**The motion was lost.**

#### **CL37 Questions by Members**

**Question 1 – Councillor Keith Kondakor asked the following question to the Leader of the Council:**

Nuneaton and Bedworth is sadly the business area in Warwickshire for the Fire and Rescue Service. The County Council is consulting on a new service model which would mean the Borough would lose one of its three fire engines. At Nuneaton it means a reduction from two to one full time crewed appliance. Bedworth would be a changed to one crewed appliance for 16 hours a day. It would then normally now have no crew between 10pm and 6am in the morning instead of the all-call model.

It would be very useful if our borough council produced a robust response to the consultation will before the 10<sup>th</sup> March deadline. Has the leader taken a look at the proposed cuts and like me decided to oppose the loss of Nuneaton's second appliance?

**Councillor K. Wilson, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:**

I ask Councillor Kondakor to look at the response to his question from the Council on the 14th of July 2021.

**Question 2 – Councillor Lubs Cvetkovic asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Communities:**

This Conservative administration has made it a priority to tackle the scourge of anti-social behaviour in our housing stock. Could the Portfolio holder please update us on progress to date in dealing with this completely unacceptable behaviour?

**Councillor C. Golby, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Communities, responded as follows:**

I'll be quite happy to answer this because as you know ASB is something quite close to my heart.

So the team in our Council have recently been identified as one of the top performing councils nationwide, for effectively addressing incidents of antisocial behaviour within our own housing stock.

This acknowledgement comes off the back of a comprehensive Freedom of Information request that was sent out by a journalist, who requested ASB and eviction data from Councils with housing responsibilities up and down the Country, so UK wide. The FOI data was published and it shows not only is Nuneaton and Bedworth the fifth highest ranking Council in the Country to deal with ASB related evictions in its housing stock, but it's also the fifth highest ranked in relation to the ratio of evictions of ASB tenants, again in our own housing stock. So in 2022-23 we dealt with almost 500 complaints of antisocial behaviour. We undertook investigations on all of those complaints and the upshot is that there were 70 warnings issued along with 60 legal interventions that took place. These included warning notices served, possession orders, injunctions, partial closures or closure orders, community protection notices and seven full evictions just because of antisocial behaviour.

The information that I've given highlights how successful we've been recently, not only in a local sense but actually on a national level, and the FOI information actually pitches us against some much larger authorities who did a lot worse than we did. We've got Birmingham and Sandwell, the latter, Sandwell actually received 7,500 complaints but only took one eviction. So you know we are punching well above our weight on this. The legal process for eviction is long and laborious, we do know this and sometimes it's very frustrating for residents to have to go through all the legal hoops, but we have to do it properly so we get a good result at the end. So it is it is a long process but please stick with it for anybody that's going through that problem, and I'd just like to actually point out that the teams have been really,

really good at adopting a more zero tolerance approach. When we came in, I didn't make any secret of the fact that I take a much more zero tolerance stance against things like that in our housing than previous Portfolio Holders ever have, and I want to give credit to the team for doing everything that they can. They've taken to the new structures really with gusto and they are doing a fantastic job, so thank you Mr Mayor.

**Question 3 – Councillor Damon Brown submitted the following question to the Portfolio Holder Finance and Corporate:**

Restoring civic pride has been a priority mission of the current Conservative-led administration at the Council. Could the Cabinet Member please provide an update on progress with this?

**Councillor S. Croft, Portfolio for Finance and Corporate responded as follows:**

Thank you to Councillor Brown for his question. This is a very broad ranging question and it's a question with a very wide ranging answer too, because restoring civic pride in our Borough has been at the heart of our mission from the day we first took Office two and a half years ago. We've put on a splendid program of events to mark the Platinum Jubilee and the Coronation including a freedom parade, we've had three Mayors who've restored dignity to the Office. We've introduced deep cleans of our town centres, we finally got our ground maintenance program in working order to keep parks and green spaces in better condition. We're cracking down on littering and fly tipping, we've helped beautify our town centres with a shopfront scheme and by removing certain unesthetic water features.

So Mr Mayor, there is a great deal to be said for the Conservative record on this theme, but tonight I'd like to call attention to one particular area and that is how we've restored the role of our Civic traditions and honours in the public life of our Borough. Last year we created the first Aldermen and Alderwomen in the history of the Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth and created the first Freemen for many decades. This not only revived the traditions that provide colour and vitality to our civic life, but it finally gave recognition for decades of public service in some cases, recognition that was long overdue, and for some could never come such as the late Des O'Brien, Martin Heatley or Bill Olnier.

