

COUNCIL MEETING

Date: 27 February 2013

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30pm

Present: Councillors:-

Clive Wood (Chairman of the Council)
Pam Whiting (Vice-Chairman of the Council)
Steven North (Leader of the Council)
Glenn Harwood MBE (Deputy Leader of the Council)

Peter Baden
Tony Boto
David Brackenbury
Wendy Brackenbury
Pauline Bradberry JP
Derek Capp
John Farrar
Richard Gell
Roger Glithero JP
Glenvil Greenwood-Smith
Sue Homer
Dudley Hughes JP
Sylvia Hughes
Barbara Jenney
David Jenney
Richard Lewis

Eloise Lucille
Andy Mercer
Gill Mercer
Bob Nightingale
Brian Northall
Sarah Peacock
Ron Pinnock
David Read
Rupert Reichhold
Anna Sauntson
Phillip Stearn
Jeremy Taylor
Jake Vowles
Peter Wathen
Colin Wright

406. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors Michael Finch, Marika Hillson, Marian Holloman and Robin Underwood sent their apologies.

407. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

408. DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER INTERESTS

The Deputy Monitoring Officer reported that in January 2013 the Monitoring Officer had granted a dispensation to all councillors present to enable them to participate and vote in any debates relating to the setting of council tax levels and related financial decisions until April 2015. This dispensation had been granted under the powers delegated to the Monitoring Officer in Section 4 of Part 9 of the Constitution, as without a dispensation, it would be likely that the meeting would be inquorate. It was noted that there had been considerable discussion about whether such a dispensation was necessary. However as

there was no clear legal consensus that it was not required, the Monitoring Officer took the decision to grant a dispensation so that there would be no later opportunity for disputing the legality of the determination of the level of council tax.

409. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

There were no announcements made by the Chairman or the Chief Executive.

410. LEADER'S ADDRESS

There was no address from the Leader of the Council.

411. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(a) Policy and Resources Committee – 14 January and 11 February 2013

The reports of the above committee, presented by the Chairman, Councillor Richard Lewis, were received.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations in the following minutes be approved:

349 Community Right to Challenge

1. That the Community Right to Challenge Policy (as per appendix on pages 477 to 486) be approved.
2. That authority be delegated to the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee, to accept or reject Expressions of Interest in accordance with statutory regulations and the council's policy.

(Reason – to ensure compliance with the Localism Act 2011)

386 Minutes of Sub-Committees and Working Parties

1. That, subject to the inclusion of an additional paragraph (16.4) regarding an officer's entitlement to an Essential Car User Allowance being subject to an annual review and the consultation responses received being reviewed by the Chairman of the Personnel Sub Committee and Councillor Wendy Brackenbury, the Pay Policy Statement
2. That the Small Assets Disposal Policy, attached at pages 575 to 585 and with paragraph 5.7.2 amended as per minute 6.2, be approved.

(b) Development Control Committee – 16 January and 6 February 2013

The reports of the above committee, presented by the Chairman, Councillor Pauline Bradberry JP, were received.

(c) Joint Standards Complaints Committee – 30 January 2013

The report of the above committee, presented by the Chairman, Councillor Andy Mercer, was received.

(d) Scrutiny Committee – 4 February 2013

The report of the above committee, presented by the Chairman, Councillor Philip Stearn, was received.

(e) Planning Policy Committee – 13 February 2013

The reports of the above committee, presented by the Chairman, Councillor David Brackenbury, were received.

412. BUDGET 2013/14

(a) Budget Report

Members received and considered the report of the Chief Finance Officer which covered a wide range of issues in respect of the budget setting process for 2013/14 financial year. Specific reference was made to the challenging context both nationally and locally in which the Medium Term Financial Strategy and budget proposals had been developed. Further consideration was given to the key risks highlighted by the Chief Finance Officer and assumptions in long term financial planning.

(b) Robustness of Budget Estimates and Adequacy of Reserves

The Chief Finance Officer advised the council on the robustness of the estimates in the budget and the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves before recommending to the council its:

- Medium Term Financial Strategy 2013/14 to 2016/17
- Revenue Budget 2013/14
- Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2022/23
- Annual Treasury Management Strategy 2013/14
- Forecast Reserves and Balances

Members recognised that the position was similar to the previous year where the council continued to face economic, local government and local challenges. A detailed analysis of the areas set out above was provided to members. These are reproduced as Appendix A to these minutes at pages 690 to 694. He concluded that, provided the Council carefully considered and acted upon his analysis, and officers robustly manage the implementation of the Revenue and Capital Budgets, a positive opinion could be given under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 on the robustness of the budget estimates and the level of reserves.

RESOLVED:

That the advice of the Chief Finance Officer in respect of the adequacy of the reserves and the robustness of the budget be accepted.

(Reason – to ensure the council complies with statute in setting its budget.)

(c) **Council Tax Resolutions**

Members considered a further report setting out various information to enable the setting of the budget and council tax level for the 2013/14 financial year, which included:

- Recommendations of the Policy and Resources Committee on 11 February 2013
- Town and Parish Council precepts
- Northamptonshire County Council precept
- The Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner precept
- Council Tax Resolution

It was noted that the Localism Act 2011 had made significant changes to the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and now required the council, as the billing authority, to calculate a council tax requirement for the year, rather than a budget requirement as had been necessary previously.

Town and Parish Council Precepts totalled £2,325,978. The increase in the average Band D Council Tax for Town and Parish Councils was 13.8% and resulted in an average Band D council tax figure of £82.65. It was noted that these precepts were not subject to any capping limits set by central government, which were applicable to principal authorities.

Northamptonshire County Council met on 21 February 2013 and set its precept at £28,931,015. This resulted in a Band D Council Tax of £1,028.11.

The Northamptonshire Police and Crime Commissioner had submitted his proposals to the Northamptonshire Police and Crime Panel on 5 February 2013 in order to set a precept at £5,436,648, which would result in a Band D Council Tax of £193.20.

Members considered the **Policy and Resources Committee recommendations** set out in minute 389 (11 February 2013). The Leader of the Council proposed an amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Andy Mercer, to the recommendations of the committee and the proposed level of council tax to the effect that:

- the budget for 2013/14 as set out in the report be approved, subject to council tax being frozen at its current level for the year, with the resulting shortfall in income to be met from reserves
- the Medium Term Financial Strategy be approved as set out in the report, with the exception of the change to Council Tax for 2013/14 and the funding thereof, as set out above
- the Capital Programme for 2013/14 to 2022/23, the Treasury Management Strategy 2013/14 and the Revised Fees and Charges be approved as set out in the report.

RESOLVED:

(1) That the recommendations in minute 390 of the Policy and Resources Committee on 11 February 2013 be approved, subject to the amendment detailed above:-

- (1) That the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2013/14 to 2016/17 be approved, subject to the incorporation of changes to council tax for 2013/14 and the funding thereof.
- (2) That the Revenue Budget for 2013/14 be approved, subject to council tax being frozen at its current level for the year, with the resulting shortfall in income to be met from reserves.
- (3) That the Capital Programme for 2013/14 to 2022/23 be approved.
- (4) That the Treasury Management Strategy for 2013/14 be approved
- (5) That the revised Fees and Charges for 2013/14 be approved.

The Leader of the Council then proposed the Council Tax resolution and the motion having being seconded, it was further

RESOLVED:

- 1) That it be noted that at its meeting on 27th February 2013 the Council calculated the following amounts for the year 2013/2014 in accordance with Regulations made under Section 33 (5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act);-
 - a) For the whole Council area as 28,140 (Item T in the formula in Section 31B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the 'Act') and

Council Tax Resolution

b) Parish Of	Tax Base	Parish of	Tax Base
Aldwincle	151	Lilford cum Wigsthorpe	52
Apethorpe	93	Little Addington	138
Ashton	102	Lowick & Slipton	129
Barnwell	164	Luddington	32
Benefield	162	Lutton	55
Blatherwycke	24	Nassington	328
Brigstock	502	Newton Bromswold	29
Bulwick	85	Oundle	1,942
Chelveston cum Caldecott	188	Pilton	30
Clopton	57	Polebrook	192
Collyweston	206	Raunds	2,496
Cotterstock	83	Ringstead	464
Deene	28	Rushden	8,706
Deenethorpe	71	Southwick	74
Denford	135	Stanwick	661
Duddington	74	Stoke Doyle	34
Easton-on-the-Hill	414	Sudborough	103
Fineshade	17	Tansor	98
Fotheringhay	73	Thorpe Achurch	76
Glapthorn	132	Thrapston	1,971
Great Addington	130	Thurning	44
Hargrave	116	Titchmarsh	232
Harringworth	132	Twywell	75
Hemington	43	Wadenhoe	54
Higham Ferrers	2,473	Wakerley	41
Irthlingborough	2,392	Warmington	401
Islip	273	Woodford	477
Kings Cliffe	464	Woodnewton	218
Laxton	60	Yarwell	144

being the amounts calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of council tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate (Tax base for parish).

- 2) That the following amounts now be calculated by the Council for the year 2013/14 in accordance with sections 30 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act):
- (a) £42,634,925 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (2) (a) to (e) of the Act including appropriation to reserves.
(Gross expenditure, parish expenses, any contingencies, any provision for reserves.)
 - (b) £29,631,306 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (3) (a) to (c) of the Act including appropriation from reserves.
(Gross income, any use of reserves.)
 - (c) £13,003,619 being the amount by which the aggregate at 2 (a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2 (b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32 (4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year.
(Expenditure less income = net expenditure/budget requirement)
 - (d) £7,198,088 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its General Fund in respect of redistributed non domestic rates, revenue support grant, additional grant or relevant special grant and increased by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its Collection Fund to its General Fund pursuant to the directions under section 98 (4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988.
(Business Rates, Government grant, relevant special grant, any surplus or deficit from council tax collected.)
 - (e) £206.31 being the amount at 2 (c) above less the amount at 2 (d) above, all divided by the amount at 1 (a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 33 (1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.
(Net expenditure including parish precepts, less Business Rates, grant etc., divided by tax base = an average council tax which includes parishes.)
 - (f) £2,325,978 being the aggregate amount of the special items referred to in Section 34 (1) of the Act.
(Total amount of parish precepts.)
 - (g) £123.65 being the amount at 2 (e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 2 (f) above by the amount at 1 (a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 34 (2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.
(This Council's own Council Tax at Band D.)

(h) Part of the Council's area	£
Aldwincle	170.01
Ashton	150.12
Barnwell	157.19
Benefield	165.01
Brigstock	161.50
Bulwick	144.24
Chelveston cum Caldecott	175.25
Collyweston	208.07
Deene & Deenethorpe	161.53
Denford	168.09
Duddington with Fineshade	169.80
Easton-on-the-Hill	173.86
Glaphthorn	182.74
Great Addington	186.63
Hargrave	166.75
Harringworth	161.53
Hemington, Luddington & Thurning	147.60
Higham Ferrers	200.68
Irthlingborough	211.74
Islip	189.58
Kings Cliffe	160.29
Lilford cum Wigsthorpe & Thorpe Achurch	134.59
Little Addington	161.69
Lowick & Slipton	146.91
Lutton	132.74
Nassington	201.06
Oundle	279.44
Pilton, Stoke Doyle & Wadenhoe	147.38
Polebrook	154.90
Raunds	232.55
Ringstead	175.70
Rushden	210.51
Stanwick	208.37
Sudborough	153.75
Thrapston	241.10
Titchmarsh	177.53
Twywell	171.65
Warmington	169.78
Woodford	152.79
Woodnewton	174.60
Yarwell	173.65
Other	123.65

being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 2 (g) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at 1 (b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 34(3) of the act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special item relates.

(Council Tax at Band D for those parishes that have issued a precept added to this Council's council tax.)

(i) Part of the Council's area

Valuation Bands

	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H 3
Aldwincle	113.34	132.23	151.12	170.01	207.79	245.57	283.35	340.02
Ashton	100.08	116.76	133.44	150.12	183.48	216.84	250.20	300.24
Barnwell	104.79	122.26	139.72	157.19	192.12	227.06	261.98	314.38
Benefield	110.00	128.34	146.67	165.01	201.68	238.35	275.01	330.02
Brigstock	107.66	125.61	143.55	161.50	197.39	233.28	269.16	323.00
Bulwick	96.16	112.18	128.21	144.24	176.30	208.35	240.40	288.48
Chelveston cum Caldecott	116.83	136.30	155.78	175.25	214.20	253.14	292.08	350.50
Collyweston	138.71	161.83	184.95	208.07	254.31	300.55	346.78	416.14
Deene & Deenethorpe	107.68	125.63	143.58	161.53	197.43	233.33	269.21	323.06
Denford	112.06	130.73	149.41	168.09	205.45	242.80	280.15	336.18
Duddington with Fineshade	113.20	132.06	150.93	169.80	207.54	245.27	283.00	339.60
Easton-on-the-Hill	115.90	135.22	154.54	173.86	212.50	251.14	289.76	347.72
Glaphthorn	121.82	142.13	162.43	182.74	223.35	263.96	304.56	365.48
Great Addington	124.42	145.15	165.89	186.63	228.11	269.58	311.05	373.26
Hargrave	111.16	129.69	148.22	166.75	203.81	240.87	277.91	333.50
Harringworth	107.68	125.63	143.58	161.53	197.43	233.33	269.21	323.06
Hemington, Luddington & Thurning	98.40	114.80	131.20	147.60	180.40	213.20	246.00	295.20
Higham Ferrers	133.78	156.08	178.38	200.68	245.28	289.88	334.46	401.36
Irthlingborough	141.16	164.68	188.21	211.74	258.80	305.85	352.90	423.48
Islip	126.38	147.45	168.51	189.58	231.71	273.84	315.96	379.16
Kings Cliffe	106.86	124.67	142.48	160.29	195.91	231.53	267.15	320.58
Lilford cum Wigthorpe & Thorpe Achurch	89.72	104.68	119.63	134.59	164.50	194.41	224.31	269.18
Little Addington	107.79	125.76	143.72	161.69	197.62	233.56	269.48	323.38
Lowick & Slipton	97.94	114.26	130.59	146.91	179.56	212.21	244.85	293.82
Lutton	88.49	103.24	117.99	132.74	162.24	191.74	221.23	265.48
Nassington	134.04	156.38	178.72	201.06	245.74	290.42	335.10	402.12
Oundle	186.29	217.34	248.39	279.44	341.54	403.64	465.73	558.88
Pilton, Stoke Doyle & Wadenhoe	98.25	114.63	131.00	147.38	180.13	212.89	245.63	294.76
Polebrook	103.26	120.48	137.69	154.90	189.32	223.75	258.16	309.80
Raunds	155.03	180.87	206.71	232.55	284.23	335.91	387.58	465.10
Ringstead	117.13	136.65	156.18	175.70	214.75	253.79	292.83	351.40
Rushden	140.34	163.73	187.12	210.51	257.29	304.07	350.85	421.02
Stanwick	138.91	162.06	185.22	208.37	254.68	300.98	347.28	416.74
Sudborough	102.50	119.58	136.67	153.75	187.92	222.09	256.25	307.50
Thrapston	160.73	187.52	214.31	241.10	294.68	348.26	401.83	482.20
Titchmarsh	118.35	138.08	157.80	177.53	216.98	256.44	295.88	355.06
Twywell	114.43	133.50	152.58	171.65	209.80	247.94	286.08	343.30
Warmington	113.18	132.05	150.91	169.78	207.51	245.24	282.96	339.56
Woodford	101.86	118.83	135.81	152.79	186.75	220.70	254.65	305.58
Woodnewton	116.40	135.80	155.20	174.60	213.40	252.20	291.00	349.20
Yarwell	115.76	135.06	154.35	173.65	212.24	250.83	289.41	347.30
Other	82.43	96.17	109.91	123.65	151.13	178.61	206.08	247.30

being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2 (g) and 2 (h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in section 5 (1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with section 36 (1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

(This Council and each Parish Council's combined council tax for each Council Tax Band and which will appear on the council tax bill.)

- 3) That it be noted that for the year 2013/2014 the major precepting authorities have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands

	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Northamptonshire County Council	685.41	799.64	913.88	1,028.11	1,256.58	1,485.05	1,713.52	2,056.22
Northamptonshire Police Authority	128.80	150.27	171.73	193.20	236.13	279.07	322.00	386.40

- 4) That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2 (i) and 3 above, the Council, in accordance with section 30 (2) of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2013/2014 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:
(Total council tax in each band for each parish.)

Part of the Council's Area

Valuation Bands

	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £
Aldwincle	927.5	1,082.14	1,236.73	1,391.32	1,700.50	2,009.69	2,318.87	2,782.64
Ashton	914.29	1,066.67	1,219.05	1,371.43	1,676.19	1,980.96	2,285.72	2,742.86
Barnwell	919.00	1,072.17	1,225.33	1,378.50	1,684.83	1,991.18	2,297.50	2,757.00
Benefield	924.21	1,078.25	1,232.28	1,386.32	1,694.39	2,002.47	2,310.53	2,772.64
Brigstock	921.87	1,075.52	1,229.16	1,382.81	1,690.10	1,997.40	2,304.68	2,765.62
Bulwick	910.37	1,062.09	1,213.82	1,365.55	1,669.01	1,972.47	2,275.92	2,731.10
Chelveston cum Caldecott	931.04	1,086.21	1,241.39	1,396.56	1,706.91	2,017.26	2,327.60	2,793.12
Collyweston	952.92	1,111.74	1,270.56	1,429.38	1,747.02	2,064.67	2,382.30	2,858.76
Deene & Deenethorpe	921.89	1,075.54	1,229.19	1,382.84	1,690.14	1,997.45	2,304.73	2,765.68
Denford	926.27	1,080.64	1,235.02	1,389.40	1,698.16	2,006.92	2,315.67	2,778.80
Duddington with Fineshade	927.41	1,081.97	1,236.54	1,391.11	1,700.25	2,009.39	2,318.52	2,782.22
Easton-on-the-Hill	930.11	1,085.13	1,240.15	1,395.17	1,705.21	2,015.26	2,325.28	2,790.34
Glaphthorn	936.03	1,092.04	1,248.04	1,404.05	1,716.06	2,028.08	2,340.08	2,808.10
Great Addington	938.63	1,095.06	1,251.50	1,407.94	1,720.82	2,033.70	2,346.57	2,815.88
Hargrave	925.37	1,079.60	1,233.83	1,388.06	1,696.52	2,004.99	2,313.43	2,776.12
Harringworth	921.89	1,075.54	1,229.19	1,382.84	1,690.14	1,997.45	2,304.73	2,765.68
Hemington, Luddington & Thurning	912.61	1,064.71	1,216.81	1,368.91	1,673.11	1,977.32	2,281.52	2,737.82
Higham Ferrers	947.99	1,105.99	1,263.99	1,421.99	1,737.99	2,054.00	2,369.98	2,843.98
Irthlingborough	955.37	1,114.59	1,273.82	1,433.05	1,751.51	2,069.97	2,388.42	2,866.10
Islip	940.59	1,097.36	1,254.12	1,410.89	1,724.42	2,037.96	2,351.48	2,821.78
Kings Cliffe	921.07	1,074.58	1,228.09	1,381.60	1,688.62	1,995.65	2,302.67	2,763.20
Lilford cum Wigsthorpe & Thorpe Achurch	903.93	1,054.59	1,205.24	1,355.90	1,657.21	1,958.53	2,259.83	2,711.80
Little Addington	922.00	1,075.67	1,229.33	1,383.00	1,690.33	1,997.68	2,305.00	2,766.00
Lowick & Slipton	912.15	1,064.17	1,216.20	1,368.22	1,672.27	1,976.33	2,280.37	2,736.44
Lutton	902.70	1,053.15	1,203.60	1,354.05	1,654.95	1,955.86	2,256.75	2,708.10
Nassington	948.25	1,106.29	1,264.33	1,422.37	1,738.45	2,054.54	2,370.62	2,844.74
Oundle	1,000.50	1,167.25	1,334.00	1,500.75	1,834.25	2,167.76	2,501.25	3,001.50
Pilton, Stoke Doyle & Wadenhoe	912.46	1,064.54	1,216.61	1,368.69	1,672.84	1,977.01	2,281.15	2,737.38
Polebrook	917.47	1,070.39	1,223.30	1,376.21	1,682.03	1,987.87	2,293.68	2,752.42
Raunds	969.24	1,130.78	1,292.32	1,453.86	1,776.94	2,100.03	2,423.10	2,907.72
Ringstead	931.34	1,086.56	1,241.79	1,397.01	1,707.46	2,017.91	2,328.35	2,794.02
Rushden	954.55	1,113.64	1,272.73	1,431.82	1,750.00	2,068.19	2,386.37	2,863.64
Stanwick	953.12	1,111.97	1,270.83	1,429.68	1,747.39	2,065.10	2,382.80	2,859.36
Sudborough	916.71	1,069.49	1,222.28	1,375.06	1,680.63	1,986.21	2,291.77	2,750.12
Thrapston	974.94	1,137.43	1,299.92	1,462.41	1,787.39	2,112.38	2,437.35	2,924.82
Titchmarsh	932.56	1,087.99	1,243.41	1,398.84	1,709.69	2,020.56	2,331.40	2,797.68
Twywell	928.64	1,083.41	1,238.19	1,392.96	1,702.51	2,012.06	2,321.60	2,785.92
Warmington	927.39	1,081.96	1,236.52	1,391.09	1,700.22	2,009.36	2,318.48	2,782.18

Woodford	916.07	1,068.74	1,221.42	1,374.10	1,679.46	1,984.82	2,290.17	2,748.20
Woodnewton	930.61	1,085.71	1,240.81	1,395.91	1,706.11	2,016.32	2,326.52	2,791.82
Yarwell	929.97	1,084.97	1,239.96	1,394.96	1,704.95	2,014.95	2,324.93	2,789.92
Other areas	896.64	1,046.08	1,195.52	1,344.96	1,643.84	1,942.73	2,241.60	2,689.92

- 5) The Council has determined that its relevant basic amount of Council tax for 2013/14 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992. As the billing authority, the Council has not been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2013/14 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK Local Government Finance Act 1992.

413. OTHER REPORTS

(a) From Representatives on Outside Bodies and Champions

- (i) Councillor Dudley Hughes, the council's representative on the East Midlands Museums Service, submitted information outlining recent activities and the value of membership of the partnership.
- (ii) Councillor Brian Northall provided a brief update on the activities of the Police and Crime Panel in relation to the precept set by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

(b) Licensing Panels

(i) Liquor & Gambling – 15 January and 7 February 2013

The minutes of the meetings of the Licensing (Liquor & Gambling) Panel held on 15 January and 7 February 2013 were received.

(ii) Taxi & Miscellaneous – 15 January 2013

The minutes of the meeting of the Licensing (Taxi & Miscellaneous) Panel held on 15 January 2013 were received.

414. MOTIONS

There were no motions.

415. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

416. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS – 2013/14

The calendar of committee and sub-committee meetings for the 2013/14 municipal year was submitted for Members' consideration. It was noted that the comments made at the Policy and Resources Committee on 11 February 2013 had been taken into account in the draft calendar.

RESOLVED:

That the calendar of meetings for the 2013/14 municipal year be approved.

417. APPOINTMENTS – DEPUTY ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER.

RESOLVED:

That James McLaughlin (Democratic and Electoral Services Manager) be appointed as Deputy Electoral Registration Officer under Section 39 of the Local Government Act 1972.

Chairman

Considerations in Assessing the robustness of the Estimates in the Budget and the Adequacy of Reserves

Medium Term financial Strategy (MTFS) 2013/14 to 2016/17

The MTFS is a key part of ensuring the Council's future. During the 2012/13 budget planning round, the MTFS received a substantial refresh to ensure the stability and sustainability of the Council's finances over the medium term. The approach during the 2013/14 budget planning round has been to update the previous years MTFS for any changes to assumptions, local policy changes, national policy changes and known risks. Councillor involvement in this refresh has been through the Finance Sub Committee meetings in November 2012 and January 2013, as well as a Member Budget Workshop held during December 2012.

