

**Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping**

Present:	Cllr Broughton	Cllr Mrs Sked
	Cllr Shelton	Cllr Miss Collins
	Cllr Dr Byrd	Cllr Hughes
	Cllr Mrs Steel	Cllr Ms Reed
	Cllr Hanson	Cllr Mrs Jones

The Clerk and Deputy Clerk were also in attendance.

At 7.30pm Cllr Boughton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

There was a member of the public present as an observer.

A representative from the Deepings Bowls Club spoke requesting financial support towards the cost of a new sprinkler at a cost of £779.84. He explained that the club had raised about £2,500 in fundraising efforts in 2023/24. Cllr Broughton explained that a decision about support would be made later in the meeting.

Cllr Dr Byrd reported that there had been lots of changes this year at SKDC. Cllr Dr Byrd is on 3 committees and has attended every Committee meeting and every Full Council meeting this year. Cllr Dr Byrd has reported back fully to SKDC on all our flood efforts in The Deepings.

182. Chairman's Welcome & Introductions

Cllr Broughton asked whether members wished to close the open session and open the meeting. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to open the meeting.

Cllr Broughton welcomed members to the meeting at 7.36 pm.

183. To note apologies and accept valid reasons for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Neilson prior to the meeting.

184. Declarations of Interest under the Localism Act 2011

There were none.

185. Acceptance of the minutes of a meeting held on 13 March 2024

Cllr Broughton asked members if they accepted the minutes of the meeting of 13 March 2024. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the meeting as a true and accurate record. The chairman signed the minutes.

186. Reports: Including reports from Committees: Planning and Highways, Deepings Neighbourhood plan, Amenities and Open Spaces, Finance and Personnel, Mayor's diary and the Clerk's report.

Planning & Highways

Cllr Shelton reported:

- There are now monthly reviews of planning applications and outstanding S106 funding for Market Deeping.
- Highways issues are being reviewed
- The New River Retail and Aldi project is progressing.

Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping

Deeping Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Byrd informed that the Deepings Neighbourhood Plan (DNP) held its AGM on 6th April and reported:

Productive meetings. Having been elected to the Chairman role in April 2023, I am delighted to report that the group has worked positively towards achievement of the DNP long-term Vision and Objectives. Full group meetings have taken place on the first Monday of each month, except on Bank Holidays. Plus, we have had the option to call an additional meeting if necessary to ensure a timely outcome for a specific purpose. Many other project meetings have also taken place by various sub groups as required i.e. with representatives from Bidwell's, Allison homes, SKDC, AECOM Consultancy, LCC, West Deeping, Friends of Millfield, and others. We also engaged with a presentation of outline plans for the site west of P/B Road last spring/summer and had display boards created for a public consultation activity as part of the Christmas Market.

Stable membership. The DNP membership has remained the same over the past 12 months – including 3 of the original founding group of 5 still attending (since 2016).

Professional Planning input. The group has continued to engage with new development proposals across the Deepings and to make representations to the SKDC Planning Department to highlight issues arising that are potentially in conflict with the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan. These submissions have been in addition to formal responses from Town and Parish Councils, in addition to reviewing the outcomes of S106 monies.

Monitoring Implementation of policies within applications. It is encouraging to see and note that the DNP Policies are now frequently referenced in applications and within SKDC Planning Officer reports. They are being used as intended – to guide land use across the Deepings in accordance with the wishes of residents.

Monitoring development of Projects. In addition to overseeing the implementation and interpretation of DNP policies, we have had a productive year monitoring and supporting the progress of a number of Deeping Improvement Projects i.e. A second town supermarket (monthly updates from New River Retail (NRR) = slow progress due to legal issues): Leisure Centre Provision (monthly updates on the Deepings Leisure Centre (DLC)) = slow progress due to legal issues): parks and green spaces; pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, plus others.

Commissioning new work. To take us forward, project funding has provided us with the opportunity to develop a Design code for The Deepings, and Master-planning of the large site west of Linchfield Road (680), reinstatement of the process to complete the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP).

Review of the SKDC Local Plan. This work is on-going and our considered responses will be presented to the Town and Parish councils, and also to the Planning department before the end of the consultation period – 25th April.

PB06/04/24.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping**

Amenities and Open Spaces

Two volunteers have been working with Cllr Broughton and Cllr Dr Byrd on the Cherry Tree Park off Church Street. The grass has been mowed and the area is starting to be used more by families.

Cllr Broughton requested an amount of money to purchase some cherry trees and lavender plants. Cllr Mrs Sked proposed that £1,000 be allocated to fund plants and trees for Cherry Tree Park this was seconded by Cllr Ms Reed and it was **RESOLVED** unanimously.