Mr Mayor we also know that honours do not belong to political leaders alone, they belong to the people. To those unsung heroes who work, help and volunteer in their communities and neighbourhoods every day, never asking for thanks, often without receiving any recognition at all. Now we mean to change that Mr Mayor, there is a great deal of merit in our people. That is why we have created the Borough Award of Merit to honour those residents who serve those communities of which they're so proud to be a part and do their little bit to make life better for us all. Of course, Councillors can nominate for that, but the best people who know where these awards should be awarded

are the people in the communities themselves. So, to that end we'll be accepting public nominations, and have opened an online form on the Council's website. You need a proposer and a seconder from a different address, and valid nominations will be considered by the Council's Civic Honours Committee next year.

So tonight, I'd like to make an appeal to the public, if any members of the public are listening to this. If you know somebody who has helped your community and deserves to be recognised then let us know, it's time that the champions in our communities got the recognition that they deserve, and I hope Mr Mayor on top of everything else we've done that will contribute to civic pride in our Borough. Thank you very much.

**Question 4 – Councillor Martin Walsh submitted the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulation**

The Planning Department has recently spent 2 days defending our decision to refuse planning permission for more houses on The Woodlands in Bedworth. As the Member for the Slough ward, which includes The Woodlands, I'm delighted that the result was that we won and planning has been refused. Would the Portfolio Holder join me in thanking the department and the local residents for this success?

**Councillor R. Smith, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulation responded as follows:**

Thank you for that question, Mr Mayor, and I'm delighted to join you in thanking not just the planning team for delivering a first class defence in the recent two-day Woodlands Lane development appeal hearing, but also the residents who spoke so passionately about the terrible effect this development would have had on their homes and the surrounding area had it been allowed to go ahead. I will also add thanks to yourself Mr Mayor and Council Evans for your valuable input at the hearing. This combined effort of the Council working alongside residents and Ward Members, delivered a fantastic result and sent a clear message to developers that we will defend passionately our right to refuse inappropriate development in our Borough.

When the Conservatives took control of the Authority we promised as part of the Borough Plan to review processes that we would do our best to protect the Woodlands area from development, and this success reinforces our commitment to do just that. In his decision summary, the Inspector pointed to Borough Council policies which mean the proposal is not suitable given the risk of flooding, and poor drainage. The Inspector also commented on poor accessibility of the site, the negative effect on the character of the area, the effect on biodiversity including protected species, such as great crested newts and bats, and he also upheld the five year housing land supply which currently stands at 5.45 years. This was a great performance by all than a confidence boost for the planning team in a time where we're faced with an

extraordinary amount of 20 appeals against our decisions to refuse a variety of planning applications. At the moment the planning team are extremely busy preparing for the upcoming three appeal inquiries which will take place in January and February and last six to eight days each. It's vitally important we also win these appeals to stop developers building a total of 1900 houses along the A5 Corridor. We rightly refuse these because they aren't in our plan, they aren't policy compliant, they're fraught with problems and our residents simply don't want them. Finally, it goes without saying I'm extremely proud of my whole team and the Planning Department for the consistently high level of quality work they deliver whilst under extreme pressure, and The Woodlands Lane appeal decision is a testament to their hard work and dedication.

**Question 5 – Councillor Brian Hammersley submitted the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Public Services**

The council recently announced that the successful tender to run the Bedworth Civic Hall was awarded to the Bedworth CIC and congratulations to them. Can the leader please update us on what progress has been made since this announcement was made?

**Councillor S. Markham, Portfolio Holder for Public Services responded as follows:**

Thank you for the question. The meetings have actually been held between the Council and representatives of the CIC to move matters along, and the legal documentation is being progressed. As you'll appreciate there's a lot of information to be shared and clarification required, which the parties are working through together in a constructive manner.

**Question 6 – Councillor Richard Baxter-Payne submitted the following question to the Leader of the Council**

When we first took control in May 2022, this administration introduced a new offer on car parking in our towns at a bargain of 3 hours for £1.50. Could the leader tell us what impact this offer has had on visits to our towns?