Assumptions

Section 5 of the Budget Report presented to the Policy and Resources Committee on 11 February 2013 sets out all of the assumptions which underpin the MTFS. These assumptions are robust and are based on the most up to date intelligence available. However, as with any assumption, there is an element of risk that the reality will be different. The following assumptions in the MTFS contain the most risk:

- **Government funding** via Revenue Support Grant (current assumption is as per notified Government allocations and a 7.5% reduction per annum from 2015/16). The Government funding for 2013/14 has been confirmed and for 2014/15 has been provisionally set. However, the funding from April 2015 has the potential to change significantly as a result of the next Spending Review due in Autumn 2013.
- **Business Rates Retention.** The current assumption is for the level of business rates in 2013/14 to grow to £21.3m, from a baseline of £19.3m. The Council is likely to retain around £0.4m with a further £0.170m generated by "pooling" with other councils in Northamptonshire. The actual level of business rates for 2013/14 will not be known until after the end of the financial year. This presents the Council with a new risk to manage, as previously all Government funding was certain at the time of setting the budget. This risk is being managed by a proportion of the anticipated increase being held in an earmarked reserve until the amount is clear. Beyond 2013/14 no further growth in Business Rates is factored into the MTFS. The Council is currently developing an approach to forecasting its level of Business rates over the medium term.
- **Localisation of council tax support (CTS) and council tax technical reforms (discounts & exemptions).** The current assumption is that the shortfall arising from the "10% reduction" in Government funding for CTS in 2013/14 will be met from council tax discounts/exemptions, the CTS transitional grant and an 8.5% council tax liability for those entitled to CTS. Beyond 2013/14 it is assumed any additional costs arising from reduced government funding are mitigated by reductions to the CTS scheme.
- **Universal credit.** The picture for implementing universal credit is starting to emerge. However, the implications for the Council's finances still remain unclear.
- **Council tax** (current assumption is an increase of £5 in 2013/14 with 2% per annum thereafter & no local referendum). The MTFS assumes the Council will increase its council tax to the maximum level without it being considered as "excessive" by the

Government and without triggering a local referendum. Whilst the Government has published the criteria for the level above which council tax increase is considered "excessive" for 2013/14, it has not done so for future years. The Government has indicated it will review, and may change, the level in future years. This will need to be reviewed on an annual basis by the Council.

If the Council adopts a different strategy it will not only need to identify further savings to bridge any increased funding gap, but also to mitigate the additional risks (e.g. lower reserves) it will place on the MTFS.

Across the period of the MTFS the level of savings required to be delivered are £1.8m per annum. The majority of these are in 2013/14 (£0.7m), each of these is a specific proposal within the budget and each has a clear plan about how it will be delivered. However, in years 2-4 of the MTFS a further £1.1m of savings still need to be identified. The Council needs to identify and develop plans on how these will be achieved. This work needs to commence immediately following the setting of this budget. A good start in identifying these additional savings is already in place and a number of areas are already under review. Based on the relatively small level of further savings to be identified, the profile across years 2-4 of the MTFS and the track record in delivering savings over the past 3 years, the Council should be confident these will be achieved.

Delivering the MTFS

The MTFS requires a number of key deliverables to be achieved and implemented in order to achieve a stable and sustainable financial position for the Council. Key deliverables include implementing savings plans, identifying further savings, selling assets and increasing revenues by encouraging more businesses into the district. As noted in Section 2 of the report all of these will need to be managed against a backdrop of further significant change to the Local Government sector. To ensure delivery the Council is advised to ensure that:

- project teams are established to deliver the savings programmes, particularly those still to be identified, and that these teams are resourced to the right level.
- progress against savings plans are regularly monitored, with variances and any mitigating actions reported to Finance Sub Committee.
-

members take future decisions that support the aim of maintaining a financially stable and sustainable Council as set out in the MTFS, including a clear funding source.

Revenue Budget 2013/14

The revenue budget 2013/14 is the first year of the Council's four year MTFS. The budget has been developed using a robust process with officer and member involvement.

Budget Process

An important feature of the budget process is that Heads of Service are responsible, with the support of finance staff, for the preparation and determination of their income and expenditure estimates. The active involvement of Heads of Service in determining their spending plans and income generation estimates ensures ownership of the budget and that the officers responsible for delivery of the services are happy that financial targets are achievable. During the 2013/14 budget cycle all items within the base budget have been challenged by Corporate Management Team (CMT) and any changes to the figures submitted have only been incorporated with the acceptance of the Head of Service. The arrival of the Finance Manager has also provided

resource to challenge current practices, improve the budgeting process and provide assurance around the robustness of budget estimates.

Members have been involved in the budget process through the Finance Sub Committee, who have challenged the proposals, and Member Budget Workshops.

Budget Proposals

The budget includes £698k of savings, many of which have already been delivered as part of the in-year savings programme for 2012/13. The remaining savings proposals are considered to be low risk in terms of delivery. However, there are a couple of proposals which merit specific mention due to their risk:

- Nene and Pemberton Centre additional income. This proposal is based on investing capital monies into the leisure offering which is anticipated to generate additional membership income of £150k in 2013/14 rising to around £400k per annum by 2015/16. The risk is that the additional income does not materialise at this level. However, extensive work has been undertaken to mitigate the risk including a report by external leisure consultants on the potential opportunity and risk sensitivity around likely funding streams, the commencement of improvement works at the Nene Centre, the imminent commencement of works at the Pemberton Centre, the minimisation of disruption to income streams during the works (e.g. provision of a gym in Members Room and continued, albeit slightly disrupted, service at Pemberton Centre) and regular meetings with CCP during the transition period. Despite these mitigations this proposal carries a higher than normal level of risk for 2013/14. This is due to a number of uncertainties, including timely completion of the improvements works and levels of expected demand for the new facilities performing in line with forecasts. As such there will be close monitoring of the financial progress of this proposal during the year.
- Planning income. The planning income budget target has been reduced by £150k to reflect current levels of demand for planning activities and bring the income budget in line with the historic average.

Draft Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2022/23

The Capital Programme agreed by Council in February 2012 underwent a major review to focus it on the highest priority areas of capital investment and is fully funded. A key element to the future of the funding position for the Capital programme was the generation of around £5m of capital receipts by selling surplus assets.

There has been steady progress in the sale of surplus assets programme. It is expected that during 2013/14 the Council will realise, in terms of value, the majority of the assets identified as surplus. This would be ahead of the assumptions included in the MTFS 12 months ago. It is also still envisaged the total level of monies to be raised will be in line with those assumed 12 months ago. However, given the current state of the economy, and specifically the housing market, the Council need to be aware there continues to be risks in both the timing and level of capital receipts forecast to fund the programme.

During the last 12 months the focus on the Council's capital spending has come to the fore with major investments in repair and improvement works to the Nene & Pemberton Leisure Centres and the cessation of the Car Scheme. To provide a greater focus and transparency on capital

investment the governance arrangements are being improved for capital planning, monitoring and the control environment. The capital investment plans for the Council are being divided into a Capital Programme, which contains those schemes where costs and funding are certain, and a Development Pool, which contains those schemes in their early stages of development.

The following risks continue to exist in the capital programme and Council needs to be aware of them:

- As noted above the programme assumes around £5m of capital receipts will be realised by selling surplus assets. To mitigate this risk of the expected timing / level of receipts temporary borrowing will be utilised to fund any difference in cash flows.
- Borrowing to finance the capital programme and development pool. To finance the capital investment plans the Council will be required to borrow monies for the first time since the housing stock was sold over 10 years ago. This presents new risks to the Council in terms of interest rates, refinancing, maturity of loans and being able to service the capital financing costs. The borrowing will be both temporary, to mitigate any cash flow timing difference in capital receipts being realised, and permanent, to finance long term assets. These risks will also be managed through the Council's Treasury Management Strategy (see Section 6 below).

Annual Treasury Management Strategy 2013/14

The Council's Treasury Management Strategy has been updated to reflect the latest borrowing requirements of the capital programme, latest interest rate forecasts and to update the credit criteria to reflect the changing banking environment whilst ensuring the security of the Council's investments continues to be maintained.

Forecasting the Council's future borrowing and lending costs is always a challenge, but even more so in the current climate of economic volatility and uncertainty. Nevertheless the Treasury Management budget does reflect the capital financing costs to support the approved capital programme and rates of return on investments at this time. The base rate is forecast to remain at its historical low further into the medium term and the budgets will be regularly monitored.

Forecast Reserves and Balances

Members will be aware that reserves have been used extensively in previous years to finance the deficit on the revenue budget and to fund the capital programme. In response to this the MTFS approved in February 2012 planned to reduce the reliance on reserves to finance the revenue budget from over £1m in 2011/12 to nil by 2015/16. At the same time the Capital Programme would utilise its remaining reserves and replace this funding stream with capital receipts by utilising the Council's surplus assets. This was a key element of the MTFS to ensure the Council's finances remain stable and sustainable in these times of austerity. As noted in the Budget Report elsewhere on this agenda the Council has made good progress in reducing its reliance on reserves. The MTFS assumes no reliance on reserves. This places the Council in a better position than it faced 12 months ago. However, there are still a number of significant risks which I have referred to earlier in the report that still face the Council and need to be mitigated with an appropriate level of reserves.

Use of Reserves to Finance Spending

The MTFS assumes the level of reserves fund the revenue and capital budgets as follows:

- Revenue – from 2013/14 there is no planned requirement to fund revenue spending from reserves. This is 3 years earlier than planned and should be seen as a major achievement in ensuring the Council's finances are stable and sustainable. It reflects the Council's focus on reducing its costs and being more efficient in the use of its revenue budget.
- Capital - the current capital reserve is due to be fully utilised in 2013/14.

Minimum reserves

The minimum level of reserves as assessed after considering the risks facing the Council over the medium term is £2m. The £2m consists of two component parts, namely:

- An underlying minimum level of £1m for the long term, and
- In the short to medium term, a minimum level to £2m to reflect the uncertainties currently facing the Council. These uncertainties include Nene Centre roof, the delivery of a cost reduction programme to ensure on-going revenue spending is sustainable, generation of additional income from leisure centre investment, new risks around the implementation/early operation of recent Government policy changes (business rates retention, localisation of council tax discounts/exemptions and council tax support), the introduction of universal credit and planning related activities.

The additional £1m to cover short to medium term risks should be reviewed, along with the underlying minimum level, on an annual basis.

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

Date: 28 February 2013

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: **Pauline Bradberry JP (Chairman)**
Gill Mercer (Vice Chairman)

Wendy Brackenbury	Ron Pinnock
Glenn Harwood MBE	David Read
Dudley Hughes JP	Anna Sauntson
Barbara Jenney	Phillip Stearn
Andy Mercer	Jeremy Taylor
Bob Nightingale	Robin Underwood
Brian Northall	Peter Wathen

418. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings held on 16 January 2013 and 6 February 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

419. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Roger Glithero JP and Marika Hillson.

420. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND INFORMAL SITE VISITS

(a) Declarations of Interest

The following interests were declared in the agenda items specified below:-

Councillors	Applications	Nature of Interest	DPI	Other Interest
Cllr Andy Mercer	EN/12/01481/OUT	Member of Rushden Town Council; Landowner for site	Yes	
Cllr Robin Underwood	EN/12/01481/OUT	Member of Rushden Town Council; Landowner for site	Yes	
Cllr Ron Pinnock	EN/12/01481/OUT	Member of Rushden Town Council; Landowner for site	Yes	
Cllr Barbara Jenney	EN/12/01481/OUT	Member of Rushden Town Council; Landowner for site	Yes	
Cllr Gill Mercer	EN/12/01481/OUT	Member of Rushden Town Council; Landowner for site	Yes	
Cllr Dudley Hughes	EN/12/01614/FUL	Member of Northamptonshire County Council		Yes
Cllr Dudley Hughes	En/11/00821/RWL	Member of Northamptonshire County Council		Yes

Those members who had declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest left the meeting whilst the relevant item was considered.

(b) Informal Site Visits

No site visits were declared.

421. DELEGATIONS TO HEAD OF PLANNING

Members received a report which provided an update on the following applications where actions had been delegated to the Head of Planning Services: -

EN/12/00648/OUT	Station Rd, Higham
EN/12/00555/EXT	Slip Clay Pit Landfill Site, Kingscliffe
EN/12/00904/FUL	14 Market Square, Higham Ferrers
EN/12/01784/NCC	Land south of Oil Depot, Wansford Road, Kings Cliffe
EN/12/01579/OUT	14 Lowick Lane, Aldwinckle
EN/12/01261/OUT	Oak Lea, 252 Newton Road, Rushden

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

Members also received an urgent report relating to application EN/12/00173/LC, 15 West Street, Oundle. The report requested delegated powers of determination for the application, to ensure that on-going enforcement action could be effective. It was noted as being imperative that this application was determined within the statutory time period of eight weeks, which was prior to the next meeting of the committee.

RESOLVED:

That the power to determine the application for listed building consent EN/13/00173/LBC at 15 West Street, Oundle be delegated to the Executive Director in conjunction with the Chairman of the Development Control Committee and the relevant ward members.

422. SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS – UPDATE

The committee noted that at the meeting of the Development Control Committee held on 28 November 2012, it had been agreed by members that this item would be added to future agendas in order for the Head of Planning Services to report on progress with regard to drafting of Section 106 (S106) agreements in cases where the committee had previously resolved to grant planning permission, subject to the prior finalisation of such an agreement.

A table itemising current S106 agreements was supplied to the meeting.

It was

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted

423. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

The following people spoke on the items as indicated: -

- i) **Mr Ian Mitchell** – EN/12/01614/FUL – Herne Lodge and Land, Ashton Road, Oundle (Agent for Applicant)
- ii) **Mrs Abigail Miller** – EN/11/01234/FUL - Cattle Market, Market Road, Thrapston (Objector)
- iii) **Mr Robert Crolla** - EN/11/01234/FUL - Cattle Market, Market Road, Thrapston (Agent for Applicant)
- iv) **Cllr David Jenney** – EN/11/0821/RWL – 66 Harborough Road, Rushden (on behalf of Rushden Town Council)
- v) **Mr William Allwood** – EN/11/00827/FUL - Longbrook Farm, Winwick Road, Thurning (Agent on behalf of Objector)
- vi) **Cllr Sarah Peacock** – EN/12/01481/OUT – Playground, Harborough Way, Rushden (on behalf of Rushden Town Council)
- vii) **Mrs Yvonne McKenzie** - EN/12/01481/OUT – Playground, Harborough Way, Rushden (Objector)

424. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The committee considered the planning applications report, with updated information on a number of the applications and representations made by public speakers at the meeting. The full decision on the applications is included (on the page indicated) in the appendix to these minutes.

(i) EN/12/01614/FUL – Herne Lodge and Land, Ashton Road, Oundle (page 702)

The committee considered an application which requested permission to demolish 25 Herne Road, and the construction of 86 dwellings, including conversion of Herne Lodge into four flats, with associated works.

The previous outline application for the site (EN/10/01560/OUT) had been for 106 dwellings, with all matters reserved except access. This application had been considered by committee on 20 July 2011, where it had been resolved to defer the application for the reasons listed below.

- Further consideration of the Ashton Road access, including maintenance, consideration of a bond and enforcement of a guarantee.
- An Air Quality Report
- Eco-friendly house to be considered
- Density concerns
- Additional information in relation to protected species

Members were advised that since that deferral, the applicant had worked with ENC officers to address member concerns, and a number of meetings had been held to revise the application. The proposed housing density had been reduced to 25 dwellings per hectare, with 30% affordable housing, instead of 40% proposed under the original outline scheme. This reduction was supported by viability assessment, with the Housing Strategy Manager having no objections to the application based on this assessment.

The proposed Ashton Road access would not be adopted, due to non-standard road construction that would be carried out using a “no dig” methodology. Instead, the developers

intended that the access would be maintained by a management company. The developer had been asked to demonstrate that such a management company could realistically maintain the road. The developer had subsequently submitted a specification for the road maintenance and landscaped areas, together with two quotes obtained from management companies. It was anticipated that a sum of money could be built up over a twenty year period to fund longer term maintenance of the road. The level of contribution to this fund expected from residents was not considered to be excessive and would be in the range of £90 per annum solely for the road, rising to approximately £250 per annum including landscaped areas. A proposal had been made to pump prime the fund with a sum of £10k.

Members had wished to undertake a site visit to view a road of similar construction, however none of the proposed sites was directly comparable to the proposal. The project was confirmed as having £10m of indemnity insurance. It was noted that the S106 agreement would need to include specifications for maintenance of the road, and in addition, clauses relating to the setting up of the management company and its operation.

An update was provided to the meeting noting that correspondence had taken place between Prince William School and Northamptonshire County Council regarding the lack of developer contributions to the school. Officers had also attempted to ensure consistency for contributions required for public open space between the proposal and the Glaphorn Road site. Both the Environmental Agency and Anglian Water were satisfied with drainage proposals for the site. The update sheet outlined the ecological report and air survey carried out which indicated the development would be acceptable. Members noted that regarding eco-friendly houses, ENC could not require anything more than stipulated by Policy 14 of building regulations. Phasing of the development had been accepted by the applicant. The precise wording of conditions had not been finalised before the meeting due to time constraints, and it was requested that this be delegated to officers to complete.

Members noted that the majority of issues they had raised regarding the previous outline application had been remediated following meetings with the developer. Members were especially pleased with the reduction in density and felt the developer had taken their concerns on board.

It was agreed that this site was suitable for development and that housing should be built there. Members were minded to grant the application on the basis that ENC had very strong conditions in place to ensure the access road management company was sound and had sufficient funding to cover any eventualities that may occur over an extended period of time.

The committee **agreed to grant** the application, subject to the completion of a S106 agreement as recommended in the report and update sheet. Wording of the final conditions was delegated to officers. The S106 clause relating to non standard road construction was delegated to officers in conjunction with the Ward Member.

(ii) EN/11/01234/FUL – Cattle Market, Market Road, Thrapston, NN14 4JU (page 702)

The committee were presented with a report which sought revisions to previously agreed and proposed conditions in relation to delivery hours.

This matter had previously been deferred at the Development Control Committee meeting held on 16 January 2013, in order for a meeting to be undertaken between the committee chairman, vice chairman, Thrapston ward members and the applicant. This meeting had taken place on 1 February, with Sainsbury's logistics manager in attendance.

As a result of these negotiations, the frequency of deliveries had been revised to a maximum of three vehicles a day with flexibility over the Christmas period for an additional delivery.

An update was received by the meeting that stated a revised Service Yard Management Plan had been submitted to clarify that delivery cages would not be removed by any vehicles leaving the site between 2100 and 2300 hours in order to reduce noise. Waste would be removed from the site by delivery vehicles, and that deliveries to the biomass boiler would be every 10 days in winter and every 24 days in the summer.

Officers highlighted that the report had been written before the neighbour notification period had expired and went through the objections that had been raised by members of the public, with concern expressed regarding late night deliveries, although the majority of residents appeared satisfied with the morning deliveries. A number of comments received did not relate to delivery hours, and these issues had been dealt with at the committee in July.

Parking accumulation surveys had been carried out by the developer, and the accuracy of these surveys was disputed by two objectors. The update set out correspondence received in relation to this issue. Highways had raised no issues with the survey and advocated a monitor and manage approach with Sainsbury's to carry out additional parking surveys in future.

Members were reminded that the committee had resolved to approve the overall application in July and there had been no change in material considerations since then. As such, the committee was only to consider the aspect of revised delivery hours.

Members considered that the meeting with Sainsbury's and their logistics manager had been of great benefit and the discussions had led to a compromise being reached regarding delivery hours. It was felt that negotiations had gone as far as possible and members were minded to approve the application, provided Condition 4 (in the report) was revised to refer to the revised service yard management plan received on 28 February 2013.

The committee **agreed to grant** the amended wording to the delivery hours conditions subject to an amendment to Condition 4 of the latest report, so that it referred to the Service Yard Management Plan received on 28 February 2013.

(iii) EN/11/00821/RWL – 66 Harborough Road, Rushden, NN10 0LP (page 711)

Members were presented with an application which sought permission for the replacement of planning permission EN/07/02449/FUL that was for the redevelopment of the existing factory and outbuildings, comprising nine apartments, five terraced dwellings to the rear with associated works, car parking, bin and cycle store.

An update was supplied to clarify the situation regarding extant planning permission for the site. The grant of the original application had lapsed, although the permission had been extant when the replacement application was submitted.

Members debated the viability of the proposals for the site but determined not to ignore the findings of the viability assessment. Members were reminded of their duty to enable sustainable development and that it was not their place to refuse an application based on the viability of the scheme as this was for the developer to decide.

To committee **agreed to grant** the application as recommended in the report.

(iv) EN/11/00827/FUL – Longbrook Farm, Winwick Road, Thurning, PE8 5RG (page 713)

Members were presented with an application which sought permission for the installation of an 11KW wind turbine mounted on an 18 metre lattice mast, on a concrete base.

The application had originally been presented, and withdrawn from the agenda at the Development Control Committee meeting held on 11 July 2012. The application had been recommended for refusal at that stage due to the potential for an adverse impact on highway safety as a result of shadow flicker from the turbine blades spooking horses using the highway and nearby bridleway. The application was withdrawn when the agent for the application provided a claim that computer modelling could determine hours when shadow flicker could provide an issue and thereby shut down the turbine at specified times and in certain weather conditions.

The application was returned to committee on 25 July 2012 with a recommendation for approval, subject to conditions relating to concerns about shadow flicker and highway safety. Members deferred the application at the meeting in order to undertake a site visit and for additional technical information on shadow flicker prevention.

In December 2012, correspondence was received from the applicant's agent that concluded there was no feasible way to remotely switch off the turbine as the required technology was not presently available. As a result, officers considered their only option was to return to the recommendation for refusal first proposed at the 11 July 2012 meeting.

The committee **agreed to refuse** the application as recommended in the report. A possible additional reason for refusal would be investigated arising from information supplied to members by the agent for the objectors. If this could be substantiated, the wording of the additional refusal reason would be delegated to the Executive Director in conjunction with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and ward member.

(v) EN/12/01481/OUT – Playground, Harborough Way, Rushden (page 714)

Members were presented with an outline application for eight dwellings with access road, parking, children's play area and associated works. Members noted that all matters were reserved with the exception of access and layout.

The application has previously been before members at the Development Control Committee meeting held on 19 December 2012. At the meeting members had deferred the application in order for further information to be collected regarding other areas of open space in the vicinity and for more recent photographs of the site to be taken.

The committee were advised that there were three alternative open spaces/play areas within 400m of the site, capable of accommodating activities for a wide range of ages. Members were reminded that they had to balance the quality of open space lost with the quality of the replacement equipment. The higher quality of the proposal would be seen as a reasonable substitute when other the other open spaces in vicinity were taken into account.

Members considered the benefits of the proposed development outweighed the loss of the existing site, as the site would provide a much needed, higher quality, replacement.

To committee **agreed to grant** the application as recommended in the report.

(vi) EN/12/02023/FUL – Land adjacent 23 Fayway, Clopton (page 717)

Members were presented with an application which sought permission for the erection of a two bedroom dwelling in open countryside to the south-east of Clopton. The dwelling, if approved, would be built on land to the south of 23 Fayway.

An update was provided to members that detailed a revised recommendation to delegate the decision for refusal to the Head of Planning Services following expiry of the statutory consultation period.

The committee **agreed** to **refuse** the application as recommended in the report and update sheet, as detailed above.

(vii) EN/13/0003/FUL – 37 Polopit, Titchmarsh, NN14 3DL (page 718)

The committee considered an application which sought permission for the change of use of existing holiday accommodation to a separate residential dwelling.

An update was supplied to the meeting outlining additional information provided by the applicant's agent in relation to use of the premises as a holiday let.

Members requested an additional condition be inserted that would remove future permitted development rights for extensions at the property.

The committee **agreed** to **grant** the application as recommended in the report, subject to the addition of the condition listed above.

(viii) EN/12/00110/FUL – The Water Tower, Ashton Wold, Ashton (page 719)

Members were presented with an application which sought permission for the change of use of the property from a holiday let to a full residential, four bedroom dwelling.

An update was provided to members that noted no comments from English Heritage and no objections from either the parish council or Northamptonshire County Council's Assistant Archaeological Advisor.

Members welcomed the application and considered the design to be of high quality.

The committee **agreed** to **grant** the application as recommended in the report

Chairman

**List of Applications Determined By
DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - 28 February 2013**

12/01614/FUL

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
28 September 2012 12 October 2012 11 January 2013

Applicant **Kier Homes Limited/Grace Homes Ltd**

Agent **Maddox And Associates - Mr Colin Smith**

Location **Herne Lodge And Land, Ashton Road, Oundle, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Demolition of 25 Herne Road, construction of 86 dwellings including conversion of Herne Lodge into four flats and associated works.**

Decision Awaiting Section 106 Agreement as per report

Conditions/Reasons:

Conditions delegated to Officers. S106 clause on non standard road construction delegated to Officers in conjunction with Ward member

11/01234/FUL

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
8 August 2011 19 August 2011 18 November 2011

Applicant **Sainsbury's And Thrapston Market Co, C T And D H Bletsoe**

Agent **Indigo Planning Limited - Mr R Crolla**

Location **Cattle Market, Market Road, Thrapston, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Demolition of existing livestock market, buttress wall and cold store and erection of a new food store (Use class A1) including car park, boundary treatments, associated highways access, landscaping, separate cold store and garage buildings and public realm improvements**

Decision Members agreed the amended wording to the delivery hours conditions, subject to an amendment to condition 4 of this latest report so that it refers to the Service Yard Management Plan received on 28th February 2013.

(Members previously resolved to grant planning permission for the application on 4 July 2012)

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The development permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: To ensure compliance with Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory

Purchase Act 2004.