Town Hall & Cemetery

There were no updates.

Finance and Personnel

The Clerk explained that the end of year clearance was booked for 18th April at 1.30pm.

Mayoral Diary

The Mayor and Cllr Byrd attended SKDC's Chairman's Civic Charity Dinner at Bourne Corn Exchange on Friday 22nd March 2024.

The Mayor and Cllr Byrd attended Whittlesey Town Council's Charity Dinner Dance at the Manor function Centre on Saturday 23rd March 2024

The mayor judged the Children's pictures at Tesco for Rotary on 26th March 2024

The mayor attended the Deepings Churches Together blessing of the Town Hall on Good Friday 28th March 2024

The mayor attended the opening night for the Circus on 4th April 2024

Clerk's Report

Clerk's Report – 10 April 2024

Preparations are being made for the end of year closedown which will take place via Teams in April
We are recruiting for a Cemetery keeper. The closing date is 12 th April 2024. Interviews will be held for the position of Cemetery Keeper on 18 th April 2024.
Invitations have been sent out for the Mayor's Civic dinner on 20 th April 2024.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping**

Licences, insurance and permissions are being obtained for the Deepings Funday Sunday on 7 th July 2024
New glass has been ordered for the damaged bus shelter outside The Deeping Stage. The Transport Company's insurance will be paying for the repairs.
The Clock in the Market Place is still not working. Cllr Hughes has offered to try and find a Company to repair it.
The volunteers have been carrying out wonderful work with Cllr Broughton on Cherry Tree Park. The area is looking much tidier and families are using the area more frequently.
The defibrillator in the Precinct has been deployed again and is believed to have saved a life. New pads have been ordered and are expected by the weekend. The Clerk has written to Round Table, Rotary and The Inner Wheel regarding funding for a defibrillator at The Green School. The Clerk was asked to Contact the Green School to obtain their agreement to it being installed.

187. Correspondence to be noted and resolved upon

Correspondence to be Noted – Received up to 10 April 2024				
No.	Received from	Date Received	Subject	Committee Response
1.	SKDC	18.3.24	Draft Local Plan Consultation - Online Public Engagement Events	Noted
2.	SKDC	18.3.24	Visitor Economy virtual meeting – 20.3.34	Noted
3.	SKDC	20.3.24	Visitor Economy meeting notes	Noted
4.	SKDC	20.3.24	Community Resilience Plans	Noted
5.	LALC	22.3.24	eNews to 22.3.24	Noted
6.	LCC	26.3.24	Town and Parish Council update	Noted
7.	SKDC	22.3.24	Public Space Protection Survey	Noted
8.	Rural Services Network	26.3.24	Rural Services Bulletin	Noted
9.	SKDC	22.3.24	Hackney carriage and Private Hire Licencing Policy survey	Noted
10	Deeping Youth Group	1.4.24	Presentation of activity for Precept funds 2024/25	Noted

**Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping**

11.	South Kesteven Police	3.4.24	Annual Neighbourhood Policing Plan	Noted
12	Health Watch Lincs	5.4.24	April eNews	Noted
13	SKDC	10.4.24	Draft Local Plan Consultation - Online Public Engagement Events	Noted
Correspondence to be Acted Upon – Received up to 10 April 2024				
No.	Received from	Date Received	Subject	Committee Response
1.	SKDC	22.3.24	Renewal of Public Space Protection Order for the Spinney	To be discussed as an agenda item
2.	Newborough Young Farmers	3.4.24	Request to use John Eve field on 19 th May 2024	It was RESOLVED that the Young Farmers could use the field.

188. Council Finances

a) Income and expenditure by cost centre

Members had received a copy of the Council Finances and Omega report prior to the meeting. Cllr Broughton asked if there were any questions. There were none.

b) Accounts to be paid for April 2024

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the council pay its bills for April 2024. See appendix A.

c) For members to review Council Finances to 31.3.24

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Council Finances are in order.

d) For members to consider Ear Marked Reserves to 31.3.24

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the Ear Marked Reserves were in order.

e) For members to consider the asset register

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the asset register was in order.

f) For members to review amounts paid under S137

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously that the amounts paid under S137 for 2023/24 and projected figures for 2024/25 were in order.

g) For members to consider payments made under direct debits

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to continue making payments via Direct Debit

189. For members to receive an update from Parish Council Engagement Session on Road Safety - JR

**Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping**

Cllr Ms Reed reported back about the session she had attended on 20th February led by Mark Jones PCCE via Teams.