**Councillor K. Wilson, Leader of the Council, responded as follows:**

Ever since we took control in May 2021, we have sought to balance having a great competitive parking offer in the in the town centres with the need to ensure that it is financially sustainable. Initially we introduced a package of measures to help local businesses and traders through the Covid recovery.

More recently we have settled on the offer of three hours for £1.50, which in my view offers unbeatable value for money, and the figures speak for themselves Mr Mayor. Footfall this year in Nuneaton Town Centre is up by 22% compared to last year. The average time that visitors are spending in our towns is also up, meaning that they are spending more money with local businesses and market traders. Nuneaton is now 204 minutes on



average, up 1 hour and 9 minutes compared to the previous year, and Bedworth is now 211 minutes on average, up 1 hour and 27 minutes. Given the challenging economic times we are in that is affecting everyone's pockets, I think that is a great improvement Mr Mayor.

**Question 7 – Councillor Michael Green submitted the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Public Services:**

As yet another legacy of Labour failure in Nuneaton, the Abbey Theatre has been without a lease from the Borough Council for over 12 years. This has limited their ability to apply for grants to improve the building. Could the Portfolio holder tell us what progress is being made towards a new lease?

**Councillor S. Markham, Portfolio Holder for Public Services responded as follows:**

I can confirm that the Council Officers have met on site this month with representatives of the theatre, to review a condition report and discuss the opportunities for a lengthier lease agreement going forward.

**Question 8 – Councillor Robert Tromans asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Housing and Communities**

My Conservative colleagues and I have for many years fought to protect our residents from unauthorised traveller encampments in our Borough. I understand our injunction protecting our local area has recently been before the Supreme Court. Can the Cabinet Member tell us what the outcome was?

**Councillor C. Golby, Portfolio Holder for Housing and Communities responded as follows:**

Thanks for the question. I'd be pleased to announce what's been going on. So you're right, I mean who can forget that fateful summer not that long ago when we had the cat and mouse encampments, so much so that residents put up 'welcome to Butlins' signs on some of the main roads. Thankfully those days are behind us, but not before the cost to the taxpayer of those incidents was around £111,000, racked up between 2013 and 2019 for cleanup costs, eviction, court action, officer time and then not to mention the monumental levels of disruption that we actually faced within the Borough with all this going on. So back to your question, not many people will be aware but since the Conservative leadership took over in 2021, we have faced several legal challenges to the traveller injunction which was put in place. We have been quietly, but robustly fighting a nationally significant battle to defend the Borough, again from unauthorised encampments. After going all the way to the Supreme Court, the highest court in the land at the end of November 2023, this court case was finally resolved and the judgment came in our favour. It was always my position that we should take whatever action we needed to defend the Borough from these illegal, or unauthorised encampments. In fact my words to the former Director Richardson was 'throw

the kitchen sink at it'. I wasn't willing to walk away, we needed to defend our position. If you compare that to the attitude of past Labour Cabinet Members who were responsible for dealing with illegal traveller encampments, he referred to concerned residents as brain dead, self-opinionated and morons when they raised issues and concerns about encampments. Calling residents brain dead in an email to councillors and Senior officials and doubling down on Facebook calling people morons and brain dead on a thread where residents were complaining about the encampments at the time was actually ridiculous for somebody who was supposed to be in Office, and defending this Borough from those encampments, and no one should ever actually forget that at all.

So we believe, particularly myself, that the Supreme Court judgment supports the view of this Conservative group that travellers are anybody else, because let's not forget we are constantly hearing about equality all over the place. If my residents can't do it, nobody else should be able to do it. That's equality as far as I'm concerned, but if we take that the traveller injunction is in place and nobody should feel that they have the right to pitch up on any land they choose to, without the appropriate authorisation, and as it stands after all the legal wrangling, our interim injunction remains intact. Thank you, Mr Mayor.

**Question 9 – Councillor Mike Wright asked the following question to Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulation:**

Looking at the latest Infrastructure Funding Statement (table 8) we see that £300 000 has been allocated but not yet spent on affordable housing, and nearly £500 000 on biodiversity. Could the responsible cabinet member clarify when and how these monies will be spent?