2. The net sales floorspace of the supermarket shall not exceed 1,905 sq. m of which no more than 1745 sq. m shall be used for the sale of convenience goods and no more than 140 sq. m shall be used for the sale of comparison goods.
Reason: to define the permission and ensure that any impact on other centres is controlled in line with the NPPF.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any order revoking and re-enacting the order with or without modification) no internal alterations shall be carried out which would result in a) an increase in the total gross floorspace of the development; or b) the subdivision of the unit.
Reason: to control the size of the store and ensure that any impact on other centres is controlled in line with the NPPF.
4. The works hereby permitted shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved plans (PL01/E received on 22 November 2011, PL03/B, PL04/E, PL06/B, PL07/B and PL08/D, PL10/B, PL11/B, PL12/B, PL13/C, PL15/A, PL16/B, PL17/D, PL19/A, PL20/C, PL21/E, PL22/C, PL23/C, PL25/*, PL30/B, PL31/B, PL32/B, PL33/*, SL201/P02, SL202/P02, SL203/P01, 12702a_ OGL/B received on 08 August 2011, PL05/C received on 03 November 2011, PL09/C received 22 August 2011 and PL401/P04 received on 14 June 2012) unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.
Reason: In order to clarify the terms of the planning permission and to ensure that the development is carried out as permitted.
5. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted a scheme of external finishes shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and the work shall be executed in accordance with the approved scheme and retained in perpetuity thereafter.
Reason: To achieve a satisfactory elevational appearance for the development.
6. Prior to the commencement of development details of the proposed gates to the service yard shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing. Development shall be carried out in accordance with these approved details, and the gates shall be in place prior to the first use of the service yard.
Reason: To ensure that the appearance of the development is satisfactory.
7. Prior to the commencement of development the brick to be used for all boundary walls shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing. Development shall be carried out in accordance with these approved details.
Reason: To ensure that the appearance of the development is satisfactory.
8. The steel posts and steel security mesh, of proposed fence type 2, shall not be visible from any public vantage points.
Reason: To ensure that the appearance of the development is satisfactory.
9. All boundary treatment shown on the submitted plans (ref 2007-012/PL17D and 2007-012/PL13C received 8 August 2011) shall be in place prior to the first use of the development hereby approved.
Reason: To ensure that the appearance of the development is satisfactory.
10. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted full engineering and constructional details of the Off Site Highway Works and the Market Road Mitigation

Scheme, including public transport infrastructure enhancements, shall be submitted to and gain the written approval of the Local Planning Authority. The Off Site Highway Works and Market Road Mitigation Scheme shall thereafter be constructed in accordance with such approved details prior to the commencement of any works or development within the area hatched on plan ref ARCH/2007-12/PL01E (site location plan).

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

11. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted full engineering and constructional details of the High Street Access supported by a Quality Audit shall be submitted to and gain the written approval of the Local Planning Authority. The Quality Audit shall include:

- i) Visual quality audit;
- ii) Review of how the area will be used by the community;
- iii) A road safety audit, including a risk assessment;
- iv) Access audit;
- v) Walking audit;
- vi) Cycle audit;
- vii) Non-motorised audit; and
- viii) Place check audit.

The works shall then be completed in accordance with such approved details prior to the occupation or first use of the development.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

12. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted an updated assessment of the Midland Road/Bridge Street/High Street/Cosy Nook roundabout shall be submitted to and gain the written approval of the Local Planning Authority. The updated assessment shall take into account the cumulative impact of developments in Thrapston for the future year of 2021 including identification for consideration of any works or initiatives to address any impacts identified. Any works identified and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing shall thereafter be completed prior to occupation or first use of the development.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

13. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted, details of Charter Fair Traffic Management Plan, to accommodate the Thrapston Charter Fair, shall be submitted to and gain the written approval of the Local Planning Authority. The temporary traffic management approved shall be implemented, maintained and removed in accordance with the Charter Fair Traffic Management Plan or such other plan as may subsequently be approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the proposed mitigation scheme does not impede the holding of this yearly event in the town.

14. Vehicular visibility splays of 2.4m (measured from the carriageway channel along the centre line of the access/street) by at least 33m in both directions (measured from the centre of the access/junction along the carriageway edge). Any features within the resultant area triangular areas shall not exceed 0.9m above carriageway level.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

15. Prior to first use or occupation, the proposed service yard shall be clearly marked on site to identify the area required for manoeuvring vehicles within the yard. The area so marked shall remain unobstructed and available for its intended use at all times.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

16. The means of security of the vehicular accesses shall be submitted to and gain the written approval of the Local Planning Authority. Such details shall include that no means of security, gate or bar shall be able to open over the highway.
Reason: In the interest of highway safety.
17. Notwithstanding the submitted details and before commencement of the development hereby permitted, a Site Waste Management Plan, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority to demonstrate that the development would meet the requirements of Policy CS7 of the Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Spatial Strategy and the Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008. The development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.
Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable in accordance with national government advice contained in, Policy 14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy, Policy CS7 of the Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Spatial Strategy and the Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008.
18. The proposed development shall not begin until a scheme for the provision, implementation, ownership and maintenance of the surface water drainage for the site, based upon sustainable drainage principles, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: To prevent flooding by ensuring the satisfactory storage of/disposal of surface water from the site.
19. No infiltration of surface water into the ground is permitted other than with the express written consent of the Local Planning Authority, which may be given for those parts of the site where it is demonstrated that there is no resultant unacceptable risk to controlled waters. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.
Reason: To ensure that infiltration systems such as soakaways do not increase the potential for contamination migration. Soakaways should not be located in areas of potential contamination.
20. No development shall take place within the area indicated until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority.
Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.
21. The kerb line of Market Road, in the vicinity of Peace Park, shall not be moved closer to the existing lime trees. In addition, any re-grading works within this area shall be kept to a minimum and an arboricultural method statement for any such works shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing prior to the commencement of development. Development shall be carried out in accordance with any method statement that may be approved.
Reason: To ensure the existing trees are not damaged in the interest of the amenity of the area.
22. Prior to the commencement of development an implementation scheme for the soft landscape proposals shown on drawing ref PL401 Revision P04 received 14 June 2012 shall be submitted and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing. Development shall be carried out in accordance with this scheme.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity

23. Prior to the commencement of development a Low Zero Carbon (LZC) Feasibility Study shall be carried out by an independent energy specialist to establish the most appropriate LZC energy source for the development in order to achieve a target of at least 30%, with a minimum of 10%, of the demand for energy. The feasibility study should cover as a minimum energy generated by LZC source per year, payback, land use, noise, whole life cost impact of potential specification in terms of carbon emissions, any available grants, all technologies appropriate to the site, energy demand of the development, reasons for excluding other technologies and should include technical and economic viability assessment supporting actual target if less than 30%.
Reason: In the interests of energy efficiency and sustainable construction in accordance with policy 14 of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy 2008.
24. The scheme shall achieve, at the least, the BREEAM rating "very good".
Reason: In the interests of energy efficiency and sustainable construction in accordance with policy 14 of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy 2008.
25. Prior to the commencement of development, a scheme for the provision of external CCTV covering vulnerable areas around the store, pedestrian routes and car parking, which shall include the provision for external real time monitoring and recording provision by the applicant, shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing. Such approved details shall be installed prior to commencement of use and retained thereafter in perpetuity.
Reason: In the interest of crime prevention.
26. The biomass boiler shall be installed and maintained in line with the manufacturer's guidelines. In particular, this shall be in accordance with the specifications provided by Eco Link Resources Ltd summarised in table 16 of the Air Quality Assessment. Namely the stack height shall be 8.4m in height and the stack location co-ordinates shall be 499563, 278579. Any change to these details shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing.
Reason: In the interest of air quality
27. The biomass boiler shall only be operated using clean wood pellets that comply with a recognised fuel quality standard (such as CEN/TS 14961:2005).
Reason: In the interest of air quality
28. There shall be no dark/black smoke from the biomass boiler stack at any time.
Reason: In the interest of air quality
29. Prior to the installation of the biomass boiler, a written schedule of maintenance, shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing. This shall include removal of ash, inspection and maintenance of particulate arrestment equipment, boiler servicing and stack cleaning, how incidences of boiler or abatement system failure will be identified and mitigated. This maintenance schedule shall be implemented in perpetuity.
Reason: In the interest of air quality
30. The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until details of a comprehensive contaminated land investigation has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and until the scope of works approved therein have been implemented where possible. The assessment shall include all of the following measures unless the LPA dispenses with any such requirements in writing:

- a) A Phase I desk study carried out by a competent person to identify and evaluate all potential sources of contamination and the impacts on land and/or controlled waters, relevant to the site. The desk study shall establish a 'conceptual model' of the site and identify all plausible pollutant linkages. Furthermore, the assessment shall set objectives for intrusive site investigation works/ Quantitative Risk Assessment (or state if none required). Two full copies of the desk study and a non-technical summary shall be submitted to the LPA without delay upon completion.
- b) A site investigation shall be carried out to fully and effectively characterise the nature and extent of any land contamination and/or pollution of controlled waters. It shall specifically include a risk assessment that adopts the Source-Pathway-Receptor principle and takes into account the sites existing status and proposed new use. Two full copies of the site investigation and findings shall be forwarded to the LPA. This must be conducted in accordance with the Environment Agency's 'Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination, CLR11'

Reason: To ensure potential risks arising from previous site uses have been fully assessed

31. Where the risk assessment identifies any unacceptable risk or risks, an appraisal of remedial options and proposal of the preferred option to deal with land contamination and/or pollution of controlled waters affecting the site shall be submitted to and approved by the LPA. No works, other than investigative works, shall be carried out on the site prior to receipt and written approval of the preferred remedial option by the LPA.

This must be conducted in accordance with DEFRA and the Environment Agency's 'Model procedures for the Management of Land Contamination, CLR11'.

Reason: To ensure the proposed remediation plan is appropriate.

32. Remediation of the site shall be carried out in accordance with the approved remedial option. No deviation shall be made from this scheme without the express written agreement of the LPA.

Reason: To ensure site remediation is carried out to the agreed protocol.

33. On completion of remediation, two copies of a closure report shall be submitted to the LPA. The report shall provide verification that the required works regarding contamination have been carried out in accordance with the approved Method Statement(s). Post remediation sampling and monitoring results shall be included in the closure report.

Reason: To provide verification that the required remediation has been carried out to the required standards.

34. If, during development, contamination not previously considered is identified, then the LPA shall be notified immediately and no further work shall be carried out until a method statement detailing a scheme for dealing with the suspect contamination has been submitted to and agreed in writing with the LPA.

Reason: To ensure all contamination within the site is dealt with.

35. Before the development is commenced a scheme for noise reduction shall be submitted and approved by the Planning Authority in writing so as to ensure that road traffic noise from the store including delivery vehicles shall not give rise to external noise levels in the development area in excess of 61 dB (A) Leq 3 hour.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity

36. Prior to the first use of the premises, details of any plant (including ventilation,

refrigeration, bio mass boiler and air conditioning) or ducting system to be used in pursuance of this permission shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details. The scheme shall ensure that the noise generated at the boundary of any noise sensitive property shall not exceed the background levels when measured as a 5 minute LAeq at the nearest residential property. The equipment shall be maintained in a condition so that it does not exceed that background level as described above, whenever it is operating. After installation of the approved plant no new plant or ducting system shall be used without the written consent of the local planning authority.
Reason: In the interest of residential amenity

37. The rating level of noise emitted from the proposed plant and equipment to be installed on the site (determined using the guidance of BS 4142:1997 Rating for industrial noise affecting mixed residential and industrial areas) shall be at least 5dB below the existing measured background noise level LA90,T during the night time period. For the purpose of the assessment the authority will accept 23:00-07:00 hours as covering the night time period.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity

38. The rating level of noise emitted from the proposed plant and equipment to be installed on the site (determined using the guidance of BS 4142:1997 Rating for industrial noise affecting mixed residential and industrial areas) shall be at least 5dB below the existing measured background noise level LA90,T during the day time period. For the purpose of the assessment the authority will accept 07.00 –23.00 hours as covering the day time period.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity

39. The applicant shall submit to and gain the written approval from the Local Planning Authority of the exact specification for any noise mitigation including the louvered enclosure around the building services plant and bio mass boiler prior to installation. The applicant shall demonstrate that there are no one third octave bands that are more than 10dB dominant than their nearest neighbour.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity

40. Prior to the first operation of the premises a scheme for the extraction and treatment of fumes and odours together with a maintenance plan, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Any equipment, plant or process provided or undertaken in pursuance of this condition shall be installed prior to the first operation of the premises. The extraction and treatment equipment shall be maintained and operated in compliance with the approved scheme and the manufacturer's instructions. After installation of the approved plant no new plant or ducting system shall be used without the written consent of the local planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity

41. There will be no activity within the service yard from 23:00 to 6:00 Mondays to Sundays

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity

42. Any delivery vehicles which are not able to access the site immediately to load or unload must silence their engines and refrigeration units whilst waiting to enter the site if parked in the residential area within the vicinity of the store.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity

43. Doors on any unused loading bays shall be kept closed at all times whilst not in use.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity

44. Vehicle radios and headlights shall be turned off during unloading/loading
Reason: In the interest of residential amenity
45. No ancillary use of the delivery area or yard is allowed at night without the written permission of the LPA.
Reason: In the interest of residential amenity
46. Prior to the commencement of any part of the development hereby permitted, a Construction Management Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The Construction Management Plan shall include and specify the provision to be made for the following:
- i) Overall strategy for managing environmental impacts and control of pollution which arises during demolition and construction.
 - ii) A full asbestos survey
 - iii) Measures to control the emission of dust and dirt during construction
 - iv) Control of noise emanating from the site
 - v) Hours of construction work to be limited to between 08:00 – 18:00 Monday to Friday and between 09:00 – 13:00 on Saturdays. No construction work (other than emergency works) on Sundays or Bank Holidays (unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority)
 - vi) No deliveries to be made to the site before 9:15 am and after 3:00pm on school days.
 - vii) Limits to deliveries to the site on non school days (to include 9.00 to 13.00 Saturdays and no movements Sundays and bank holidays)
 - viii) No deliveries on the day of the Charter Fair
 - ix) A daily log of all vehicles attracted to the site to be kept and made available for inspection.
 - x) Contractors' compounds, materials storage and other storage arrangements, cranes and plant, equipment and temporary infra-structure within the site
 - xi) Designation, layout and design of construction access points;
 - xii) Directional Signage (on and off site)
 - xiii) Provision for emergency vehicles
 - xiv) Provision for all site operatives, visitors and construction vehicles loading and unloading plant and materials solely within the site;
 - xv) Provision for all site operatives, visitors and construction vehicles for parking and turning within the site
 - xvi) Details of measures to prevent mud and other materials migrating onto the highway from construction or demolition vehicles (If this includes wheel washing plant and equipment, the location of this)
 - xvii) Storage of plant and materials used in constructing the development within the site
 - xviii) All mechanical plant used on site to be maintained, serviced and operated so as to minimise noise emissions. In particular, earth moving equipment, power generators, pumps and any other plant required to be operated on a continuous basis shall be silenced to the extent necessary to minimise the potential for disturbance of local residents.
 - xix) The erection and maintenance of security hoarding including decorative displays and facilities for public viewing, where appropriate
 - xx) All loaded lorries leaving the site to be securely and effectively sheeted
 - xxi) Piling
 - xxii) Site contact details
- Reasons:** To ensure the amenity of any neighbouring premises is protected from noise, dust and vibration. In order that the proposed construction operations do not prejudice highway safety nor cause inconvenience to other highway users. To ensure

that construction traffic is directed along routes which are satisfactory and which minimise the impact of construction on others

47. Prior to the commencement of development, a scheme detailing the provision and maintenance of external lighting, which shall include light level calculations in designated areas rather than the overall areas, switching/dimming and uniformity details, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Such approved details shall be installed prior to commencement of use / prior to occupation and retained thereafter in perpetuity.
Reason: In order to ensure adequate safety and security on site.
48. Prior to commencement of the development the developer details of the proposed internal lighting of the premises shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This shall include but not be limited to information on the type of lighting to be installed and what effect this will have on residential premises facing the site; what lights will be turned off after trading hours and how this will be managed and controlled.
Reason: In the interest of residential amenity
49. The development hereby permitted shall not be carried out otherwise than in strict accordance with the submitted Bat Survey Report and Mitigation Strategy dated 3 August 2011 and received by the local planning authority on 8 August 2011.
Reason: In the interests of ecology and biodiversity
50. Prior to the first opening of the store to customers, gates shall be provided to Pashler Gardens, in accordance with a scheme to be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: To ensure that visitors to the store and employees do not park within this area.
51. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the Service Yard Management Plan received on 28 February 2013 in perpetuity.
Reason: In the interest of amenity.
52. There shall be a prohibition of HGV delivery arrivals to the store at any time other than:
:Monday to Fridays 07:00-08:00, 9:00-15:00, 16:00-22:00
Saturdays 07:00-22:00
Sundays and Bank Holidays 09:00-22:00
Reason: In the interest of residential amenity
53. The delivery vehicle will depart the store no later than 23:00 Mondays to Saturdays and not between 08:00-09:00 or 15:00-16:00 Mondays to Fridays.
Reason: In the interest of residential amenity and to avoid vehicle movements at school times.
54. The development shall be carried out in strict accordance with the Service Yard Management Plan submitted on 18 December 2012 in perpetuity.
Reason: In the interest of amenity.
55. The store shall only be open to customers during the following hours:
Monday to Saturday 8:00 -22:00,
Sundays and Bank Holidays 10:00 to 16:00.
Reason: In the interest of residential amenity.as it has been made clear that the delivery hours are linked to store opening hours.

56. Prior to the commencement of development a method statement for the construction of the retaining wall to the rear of the residential properties in Market Road, shall be submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Development shall be carried out in accordance with these approved details.

Reason: In the interest of amenity

11/00821/RWL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
25 May 2011	25 May 2011	24 August 2011	

Applicant **Sycamore Developments (Ms Lisa Jude)**

Agent **IG Land And Planning (Mr Ian Gidley)**

Location **66 Harborough Road, Rushden, Northamptonshire, NN10 0LP.**

Proposal **Replacement of planning permission EN/07/02449/FUL Redevelopment of existing factory and outbuildings, comprising of nine apartments and five terraced dwellings to the rear with associated works, covered car parking, bin and cycle store**

Decision **Application Permitted subject to:-**

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under provision of Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. No development shall take place until details and samples of all proposed external facing materials and hard surfacing materials have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.
Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and to ensure that the development will harmonise with its surroundings.
3. Notwithstanding the submitted details, no development shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority a plan indicating the positions, design, materials and type of boundary treatment to be erected including a boundary treatment of not less than 2.1 metres in height on the boundary adjacent to Pembroke Close and the rear access gates giving access to units 1 to 14 shall be lockable. The boundary treatment shall be completed before the dwellings are occupied or in accordance with a timetable agreed in writing by the local planning authority. Development shall then be carried out in accordance with the approved details and shall thereafter be retained.
Reason: In the interest of residential amenity.
4. Before any work is commenced on the development hereby permitted, a detailed contamination assessment report and mitigation strategy shall be carried out and submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The report shall include a comprehensive and systematic sampling strategy, an assessment of the

concentrations and contamination associated with the last and previous uses of the site. The report shall also include a full assessment of potential groundwater and surface contamination. The development shall then be carried out strictly in accordance with the mitigation strategy as approved by the local planning authority. The works comprised in the approved strategy for mitigation of contaminants present on the site shall have been completed prior to the occupation of the dwellings hereby permitted.

Reason: To ensure that contamination present on the site properly contained/removed in the interests of public health

5. No development shall take place until a plan showing the details of ground and first floor levels of the proposed buildings in relation to the existing properties in Harborough Road has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The development shall then be carried out in accordance with the approved plan, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In the interests of visual and residential amenity.

6. No development shall take place until there has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority a scheme of landscaping. All planting, seeding or turfing comprised in the approved details of landscaping shall be carried out in the first planting and seeding seasons following the occupation of the dwellings or the completion of the development, whichever is the sooner; and any trees or plants which within a period of 5 years from the completion of the development, die are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of a similar size and species, unless the planning authority gives written approval to any variation.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity

7. No development shall take place, including any works of demolition, until a Construction Method Statement has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The approved Statement shall be adhered to throughout the construction period. The statement shall provide for:

- 1) details of the construction of the access
- 2) wheel washing facilities
- 3) the hours of working (which shall be limited to between 8.00am and 6.00pm Monday to Friday, between 8.00am and 1.00pm on Saturdays and there shall be no construction on Sundays or Bank Holidays.
- 4) measures to control the emission of dust and dirt and suppression of noise during construction.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity

8. The sustainable construction, waste reduction/recycling, water efficiency/recycling and energy efficiency measures shall meet Code Level 3 and be implemented in accordance with the submitted Sustainable Design and Energy Statement (received by the Local Planning Authority on 3 April 2011), unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable in accordance with national government advice contained in NPPF and Policy 14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

9. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and County Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2008 (or any Order amending or re-enacting that Order with or without modification) and notwithstanding the information submitted, security gates shall be provided at the access point. The gates shall be positioned at least 5.0 metres back from the highway boundary and shall be hung to open inwards only. Details of the

proposed gates shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority prior to the first occupation of the dwellings hereby approved. The development shall then be carried out in accordance with the approved details, unless approved in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

10. Notwithstanding the submitted details and before commencement of the development hereby permitted, a Site Waste Management Plan, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority to demonstrate that the development would meet the requirements of Policy CS7 of the Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Spatial Strategy and the Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008. The development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable in accordance with national government advice contained in the NPPF, Policy 14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy, Policy CS7 of the Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Spatial Strategy and the Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008

12. Prior to the commencement of development, details of the lighting to be used in the courtyard area shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority and shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To ensure that the courtyard area is appropriately lit in terms of security and personal safety and to ensure that residential amenity is not harmed.

13. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved plans Topographical survey, P04, P05, P09A, P07, P06A, P08, P09, P02, P01, P03A received by the Local Planning Authority on 02/06/11, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In order to clarify the terms of the planning permission and to ensure that the development is carried out as permitted.

11/00827/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
26 May 2011	30 June 2011	25 August 2011	

Applicant **N C Paske Farming**

Agent **Segen Ltd - Henrietta Hopkins**

Location **Longbrook Farm, Winwick Road, Thurning, Peterborough.**

Proposal **Installation of an 11KW wind turbine mounted on an 18 metre lattice mast on a 5m2 concrete base.**

Decision Refuse as per report. Possible additional reason for refusal to be investigated arising from additional information supplied by the agent for the objectors. If this can be substantiated, the refusal reason is delegated to the Executive Director in conjunction with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and ward member Councillor Derek Capp.

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
10 September 2012	10 September 2012	5 November 2012	

Applicant **John Henry Ltd - Mr Frank And John Langley**

Agent **DLP Planning Ltd - Miss Susie Hartas**

Location **Playground, Harborough Way, Rushden, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Outline application for the erection of 8no. dwellings with access road, parking, children's play area and associated works (all matters reserved except access and layout)**

Decision **Application Permitted subject to**

Conditions/Reasons:

1. Approval of the details of the scale and appearance of the dwellings and the landscaping of the development (hereinafter called "the reserved matters") shall be obtained from the Local Planning Authority in writing before the development is commenced.
Reason: The application is in outline only and the reserved matters referred to will require full consideration by the Local Planning Authority.
2. Application for the approval of the reserved matters must be made not later than the expiration of three years beginning with the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
3. The development to which this permission relates shall be begun before the expiration of two years from the date of approval of the last of the reserved matters to be approved.
Reason: Statutory requirement under section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
4. The details to be submitted for approval in writing by the Local Planning Authority at the reserved matters stage shall include drawings showing the finished floor levels of the buildings in relation to the existing and proposed levels of the site and the surrounding land. The buildings shall there after be constructed in accordance with the details so approved.
Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and to ensure a satisfactory form of development in relation to neighbouring land and buildings.
5. The details to be submitted for approval in writing by the Local Planning Authority relating to condition 1 above shall include a comprehensive landscaping scheme for the site. The scheme shall follow the principles set out on the submitted site plan shall include an implementation schedule. Landscaping shall thereafter be provided in accordance with the details so approved.
Reason: To ensure a reasonable standard of development and visual amenity for the area.
6. Any trees or plants which within a period of 5 years from the completion of the

development die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased, shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of a similar size and species. Should the need arise, the planting of alternative species shall be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure a reasonable standard of development and to avoid detriment to the visual amenity of the area.

7. The landscaping details to be submitted for approval in writing by the Local Planning Authority relating to condition 1 above, shall include details of boundary treatment for all boundaries of the site, individual dwellings and the Local Area of Play. The Local Area of Play shall be enclosed by hoop top metal railings at a minimum height of 1.2 metres and with a gate facing the path to plots 6, 7 and 8.
Reason: In the interest of preventing crime, anti-social behaviour and reducing the fear of crime, in accordance with Policy 13 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy and in the interest of residential amenity.
8. No residential development shall commence until details for the off-site kerbing works to reinstate the highway after the closure of the existing access to the northern extent of the site and to make good the existing access to be reused have been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The dwellings hereby permitted shall not be occupied until the agreed scheme for the off site highway works has been completed in accordance with the approved details, and written confirmation gained from the local planning authority that the works are acceptable.
Reason: In the interest of highway safety.
9. No development shall commence until details of a scheme for the provision of mains foul water drainage on and off site has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. No dwellings shall be occupied until the works have been carried out in accordance with the approved scheme.
Reason: To prevent flooding, pollution and detriment to public amenity through provision of suitable water infrastructure.
10. Works which cause noise to be audible outside the site boundary must not take place outside the times of 8:00am-17:30pm Monday to Friday, 08:00am-13:00pm on Saturdays and at no time on Sundays or Bank Holidays, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: To ensure noisy operations are not undertaken during noise sensitive times, in the interests of the residential amenity of the existing nearby dwellings.
11. Details of the arrangements for provision of bin storage for the dwellings hereby permitted shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, prior to commencement of development. The details shall show an individual bin storage area serving plots 4 and 7. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the details so approved, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.
Reason: In the interests of amenity and ensuring an appropriate standard of development.
12. In accordance with the details provided in the submitted Design and Access Statement, a variety of dwelling scale and mix, including 2, 3 and 4 bed dwellings, with a predominance of smaller dwellings, shall be provided.
Reasons: In order to meet the objectives of the NPPF and objective 10 of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy 2008.
13. Before commencement of the development hereby permitted, details and samples of

the external roofing and facing materials to be used for the construction of the dwellings shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The development shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the approved detail, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To achieve a satisfactory appearance for the development.

14. Prior to commencement of development, a Site Waste Management Plan, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority to demonstrate that the development would meet the requirements Policy CS7 of the Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Spatial Strategy and the Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008. The development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable in accordance with national government advice contained in NPPF, Policy 14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy, Policy CS7 of the Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Spatial Strategy and the Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008.

15. Notwithstanding the submitted details, the details to be submitted for approval in writing by the local planning authority in accordance with condition 1 above, shall include details of the proposed hard surfacing for the vehicular accesses serving each dwelling. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved details and retained in perpetuity.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

16. The dwellings hereby approved shall, in accordance with the submitted Design and Access Statement and Site Plan, be limited to:

- a maximum ridge height of 9.5 metres above ground level for plots 1, 2, 6, 7, and 8 and 7.5 metres for plots 3, 4 and 5.

- a maximum square foot area (with reference to the entire dwelling, not footprint) of 1250sqft for plots 1 and 2, 850sqft for 3, 4 and 5, 1050sqft for plot 6 and 7 and 1090 for plot 8.

Reason: In the interests of the character and appearance of the street scene and amenities of the neighbouring occupiers.

17. Prior to the first occupation of any dwelling, a lighting scheme for the parking area shall **have been** submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority and the lighting shall thereafter be retained and maintained in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of personal and vehicle safety.

18. The details to be submitted for approval in writing by the Local Planning Authority relating to condition 1 above shall include swept path analysis for the site to demonstrate that a refuse truck could enter, turn around and leave the site in a forward gear, with the minimum amount of manoeuvres possible. The development shall then be carried out in accordance with the approved details and retained in this manner in perpetuity.

Reason: To ensure that local refuse trucks can negotiate the site in a safe manner, in the interests of pedestrian safety.

19. In accordance with the details submitted and as a requirement of condition 1 of this approval, an equipped Local Area of Play shall be incorporated into the detailed design of the proposed development and full details of the proposed play equipment to be installed shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

The LAP shall be completed, equipped and ready for use prior to the first occupation of the third dwelling, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: In the interests of local residential amenity.

20. The parking area and spaces shown on the submitted site plan shall be provided prior to the occupation of the first dwelling and permanently retained for the parking of vehicles of residents/occupiers of the approved dwellings.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

21. Notwithstanding the submitted details and prior to the commencement of development hereby permitted, details of provisions for waste reduction and recycling, water efficiency and recycling and techniques of sustainable construction to be used for the construction of the buildings hereby permitted, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the approved details unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable in accordance with national government advice contained in Policy 14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

22. The access and turning area within the site shall be set out and constructed to adoptable standards and detailed drawings and sections which are to the written satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority shall be submitted as part of any subsequent reserved matters application. The access shall then be laid in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

23. Notwithstanding the submitted details, the proposed LAP shall be equipped with better or at least an equivalent of the existing equipment and details of the proposed equipment shall be submitted as part of any reserved matters application for the written approval of the Local Planning Authority, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that adequate play equipment is provided.

24. This permission relates to the following drawings: Site Location Plan, Site Plan (including Area Schedule) and Design and Access Statement received by the Local Planning authority on 10th September 2012.

Reason: In order to clarify this permission.

12/02023/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
17 December 2012	18 January 2013	15 March 2013	

Applicant **Mr And Mrs R Grange**

Agent **121 Design**

Location **Land Adjacent 23, Fayway, Clopton, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Proposed new detached two bedroom house**

Decision **Refuse as per report – Decision cannot be issued until 12th March 2013**

Conditions/Reasons:

The development would constitute a new dwelling in the open countryside. In the absence of any justification, the proposed development is contrary to government advice contained in paragraph 55 of the National Planning Policy Framework, Policies 1, 9 and 10 of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy (2008) and Policy 1 of the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan (2011).

13/00003/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
2 January 2013	10 January 2013	7 March 2013	

Applicant **Mrs Amanda Park**

Agent **Mr Roger Sargent - Roger Sargent Planning Ltd**

Location **37 Polopit, Titchmarsh, Kettering, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Proposed change of use of existing holiday accommodation to a separate residential dwelling**

Decision **Application Permitted subject to:-**

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The development permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: To ensure compliance with Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. The works hereby permitted shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the following approved plan: 1:1250 Location Plan.
Reason: In order to clarify the terms of the planning permission and to ensure that the development is carried out as permitted.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995, (or any Order or Statutory Instrument revoking and re-enacting that Order), planning permission shall be required for the following developments or alterations:
 - i) the erection of house extensions including conservatories, garages, car ports or porches (as detailed in Schedule 2, Part 1, Classes A and D);
 - ii) enlarging the dwelling through extensions or alterations to the roof (as detailed in Schedule 2, Part 1, Classes B and C);**Reasons:** To ensure that the Local Planning Authority retains control over the future extension and alteration of the development, in the interests of its architectural and visual integrity and character of the site and surroundings.

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
22 January 2013 22 January 2013 19 March 2013

Applicant **OHL Ltd**

Agent **DJAS Ltd - Mr Andrew Scott**

Location **The Water Tower, Ashton Wold, Ashton, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Change of use from holiday let to full residential for 4 no.bedroom property**

Decision **Application Permitted**

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under provision of Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. The works hereby permitted shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the following approved plans: 271/15, 271/02E, 271/04E271/14 received by the Local Planning Authority on 22/01/13.
Reason: In order to clarify the terms of the planning permission and to ensure that the development is carried out as permitted.

3. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (No.2) (England) Order 2008 (or any order amending or re-enacting that order with or without modification) there shall be no development within Part 1 of Schedule 2 to that order without the prior written approval of the local planning authority.
Reason: To prevent alterations that could result in an adverse impact upon the simple character and appearance of the building

4. There shall be no discharge of foul or contaminated drainage from the site onto any surface waters, whether direct or via soakaways. Trade effluent shall not be discharged to surface waters.
Reason: To prevent pollution of the water environment.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Amendment) (No.2) (England) Order 2008 (or any order amending or re-enacting that order with or without modification) there shall be no development within class A of Part 2 of Schedule 2 to that order without the prior written approval of the local planning authority.
Reason: To restrict the use of inappropriate boundary treatments in the interests of preserving the rural setting.

6. The development the subject of this planning permission shall be carried out using external materials matching those of the existing building,
Reason: To achieve a satisfactory elevational appearance for the development.

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Date: 4 March 2013

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:- Glenn Harwood MBE (Chairman)

Tony Boto	Barbara Jenney
Pauline Bradberry JP	Andy Mercer
Richard Gell	Gill Mercer
Glenvil Greenwood-Smith	Bob Nightingale

Sgt. Mark Worthington (Northamptonshire Police)

425. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 October 2012 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

426. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Sylvia Hughes, Brian Northall and Anna Sauntson.

427. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

428. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3

There were no questions.

429. LICENSING ACTIVITY

The Committee received and noted details of applications received under the Licensing Act 2003 in the previous six months, broken down into new premises licences and licence variations, removals of Designated Premises Supervisors (DPS), transfers, Interim Authority Notices, Temporary Event Notices (TENs), personal licences and changes to details, and notifications of interest.

Members raised concerns regarding the number of DPS that had changed in a six month period and asked whether this had an impact on the workload for Licensing Enforcement. Members were advised that it was not unusual for a DPS to change on a regular basis, but in general, bar staff at premises remained the same, which aided the retention of knowledge of a customer base. These changes did not negatively impact on Licensing Enforcement workloads.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

430. LICENSING ACT 2003 - CRIME STATISTICS FOR LICENSED PREMISES AND ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY STATISTICS

Further to minute 353 (12 March 2008), the Committee received and noted an analysis of criminal activity relating to licensed premises in East Northamptonshire, covering the period February 2012 to January 2013. A breakdown of the three licensed premises where most crime had occurred was supplied to the meeting, detailing the manner of offence committed. In addition, monthly crime volumes covering East Northamptonshire for the same period were supplied. These crime volume statistics detailed the percentage of crimes perpetrated where violence was used, and whether the offender had been under the influence of alcohol or drugs at the time.

For the period February 2012 to January 2013, there had been 81 crimes on licensed premises in East Northamptonshire.

Members also received Accident and Emergency statistics from Northamptonshire NHS covering Kettering and Northampton hospitals. The statistics broke down the figures for the number of assault victims, the percentage of those assaults taking place on licensed premises and the number involving alcohol. Members noted that, for the period October 2012 to December 2012, of the 427 assault victims attending Accident and Emergency, only four had been assaulted in East Northamptonshire and of those, only one was associated with a licensed premise, although three were associated with alcohol.

The following points, comments and requests were made during the discussion on this item:-

- Gathering of statistics by the NHS was a recent development, and did not take into account hospital admissions outside of Northamptonshire. It was hoped that, with time, these statistics would increase in accuracy.
- The standard of management in licenced premises across the district was generally positive and proactive, with members appreciating the efforts made to report crimes in order to maintain good premises.
- Pubwatch was still well attended, especially in Rushden and Higham; Sgt Mark Worthington would be in attendance at the next meeting in April.
- Operation Honey had recently taken place in the district, with under-age test purchases taking place at ten off-licences. Two premises had sold to under-age persons as a result of this operation and had been issued with fixed penalty notices. The 20% failure rate was deemed a disappointment by the committee.
- Crime figures for The Feathers in Rushden were explained as being a result of late opening until 3am and a very proactive management policy detecting offences. It was noted that the management worked closely with police, and door staff wore body cameras to record and supply footage to the police.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

431. LICENSING ACT 2003 - UPDATE

The Commercial Health Manager presented a report to members to inform them of proposed changes to the Licensing Act 2003.

Members were advised that as a result of the public consultation “Rebalancing the Licensing Act” held in 2012, the Government had announced several proposed changes to the licensing regime.

A new policy for entertainment had been devised, and as such, performance of both plays and dance would no longer require a licence between 0800-2300 hours for audiences of up to 500 people. Indoor sport would also no longer require a licence for audiences of up to 1,000 people and covering the same hours.

The Government had also proposed to exempt the following venues from most forms of entertainment licensing:

- Community venues
- Schools
- Nurseries
- Hospitals
- Circuses

Members noted that although these changes were anticipated to be introduced in April 2013, the exact details and timings were yet to be confirmed.

Members noted that circuses were included in the proposal as a public entertainment requiring a licence at every location they visited. This was considered to be overly burdensome hence their inclusion.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

432. TOM MORRISSEY

The Chairman advised the committee that the Licensing Enforcement Officer, Tom Morrissey, would be retiring from ENC in July after long service, and as such this would be his final committee meeting.

He thanked Mr Morrissey for all of his input and assistance over that period, noting that he had been a pleasure to work with and would be extremely difficult to replace. All members of the committee registered their grateful thanks for the work undertaken by Mr Morrissey.

Chairman

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Date: 11 March 2013

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:-

Richard Lewis	(Chairman)
Glenvil Greenwood-Smith	(Vice-Chairman)
Steven North	(Leader of the Council)
Glenn Harwood MBE	(Deputy Leader of the Council)

Peter Baden	Marika Hillson
David Brackenbury	Dudley Hughes JP
John Farrar	Andy Mercer
Roger Glithero JP	Rupert Reichhold

433. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 February 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

434. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Wendy Brackenbury, Sue Homer and Jeremy Taylor.

435. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following interests were declared in the agenda items specified below:-

Councillors	Item	Nature of Interest	DPI	Other Interest
Councillor Andy Mercer	11 – Legal Shared Service	Northamptonshire County Councillor		Yes
Councillor Dudley Hughes	11 – Legal Shared Service	Northamptonshire County Councillor		Yes
Councillor Rupert Reichhold	11- Legal Shared Service	Northamptonshire County Councillor		Yes
Councillor John Farrar	6 – Homelessness Grant	Chairman of Spire Homes		Yes
Councillor John Farrar	12 – Public Health Funerals	Business undertaken with Funeral Directors		Yes

436. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3

There were no questions received.

437. MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEES & WORKING PARTIES

(a) Welfare Reform Sub-Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2013 were received and approved.

438. HOMELESSNESS GRANT

Members were presented with a report by the Housing Strategy Manager, which sought approval for the release of funds from the Homelessness Grant to fulfil two applications that had been received from East Northamptonshire Community Services (Full Gospel Church), more commonly known as the Rushden Night Shelter.

The first application sought an amount of £5,000 to provide a number of support and training programmes to vulnerable and homeless people. The funds, if approved would help the continuation of the "Celebrate Recovery Programme", a 12 step programme for those struggling with addiction; support a professional counselling service and assist with the continuation of money management courses.

The second application sought an amount of £4,975 for the purchase of additional equipment and to help fund maintenance work at the night shelter. The equipment required was an industrial washer and dryer and an additional security camera for the site.

Members noted that although the grant requests only indirectly met the criteria for an award, the applicant was the only direct access rough sleeper provision in the district and therefore the funds would go towards meeting the needs of homeless persons.

RESOLVED:

That the release of funds from the Homelessness Grant 2012/13, of £9,475 to East Northamptonshire Community Services (Full Gospel Church) be approved.

439. FOOD LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE PLAN AND THE HEALTH AND SAFETY SERVICE PLANS 2013/14

The Committee was presented with a report which sought a recommendation to Council for the approval of the Food Law Enforcement Service Plan and the Health and Safety Service Plan 2013/14.

Members were advised that both plans were a statutory requirement and contributed towards the aims and objectives of the Environmental Services Service Plan and Team Plans. The plans had been combined into one document to avoid unnecessary duplication.

It was noted that key priorities for the year ahead were the roll out of new E.coli requirements to caterers, and risk-based projects regarding legionella and gas safety requirements.

It was further noted that the Commercial Health team had amended its name to the Health Protection team in line with other authorities' nomenclature and to reflect the service delivered by the team.

R.14 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND:

That the Food safety and the Health and Safety Service Plan 2013/14 be recommended to Council for approval. (See pages 729 to 751)

440. HOME ENERGY CONSERVATION ACT (HECA) 1995

Members were presented with a report which sought to advise them of the recent amendment made to the Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) 1995, and to ask for approval for the Action Plan to be placed on ENC's website, as required by the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change.

Members were advised that in late 2012, the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change made a direction requiring local authorities to complete, and publish via their websites, action plans regarding tackling energy efficiency and fuel poverty issues in their areas. The action plan provision meant there was no longer a requirement to carry out HECA surveys in future. The main body of work on the action plan had been completed by Northants Warm Homes Group, with the final few pages of the draft plan being specific to ENC.

As ENC had no housing stock, a request to Registered Providers in the district had been made, requesting their own plans on improving energy efficiency. Responses had so far been received from Spire Homes, Orbit Homes and Rockingham Forest.

Members considered that energy efficiency was an important topic, especially with regard to planning. It was noted that developers in the district had previously submitted applications containing the lowest standards acceptable. Members felt that the Code for Sustainable Homes should be mandatory and requested a letter to this effect be sent to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change through Northants Warm Homes Group.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Action Plan be submitted to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, with a copy to be placed on ENC's website
- ii) That a letter be sent to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change through Northants Warm Homes Group to state ENC believed the Code for Sustainable Homes should be mandatory.

441. POLICY 14 – CONTAMINATION OF RECYCLING CONTAINERS

Members received a report which presented an additional strategy for dealing with contaminated recycling containers. This strategy had been developed as part of Policy 14 of the Waste and Recycling Collection Service Policies approved by the Committee on 11 April 2011, with additions on 5 December 2011.

The strategy, if approved, would provide officers with a clear framework for tackling persistent contamination of wheeled recycling bins. Members noted that on-going contamination of bins could have a financial impact on ENC, if the level of contamination rose above 10%. Losing just one load of recycling per week could cost ENC £33,000 per annum.

Ad hoc checks would be conducted by waste management officers on the quality of material presented for collection, and monitoring of addresses with continued contamination issues would take place. Members noted that an Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) had been carried out and was included with the report.

RESOLVED

- i) That the protocol for dealing with persistent contamination of wheeled bins be approved.
- ii) That the Equalities Impact Assessment be approved.

442. DISCRETIONARY HOUSING PAYMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE

A report was presented to members seeking approval of the revised Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP) Policy and Procedure that had last been approved by the Committee on 11 April 2011.

Members noted that since 2001, Local Authorities had been provided with a grant from the Department of Work and Pensions to develop a policy in order to help people with their housing costs. For the forthcoming year, money allocated to the DHP pot had increased substantially from a figure of £30,000 to £85,000 to mitigate some impact of the changes to welfare reform, specifically the Local Housing Allowance, the “bedroom tax” and the benefit cap.

Members were informed that approximately 600 people in the district would be affected by the “bedroom tax”. Only 14 would be affected by the benefit cap, with the migration of these claimants commencing from July 2013, to be completed by September 2013.

The policy had been amended to make reference to indefinite awards for some disabled adapted properties where circumstances were unlikely to alter. All references to Council Tax Benefit had been removed, as assistance in the payment of this was not available through DHP. Members were advised that ENC should know by the end of April the number of claimants for DHP funds, and if more than £50,000 of the pot was awarded a further report would be brought to committee.

RESOLVED:

That the revised Discretionary Housing Payment Policy and Procedure be approved, subject to a further report to this Committee in the event of DHP allocation reaching £50,000.

443. LEGAL SHARED SERVICE

The Head of Resources and Organisational Development presented a report which sought to provide members with an update on ENC’s legal shared service with Northampton Borough Council (NBC). The report also advised members of NBC’s intention to join with Local Government Shared Services (LGSS) and the response to this by ENC.

The current shared service had customer satisfaction levels of 95% either average or good in terms of the service received. Initial issues with the service had been acknowledged, but new working relationships and communication methods were developing. A reduction in the

number of chargeable hours used was noted as resulting from an increased focus on when legal advice was sought.

Members noted that NBC was currently in discussion with LGSS regarding the transfer of legal services, and these negotiations were progressing faster than had been anticipated. The implication for ENC as a result of these negotiations was that existing arrangements with NBC would come to an end.

Two options were being considered by ENC; to join with LGSS or to join Connect Law (Kettering Borough Council and Wellingborough Borough Council). ENC would work to ensure it got the best value for the Council from the support service.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

444. PUBLIC HEALTH FUNERALS

The Committee received a report from the Environmental Protection Manager outlining proposed changes regarding ENC's handling of public health funerals. Members noted that this responsibility had sat with the Council's legal service for number of years and it was proposed to transfer the administration to Environmental Services in future. This position would be consistent with other authorities across the county.

It was noted that the Institute of Cemeteries and Crematorium Management (ICCM) recommended that local authorities provide a policy regarding public health funerals and expectations surrounding these funerals. A draft of this policy had been written, although it would require further revision before being presented in its final format for approval following a procurement exercise for an undertaker to be used for future funerals. This service had not been reviewed for a number of years and ENC needed to ensure it was receiving the best value for money.

Approximately six funerals a year were carried out by ENC, with a limited budget, with ENC always attempting to recover expenses incurred from the estate, if possible. It was further noted that an Equalities Impact Assessment had been completed.

To enable this work to be handed over to Environmental Services it is necessary for Part 3 of the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984 to be adopted and delegated to officers within the service under the Council's Scheme of Delegation. It is

R.15 RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

That Part 3 of the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984 be adopted and the amendment to the Scheme of Delegation to provide authorisation to officers in Environmental Services to undertake Public Health Funerals be approved.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Equalities Impact Assessment supplied be approved.
- ii) That the final draft and outcome of the tendering process be returned to the Policy and Resources Committee for approval.

445. BOUNDARY REVIEW UPDATE

Members received a report from the Chief Executive which sought to outline the new approach proposed by the Department for Communities and Local Government for reviewing the size of the Council, and to seek the views of Members regarding the possibility of formally requesting a review.

Members noted that a number of Councils were currently undertaking boundary reviews as a result of financial pressures on Council operations. Members were provided with examples of indicative warding arrangements, should the review be approved by Members. If Members were minded to consider a review necessary, Full Council could take the decision to formally request the Boundary Commission undertake a review.

Members considered that as Councillor numbers had only relatively recently been increased to 40, there would be little point at seeking a boundary review at this point in time. It was requested that a letter be sent to the Boundary Commission to inform them of the decision of Members to prevent further correspondence on the matter being received.

RESOLVED:

That Boundary Review work should not proceed.

446. AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO S256 AGREEMENT

A report was submitted to members that sought permission for ENC to enter into a Section 256 Agreement with NHS Northants in order to secure capital funding for additional consulting rooms at Oundle, which would otherwise be lost under reorganisation of the NHS.

RESOLVED:

That authority to enter into a S256 agreement to hold capital monies from NHS Northants in order to enable the expansion of GP consulting rooms in Oundle, be delegated to the Chief Executive.

447. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item of business because exempt information, as defined under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, may be disclosed.

448. RELEASE OF COVENANTS

Members were presented with an application which sought approval for the release of two covenants on a dwelling at Meadow View, Great Addington.

RESOLVED:

That the release of the covenants on the dwelling be approved, subject to the recovery of legal costs.

449. MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEES & WORKING PARTIES

(a) Leisure Contracts Working Group

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2013 were received and approved.

Chairman



East
Northamptonshire
Council



If you would like to receive this publication in an alternative format (large print, tape format or other languages) please contact us on 01832 742000.

Document Version Control

Author (Post holder title)	Health Protection Manager
Type of document (strategy/policy/procedure)	Food Safety and Health and Safety Performance Plan
Version Number	1
Document File Name	Food and Health and Safety Service Plan 2013-14
Issue date	Feb 2013
Approval date and by who (SMT / committee)	Policy and Resources
Document held by (name/section)	Julia Smith
For internal publication only or external also?	internal and external
Document stored on Council website or Eunice?	Eunice / Website
Next review date	03/2014

Change History

Issue	Date	Comments
0.1	12/02/2013	

NB: Draft versions 0.1 - final published versions 1.0

Consultees

Internal	External
e.g. Individual(s) / Group / Section	e.g. Stakeholders / Partners /Organisation(s)
Environmental Services	
CMT	
Policy and Resources	

Distribution List

Internal	External
e.g. Individual(s) / Group / Section	e.g. Stakeholders / Partners /Organisation(s)

Links to other documents

Document	Link
Environmental Services Service Plan 2013/14	
Team Plan 2013/14	

Additional Comments to note

--

Contents		Page
	Executive summary	5
1.0	Overview of Key Service Challenges in 2013/14	6
2.0	Background	7
3.0	Links to other Strategies, Plans and Programmes	10
4.0	Service Specific Information – Food Safety	11
5.0	Service Specific Information – Health and Safety	
5.0	Service Delivery	12
6.0	Resources	16
7.0	Quality Review	17
8.0	Review	17
9.0	Outcomes and links to Corporate Outcomes	17
A1	Appendix One – Action Plan	18

Executive Summary

The Food Standards Agency and the Health and Safety Executive require annual service plans to be produced for both food and health and safety functions. This plan fulfills these statutory requirements.

A range of different interventions with businesses designed to improve food safety and health and safety are incorporated into this plan.

The plan explains the background to the food safety and health and safety regulatory services, identifies the scope of the service and the resources that have been allocated to meet the statutory requirements.

The Council is committed to this duty with the aim of improving health and safety and food safety outcomes from the interventions that it undertakes. We target these interventions on those stakeholders and duty holders that can most influence the reduction of health and safety and food safety risk with an emphasis on stopping those who seek to take economic advantage from non compliance with legislation. At all times we will give priority to those activities giving rise to the most serious risk and where the risks are most poorly controlled.

We also seek to engage with a variety of partners in the public and private sector in order to deliver this plan.

Regulation is often perceived to be a barrier to business development and growth, the key focus this year is to breakdown both actual and perceived barriers and support business development.