**Councillor R. Smith, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulation, responded as follows:**

Thank you Councillor Wright for your question. This is in fact two questions for two different Portfolio Holders, neither of which is Planning. Unfortunately another demonstration of how little Green Party Members sometime understand about the workings of this Council, and which department actually does what.

For clarity, the Planning Department is responsible for approving planning applications and as part of this work it conditions Section 106 agreements as part of the approval process. From this point on the Planning Department is responsible for the monitoring of the 106 agreements and as part of that will report activity annually, in the infrastructure funding statement referred in the question, and that is the limit of planning's involvement. We don't actually spend the money. However, in order to provide some answers to the question I've reached out to the respective Portfolio's and can answer on their behalf as follows. With regard to Section 106 monies for affordable housing, this sits for the Housing Portfolio and there is a plan to use this to acquire stock for the Housing Revenue Account. The delays in spending it thus far have been in part due to restrictions on where we can spend the money locality wise within

the Borough, and the ability to match fund this money to better source properties. The Housing Department are proactively looking to commit or spend this money during the new financial year 2024 to 2025 if not by the end of this financial year. With regard to biodiversity, this sits with the parks and green spaces Portfolio, and the Section 106 monies will be spent in accordance with the individual commitments, made in each relevant Section 106 Agreement. In terms of stated biodiversity units, locations, and habitat types.

The habitat creation works are most likely to be undertaken by contractors, appointed and directed by the parks and green spaces team, although partner organisations could potentially be involved in some delivery, as long as that sits within the basis set out within the 106 agreements that funding is received from. The delivery of the habitats will be undertaken in accordance with time scales set out in the individual 106 agreements. A first round of habitat creation, using biodiversity offset sums, to create habitat on sites began last year, and is anticipated to now continue each year for a number of years until all sums are utilised.

**Question 10 – Councillor Jamie Hartshorn asked the following question to the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Corporate:**

As part of our financial planning, could the Finance Portfolio Holder tell us how he is future proofing the maintenance and upkeep of our leisure, play and open spaces?

**Councillor S. Croft, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Corporate responded as follows:**

Thank you, Mr Mayor.

Councillor Hartshorn has hit upon a crucial issue when it comes to providing a good service to the residents of this Borough. Lack of serious forward planning was one of the most frustrating and baffling things that we discovered upon taking office two and a half years ago. Specifically in this case it has not been the practice at Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council when beginning projects, to plan for the upkeep of assets or to create syncing funds - that is special funds set aside to pay for any ongoing costs or to pay off any debt incurred.

The result has been that when we have had to make serious repairs to assets we have not been able to do so. See for example the demands of the Civic Hall on the General Fund or the General Fund Capital Programme to pay for repairs which, in the long run as we have seen, have become unaffordable. So under the new parks and green spaces strategy, which is being so excellently developed by Councillor Gutteridge and his team, proper surveys are now going to be undertaken of our parks and playgrounds, so that we can access data on their conditions, and we can monitor them and flag when repairs and upgrades are needed. As part of our budget this year in the February just gone, we took the one-off investment in playgrounds from 2022

and continued it, creating a permanent Capital program of £75,000 a year for play areas maintenance, development, and refurbishment of them. In other words, we are investing £75,000 in our playgrounds every year from now on.

On a larger scale, one of our key projects is the Bedworth Leisure Centre or Physical Activity Hub as it's known in the papers, which we're going to have to replace because of the same reason. It is slowly aging beyond any capacity to repair. As part of our financial modelling for this project, we have put aside an annual amount within the overall business model for a syncing fund for equipment renewal which will support the ongoing maintenance where it's the Council's responsibility.

We're also amending our internal governance procedures to make sure that no project can proceed in future without funds being established and identified for their repair and upkeep. That is sound financial management Mr Mayor, that is prudent forward planning for the future. Compare that to Mr Mayor to the situation that we inherited, to the record of the Labour Party in office in their decades in office. The truth is that they let this Borough rot, they let the parks and playgrounds rot, they let the finances of the Borough rot, they let the planning system and the Borough Plan rot, and they let the housing repair system rot. They did that because it was always easier to salami slice and then blame the Government, rather than doing the hard yards of reform and management improvement. It is always left to the Conservative Party to do the hard work and to fix the deep-set problems that set in when the party opposite fell asleep at the wheel. Whether that's improving Cleaver Gardens or the Borough Plan, we've done it across the board and it fell to this administration to come in and get the reforms done, and I've said it often Mr Mayor, but a generation of neglect cannot quickly be put right. But I can tell you this, that in May of 2024 the Borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth will be in a much better position to face the future than it was in May of 2021.