This document is approved by CMT and Councilors and as such demonstrates our commitment to improving health and safety and food safety outcomes.

1. Overview of Key Service Challenges in 2013/14

- 1.1 The aim is to ensure a risk-based, proportionate and targeted approach to regulatory inspection and enforcement.
- 1.2 This year will see a food safety focus on those poor performing premises that are not broadly compliant and those highlighted as a risk in our red, amber and green matrix system.
- 1.3 The team will continue to develop its food sampling programme and its successful environmental sampling initiative to highlight problem premises and focus on improving their food safety standards.
- 1.4 The team will continue to implement the Food Standards Agency's E.Coli guidance which will be a challenge both for Officers and food businesses. This year we will mainly be focusing this on caterers. In addition, we will implement any changes identified as required through the E.coli inter authority auditing process.
- 1.5 The team will implement the 'Alternative Intervention Strategy' for food safety.
- 1.6 Northamptonshire Local Authorities have agreed a set of health and safety priorities that have been based on National and Regional data when establishing this years work plan.
- 1.7 Officers will be required to undertake an assessment on a competency framework during the year (**R**egulators **D**evelopment **N**eeds **A**nalysis). The outcome of this will identify training and development needs.
- 1.8 The health and safety risk rating system for prioritising interventions at individual premises is due to change this year and the revised system will require implementation.
- 1.9 Following on from the recent legionella outbreaks nationally there will be a targeted approach for legionella controls in all relevant businesses.
- 1.10 The team will be exploring opportunities to develop a primary authority partnership this year through the BRDO scheme.
- 1.11 The Better Business Northamptonshire project will be a key focus this year and is aimed at breaking down both perceived and real barriers to business development.

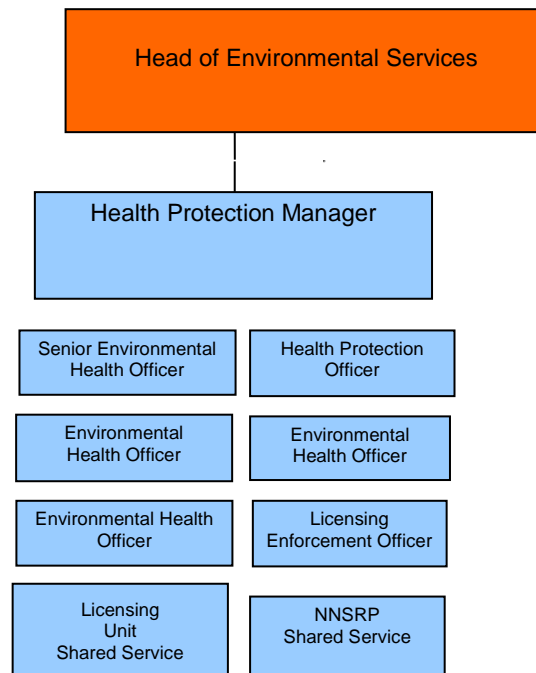
2 Background

- 2.1. East Northamptonshire is a large rural district in the East Midlands made up of six towns and 55 villages with a population of 83,954 (estimated).



- 2.2. It is served by major road networks such as the A14, which continues to impact on the district by increasing the number of food businesses, in particular manufacturers.
- 2.3. For food safety and health and safety, Members will receive reports through the Policy and Resources Committee and the service may also be reviewed by the Scrutiny Committee.

2.4. The Health Protection Team is structured as follows:



2.5. **Food** - The service inspects and audits food premises, takes food samples, provides advice, provides training, undertakes food poisoning investigations and education to food businesses and the public. Complaints about food and food businesses are investigated as are individual cases and outbreaks of food poisoning.

Health and Safety - The service undertakes a range of interventions with local businesses, investigates accidents, investigates complaints and provides advice and education to businesses and employees.

We will target our interventions on organisations and stakeholders that can influence risk reduction.

2.6. The officers involved in the food safety and health and safety functions, also deliver infectious disease control, licensing, health promotion, advice for planning applications and nuisance complaints relating to commercial premises. This team is also responsible for Corporate health and safety which is distinct from the health and safety enforcement which is contained within this plan.

3. Links to other Strategies, Plans and Programmes

3.1. This service plan should be read in conjunction with the Environmental Services Service Plan, and the Commercial Team Plan as these documents are integral to service delivery.

3.2. This plan supports the corporate plan in the following areas:

Clean - through the correct disposal of food waste, and the control of odour from food businesses.

Healthy - diet and nutrition is central to any strategy to prevent deaths from heart disease and cancer. Food is a key marker of social inclusion and as

such this plan has the potential to impact on reducing health inequalities. Reducing incidences of food poisoning has a positive impact on the community's health. There are various health promotion initiatives aimed at improving the health of the workforce.

Prosperous - by providing low cost training, business start up packs, business coaching, leaflets and advice, the service assists the economy in complying with legislation and encourages the provision of healthier choices through the heartbeat award. In addition, it tackles businesses which are not investing to the same degree as those who are responsible and diligent.

By making sure that businesses are compliant with regulation in a way that is consistent and intelligent and which avoids unnecessary burdens, we contribute significantly to the conditions for sustainable economic growth.

The Better Business Northamptonshire Project will be a key focus this year and will be breaking down the barriers regulation poses to business start up and growth both actual and perceived.

Safe – through the inspection, initiatives and investigation of complaints and accidents to ensure the safety of workers and those affected by work activities.

Good value for money – providing an efficient and effective service and low cost training opportunities.

High quality service delivery – providing a quality service to both businesses and consumers to ensure the provision of safe food and a safe working environment within the community.

Effective partnership working – working with other local authorities, Northamptonshire County Council, Trading Standards, the Primary Care Trusts, BRDO, NEP, Chamber of Commerce, local businesses, HSE, FSA, Serve and consumers.

3.3. This plan complements the following corporate strategies:

- Corporate Plan
- Performance Management Framework
- Licensing Policy Statement
- Sustainable Communities Strategy

3.4. This plan complements the following Regional and National Strategies:

- Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Public Health Outcomes
- Choosing Health

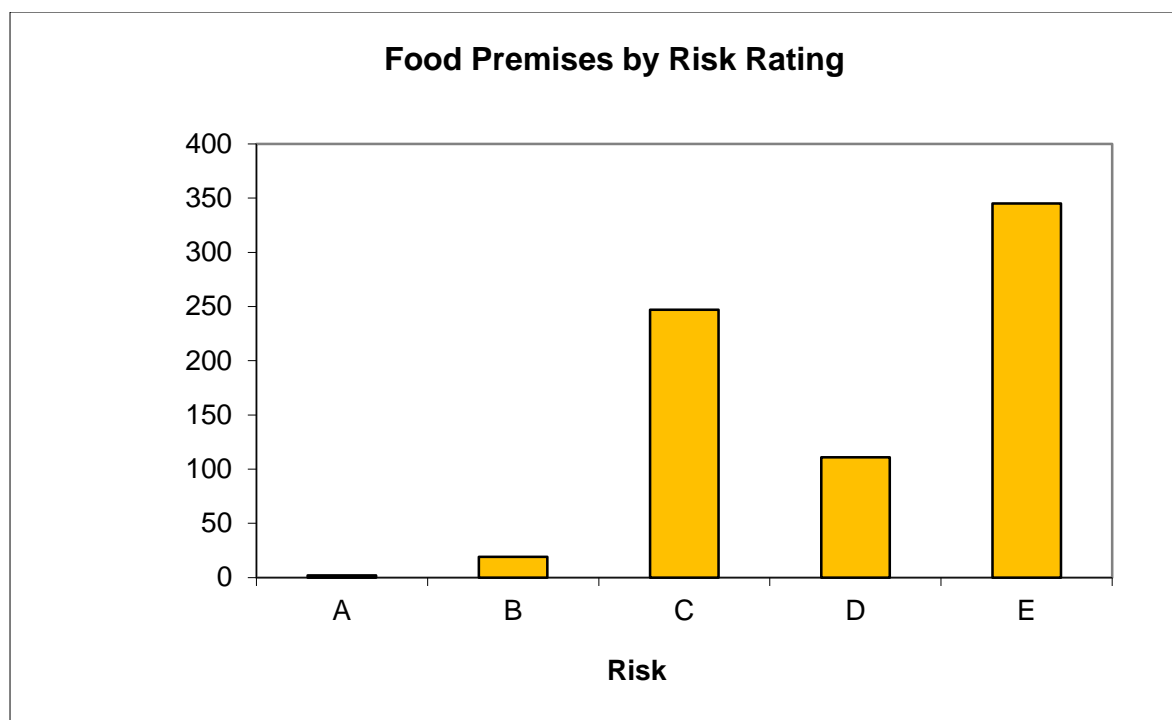
1. Service Specific Information - Food Safety

4.1 The team currently act as a Home Authority for Whitworths Limited and Tilleys Sweets Limited, are actively trying to engage with the Primary Authority Partnership scheme.

4.2 The current statistics for food businesses in East Northamptonshire are as follows:

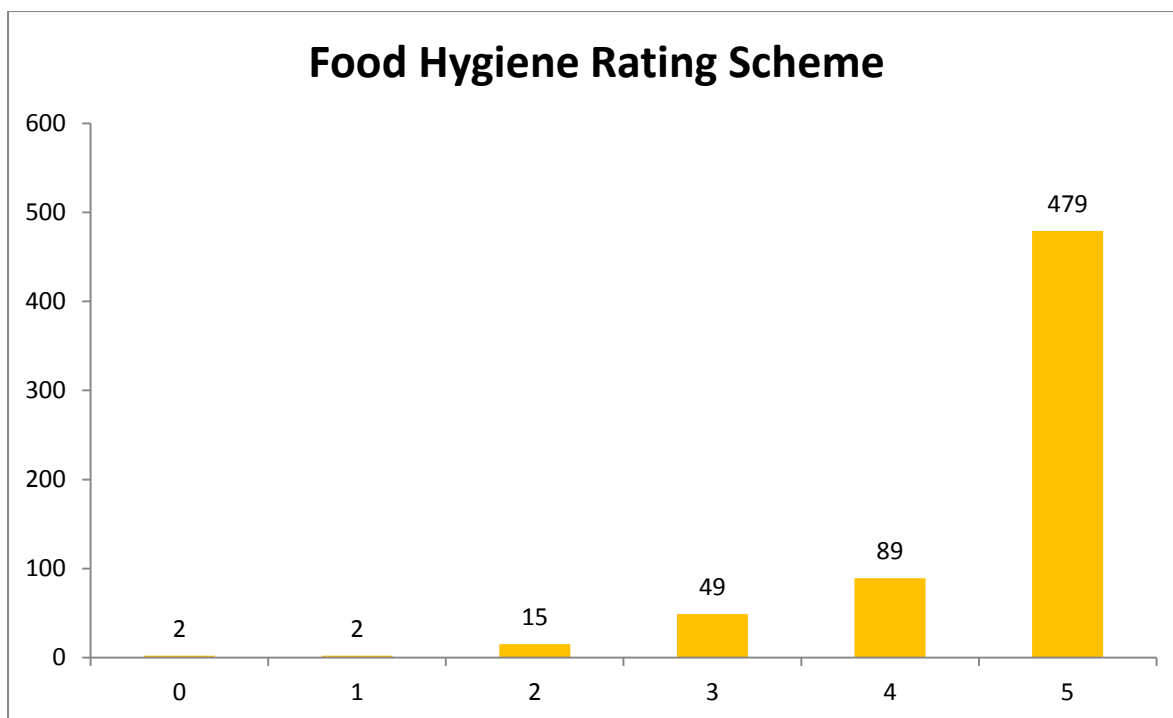
The total number of premises for food inspection is 790. In addition there are 2 Approved Premises (Fosters Foods and Polebrook Farm).

There are also other specialist premises in the district including a micro brewery, oil producer and a confectionary manufacturer. The following graph details the risk ratings for the premises within our district, A being highest risk and E being the lowest.



4.3 The food hygiene rating scheme gives each premises a numerical rating based on their food safety management systems, structure and confidence in management. The ratings range from 0 to 5, and are publicly available www.food.gov.uk/ratings.

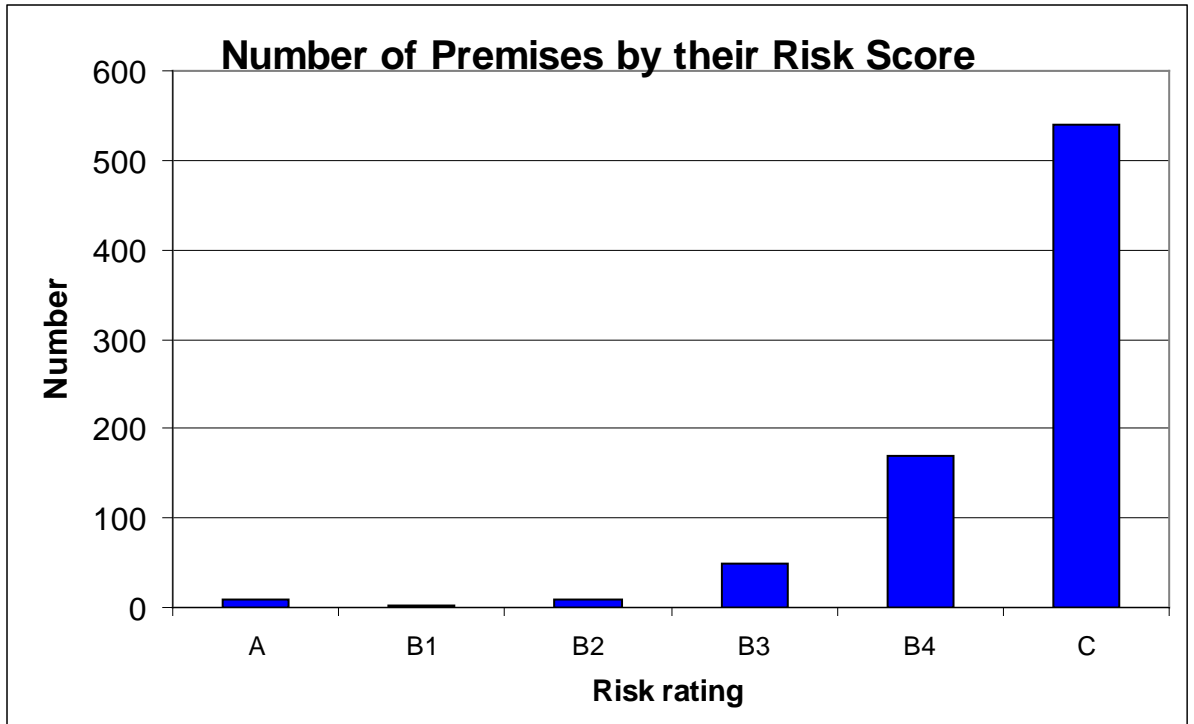
The following graph shows the ratings for our premises that are included within the scheme.



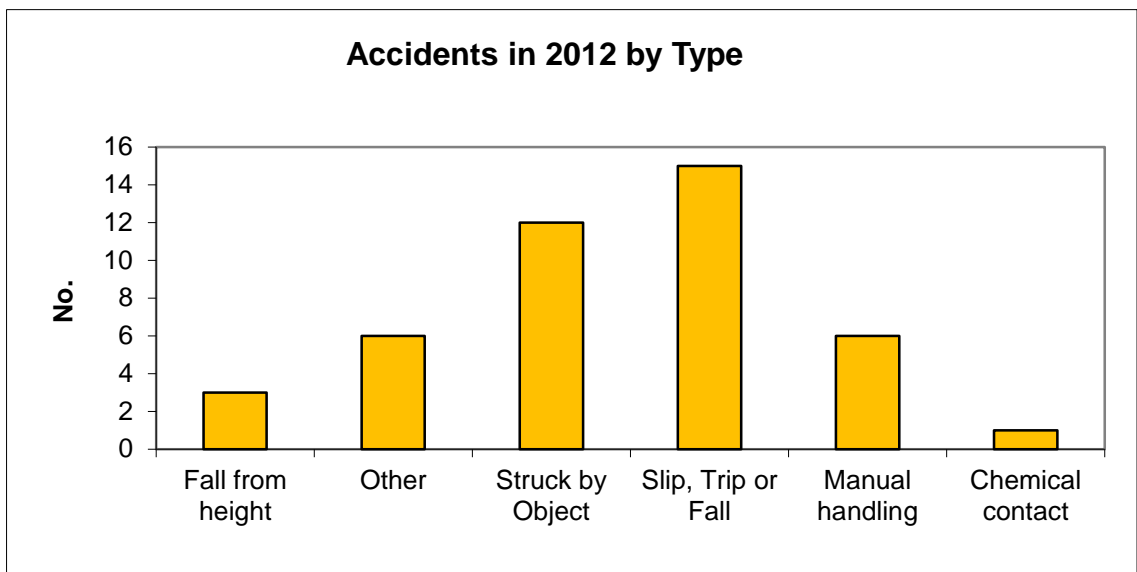
- 4.4 The service is delivered both in and out of normal office hours to ensure premises are inspected whilst they are operational. There is also a 24 hour call out system for emergencies. It is the policy for food inspections, unless in exceptional circumstances, to be carried out unannounced to allow the actual business operations to be observed.
- 4.5. The rural nature of the district accounts for the high percentage of caterers due to the majority of villages having public houses and the continual growth of the catering industry. Seasonal slaughterhouses can impact on the number of inspections carried out in a year as they have irregular operating periods, as do many premises that only open in the summer for short periods of time. These premises opening times do not always coincide with programmed inspection dates. Also for the efficient use of resources interventions in the remoter areas for lower priority premises may take place when other premises in the same area require an intervention.
- 4.6 Environmental Services has a general enforcement policy and a specific food safety enforcement policy. All enforcement action will be taken in line with these policies. In addition to this there are comprehensive procedures available to ensure consistency of service.

5.0 Service Specific Information - Health and Safety

- 5.1 The total number of businesses where health and safety is enforced by East Northamptonshire Council is currently around 1094. This is not an accurate figure as the statutory requirement to register with your local authority has been removed.
- 5.2 The graph below details the risk categories of the health and safety premises that the Health Protection team enforce, A being the highest risk and C being the lowest. These ratings will change category over the next year as a revised risk rating scheme is implemented. There are also a large number of unrated premises on the database.



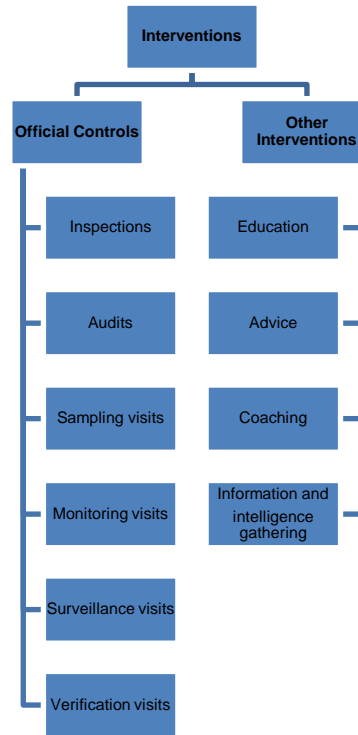
- 5.3 The service is delivered both in and out of normal office hours to ensure premises are inspected whilst operational. There is also a 24 hour call out system for emergencies.
- 5.4 Accidents are investigated following a incident investigation criteria that is applied nationally. In general terms serious accidents would be investigated but more minor accidents are recorded and used as local intelligence on the safety performance of individual companies/duty holders. They also help to plan interventions for the most common types of accident.



- 5.5 Environmental Services has a general enforcement policy and a specific health and safety enforcement policy. All enforcement action will be taken in line with these policies.

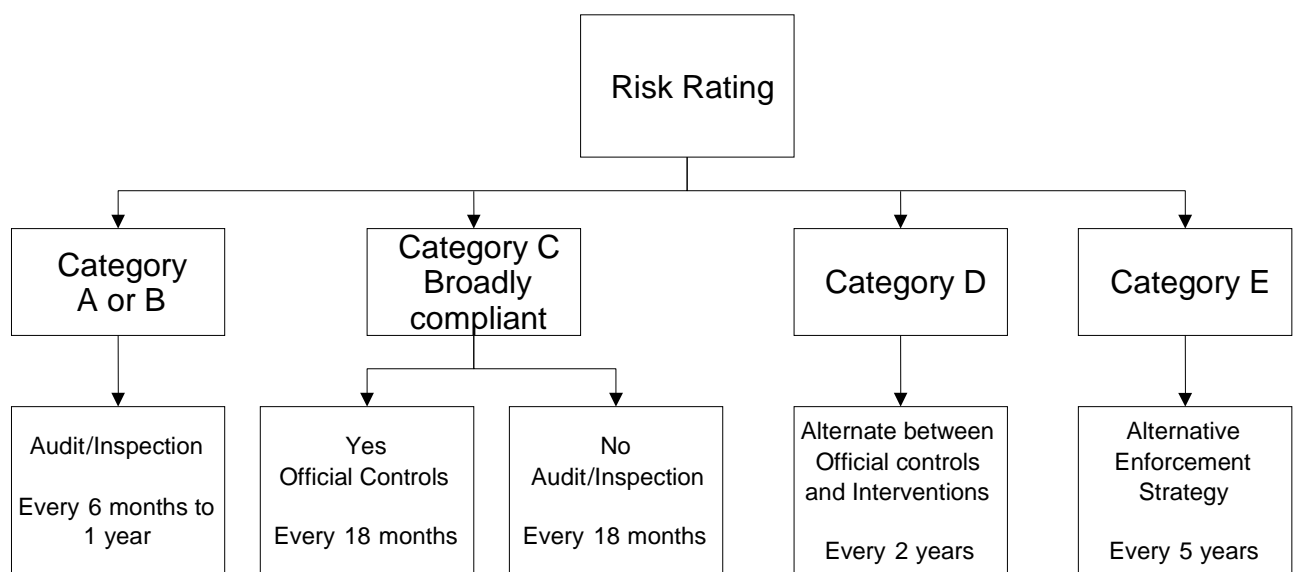
6.0 Service Delivery – Food Safety

6.1 For premises in the risk groups A-D there are a number of interventions that can be used. All of these interventions must take place on the premises concerned at the specified intervals.



For risk group E alternative strategies may be used such as surveys as such these do not require a visit to the premises.

6.2.1 Selection of Interventions- the diagram below illustrates the broad outline of the interventions that might be selected,



As a rural authority we strive to reduce the burden on businesses by carrying out other regulatory and improvement services for a business at the same time as the food safety service is delivered. This is in line with the “Hampton” principles of better regulation.

- 6.3. The following table shows the interventions that will need to be carried out in the year 2013/14. These figures include inspections outstanding from the previous year.

Risk Rating	Number of Interventions 10/11	Number of Interventions 11/12	Number of Interventions 12/13	Number of Interventions 13/14	Number of revisits
A	6	4	4	4	4
B	44	38	21	19	12
C	166	158	162	165	60
D	68	40	150	111	15
E	51	34	35	42	0
Unallocated	90	60	69	93	

The unallocated premises relate to some new premises that now require food registration as a result of legislative changes, such as childminders. Guidance will be produced nationally to detail the interventions required for these premises types.

We have had 80 new businesses start up this year which has affected our ability to undertake our routine inspections, if businesses continue to grow at this rate this may affect our ability to complete the above inspections. We do prioritise new businesses as they need support when setting up to ensure food safety compliance.

- 6.4. It is a target that 95% of the A-C interventions are completed. Interventions for the A, B, C and D categories have to be determined at the time of the previous visit to the business. These are as follows:-

A&B premises.

These premises will be inspected or audited, the exact intervention will be determined by the officer at the time of the visit.

Compliant C premises

Will receive either an audit or an inspection followed by programmed monitoring, surveillance or a verification intervention alternately.

Non compliant C premises

Alternate audit and inspection.

D Premises

In 2013/14 will receive focussed inspections or where it is appropriate a monitoring, surveillance or verification visit. These will alternate with advisory and education/coaching visits.

E Premises

In 2013/14 will receive a questionnaire to complete and return. Non returns will receive an advisory visit.

All premises will receive an advisory newsletter twice a year.