CL38 **Special Urgency Decisions**

None

CL39 **Cabinet**

The Leader of the Council submitted the Leaders report on behalf of Cabinet. The report highlighted matters considered at the Cabinet meetings held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 and details of reports from the West Midlands Combined Authority Board (WMCAB), which has a direct impact on NBBC, namely the WMCA Board meetings held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023, 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

**RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

CL40 **Nomination For Charity Trustees Of Abbey Theatre**

Nominations for Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough representatives were put forward to be Charity Trustees of the Abbey Theatre and added to Schedule B of the Outside Bodies representatives.

**Councillor K. Wilson moved the recommendation as printed in the agenda for council approval**

**Councillor D. Brown seconded the recommendation**

**Councillor K. Kondakor moved the following amendment:**

That Councillor K. Kondakor and Councillor M. Walsh be put forward as Trustees for the Abbey Theatre for a three year term

**Councillor M. Wright seconded the amendment**

**A vote was taken**

**The amendment was lost**

**Councillor C. Watkins moved the following amendment:**

That Councillor J. Sheppard and Councillor N. Phillips be put forward as Trustees for the Abbey Theatre for a three year term

**Councillor E. Shiers seconded the amendment**

**A vote was taken**

**The amendment was lost.**

**A vote was taken on the substantive motion.**

**The motion was carried**

**RESOLVED** that

- a) Councillor M. Green and Councillor S. Markham be put forward as Trustees for the Abbey Theatre for a three year term; and
- b) Trustees of the Abbey Theatre be added to Schedule B of the Outside Bodies

#### **CL41 Recommendations from Cabinet and Other Committees**

##### **i) Borough Plan Review Update**

At the Cabinet meeting held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 a report by the Assistant Director – Planning was submitted and recommendations put forward for Council approval.

Councillor R. Smith moved the recommendation for council approval

Councillor K. Wilson seconded the recommendation

A vote was taken

**Councillor K. Kondakor requested that his vote against the recommendations be recorded in the minutes.**

**RESOLVED** that

- a) to proceed to Regulation 22 stage (Submission) for the Borough Plan Review be approved;
- b) the amendments to the Local Development Scheme be adopted;
- c) the minor amendments required to the Infrastructure Delivery Schedule for the Borough Plan Review be noted; and
- d) the Assistant Director for Planning in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regulation be given delegated authority to make any amendments necessary up to the submission stage for the draft documents forming the submission be approved.

**ii) Treasury Management Report 2023/24**

At the Cabinet meeting held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023 a report by the Strategic Director – Finance and Governance was submitted and a recommendation put forward for Council approval.

Councillor S. Croft moved the recommendation for council approval.

Councillor K. Wilson seconded the recommendation.

A vote was taken.

**Councillor K. Kondakor requested that his vote against the recommendations be recorded in the minutes.**

**RESOLVED** that the Mid-Year Treasury Management Report for 2023/24 be noted.

## Council - Schedule of Declarations of Interests – 2023/2024

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
	General dispensations granted to all members under s.33 of the Localism Act 2011			Granted to all members of the Council in the areas of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Housing matters</li> <li>- Statutory sick pay under Part XI of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992</li> <li>- An allowance, payment given to members</li> <li>- An indemnity given to members</li> <li>- Any ceremonial honour given to members</li> <li>- Setting council tax or a precept under the Local Government Finance Act 1992</li> <li>- Planning and Licensing matters</li> <li>- Allotments</li> <li>- Local Enterprise Partnership</li> </ul>
	R. Baxter-Payne	Employed by Vinci Construction Major Projects UK Ltd (VCMP UK Ltd); County Councillor - WCC	Spouse: Self-employed childminder  Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• West Midlands Combined Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee</li> <li>• Warwickshire Adult Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (substitute)</li> </ul>	
	B. Beetham	Senior PowerBi Lead at Wye Valley Hospital Trust; Warwickshire County Council – Camp Hill	Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camp Hill Urban Village: Pride in Camp Hill Board</li> <li>• Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground</li> </ul>	
	D. Brown	Employed by H.M Land Registry	Regional Coordinator, Ragdoll Rescue Charity.  Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exhall Education Foundation (Council appointment).</li> </ul>	
	C. Cape	Director of Capability Coaching and Consultancy Ltd.	Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Armed Forces Covenant Meeting</li> </ul>	

	<b>Name of Councillor</b>	<b>Disclosable Pecuniary Interest</b>	<b>Other Personal Interest</b>	<b>Dispensation</b>
	J. Clarke	Employed by Marcus Jones MP	County Councillor W.C.C.  Nuneaton Conservative Association; Deputy Chairman  Officer of the Abbey Preceptory No.541 - Nuneaton	
	T. Cooper	None	Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camp Hill Urban Village: Pride in Camp Hill Board</li> <li>• Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground</li> </ul>	
	J. Coventry-Moreton	School Receptionist – St Nicholas Chamberlain School, Bedworth	Share in rental dwelling at Sealand Drive, Bedworth and Tresilian Road, Bedworth.	
	S. Croft	Employed at Holland & Barrett Retail Ltd	Treasurer of the Conservative Association Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Champion for Safeguarding (Children and Adults)</li> <li>• Local Government Superannuation Scheme Consultative Board</li> <li>• West Midlands Employers</li> </ul>	
	L. Cvetkovic	Head of Geography (Teacher), Sidney Stringer Academy, Coventry	The Bulkington Volunteers (Founder); Bulkington Sports and Social Club (Trustee)  Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building Control Partnership Steering Group</li> </ul>	
	L. Downs	River Bars Limited; Coventry Plus Beyond the Plane Little Caesars Donuts Limited NBBC Council Contract for market pitch	Member on the following Outside Body: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hammersley, Smith and Orton Charity</li> </ul>	
	K. Evans	Employed by the Local Government Association	Sponsorship: Election Expenses – North Warwickshire Conservative Association	



	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			<p>Membership of Other Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substitute Member of the West Midlands Combined Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee</li> </ul> <p>Member of the Bedworth Conservative Club Member of the Conservative Party.</p>	
	C. Golby		<p>Member of Warwickshire County Council.</p> <p>Membership of Other Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nuneaton and Bedworth Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership</li> <li>• Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd.</li> <li>• Nuneaton and Bedworth Home Improvement Agency</li> <li>• Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board</li> <li>• Warwickshire Housing and Support Partnership</li> <li>• Warwickshire Police and Crime Panel</li> <li>• George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust – Public/User Board</li> <li>• George Eliot Hospital NHS Foundation Trust Governors</li> <li>• District Leaders (substitute)</li> <li>• Local Enterprise Partnership (substitute)</li> <li>• Coventry, Warwickshire and Hinckley and Bosworth Joint Committee (substitute)</li> </ul>	
	M. Green	Employed by Horiba Mira – Engineering Technician	<p>Chair of Education Standards Committee – St Thomas More School. School Appeals Panel Member Our Lady of the Angels Church. President – St Vincent De Paul Society Nuneaton. Director – Holy Spirit Catholic Multi Academy Company. Member of the George Eliot Fellowship Member of Other Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friendship Project for Children.</li> </ul>	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nuneaton Education Strategy Group</li> </ul>	
	J. Gutteridge		Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Board</li> <li>• Age UK (Warwickshire Branch)</li> <li>• Committee of Management of Hartshill and Nuneaton Recreation Ground</li> <li>• West Midlands Combined Authority Wellbeing Board</li> </ul>	
	B. Hammersley	County Councillor – W.C.C.	Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hammersley, Smith and Orton Charity</li> </ul>	
	S. Harbison	Self Employed	Member of Conservative and Unionist Party. Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Astley Charity</li> </ul>	
	J. Hartshorn	Employed by Asda Nuneaton	Member of Nuneaton Conservatives	
	J. Kennaugh	County Councillor W.C.C.  Employed by FedEx Express UK Ltd	Member of the W.C.C. Regulatory Committee Member of the Conservative Party Member of UNITE the Union  Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EQUiP</li> </ul>	
	K.A. Kondakor	Electronic and Embedded Software Design Engineer (self-employed)	Unpaid Director of 100% Renewables UK Ltd  Green Party (E&W)	
	S. Markham	County Councillor – WCC (Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services)	Governor at Ash Green School Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nuneaton and Bedworth Sports Forum</li> <li>• Warwickshire Direct Partnership</li> <li>• Warwickshire Waste Partnership</li> <li>• Sherbourne Asset Co Shareholder Committee</li> <li>• Hammersley, Smith and Orton Charities</li> </ul>	
	G. Moreton	Member of School	Share in rental dwellings at	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
		Appeals Panels at Warwickshire County Council	Sealand Drive, Bedworth and Tresillian Road, Exhall.  Member on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bedworth Neighbourhood Watch Committee</li> </ul>	
	B. Pandher		Member of Warwickshire County Council  President & Trustee of Nanaksar Gurdwara Gursikh Temple Coventry; Coordinator of Council of Sikh Temples in Coventry; Secretary of Coventry Indian Community; Trustee of Sikh Monument Trust Vice Chair Exhall Multicultural Group  Member of the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foleshill Charity Trustee – Proffitt’s Charity</li> <li>• Conservative Party</li> </ul>	
	N. Phillips	Employee of DWP	Member of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nuneaton Labour CLP</li> <li>• The Fabian Society</li> <li>• The George Eliot Society</li> <li>• The PCS Union</li> <li>• Central Credit Union</li> <li>• Stockingford Sports and Allotment Club</li> <li>• Haunchwood Sports and Social Club</li> </ul>	
	J. Sheppard		Partnership member of the Hill Top and Caldwell Big Local.  Director of Wembrook Community Centre.  Member of Labour Party	Dispensation to speak and vote on any matters of Borough Plan that relate to the Directorship of Wembrook Community Centre
	T. Sheppard		Member of Unite Union Member of Labour Party	
	E. Shiers	Employed by and Director of Cannon Enterprise Ltd. Director of The Fresh Dessert Company	The Labour Party Coventry East Credit Union  Member of the Pride in Camp Hill Board.  Member of the governing board	