- 6.5. All new businesses will receive an advisory visit prior to starting their businesses to provide coaching on how to comply with food safety requirements with a focus on management systems. This appears to seriously affect how the businesses operate resulting in better hygiene and risk ratings. This is also an opportunity to signpost them to grants and support they can receive when starting a new business.
- 6.6. All food complaints are investigated. The authority receives approximately 70 complaints a year with respect to foodstuffs and food premises.
- 6.7. The Health Protection Team accepts home authority responsibility for all food businesses that have their head office in East Northamptonshire District. Currently this includes Whitworths and Tilleys Sweets and Fosters Foods. There is an operational procedure to deal with Home Authority enquiries. Approximately 15 home authority enquiries are expected to be received.
- 6.8. Advice and education for businesses, schools and individuals is provided on food safety. This is achieved through the provision of five Level 2 certificate food hygiene courses being run at the council offices, lectures and foundation food hygiene courses to schools/organisations and through direct requests from businesses. Requests from businesses are estimated to be 500 for the year 13/14.
- 6.9. The authority has a Sampling Policy and programme to which it adheres. The authority takes part in LGR, European, and Northamptonshire Food Liaison Groups sampling programmes. Sampling will also be targeted at local businesses identified in the district such as Home Authority premises and those where there are hygiene concerns. Sampling will take place prior to food inspections on a regular basis. This will result in approximately 120 samples being taken. All food samples are analysed by the Public Health Laboratory Service based in Birmingham; The Public Analyst, (Eurofins Scientific Laboratories) in London is used occasionally. The authorities sampling plan is:-

Sampling Programme 2013/14

Month	Sampling Focus
May	Dishwasher Temperatures
June/July	Indian/Chinese Stock Sauces
August/October	Re useable containers
Ongoing	Cloths and swabs
Nov/Dec	Ice from Public Houses
Jan/Feb	Salads from Restaurants
March	Imported Foods

- 6.10. Between the Health Protection Agency (HPA) and the Authority, there are formal arrangements in place to identify and investigate cases of food poisoning. All laboratory identified cases of food poisoning are sent directly to the authority for

investigation. All incidents of food poisoning or alleged food poisoning are investigated with a view to tracing the source and preventing spread and reoccurrence. There was a significant increase in Food Poisoning last year which is thought to be due to foreign travel.

It is estimated there will be 200 food poisoning cases and 3 potential outbreaks in the year 13/14.

- 6.11 The authority acts on all food alerts received in accordance with the food alert procedure and the FSA's Code of Practice. There is estimated to be approximately 40 food alerts in the year 13/14 although the number likely to require action will be fewer than 10.
- 6.12 The authority has local partnerships with the following organisations:
- The Northamptonshire Food Liaison Group
 - Northamptonshire Food Surveillance Group
 - Northamptonshire Trading Standards
 - Health Protection Agency
 - Food Standards Agency (FSA)
 - Commission for Social Care Inspection
 - OFSTED.
 - ACRE
- 6.13 Through these groups, particularly the Northamptonshire Food Liaison Group, there have been regular joint inspections with Trading Standards and joint training exercises.
- 6.14 The Council is part of a County group that organises the Heartbeat Award. We work in partnership with local schools to provide healthy food hygiene training as an extra curricular subject.
- 6.15. All relevant planning applications are considered by the team with respect to food safety. Advice on structures etc. is given to future businesses at this point. Copies of Licensing Act consultations are forwarded to the team.
- 6.16 The Health Protection Team carries out health promotion exercises covering food safety and nutritional promotion. This includes the provision of foundation food hygiene training, assisting businesses to obtain the Heartbeat Award, and to undertake activities in National Food Safety Week. We currently have 36 Heartbeat Award holders.
- 6.17 It is estimated that 40 officer hours will be spent on health promotional activities in 13/14.

7. Service Delivery – Health and Safety

- 7.1. The following action plan details interventions that have been agreed on a County basis for the year 13/14. The authority in brackets is that which will lead the project for the County in terms of establishing a consistent approach.

Priorities	Leads	2nd	Time Period
Unrated Premises	SNC	ENC	All Year
Asbestos	CBC	WBC	All Year
Petting Farms	KBC	DDC	All Year
LPG	NBC	SNC	All Year
Legionella	DDC	WBC	All Year
Hot Water Systems	ENC	WBC	All Year
Public Events	SNC	DDC	Summer Period
Gas safety	ENC	DDC	All Year
Workplace transport	DDC	NBC	All Year
Better Business Northamptonshire	ENC	SNC	All Year
Slips, Trips and Falls	KBC	CBC	All Year

LPG – (Lead NBC) A project that will look at the risk of underground Liquid Petroleum Gas piping from tank installations. As the premises concerned will otherwise be likely to be low risk regulatory officers will be authorised by both the HSE and Local Authorities to overcome any problems with statutory allocations of responsibility.

Gas Safety – (Lead ENC) A project focusing on Tandoori Gas ovens and other gas supplied catering ovens. This has been identified as a National issue and high risk. Some preliminary work on this has seen three improvement notices served and has identified some high risk systems being used and worked on by unqualified engineers.

Slips and Trips- (Lead KBC). An assessment of the risks at retail / catering premises during other interventions. Followed by action or advice on risk reduction.

Asbestos – (Lead CBC). The intention is to link with planning and building control to identify potential problem buildings and activities, to prevent exposure. More detail will follow on this project.

Better Business Northamptonshire – (Lead ENC) this is a project aimed at reducing actual and perceived regulatory barriers to business growth and development.

The remaining projects have still to be scoped out in terms of more detail from the HSE.

- 7.2. These activities are co-ordinated at a County level. The time line has still to be produced detailing when each of the activities will be undertaken although these may vary slightly as the lead authorities carry out the detailed planning.

- 7.3 The Councils in Northamptonshire have determined co-ordinator leads and supports for each of these projects. The Health Protection Team will be leading on Gas safety, hot water systems and Better Business Northamptonshire.
- 7.4. The team will still inspect category A and B premises under the new risk rating scheme and other premises where it is felt necessary, this is in addition to the projects identified above.
- 7.5. Accident investigations are undertaken based on an assessment of the situation utilising the accident investigation criteria and 100% of complaints are investigated. The authority receives approximately 150 complaints with respect to health and safety issues and 45 accident reports.
- 7.6. Advice and education for businesses, schools and individuals is provided for health and safety on request. The Health Protection Team will produce a business newsletter bringing current health and safety matters to the attention of local businesses. The team has established links with Primary Care Trusts, Health and Safety Executive and National Care Standards Commission to address health and safety issues.
- 7.7. The authority has local partnerships with the Northamptonshire Health and Safety Liaison Group, the Health and Safety Executive, CQC and OFSTED. We will also partner any other agency or organisation that will add value to our operational work
- 7.8. All relevant planning applications are considered by the team with respect to Health and Safety and advice is given to future businesses at this point, with the aim of designing out health and safety problems.
- 7.9 We will be linking with the health and wellbeing strategy and the priorities identified with respect to health workforces, which will include workplace accidents.

8. Resources

8.1. The current costings of the Food and Health and Safety Service are described below:

2013/14	Food Safety £	Health and Safety £
Support Costs	150,290	59,120
Salaries	107,060	71,050
Equipment	1,000	300
Sampling	100*	0
Health Promotion	2,180**	0
Training	7,800***	7,800***

*This figure does not include the allocation from the Health Protection Agency

** £6,480 is recouped through the provision of the Level 2 Food Hygiene Course.

***This figure is for the department and is dependent on identified need and statutory requirements.

8.2. At the time of writing there are 1.90 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) officers for the food safety function. The above calculations can be broken down into officers as detailed below:

Health Protection Manager (EHO)	0.25 FTE
Senior Environmental Health Officer	0.45 FTE
Environmental Health Officer	0.25 FTE
Environmental Health Officer	0.60 FTE
Environmental Health Officer	0.35 FTE

8.3. At the time of writing there are 1.5 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) officers for health and safety. The above calculations can be broken down into officers as detailed below:

Health Protection Manager (EHO)	0.25 FTE
Senior Environmental Health Officer	0.30 FTE
Environmental Health Officer	0.15 FTE
Environmental Health Officer	0.20 FTE
Environmental Health Officer	0.40 FTE
Commercial Officer	0.20 FTE

8.4. Officer training needs are identified during the PDR process and a training programme is developed once this process is complete. It is Council policy to ensure that officers involved in enforcing food safety legislation receive a minimum of 10 hours continuing professional development training as required by Food Standards Agency Code of Practice and practice guidance. This will be provided through a combination of commercial courses provided by the FSA, Five plus 1, Northamptonshire Food Liaison Group and internal training courses. It is the policy of the Council to ensure that officers involved in enforcing health and safety are competent in accordance with section 18 of HSWA. During the year officers will be assessed against the **RDNA** competency framework and this will be used as a tool to identify training needs against the performance plan.

9. Quality Assessment

A quality assessment of the service as measured by the businesses subject to regulation is carried out. This asks a statistically valid selection of businesses the question "Please indicate whether you agree or disagree... that I felt the contact was helpful.... following your visit from Environmental Services ". The results of this are;

	Compliant Premises	Non Compliant Premises
Strongly agree	52%	65%
Agree	45%	29%
Neither Agree or Disagree	3%	6%

Compliant premises meet the regulatory standard, non-compliant do not.

10. Review

- 10.1 The food safety and health and safety function will continually monitor and review its performance against the food service plan and report serious deviations to the Policy and Resources Committee. The authority will annually review its performance and report against the Food Service Plan on the intranet after 1st April each year.

11. Outcomes and links to the corporate outcomes

- 11.1 The outcomes to be delivered by this strategy are:
- Compliance with the Food Standards Agency Framework agreement and Code of Practice
 - Improved food safety in the District.
 - Compliance with the Section 18 Guidance
 - Improved Health and a reduction of workplace accidents in the District.

Appendix 1 Team Plan

Food safety

Outcome Code	Outcome	Measure	Target	By (date)	Owner	Actions
Team Plan	Compliance with the requirements of the Food Standards Agency	Compliance with intervention programme	Compliant	April 2014	JS	Carrying out the enforcement role of a Food Safety Authority in accordance with the approved codes of practice.
ENV02 NI 184	Food establishments in the area which are broadly compliant with food hygiene law	% of premises which are broadly compliant with food hygiene law i.e. those scoring below 30 on structure, systems and management.	90%	31.03.14	JS CJ AW AR RP	Undertaking food hygiene inspections in accordance with the inspection programme. Rating businesses through the inspection process.
Team Plan	Healthier choices in premises	Number of premises holding the 'Heartbeat' Award	38	31.03.14	CJ	Administering and promoting the Heartbeat Award
Team Plan	Safe food in the District	% of food samples that were unsatisfactory following intervention	<20%	31.03.14	RP	Sampling Programme Follow up of all sampling failures
Team Plan	Enhanced Customer Experience	% of people attending and passing CIEH Level 2 food safety and health and safety c	90%	31.03.14	AR CJ AW RP	6 training courses Evaluation form following courses
Team Plan	Reduction in infectious diseases	% of secondary cases (as a % of outbreaks investigated) of food poisoning determined once investigations are complete	0	31.03.14	AR	Infectious disease investigations.

Outcome Code	Outcome	Measure	Target	By (date)	Owner	Actions
Team Plan	Reduced accidents and ill health at work	Number of premises reporting major workplace accidents in the year following an intervention	38	April 2014	JS CJ AW AR RP RR	Encouraging safe working practices and inspecting workplaces, investigating accidents and enforcing legislation as appropriate Facilitate the provision of Health and safety training. Provide advice to businesses. To operate in accordance with the strategic programme
NEW	Good Health and safety at work.	Establishments in the area which are broadly compliant with health and safety law	92%	April 2014	JS	Undertaking health and safety interventions in accordance with the health and safety service plan.
Team Plan	Safe environment for employees and visitors working in premises under ENC enforcement	% of premises inspected and found to have an unsafe working environment requiring statutory intervention.	60%	April 2014	JS CJ AW AR RP RR	Interventions including inspections, seminars and publicity focusing on the identified priority areas of Workplace transport, dermatitis, Cancer, BACKS, Radon, smoking and asbestos. Promote a reduction of stress related issues within workplaces. Promote workplace smoking policies and smoking cessation services
Team Plan	Compliance with statutory responsibilities	Compliance with section 18 requirements	100%	April 2014	JS/CJ	Carrying out the enforcement role of a Health and Safety Authority in accordance with the requirements of section 18.

Health and Safety

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE

Date: 20 March 2013

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: Pauline Bradberry JP (Chairman)

Roger Glithero	Ron Pinnock
Glenn Harwood MBE	David Read
Marika Hillson	Anna Sauntson
Barbara Jenney	Phillip Stearn
Bob Nightingale	Robin Underwood
Brian Northall	

450. WELCOME TO INTERIM HEAD OF PLANNING SERVICES

The Chairman of the Committee welcomed the new Interim Head of Planning Services, Elizabeth Wilson, on her return to East Northamptonshire Council.

451. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 February 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

452. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Wendy Brackenbury, Dudley Hughes, Andy Mercer, Gill Mercer, Jeremy Taylor and Peter Wathen.

453. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND INFORMAL SITE VISITS

(a) Declarations of Interest

The following interests were declared in the agenda items specified below:-

Councillors	Applications	Nature of Interest	DPI	Other Interest
Councillor Bob Nightingale	EN/13/00195/FUL	Close acquaintance of the Agent to the Applicant		Yes
Councillor Ron Pinnock	EN/13/00278/NCC	Member of Northamptonshire County Council		Yes
All Members of the Committee	EN/13/00118/FUL	ENC property and planning application		Yes

Both Councillors Bob Nightingale and Ron Pinnock left the meeting whilst the relevant item was considered.

(b) Informal Site Visits

Councillor Roger Glithero stated that he was well acquainted with the sites at Brookfield Plantation (EN/13/00213/EXT) and Priors Hall (EN/13/00288/EXT), both of which were close to Rockingham Motor Speedway where he was a member of the forum.

454. DELEGATIONS TO HEAD OF PLANNING

Members received a report which provided an update on the following applications where actions had been delegated to the Head of Planning Services:-

EN/12/00555/EXT	Slipe Clay Pit Landfill Site, Kingscliffe
EN/12/01579/OUT	14 Lowick Lane, Aldwincle
EN/12/01261/OUT	Oak Lea, 252 Newton Road, Rushden
EN/12/00704/FUL	Slipton Lane, Slipton
EN/12/01557/FUL	Laundry Site, 259 Addington Road, Irthlingborough
EN/12/01614/FUL	Herne Road
EN/11/00827/FUL	Longbrook Farm, Thurning

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

455. SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS – UPDATE

At the meeting of the Development Control Committee held on 28 November 2012, it had been agreed by members that this item would be added to future agendas in order for the Head of Planning Services to report on progress with regard to drafting of Section 106 (S106) agreements in cases where the committee had previously resolved to grant planning permission, subject to the prior finalisation of such an agreement.

A table itemising current S106 agreements was supplied to the meeting.

The interim Head of Planning Services provided members with an update to the report requesting the following:

- **EN/12/00417/OUT** – Islip Furnaces – A deadline extension was requested to 25 March 2013.
- **EN/11/01234/FUL** – Sainsbury's, Thrapston – A deadline extension was requested to the end of April 2013.
- **EN/11/00835/OUT** – Keat's Way, Rushden – A deadline extension was requested to 3 April 2013.

It was

RESOLVED:

- i) That the contents of the report be noted
- ii) That the requested deadline extensions be approved.

456. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

The following people spoke on the items as indicated: -

- i) **Cllr Neil Fraser** – EN/12/01368/FUL – Oundle School Playing Fields, Oundle (on behalf of Oundle Town Council)
- ii) **Mr Barry Nicholls** – EN/11/02011/OUT – Garage Block, Acremead, Warmington (Agent for Applicant)
- iii) **Mr Craig Boddington** - EN/13/0135/OUT – 14 Lowick Lane, Aldwinckle (Applicant)
- iv) **Cllr Derek Capp** - EN/13/0135/OUT – 14 Lowick Lane, Aldwinckle (District Councillor)
- v) **Mr C Burdett** – EN/13/00195/FUL – 11 Rushmere Close, Islip (Applicant)
- vi) **Mr Rick Andrews** – EN/13/00278/NCC – Oundle Road, Upper Benefield (on behalf of Benefield Parish Council)
- vii) **Mr Jim Haylett** - EN/13/00278/NCC – Oundle Road, Upper Benefield (Objector)

457. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The committee considered the planning applications report, with updated information on a number of the applications and representations made by public speakers at the meeting. The full decision on the applications is included (on the page indicated) in the appendix to these minutes.

- (i) **EN/12/01368/FUL – Oundle School Playing Field, Glapthorn Road, Oundle (page 760)**

The committee considered an application which requested permission to erect 62 residential dwellings, with associated landscaping, open space and access. The proposal would provide 30% affordable housing and would be built to a density of 25 dwellings per hectare.

An update was supplied to the meeting which outlined additional comments received from the Local Highways Authority and from neighbouring properties. In order to clarify the terms of the planning permission, revisions were made to the following conditions; Condition 3, Condition 4, Condition 16, Condition 27 and Condition 38.

Members were advised that the site had been the subject of extensive pre-application discussions between the developer, ENC officers and ward members. The proposal was noted as being for 62 dwellings rather than 80, as set out in the Rural North Oundle and Thrapston (RNOT) Plan. However, this policy stated that the site could, rather than should, accommodate 80 dwellings. The policy also stated that the site would be brought forward in 2014, but it was considered that by granting permission at this point, the site would be ready for development by 2014.

It was noted that objectors had referred to loss of the playing field, however, when the site had been assessed as being of average quality when a study had been carried out and Sport England had raised no objections.

A number of design concerns had originally been raised by officers, and a meeting had subsequently been held with the developer and ward member to review these. As a result, an additional access to Hillfield Road had been suggested; alleyways from parking bays to back gates had been removed and the play area had been relocated slightly. Regarding access along Blackthorn Road, hedges along this road would be retained, therefore the

number of openings along the road had been kept to a minimum. The design of properties themselves had been deemed acceptable and they tied in with existing properties in the vicinity. It was noted that the Design Officer had raised no issues in this regard.

Section 106 contributions had been agreed with the developer. Oundle Town Council had requested a cycle path along Blackthorn Road, with the need for a path also being put forward as part of the Oundle 2020 plan. These comments were reported on the update sheet, and whilst beneficial in this instance, major constraints along Blackthorn Road would make implementation of such a path difficult. Members were advised that it would be considered unreasonable to add a condition relating to the inclusion of a cycle path. Open space and healthcare contributions had been calculated using the same method as the Herne Road application in order to ensure consistency.

Members noted that should the application be approved, it would virtually reach the figure of houses required for Oundle under the RNOT plan. Members requested further discussion between officers, Oundle Town Council and the Local Highways Authority to consider the requirements of a cycle path in the future. The flood risk and drainage for the site was also discussed and the committee were advised that the Environment Agency were satisfied with the flood risk assessment and findings.

The committee **agreed** to **grant** the application, subject to the completion of a S106 agreement as recommended in the report and the update sheet.

(ii) EN/12/02011/OUT – Garage Block, Acremead, Warmington, PE8 6TP (page 767)

The committee were presented with an outline application which sought permission for the demolition of an existing block of nine garages on site, and the erection of four properties with associated parking, retaining wall and alternative parking provision.

All matters on the application were reserved, though parameters of the dwellings had been submitted to indicate a terrace of four, two-storey properties, each with three bedrooms.

Members considered that that there was no requirement for the properties in their proposed location due to on-going development in the village. Members also registered concern regarding the potential loss of garages at the site.

The committee **agreed** to **refuse** the application as recommended in the officer report.

(iii) EN/13/0118/FUL – The Pemberton Centre, H E Bates Way, Rushden, NN10 9YP (page 768)

Members considered an application for the erection of a single storey plant enclosure on the west elevation of the leisure centre. The works, if approved, would also include the insertion of a new floor within the existing building and alterations to the appearance of the south elevation.

An update was provided to members that detailed an updated acoustic report that had been received on 15 March 2013. It was noted that this assessment did not alter the previous comments on the application made by the Senior Environmental Protection Officer. The update also noted the concerns that had been raised in two further letters of objection received.

Members considered that the approval of the application would enable ENC to equip the leisure centre with additional and higher quality sporting equipment that could generate additional income towards ENC's mid-term budgets.

To committee **agreed** to **grant** the application as recommended in the report.

(iv) EN/13/00135/OUT – 14 Lowick Lane, Aldwincle, NN14 3EE (page 769)

Members were presented with an outline application requesting permission to erect two, two-storey dwellings with detached garages and a new access. All matters were reserved with the exception of access.

Members recalled that an outline application (EN/12/01579/OUT) for three dwellings had been before them at the Development Control Committee meeting held on 19 December 2013. That application was deferred to the subsequent committee meeting held on 16 January 2013, in order for further information to be supplied regarding settlement boundaries. At that meeting, the application was refused on the grounds of overdevelopment of the site; the density requested being too high and the design of the development being harmful to the character of the village. An update was supplied to members that outlined further comments received from the applicant.

Members noted that the applicant had taken on-board the reason for refusal at the January committee and had returned with an application for one fewer dwelling, which appeared to answer the question of overdevelopment. Members queried whether the site should be considered to be outside the village boundaries.

Some Members expressed support for the Application, and for the grant of planning of permission. A motion to grant planning permission, on the basis that the site was not outside the village Boundary (and so was in accordance with the Policies 1, 9 and 10 of the Core Spatial Strategy), as the development should be permitted to allow the Applicant and his family to return to the village, and as there were long family connections with the village, was moved and seconded.

Members were reminded by the Interim Head of Planning Services, that when determining applications, the starting point had to be the development plan and planning policies of the council, and whether the application accorded with the relevant policies. The next step was to decide whether any other material considerations outweighed the considerations of the development plan. ENC had a strong policy guarding against development outside village boundaries and if members were minded to stray from the policy they needed to provide strong reasons for doing so, and unless these could be articulated, then the policies should be adhered to.

Legal advice was given to remind members that were they were considering the grant of planning permission contrary to the officer recommendation, Member should give summary reasons for such decision.

A motion to refuse the application, in line with the Officer recommendation, was moved and seconded. Members were however advised that the motion to grant permission should be debated first

Members again questioned whether the application site, being part of the existing garden of 14 Lowick Lane, could reasonably be considered to be outside the settlement boundary, and noted that members had previously commented that the committee would look favourably on an application for two properties on the site rather than three.

Members were advised that if they were minded to grant the application, then these should be supported by material planning reasons for doing so; with an explanation as to why members wished to move away from the policies in the recommendation of refusal.

Following further advice, the Mover and Seconder considered their previously stated reasons for grant; they amended these reasons and instead provided that the proposal would not be harmful to the distinct rural character of the site and the open countryside, and would not set a precedent for further unsuitable development as it was historically garden land, part of 14 Lowick Lane, and because of its relationship with existing residential properties; these reasons outweighed the restrictions in Policies 1, 9 and 10 of the Core Spatial Strategy.

The committee **agreed to grant** the application subject to conditions. The precise wording of the decision notice, and the inclusion and wording of the necessary conditions were delegated to the Interim Head of Planning Services, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Ward Member.

(v) EN/13/00195/FUL – 11 Rushmere Close, Islip, NN14 3LG (page 769)

The committee were presented with an application which sought permission for the erection of a detached, dormer style bungalow in the garden area of 11 Rushmere Close.

Members were reminded that an application (EN/12/01052/FUL) for the same site had previously been deferred at a committee meeting held on 5 September 2012, in order for members to undertake a site visit to better appreciate the site constraints and the relationship of the proposal to the surrounding properties. Subsequent to the site visit, the application was refused by the committee at a meeting on 26 September 2012 as a result of the impact on the prevailing character of the road, although members had expressed an interest in a revised application for a smaller dwelling.

The revised application sought to overcome the reasons for the previous refusal, with a reduction in height and width, and removal of the previously proposed garage. The dwelling would also feature two, instead of three, dormer windows.

Members appreciated the applicant's efforts to overcome the previous refusal reasons, and noted the significant lack of objections to the application from neighbouring properties. Having regard to the amendments made to the previous application, members considered that the new proposal was not sufficiently overbearing to justify refusal or likely to have a negative impact on residential amenity of the road

A motion to grant planning permission, contrary to the Officer recommendation was moved and seconded on the basis that the proposed dwelling would not have an unacceptable overbearing impact on the residential amenity of numbers 11 and 13 Rushmere Close, and that the dwelling by virtue of its siting would not appear cramped and confined, and would not have a detrimental impact on the Character of the prevailing built form, and so was in accordance with the Policies in the NPPF, the Core spatial strategy and the Rural North Oundle and Thrapston Plan 2011 referred to in the Officer recommendation.

The committee **agreed to grant** the application, with the wording of the decision notice and the inclusion and wording of the necessary conditions being delegated to the Head of Planning Services in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Ward Member.

(vi) EN/13/00213/EXT – Brookfield Plantation, Gretton Brook Road, Corby (page 770)

Members were presented with an external application that had come before them in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, due to the possibility of significant implications for the District. The committee noted that ENC were only consultees on the outline application for a Resource Recovery Park, covering an areas of 43.86 hectares

Members considered that as part of comments to be forwarded to Corby Borough Council and thence to Northamptonshire County Council, special mention should be made regarding HGV traffic levels affecting the village of Deene. It was requested that backing should be sought to have weight restrictions placed on the bridge crossing the Willowbrook, just outside the village.

Members also requested that the local planning authority be satisfied that they could manage any odour risks associated with the site, as the site was adjacent to the Rockingham Speedway which was an important tourist facility.

The committee **agreed** that Corby Borough Council be advised that ENC had no objection to the proposal, subject to no objections being raised by other statutory consultees and the inclusion of the comments made by members.

(vii) EN/13/00268/FUL – 12D Rotton Row, Raunds, Wellingborough, NN9 6HU (page 770)

The committee received an application requesting the change of use of an existing building from storage (B8) to residential (C3). Alterations of the building were proposed to form a two-storey dwelling.

The application had previously been considered by committee at the Development Control Committee meeting on 19 December 2012, where it had been approved. A list of minor amendments to the scheme was included in the officer report.

The committee **agreed to grant** the application as recommended in the report.

(viii) EN/13/00278/NCC – SP9788 OP9078, Oundle Road, Upper Benefield (page 772)

Members were presented with a consultation application for a conservation stone quarry to be located in Upper Benefield. Northamptonshire County Council would be the determining authority for the application itself at a later date, and ENC members were requested to provide comments toward the ENC response to the proposal.

Members registered strong concerns over the proposal, as they considered it would have a negative impact on an attractive area of the district. They further stated that residential amenity would be affected significantly. It was agreed that the proposed response to NCC needed to be strengthened to reflect members' strong objections to the application.

The committee **decided** that NCC be advised that ENC had a strong objection, in principle, to the proposal, because of the impact it would have on traffic, residential amenity and an attractive area of countryside. In addition, the Visual Assessment was considered to be inadequate to assess the impact that the proposal would have on the nearby Conservation Areas and listed buildings. The precise wording of the objection was delegated to the Interim Head of Planning Services in consultation with the Ward Member.

(ix) EN/13/00288/EXT – Priors Hall Site, Kirby Lane, Deene (page 773)

Members were presented with an external application that had come before them in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, due to the possibility of significant implications for the District.

The application was a variation to an outline planning permission for a mixed use urban extension to Corby. The report requested a response from ENC to the proposal and members' comments were sought on the matter.

Members considered that they had no objection to the proposed variation, but felt that again, there was an opportunity to raise traffic issues relating village of Deene, as requested in the debate to application EN/13/00213/EXT above.

The committee **agreed** that Corby Borough Council be advised that ENC had no objection to the proposal, subject to no objections being raised by other statutory consultees and the inclusion of comments made by members.

458. LYVEDEN NEW BIELD UPDATE

The Executive Director advised members that, following a Judicial Review of the Lyveden New Bield windfarm application, the original decision had been quashed and the three parties involved; ENC; English Heritage and the National Trust had been awarded costs. The developers had 21 days to appeal the ruling at a higher court. If the developer did appeal, then a new public enquiry would automatically be required. A further meeting would be held between ENC, English Heritage and the National Trust to discuss the approach at any possible enquiry.

Chairman

List of Applications Determined By

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - 20 March 2013

12/01368/FUL

Date received Date valid Overall Expiry Ward
21 August 2012 25 September 2012 25 December 2012

Applicant **Persimmon Homes East Midlands**

Agent **Mr Martin Bagshaw - John Martin And Associates**

Location **Oundle School Playing Field, Glapthorn Road, Oundle, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Residential development for 62 dwellings with associated landscaping, open space and access**

Decision Grant Subject to Section 106 Agreement and the following conditions:-

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under provision of Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. Prior to the commencement of development a scheme for the provision of children's play equipment shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This scheme shall include the precise specification of the children's play equipment and the timing of its provision on site. Development shall be carried out in accordance with this scheme.
Reason: To ensure that the needs of children's play are met whilst at the same time as respecting the setting of Herne Lodge.
3. Prior to the commencement of development a scheme for lighting the footpaths and areas of public open space shall be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing and development shall be carried out in accordance with these approved details prior to first occupation. This scheme shall include lux and uniformity level.
Reason: In the interests of amenity and crime prevention.
4. Prior to the commencement of development a scheme for the provision of street furniture including litter and dog bins shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The street furniture shall thereafter be installed and shall be maintained in line with the approved details and prior to the first occupation of the dwellings hereby approved.
Reason: In the interests of amenity and ensuring an appropriate standard of development.
5. Prior to the commencement of development, a scheme detailing the security standards to be incorporated within all openings associated with the development shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with these details.
Reason: In the interests of crime prevention.

6. No development shall take place until a detailed surface water drainage scheme for the site, based on sustainable drainage principles and an assessment of the hydrological and hydro geological context of the development, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The drainage strategy should demonstrate the surface water runoff generated up to and including the 1% critical storm will not exceed the runoff from the undeveloped site following the corresponding rainfall event. The scheme shall subsequently be implemented in accordance with the approved details before the development is completed. The scheme shall comply with the Wood Hardwick Flood Risk Assessment (reference CSB/KM/E/15871/B4) of January 2013 and contain full detailed design including details of flood controls, cross sections through storage with levels to Ordnance Datum.
Reason: To prevent the increased risk of flooding, both on and off site and in the interests of highway safety.
7. No development shall commence until details of a scheme, including phasing, for the provision of mains foul water drainage on and off site has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. No dwellings shall be occupied until the works have been carried out in accordance with the approved scheme.
Reason: To prevent flooding, pollution and detriment to public amenity through provision of suitable water infrastructure.
8. All rear access gates shall be fitted with lockable pad bolts, details of which shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority prior to the commencement of development. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved details and thereafter retained.
Reason: In the interests of crime prevention.
9. Notwithstanding the submitted details, prior to the commencement of development, full details of all boundary screening, including the location, height, design and materials of all boundaries, including those to surround the LEAP and the adjacent pond, shall be submitted to and agreed in writing by the local planning authority. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved details and retained in perpetuity.
Reason: To ensure that the appearance of the development is satisfactory and in the interests of crime prevention and child safety.
10. No development shall take place until a comprehensive landscaping scheme for the site has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority. This landscaping scheme shall be implemented strictly in accordance with the approved details in the first planting season following the occupation of the development. Any trees or plants which within a period of five years of planting die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased, shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of a similar size and species, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority. All planting shall consist of native species only.
Reason: To ensure a reasonable standard of development and visual amenity for the area and to take account of Section 197 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
11. Notwithstanding the submitted details and before commencement of the development hereby permitted, a Site Waste Management Plan, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority to demonstrate that the development would meet the requirements of Policy CS7 of the Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Spatial Strategy and the Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008. The development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.
Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable in accordance with national

government advice contained in, Policy 14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy, Policy CS7 of the Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Spatial Strategy and the Site Waste Management Plans Regulations 2008.

12. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the recommendations as set out in sections 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4 of the Ecological Appraisal received by the local planning authority on 4 February 2013. The local planning authority shall be notified once these measures have been put in place.
Reason: In the interests of biodiversity.
13. Notwithstanding the submitted details, prior to the commencement of development, details of the hard surfacing for all pedestrian and vehicular surfaces shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the submitted details and retained in perpetuity.
Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and highway safety.
14. Prior to the commencement of development, details of existing ground levels (in relation to an existing datum point), proposed finished floor levels and floor slab levels of the development and adjoining sites shall have been submitted to and agreed in writing by the local planning authority. All works shall be carried out and retained in accordance with the approved details.
Reason: To ensure the precise height of the development can be considered in relation to adjoining dwellings.
15. No development shall take place within the area indicated until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and then approved in writing by the local planning authority.
Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.
16. Notwithstanding the submitted details, prior to the commencement of development, a sustainable strategy satisfying the requirements of Policy 14 of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy shall be submitted to and agreed in writing by the local planning authority and the development shall be implemented in accordance with the details so approved.
Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable in accordance with national government advice contained in Policy 14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.
17. Prior to the commencement of development, a scheme and timetable for the provision of fire hydrants shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing by, the local planning authority in consultation with the Chief Fire Officer, and the provision of fire hydrants shall be made in accordance with the scheme and timetable.
Reason: To ensure a satisfactory form of development.
18. No development shall take place until a schedule of landscape maintenance for a minimum period of ten years has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The schedule shall include details of the arrangements for its implementation. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved schedule.
Reason: In the interests of visual amenity.

19. Notwithstanding the submitted details, a Tree Protection Plan for the onsite trees shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority prior to the commencement of development and shall be in accordance with BS5837:2012. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with these details.
Reason: To ensure protection of trees on site.
20. Notwithstanding the submitted details, an Arboricultural Method Statement shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority prior to the commencement of development. This statement shall be in accordance with BS5837:2012. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the approved details.
Reason: To ensure the protection of trees on site.
21. The development hereby permitted shall not be commenced until details of a comprehensive contaminated land investigation has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and until the scope of works approved therein have been implemented where possible. The assessment shall include all of the following measures unless the LPA dispenses with any such requirements in writing:
- a) A Phase I desk study carried out by a competent person to identify and evaluate all potential sources of contamination and the impacts on land and/or controlled waters, relevant to the site. The desk study shall establish a conceptual model of the site and identify all plausible pollutant linkages. Furthermore, the assessment shall set objectives for intrusive site investigation works/ Quantitative Risk Assessment (or state if none required). Two full copies of the desk study and a non-technical summary shall be submitted to the LPA without delay upon completion.
 - b) A site investigation shall be carried out to fully and effectively characterize the nature and extent of any land contamination and/or pollution of controlled waters. It shall specifically include a risk assessment that adopts the Source-Pathway-Receptor principle and takes into account the sites existing status and proposed new use. Two full copies of the site investigation and findings shall be forwarded to the LPA.
This must be conducted in accordance with DEFRA and the Environment Agency's Model procedures for the Management of Land Contamination, CLR11.
Reason: To ensure potential risks arising from previous site uses have been fully assessed.
22. Where the risk assessment identifies any unacceptable risk or risks, an appraisal of remedial options and proposal of the preferred option to deal with land contamination and/or pollution of controlled waters affecting the site shall be submitted to and approved by the LPA. No works, other than investigative works, shall be carried out on the site prior to receipt and written approval of the preferred remedial option by the LPA. This must be conducted in accordance with DEFRA and the Environment Agency's Model procedures for the Management of Land Contamination, CLR11.
Reason: To ensure the proposed remediation plan is appropriate.
23. Remediation of the site shall be carried out in accordance with the approved remedial option. No deviation shall be made from this scheme without the express written agreement of the LPA.
Reason: To ensure site remediation is carried out to the agreed protocol.
24. On completion of remediation, two copies of a closure report shall be submitted to the LPA. The report shall provide verification that the required works regarding contamination have been carried out in accordance with the approved Method

Statement(s). Post remediation sampling and monitoring results shall be included in the closure report.

Reason: To provide verification that the required remediation has been carried out to the required standards.

25. If, during development, contamination not previously considered is identified, then the LPA shall be notified immediately and no further work shall be carried out until a method statement detailing a scheme for dealing with the suspect contamination has been submitted to and agreed in writing with the LPA.

Reason: To ensure all contamination within the site is dealt with.

26. All construction works which cause any noise that is audible at the boundary of the site, or at any such other place as may be agreed with the Council, shall be carried out only between the hours of 7.30am and 6.00pm Mondays to Fridays, 8.00am and 1.00pm on Saturdays and at no time on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

Reason: In the interests of residential amenity.

27. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted full engineering, drainage, street lighting and other constructional details of the site accesses and internal streets and ways shall be submitted to and gain the written approval of the local planning authority. The development shall thereafter be laid out and constructed in accordance with such approved details and be completed prior to the first occupation of the first residential unit of the development.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

28. Notwithstanding the submitted details, prior to the commencement of development hereby permitted, details of all pedestrian and cycle access points and links shall be submitted to and gain the written approval of the local planning authority. The details shall include layout, construction and lighting. The details, as may be approved shall then be completed prior to the first occupation of the first residential unit of the development.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

29. Prior to the commencement of development a Quality Audit which shall be carried out to consider the function, use and practicality of the proposed layout. The Audit shall include:

- i. Visual quality audit;
- ii. Review of how the streets will be used by the community;
- iii. A road safety audit, including a risk assessment;
- iv. Access audit;
- v. Walking audit;
- vi. Cycle audit;
- vii. Non-motorised audit; and
- viii. Place check audit.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety and to comply with advice in Manual for Streets.

30. Prior to the commencement of any part of the development hereby permitted, a Construction Management Plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The Construction Management Plan shall include and specify the provision to be made for the following:

- i. Overall strategy for managing environmental impacts which arise during construction;

- ii. Measures to control the emission of dust and dirt during construction;
- iii. Control of noise emanating from the site during the construction period.
- iv. Hours of construction work for the development;
- v. Contractors' compounds, materials storage and other storage arrangements, cranes and plant, equipment and related temporary infrastructure;
- vi. Designation, layout and design of construction access and egress points;
- vii. Internal site circulation routes;
- viii. Directional signage (on and off site);
- ix. Provision for emergency vehicles;
- x. Provision for all site operatives, visitors and construction vehicles loading and unloading plant and materials
- xi. Provision for all site operatives, visitors and construction vehicles for parking and turning within the site during the construction period;
- xii. Details of measures to prevent mud and other such material migrating onto the highway from construction vehicles;
- xiii. and other similar debris on the adjacent public highways;
- xiv. Routing agreement for construction traffic.
- xv. Storage of plant and materials used in constructing the development;
- xvi. Enclosure of phase or development parcel development sites or development parcels and the erection and maintenance of security hoarding including decorative displays and facilities for public viewing, where appropriate
- xvii. Waste audit and scheme for waste minimisation and recycling/disposing of waste resulting from demolition and construction works.
- xviii. No deliveries shall be made to the site before 9:15am and after 3:00pm on school days.
- xviii. Limits on deliveries to the site at other times on non school days.

The approved Construction Management Plan shall be adhered to throughout the construction period and the approved measures shall be retained for the duration of the construction works.

Reason: In the interests of residential amenity.

- 31. Pedestrian splays of at least 2.4m x 2.4m (2m x 2m where there is turning space within the site) shall be provided on each side of the vehicular accesses. These measurements are taken along and to the rear of the highway boundary within the curtilage of the site. The areas of land forward of these splays shall be reduced to and retained at a height not exceeding 0.6m above carriageway level.

Reason: In the interest of pedestrian safety.

- 32. Vehicular visibility splays of 2.4m (measured from the carriageway channel along the centre line of the access / street) by at least 43.0m in both directions (measured from the centre of the access /junction along the carriageway edge) shall be provided and retained. Any features within the resultant triangular areas shall not exceed 0.9m above carriageway level.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

- 33. All single private drives shall be a minimum of 3.0m wide, whilst shared private drives shall be a minimum of 4.5m wide for the first 10 m from the highway (existing or proposed). The area shall be hard paved with no loose surfacing material and have a maximum gradient of 1 in 15 and be retained as such.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

- 34. Prior to first use or occupation, the proposed access, parking and turning facilities shall not be provided other than in accordance with the approved plans and shall thereafter

be aside and retained for those purposes.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

35. Prior to first use or occupation of the development hereby permitted a positive means of access drainage shall be installed to ensure that surface water from the access or private land does not discharge onto the highway.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

36. Notwithstanding the submitted information, prior to the commencement of development, details and samples of all external facing materials shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Development shall be carried out in accordance with these approved details.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

37. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (or any other Order revoking or re-enacting that Order), no additional windows other than those shown on the plans hereby approved shall be placed in the side elevations of plots 21 and 23.

Reason: To protect the amenities of the adjoining properties.

38. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the following approved plans

223/095/003E - Proposed site layout received 14 March 2013.

JMA/P148 - Site plan at a scale of 1:2500 received 21 August 2012.

House type 4BFR - Narrow planning drawing received 19 December 2012

2084 - Elevations received 21 August 2012.

C2084-1 - Longleat plans received 19 December 2012.

71P3 - Persimmon drawing plots 13, 14, 45, 46, 47 and 48 received on 21 August 2012.

81P2 - Persimmon drawing plots 15, 16, 49, 50 and 51 received 21 August 2012.

30505_3b5p2s45_KFEF_L (0)09 - Westbury Partnership Affordable House Types R3C (Semi Detached) received 21 August 2012.

30505_3b5p2s45_KFEF_L (0)07 - Westbury Partnership Affordable House Types R3C (Semi Detached) received 21 August 2012.

Bungalow elevations and floor plans received 21 September 2012

C958 - Burleigh received 21 August 2012.

C1408A - 1408 received 21 August 2012.

4B FRF N/S/1 - Persimmon drawing received 21 August 2012.

C1585 - Houghton received 21 August 2012

C663 - Audley received 21 August 2012.

C876 - Blickling received 21 August 2012.

CC940 - Bowood received 21 August 2012.

138A - Plots 52 and 53 received 21 August 2012.

CC/940/S/01 - Bowood side version received 21 August 2012.

30505_3b5p2s45_KFEF_L (0)04 - Westbury Partnership Affordable House Types R3C (Semi Detached) received 21 August 2012.

30505_3b5p2s45_KFEF_L (0)05 - Westbury Partnership Affordable House Types R3C (Semi Detached) received 21 August 2012.

223/095/007 - Tree Retention/Removal Plan received 19 December 2012.

223/095/006B - Proposed street scene received 4 January 2012.

Refuse tracking drawing received 27 February 2013

G1 - Oversized single garage received 14 March 2013.

Reason: To clarify the terms of the planning permission and to ensure that the development is carried out as permitted.

39. No development shall commence until details of the proposed arrangements for future management and maintenance of the proposed streets within the development have been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The streets shall thereafter be maintained in accordance with the approved management and maintenance details until such a time as an agreement has been entered into under Section 38 of the Highways Act 1980 or a private 'management and maintenance company' has been established

Reason: In the interests of highway safety.

12/02011/OUT

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
13 December 2012	21 December 2012	15 February 2013	

Applicant **Spire Homes**

Agent **Architectural And Surveying Services Ltd - Mr Alex Pringle**

Location **Garage Block, Acremead, Warmington, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Outline: Demolition of existing garages and erection of 4 properties with associated parking, retaining wall and alternative parking**

Decision Application Refused

Reasons:

1. The proposal relates to the erection of four affordable houses on land beyond the village boundary. Based on the information submitted, it is not considered a convincing case has been made to demonstrate that there is a genuine local need for such housing. As such, the proposal is contrary to policy 14 of the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan which requires rural exceptions housing to be based on an identified local need.
2. The applicant has failed to demonstrate how the proposed development could be accommodated without having an adverse impact on the character and appearance of the rural setting. As such the proposal is contrary to policy 13 (h) of the North Northamptonshire Core Strategy 2008, Design Supplementary Guidance 2009, Warmington Village Design Statement Supplementary Planning Guidance 2003 and policy 14 of the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan.
3. Based on the information submitted it is not considered a convincing case has been made to demonstrate that adequate off street parking and on street parking would be provided to offset the loss of the garage and to adequately serve the proposed four dwellings. Furthermore, four of the on street parking spaces would be within the adopted public highway. A convincing case has not been submitted to demonstrate the parking provision could be used without creating additional obstructions within the highway, to the detriment of highway safety. It is therefore considered the proposal is contrary to policy 6 of the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan which seeks satisfactory parking provision to serve development.
4. The proposed new parking space to the northern side of Acremead, together with the re-siting of the footpath, would be partially located on a designated Open Space/Sport

and Recreational Area and would adversely affect the quality and accessibility of the land, to the detriment of the character and appearance of the area and the enjoyment of the surrounding residents. The proposal would result in the partial loss of the open space with no alternative provision being made, no evidence has been provided to demonstrate there is a surplus of such land and insufficient justification has been provided to demonstrate the loss of part of the open space is justified by the proposed development. Therefore, the proposal is contrary to policy 15 of the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan and policy 13 (o) of the North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

13/00118/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
23 January 2013	30 January 2013	27 March 2013	

Applicant **East Northamptonshire Council - Amenities-Mr Richard Hankins**

Agent **Gotch, Saunders & Surridge - Mrs Anna McTaggart**

Location **The Pemberton Centre, H E Bates Way, Rushden, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Proposed erection of a single storey plant enclosure on the west elevation of the Centre. The works also include the insertion of a new floor within the existing building and alterations to the appearance of the south elevation.**

Decision Application Permitted

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under provision of Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004
2. The development the subject of this planning permission shall be carried out using external materials as specified on drawing ref.no. SK22 Rev.C received by the local Planning Authority on 20.02.2013 unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.
Reason: To achieve a satisfactory elevational appearance for the development
3. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the following plans: Location Plan - SK14, Existing Block Plan - SK15, Proposed Block Plan - SK16 Rev.A, Existing Ground Floor Plan - SK05 Rev.A, Existing First Floor Plan - SK06 Rev.A, Existing Elevations - SK12, Proposed External Plant Enclosure - SK17 Rev.A, Proposed Ground Floor Plan - SK18 Rev.B, Proposed First Floor Plan - SK19 Rev.A, Proposed Ground Floor Demolitions Plan - SK20, Proposed Elevations - SK22 Rev.C received by the Local Planning Authority on 23/01/2013, 30/01/2013 and 20/02/2013 unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority.
Reason: In order to clarify the terms of the planning permission and to ensure that the development is carried out as permitted.
4. Notwithstanding the submitted details, an Arboricultural Method Statement shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the commencement of the development. This statement shall be in accordance with

BS5837:2012. The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with these details.

Reason: To ensure the protection of trees on site

5. Demolition and construction works (including deliveries to and from the site) shall not be carried out except between the hours of 08:00am -18:00pm Mondays to Fridays, 08:30am - 13:00pm on Saturdays, and at no time on Sundays or Bank Holidays, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity.

6. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the recommendations contained within Noise Assessment report received by the Local Planning Authority on 15.03.2013 unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity.

13/00135/OUT

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
28 January 2013	4 February 2013	1 April 2013	

Applicant **Mr AJ and CE Boddington**

Location **14 Lowick Lane, Aldwinckle, Kettering, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Outline: Erection of 2 no. two storey dwellings and detached garages with new access (all matters reserved except access)**

Decision Grant, precise wording of conditions and reason for decision delegated to Head of Planning Services in conjunction with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Ward Member Cllr Derek Capp. In reaching this decision Members considered Policies 1, 9 and 10 of the Core Spatial Strategy and the recommended reason for refusal. However their view was that the proposal would not be harmful to the rural character of the site and the open countryside as it was garden land and because of its relationship with existing residential properties

13/00195/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
5 February 2013	5 February 2013	2 April 2013	

Applicant **Mr And Mrs K Burdett**

Agent **Mr Richard Colson - APC Planning Ltd**

Location **11 Rushmere Close, Islip, Kettering, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Erection of dormer style bungalow (Resubmission)**

Decision Grant, precise wording of conditions and reason for decision delegated to Head of Planning Services in conjunction with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Ward

Member Cllr Mrs Wendy J Brackenbury. Members view was that due to the amendments that had been made to the scheme it was not sufficiently overbearing to justify refusal and it would not have a harmful effect on residential amenity or the character of the area.

13/00213/EXT

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
7 February 2013	7 February 2013	28 February 2013	

Applicant **Mr Douglas Wright**

Agent **Corby Borough Council**

Location **Brookfield Plantation Gretton Brook Road, Corby, Northamptonshire**

Proposal **Application 13/00027/OUT - Resource recovery park and associated works**

Decision No Objection (Consultation Response)

Reasons:

1. That Corby Borough Council be advised that East Northamptonshire Council has no objection to the proposed development, subject to no objections to the scheme being raised by the Highways Agency, Local Highway Authority and Natural England and the following comments:
The Local Planning Authority should satisfy itself that the proposed development would not lead to loss of connectivity within the Willow Brook Sub-Regional Green Infrastructure corridor and that it would be supported by the robust mitigation scheme.
 - The Local Planning Authority should satisfy itself that the proposed development would not compromise the delivery of the Rockingham Masterplan.
 - The Local Planning authority should satisfy itself that it would be possible to mitigate odour from the site; particularly having regard to location of the site in close proximity to Rockingham Motor Speedway.

13/00268/FUL

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
15 February 2013	22 February 2013	19 April 2013	

Applicant **Mr J Kearsley**

Agent **Marric Chartered Surveyors**

Location **12D Rotton Row, Raunds, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Change of use of existing building from storage (B8) to residential (C3).
Alterations to existing building to form a two storey dwelling.**

The decision to grant planning permission was delegated to the Head of Planning Services following the expiry of the statutory consultation period (9 April 2013), subject to no adverse

comments being received.

Conditions/Reasons:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of 3 years from the date of this permission.
Reason: Statutory requirement under provision of Section 51 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
2. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted, details and a sample of the roofing material and facing brick to be used for the construction of the west elevation of the dwelling hereby approved shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the details so approved.
Reason: To achieve a satisfactory appearance for the development and to ensure the development would not detract from the character and appearance of the adjoining cottages.
3. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted, details of the colour and finish details of the render to be used on all elevations of the dwelling hereby approved shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the details so approved.
Reason: To achieve a satisfactory appearance for the development and to ensure the development would not detract from the character and appearance of the adjoining cottages.
4. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted, details of the materials, colour and finish of the windows and doors shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall thereafter be constructed in accordance with the details so approved.
Reason: To achieve a satisfactory appearance for the development and to ensure the development would not detract from the character and appearance of the adjoining cottages.
5. Prior to the commencement of the development hereby permitted, details of the provision of boundary treatment to the garden of the dwelling shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. This shall include details indicating the positions, height, design, materials and type of boundary treatment to be erected/retained. This boundary screening shall then be provided in accordance with the details so approved prior to the first occupation of the dwelling and shall thereafter be retained in perpetuity.
Reason: To ensure adequate standards of privacy for neighbours and occupiers and to safeguard the amenity of the area.
6. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2008 (or any order revoking and re-enacting that Order), no windows or any other form of opening, other than that shown on the plans hereby approved, shall be inserted in the south and west facing elevations and roof slopes of the dwelling hereby permitted.
Reason: To ensure adequate standards of privacy for neighbours and occupiers
7. Before the dwelling hereby permitted is first brought into occupation, the first floor bathroom window in the west facing elevation shall be fitted with obscured glazing to a minimum level of obscurity to conform to Pilkington Glass level 3 or equivalent, and

this obscure glazing shall thereafter be retained permanently.