	Name of Councillor	Disclosable Pecuniary Interest	Other Personal Interest	Dispensation
			<p>for Camp Hill Primary School.</p> <p>Member of the Board of Trustees of Camp Hill Community Association.</p> <p>Volunteer for the Coventry and Warwickshire district RSPCA</p>	
	J. Singh			
	R. Smith		<p>Chairman of Volunteer Friends, Bulkington;</p> <p>Trustee of Bulkington Sports and Social Club;</p> <p>Member of the following Outside Bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A5 Member Partnership;</li> <li>• PATROL (Parking and Traffic Regulation Outside of London) Joint Committee;</li> <li>• Building Control Partnership Steering Group</li> <li>• Bulkington Village Community and Conference Centre</li> <li>• West Midlands Combined Authority and Land Delivery Board</li> </ul>	
	M. Tromans	<p>Warwickshire County Councillor (Galley Common)</p> <p>Share in a rental property in Hydes Pastures, Nuneaton</p>	<p>Member of WI</p> <p>Member of the Conservative Party</p>	
	R. Tromans	<p>Compliance, GIM, Coventry</p> <p>Warwickshire County Councillor (Weddington)</p> <p>Share in a rental property in Hydes Pastures, Nuneaton</p>	<p>Member of the Conservative Party</p> <p>Member of the Chartered Institute of Credit Management</p>	
	M. Walsh	<p>Employed by MacInnes Tooling Ltd. – UK Sales Manager</p>		

	<b>Name of Councillor</b>	<b>Disclosable Pecuniary Interest</b>	<b>Other Personal Interest</b>	<b>Dispensation</b>
	C.M. Watkins	Employee of Nutri Pack	Representative on the following outside bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd. (NABCEL)</li> </ul>	
	K.D. Wilson	Delivery Manager, Nuneaton and Warwick County Courts, HMCTS, Warwickshire Justice Centre, Nuneaton	Deputy Chairman – Nuneaton Conservative Association  Corporate Tenancies: properties are leased by NBBC to Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd, of which I am a Council appointed Director.  Representative on the following Outside Bodies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director of Nuneaton and Bedworth Community Enterprises Ltd (NABCEL)</li> <li>• Coventry, Warwickshire and Hinckley &amp; Bosworth Joint Committee</li> <li>• District Council Network</li> <li>• Local Government Association</li> <li>• LGA People &amp; Places Board (Member)</li> <li>• West Midlands Combined Authority</li> </ul>	
	M. Wright			