Reason: To ensure adequate standards of privacy for neighbours and occupiers.

8. Notwithstanding the submitted details, the first floor window for bedroom 3 in the south facing roof slope of the dwelling hereby permitted shall be installed a minimum of 1.7 metres above the internal floor levels of the building.

Reason: To ensure adequate standards of privacy for neighbours and occupiers.

9. The parking facilities shown on the site layout plan dated 3 December 2012, received by the Local Planning Authority on 15 February 2013, shall have been provided and brought into use for the dwelling hereby approved and be thereafter retained in perpetuity.

Reason: In the interest of highway safety.

10. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2008 (or any Order amending or re-enacting that Order with or without modification), there shall be no development within Classes A, B, C, D, E, F or G of Part 1 of Schedule 2 to that Order without the prior written approval of the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To protect the amenity of adjacent occupiers and to ensure a satisfactory elevational appearance for the development.

11. Prior to the commencement of development hereby permitted, details of provisions for waste reduction and recycling, water efficiency and recycling and techniques of sustainable construction to be used for the construction of the dwelling hereby permitted, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that the development is sustainable in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 and Policy 14 of the adopted North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy.

12. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the approved plans: Site Layout Plan dated 3/12/12 received by the Local Planning Authority on 15/02/13 and "Proposed Revised Scheme Rev A" received by the Local Planning Authority on 04/03/13

Reason: In order to clarify the terms of the planning permission and to ensure that the development is carried out as permitted.

13/00278/NCC

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
18 February 2013	18 February 2013	11 March 2013	

Applicant **Churchfield Stone Ltd**

Agent **Northamptonshire County Council**

Location **SP9788 OP9078, Oundle Road, Upper Benefield, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Conservation stone quarry to extract Blisworth Limestone (Oundle variety) Blockstone, Flagstone and Large Walling Stone at Stone Pits Quarry**

Decision That NCC be advised that ENC has a strong objection, in principle, to the proposal because of the impact it would have on traffic, residential amenity and an attractive area of countryside. In addition, the Visual Assessment is inadequate to assess the impact that the proposal would have on the nearby Conservation Areas and listed buildings. Precise wording of the objection delegated to Head of Planning Services and Ward Member Cllr Mr Philip Stearn.

13/00288/EXT

Date received	Date valid	Overall Expiry	Ward
18 February 2013	18 February 2013	11 March 2013	

Applicant **Bela Partnership Ltd**

Agent **Corby Borough Council - Mr W Cattell**

Location **Priors Hall Site, Kirby Lane, Deene, Northamptonshire.**

Proposal **Variation to condition 4 of 04/00240/OUT: Mixed use urban extension.**

Decision No Objection (Consultation Response)

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: 3 April 2013

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:- **Phillip Stearn (Chairman)**
Sarah Peacock (Vice Chairman)

Tony Boto	Barbara Jenney
Derek Capp	Brian Northall
Richard Gell	Peter Wathen
Sylvia Hughes	Pam Whiting
Sylvia Hobbs	Colin Wright

459. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2013 were approved and signed by the chairman.

460. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors David Read and Jake Vowles sent their apologies.

461. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3

There were no declarations of interest or questions under council procedure rule 10.3.

462. QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORTING – Q3 2012/13

The committee received a report which detailed high level performance information from across the council in relation to agreed performance indicators, internal audit recommendation progress and risk actions, and other statistics that supported the monitoring of performance.

The purpose of the report was to assess how service areas were progressing towards delivering key priorities and outcomes, the identification of problem areas, to provide peer challenge and to identify and record good performance

Members were advised that Performance Clinics for Quarter 3 had taken place in February 2013 with the results of the clinics being discussed by the Corporate Management Team (CMT) in consultation with Councillor Sarah Peacock and Councillor Colin Wright on 22 February. The committee was generally satisfied with the overall level of performance across the council.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

463. INTERNAL AUDIT – INTRODUCTION OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR INTERNAL AUDIT STANDARDS

The committee received a report which informed them about the introduction of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and their implications.

Members noted that the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards, developed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountants (CIPFA), had been released in late 2012 and came into effect on 1 April 2013. Members were advised that there would not be a great operational difference, as the consortium was already working to the CIPFA code of practice. Effective communication was required between the consortium and the Scrutiny Committee, who needed to ensure that the future audit plan gave enough coverage in terms of Scrutiny requirements.

Members were further advised that the Scrutiny Committee would undertake a greater role as “gatekeeper” as in future. The committee would need to provide consent before any alterations could be made to the audit plan in order to ensure there was no impairment to the independence or auditing levels of the consortium.

Members noted the challenging risks involved with the introduction of the new standards. The Chairman advised the committee that both he and Councillor Colin Wright would be working through the new system to obtain greater understanding of the areas the Scrutiny Committee would be directly involved with. This work would assist the committee in making informed decisions in future.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

464. INTERNAL AUDIT – ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2013-14

The committee received a report which sought member endorsement of Welland Internal Audit Consortium's (WIAC) proposed Annual Internal Audit Plan for 2013/14 in line with the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

The report provided members with an explanation of the planning process and detailed the various elements that made up the plan. Members were also provided with an indication as to how the planning and delivery process met the requirements of Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

It was noted that East Northamptonshire Council had commissioned WIAC to deliver 230 audit days during 2013/14, 90 days of which would be allocated to examining financial systems to ensure the satisfaction of external auditors.

After discussion of the report it was

RESOLVED:

That the Committee agree the Annual Internal Audit Plan for 2013/14 as set out in Appendix A to these minutes at page 780.

465. INTERNAL AUDIT – PROGRESS REPORT

The committee were presented with a report which sought to provide members with information on the progress made by WIAC on the delivery of the Annual Audit Plan for 2012/13 and associated measures of performance. The report also provided members with an overview of key audit findings and recommendations from the audit reports that have been issued. Members noted that the performance information analysed was up to the end of week 48 (i.e. 1 March 2013), which was the latest date practical for reporting to the committee.

Work carried out had provided a sound level of assurance and no issues of concern were highlighted on work undertaken. The performance of the consortium continued to improve following staffing issues, with the quality of work and customer satisfaction being of a good level.

Members were advised that at the end of week 48, twelve audits had been issued, with fieldwork commencing on a further five audits and Terms of Reference issued for a further audit. The consortium was expecting to complete these before the annual audit was due, with the annual audit plan being delivered in full, on time and to budget.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

466. WASTE CONTRACT

The committee received a report which sought to provide members with the details of the performance of the waste management contract against the performance indicators for the contract.

Members noted that the report was a reflection on the first 20 months of the new waste and recycling contract arrangements, which commenced in August 2011. Monitoring of waste performance measures was being reported back to the Waste and Recycling Working Party and Performance Plus on a quarterly basis.

Key points of the performance report highlighted to the committee included:

- 89% of fly-tipping incidents were investigated within 24 hours of being reported, with 84% being cleared within either the same day as reported or the subsequent day. Enforcement action regarding fly-tipping was noted as being difficult, although 18 cases had resulted in some form of enforcement action being taken against perpetrators.
- The amount of waste sent to landfill had reduced significantly since the new waste contract began.
- There had been a positive impact on the levels of recycling within the district for the same period.
- There was a noticeable upward trend of composting, and the new garden waste service had received over 100 new subscriptions over the last few days. Officers were confident that subscription figures would surpass those of last year.
- Missed collections performance had improved with the new contractor, although officers were hoping to get nearer to the figures for other the authorities in the county. Members noted that there had been initial issues with the live cab-to-council recording system,

however, once the reporting mechanism was resolved, it was hoped that the gap would close on contractor figures and those contacts received by ENC.

- Cleansing of detritus was noted as being an area where improvement was required, although many areas affected were beyond ENC control, being the responsibility of Northamptonshire County Council.

Members asked questions of the Waste Contract Manager and the Head of Environmental Services regarding contaminated recycling containers, in-cab technology and Street Doctor. Members requested that officers and County Councillors at ENC raise issues regarding Street Doctor in an attempt to improve cleansing figures.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted.

467. ICT CAPITAL BUDGETING PROCESS

The Finance Manager attended the meeting to present a report to the committee which sought to outline the process and management of the ICT Capital Programme.

The committee were advised that the ICT shared service had been in place for 5 years and achievements made over that period were noted. The forecast budget for the ICT capital programme for 2013/14 would be £0.476m, or 14% of the total capital expenditure forecast for the period. Members further noted that ENC was looking to spend over £4m during the next ten years to support ICT infrastructure.

The finance involved in the ICT Capital Programme for 2012/13 was detailed to the committee, who noted a variance of £144k from a budget of £484k. £133k of this variance had been re-profiled into future years, with an underspend of £11k.

The financial challenges of ICT were outlined to the committee, who noted the current fast moving technological climate could significantly alter prices for goods and services that ENC was considering purchasing. The result of this was increased difficulty in accurately forecasting and budgeting for IT provisions. The ICT capital programme was currently funded by capital reserves, a position sustainable in the short-term, to the end of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) in 2016/17. As projects were subject to alteration and delays, budgeting for later years was becoming more difficult, but members were advised that ICT only spent money when absolutely necessary.

The committee were advised that changes to capital governance arrangements for the entire capital programme would assist in the way the ICT programme was managed and aid understanding regarding the final outturn costs incurred by ICT. When projects were approaching implementation, a more detailed costing would be completed before the project was moved into the approved capital programme.

Members noted improvements in the ICT reporting process to make it easier to identify and report upon project slippage and expenditure re-profiling and Finance Sub-committee received reports on a quarterly basis.

ICT was currently implementing a new IT asset management system to manage current hardware across ENC in order to understand when it would require replacement. Over time this would allow ICT to prioritise and plan on a project basis, to identify when schemes within the development programme pool could proceed onto the approved capital programme.

Members requested that a report covering the whole capital programme be brought back before them at the Scrutiny Committee in June 2014, to ascertain whether identified changes had been successful

RESOLVED:

- 1) That the contents of the report be noted
- 2) A further report be brought to Scrutiny Committee in June 2014 regarding the budgeting process for the whole capital programme.

468. LEISURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS – PEMBERTON CENTRE

The committee were presented with a report which sought to inform them of the process by which the Pemberton Centre improvements had been procured, from the identification of the Invest to Save opportunity through to the determination of the final budget figure. The report further requested members consider whether to make any recommendation to the Policy and Resources committee in respect of the future procurement of major projects.

A history of the procurement process was outlined to the committee, starting with the initial study on leisure demand in East Northamptonshire which took place in March 2011. A report was presented to senior officers in May 2011, with an estimated capital investment requirement of £1.2m. Subsequent to this, a paper was presented to the Policy and Resources Committee in September 2011, where the committee made a decision to proceed with work at both the Pemberton Centre and the Nene Centre with capital purchases of leisure equipment. A total budget for both projects was allocated at £2.2m. Although the exact funding split was not specified, an understanding had been built into the report that £1.2m would be for the Pemberton Centre works, with £300k for leisure equipment.

Following the decision to proceed, a Leisure Contract Working Group was convened. They resolved to recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee that a contractor and project manager be appointed. A report was then provided to the working group in October 2012 for “design one” which stated that the cost estimate had risen to £1.46m, inclusive of contingency and project management costs. The was design modified with revised drawings, and in November 2012 another cost estimate was provided on “design two”, totalling £1.36m inclusive of contingency and project management costs.

On basis of the further detailed designs provided in “design two”, the working group allowed the contractor to obtain firm costs. A report was then submitted to Full Council in January 2013 which stated costs were now estimated at £1.6m some £240k higher than the estimated figure provided by the contractor in November 2012. No further savings could be identified and approval was sought from Full Council for the additional funding.

Members were advised that a balance had to be struck between the level of information obtained before a decision to proceed was taken, and the risk that the estimate may not be robust when detailed work was carried out. The concept of a development pool for future capital programme expenditure was considered to be an improvement, ensuring that initial cost estimates of a project were not authorised until detailed costing levels had been received.

The committee were further advised that for future projects under consideration, an initial business case and desktop budget could be obtained, before members were consulted as to whether they wished to proceed with cost estimates as they were; or whether further work was required to establish more accurate figures.

The committee considered that a review of procedures was required to ensure they were as robust as members would like. The committee believed that a working group consisting of the Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee and Councillors David Read, Richard Gell, Colin Wright and Brian Northall be convened to work alongside the Executive Director to gain a greater understanding of:

- the key change elements which resulted in the increase in anticipated costs from the initial £1.2m to a final estimate £1.6m
- how learning from the variation in estimates can be used to inform future capital project and development pool procedures. The working group would report back to the Scrutiny Committee at a later date with their findings

RESOLVED:

That a working group be convened to:

- review the key change elements which resulted in the increase in anticipated costs from the initial £1.2m to a final estimate £1.6m
- consider how learning from the variation in estimates can be used to inform future capital project and development pool

469. REVIEW OF PLANNING SERVICES

The Executive Director provided the meeting with a verbal update regarding the review of Planning Services.

Members noted that the review had been delayed slightly as a result of the recent or imminent departures of the Head of Planning Services, Development Control Manager and the Business Analyst Officer. The new Interim Head of Planning Services would pick up the review, with work being undertaken to reengineer planning and development control processes, from which would flow a revised organisational structure. Members heard that a series of workshops would be undertaken with their involvement to help inform the process and to cover new developments in planning regulation,

470. PILOT TOWN AND PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

A verbal update was supplied to the meeting by Councillors Sylvia Hughes and Derek Capp regarding the initial pilot meetings with Town and Parish Councils and ENC members.

They stated that the initial visits had been positive and a good public relations exercise, lasting approximately 20 minutes with strong councillor attendance. Two ENC members had attended each meeting, one asking questions of the meeting and one taking notes of councillor responses. A questionnaire for completion by town and parish council members had been developed and completed questionnaires would be sent to the Executive Director until all visits had been completed.

Members concluded by selecting which committee members would make subsequent visits and which town and parish council meetings would be attended.

Chairman

East Northamptonshire Internal Audit Plan 2013.14					
Entity Type	Priority	Entity	Days	Days Per Entity Type	Plan Total
Non Audit		Committee Preparation & Attendance, Client Liaison, External Audit Liaison, Recommendation Follow Up		15	
Financial	1	Benefits (to include Welfare Reform changes & Fraud risks)	15	90	
	2	Local Taxes (to include Welfare Reform changes & Fraud risks)	15		
	3	Financial Management / Service Planning linkages / Budgeting & Budgetary Control	20		
	4	Creditors (to include Fraud risks)	10		
	5	Payroll (to include Fraud risks)	10		
	6	Main Accounting, Fixed Assets & Cash & Banking	10		
	7	Debtors	5		
	8	Treasury Management	5		
ICT	1	Physical security including laptops and other mobile devices	12	40	
	2	Logical security including data security and remote access rights (including control of software suppliers) / Virus Protection Software / PSN 1.4	12		
	3	Disaster Recovery / Backups / Business Continuity	12		
	4	ICT Contingency	4		
Fraud	1	Findings from Payroll, Local Taxes, Benefits and Procurement (Creditors) work. Plus any other Fraud Work if identified.	5	5	
Governance	1	Constitutional & Governance Arrangements	10	35	
	2	Data Management – Including Retention, Protection & Disposal	18		
	3	Joint Resilience Partnership Arrangement Review	7		
Service Delivery	1	Licensing Partnership Arrangements and Shared Assurance	tbd	45	
	2	Elections Services including Individual Registration	tbd		
	3	Waste Management Contract	tbd		
	4	Disabled Facilities Grants	tbd		
	5	Housing Options	tbd		
				Planned	230

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Date: 8 April 2013

Venue: East Northamptonshire House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston

Time: 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:-

Richard Lewis	(Chairman)
Glenvil Greenwood-Smith	(Vice-Chairman)
Steven North	(Leader of the Council)

Peter Baden	Rupert Reichhold
David Brackenbury	Jeremy Taylor
Wendy Brackenbury	

471. MINUTES

It was noted that in the copy of the Minutes circulated to Members, Minute 444 (Public Health Funerals) should have contained a recommendation to Council in respect of the proposed amendment to the Scheme of Delegation rather than a resolution. This had been corrected in the Minutes to be signed by the Chairman.

It was also noted that the Minute 449 (Minutes of Sub-Committees and Working Parties) should have referred to the Leisure Contracts Working Group that met on 8 February 2013, rather than 8 March 2013 as had been printed in the copy circulated. This had also been corrected in the Minutes to be signed by the Chairman.

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2013, including the revisions set out above, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

472. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors John Farrar, Roger Glithero JP, Glenn Harwood MBE, Marika Hillson and Andy Mercer.

473. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

474. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.3

A question was received from Councillor Peter Baden under Council Procedure Rule 10.3:

“Due to the amended budget and consequent loss of at least £1.2 million in the next few years from our revenue, what provision has been made to enable the council to maintain its services and the necessary staff level so as to serve well the district?”

Councillor Richard Lewis, Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, provided a written response which was circulated at the meeting:

“Thank you for your question, Councillor Baden.

I assume that you are referring to the zero increase in Council Tax recently agreed, which effectively equates to a future revenue loss of around £150k per annum, and after some 8 years to your figure of £1.2million.

As I am sure that you are aware, at this stage it is not possible to give a totally quantitative reply.

Over the last two years or so there have been major changes to the Revenue Budget of ENC. Various referred to as a moving feast or even famine. Thanks to the excellent work undertaken by our Finance Officers and other staff, I believe that the many financial changes have been well accommodated.

The result of this work has been to maintain a balanced budget and to fully keep members informed of the situation via the Member Workshops. As you can see from the December 2012 Member Workshop notes, the Revenue Finances are in quite good shape for several years to come. A Revenue deficit is not anticipated until at least 2019/20, and the maximum effect of the accumulated revenue loss of £1.2million is to bring the situation forward by one year to 2018/19.

Moreover, on the positive side, we anticipate additional income from the New Homes Bonus and retention of Business Rates. As a result of this Council Tax change, a new MTFs will be developed, and I am confident that all revenue changes will be satisfactorily incorporated.

To summarise:

- *There is no immediate effect on our Revenue Finances*
- *The possible longer term effect, not knowing what benefits or losses may occur in the next six years, is to bring forward a possible deficit situation by one year to 2018/19 i.e. at present of minimal consequence.*
- *I am confident that our Finance Officers will be able to fully accommodate any changes in the updated MTFs.*

I trust that is an acceptable reply.”

The Chairman also agreed to ask officers to provide further information in response to a comment from Councillor Baden which further questioned the year in which reserves would reach the £2m minimum level set by the Council.

475. EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2012/13

Following the closure of the Audit Commission’s Audit Practice and the appointment of KPMG as the Council’s External Auditor for 2012/13, the External Audit Plan prepared by KPMG was submitted for consideration.

Neil Bellamy and Yola Geen from KPMG attended the meeting to present the External Audit Plan and highlighted a number of differences from the previous audit regime.

Particular reference was made to the reduction in audit fees in comparison to the previous financial year, however it was noted that the fees had returned to the levels that had been payable prior to all external audit being undertaken by the Audit Commission.

RESOLVED:

That the report and External Audit Plan be noted.

476. VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANTS

It was reported that the Council had provided voluntary sector grants for several years following a review of the process in 2009/10 and approval of the current model for making grants on 8 November 2010 under minute 259. Three grants had been awarded following a detailed application process overseen by a panel of Members under minutes 32 and 83 2011/12.

Details of the grants awarded were submitted. It was noted that each organisation in receipt of a grant from the Council was subject to a formal Grant Agreement and the process by which each organisation was measured against outcomes and targets was also outlined.

The grants awarded would move into their third and final year from April 2013 and the Committee was asked to consider whether the Council should continue with voluntary sector grant funding beyond March 2014 and, if so, the basis for determining the award of grants. An outline of the application and award process and proposed timetable was submitted.

The current cost of providing the grants was £90,000 per annum and this would need to be considered in the light of the Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget for 2013/14 which had been reported to Council on 27 February 2013.

RESOLVED:

- i) That the Equalities Impact Assessment (initial screen) submitted as an Appendix to the report has been considered.
- ii) That support for providing voluntary sector grants beyond 31 March 2014 be confirmed.
- iii) That a Member Panel comprising the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee and Councillor Wendy Brackenbury be appointed to oversee the application process and make recommendations to the Policy and Resources Committee on the award of grants.
- iv) That a report detailing the recommendations of the Member Panel on the issues set out in paragraphs 3.2.1, 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 of the report be submitted to the June 2013 meeting of this Committee.

477. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Members were requested to review the current Council representatives on outside bodies and to appoint an additional Councillor to those given authority to agree, in conjunction with designated officers, any mediation settlement in respect of the Nene Centre roof.

Having considered the list of outside bodies, Members considered that there was a need to develop a process to review the value of representation on such external organisations and partnerships. It was suggested that officers ascertain the views of members appointed to each outside body to inform a review of the value of the council's involvement. It was also noted that councillors who have a particular personal interest in the activities of an external organisation or partnership could still attend meetings as members of the public.

RESOLVED:

- i) That officers contact members appointed to all outside bodies to gather feedback on the value of continuing to appoint to such external organisations and partnerships.
- ii) That the Leader of the Council and the Executive Director be authorised to review the list of outside bodies and submit a revised list for appointment to the Annual Council meeting on 15 May 2013.
- iii) That the Deputy Leader of the Council (Councillor Glenn Harwood MBE) be added to the list of Councillors given authority to agree any mediation settlement in respect of the Nene Centre roof in conjunction with the Chief Executive and Head of Resources and Organisational Development.

478. DRAFT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM STRATEGY FOR CONSULTATION

It was reported that the Council had previously adopted its Economic Development Strategy for the years 2009-12 and its Tourism Strategy for the years 2010-15. Since these strategies had been adopted, there had been considerable changes in the national and local economic context for promoting economic growth. Furthermore, the Council could now retain a proportion (32%) of any growth in business rates income and it was considered appropriate to produce a new strategy to reflect the strengths and opportunities for economic growth in the District.

A proposed strategy was submitted for consideration which aimed to focus on what the Council could do most effectively to support local businesses and to acknowledge that the Council needed to change its approach to businesses in order to be recognised as an Authority which businesses found constructive to work with.

Members broadly welcomed the draft strategy and were in agreement that consultation should commence at the earliest opportunity. Consideration was given to the need to measure easily and effectively the success or otherwise of the strategy. The planned outcomes for the strategy to be found in within the High Level Action Plan at Appendix C of the draft strategy were noted.

RESOLVED:

- i) That, subject to the comments made by the committee being incorporated, the draft Economic Development and Tourism Strategy be approved for consultation
- ii) That the comments received during the consultation process be reported back to this committee in June 2013, when the final strategy is submitted for approval.

479. LEGAL SHARED SERVICE

Further to the report submitted to the last meeting of the committee, Members were informed that Northampton Borough Council (NBC) had confirmed that it intended to transfer its legal services to Local Government Shared Services (LGSS). Following this transfer on 1 May 2013, East Northamptonshire Council would have two options available to it, either to join LGSS or to join District Law, which currently comprised Kettering and Wellingborough Borough Councils.

With the late notice of the transfer date and to ensure continuity of service, it would be necessary to delegate authority to select which provider of legal services this council would join. A report would also be submitted to the council meeting on 22 April 2013 to ensure the transfer of delegated powers from NBC to the service provider selected, should NBC's proposed transfer of its legal service to LGSS go ahead.

RESOLVED:

That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, or in the Leader's absence, the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, be authorised to select the provider of the council's legal services from 1 May 2013.

480. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business because exempt information, as defined under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, may be disclosed.

481. TENDER FOR PROCUREMENT OF LEISURE EQUIPMENT

A report was submitted concerning the outcome of the Leisure Equipment Procurement Project and the award of the contract to the company identified through the evaluation process as offering the most economically advantageous tender for the provision of health and fitness equipment and associated marketing and sales service. A letter would now be sent to all bidders regarding the outcome with detailed feedback on each bid. There would then be a 10 day standstill to allow for any clarification or challenge of the decision before any orders or contracts were placed.

RESOLVED:

That the contract be awarded to "bidder 2".

482. MINUTES OF SUB-COMMITTEES & WORKING PARTIES

(a) Leisure Contracts Working Group

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2013 were received and approved.

It was noted that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 April 2013 which were referred to on the Agenda would be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee for approval.

Chairman