Lincolnshire has a high number of accidents. The South West are running a scheme called Vision Zero where no fatality is acceptable and Lincolnshire hope to emulate this.

Lincolnshire is first in the UK to run Operation Snap which encourages the general public to submit dashcam footage to the Police. They are engaging with the NHS, RAF and businesses and offering training. They are trying to catch repeat offenders and have the motto "They can't be everywhere but could be anywhere."

They have 1382 trained volunteers and Cllr Ms Reed was tasked with contacting the PCCE to find out how MDTC can get involved and get more volunteers.

Cllr Ms Reed was thanked for attending the meeting and feeding back to the Council.

190. For members to consider a response to Local Plan Review

DSJ Parish Councillor Gordon Smith has submitted a response on behalf of the DNP.

The following response was sent on 24th April 2024:

**Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping**

**Market Deeping Town Council Response to
South Kesteven District Council Local Plan Review 2021-2041.
Regulation 18 – Draft Local Plan Consultation.**

Having reviewed the Draft South Kesteven Local Plan, Market Deeping Town Council (MDTC) fully support the comments below, which were made by members of the MDTC Planning and Highways Committee. This response is in addition to those of the Deepings Neighbourhood Plan Group (DNP) who will also submit a joint response on behalf of the Deepings i.e. Market Deeping and Deeping St. James. The DNP Group's comments are also supported by Market Deeping Town Council.

Vision for the Deepings (page 19) Object – a Rewrite is requested

To achieve the adopted community Vision for Deeping, the statement should read “any future development should be restricted to land to the north and east of the town/parish.” This means that any proposals to the west are deemed to be inappropriate. We advise this should be made clear and specifically expressed with a rewrite of the first paragraph.

There are numerous sites already allocated within the current Local Plan that have yet to be developed in addition to alternative sites available that would clearly indicate that this allocation is not in fact required at this stage. Deeping has five substantial sites allocated in the current Plan that are still awaiting approval for development totalling up to 900-1000 dwellings. The plan should read that “these will need to be progressed first before any other sites are required.” Please also refer to the corresponding overarching Vision expressed in the adopted Deepings Neighbourhood Plan.

H1 Housing Allocations

Allocation SKPR-144 (Land to the west of Millfield Road) should be removed from the Deepings Residential allocation as it is inappropriate, unnecessary and does not meet the criteria of the Site Assessment for all the reasons given below:

Councillors object to the inclusion of this site for the following reasons:

- In line with the current policy for developing edge of settlement sites there is a clear absence of significant popular local support (as required by SP4a.) There is also a long history of the community rejecting this land for development.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping**

- There is ready availability of an acceptable alternative site (not yet allocated) at Land North of Spalding Road, SKPR-248). Having reviewed the Draft Site Assessment Report Feb 2024, we would question the decision to reject SKPR-248 as a preferred site at this stage. SKPR-248 should be included in the Plan instead of SKPR-144 (if another site is required).
- The proximity of the proposed site to the Protected Green Lane as adopted in the Neighbourhood Plan Policy DNP12 would contradict the requirement for any development to be in keeping with the rural character and appearance of Millfield Road.
- Development of 200+ houses would not be in keeping with the character of the area and would be inappropriate in size and scale to the existing 15 houses adjacent to the site on Millfield Road conflicting with policy SP4b/SP3d.
- The development proposed would impact negatively on the current semi natural open space contradicting with policy EN1.
- The availability of such Semi-Natural Greenspace in The Deepings has also been identified as a deficiency within the SKDC Open Space and Recreation Study 2023 (paras 7.44, 6.33) so should in fact be retained in Deeping according to SKDC policy.
- The proposed development would create a significant increased risk of surface water flooding. This has been flagged as a RED constraint within the SKDC Draft Site Assessment Report in relation to any development of this site. It should also be noted that alternative sites have been rejected on this basis.
- The proposed site has been flagged as a RED constraint in respect of the Minerals and Waste Policy within the SKDC Draft Site Assessment Report. It should also be noted that alternative sites have been rejected on this basis.
- The proposed site does not provide ready or easy access to public transport network or amenities such as doctors and schools.
- The proposed site is adjacent to a designated Important Gateway to the Deepings (Policy DNP10). Development would directly contradict the requirement to avoid unacceptable and insensitive impact on the surrounding countryside.
- Millfield Road is currently subject to a Quiet Lane Status designation and development in line with what is being proposed would not be in keeping with this status.
- No vehicle access to any proposed development should be considered from Millfield Road to protect the character of this rural route as per policy DNP 12.3.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping**

E2 Employment Sites

Councillors support the proposal to retain SKPR-55 (DEP-E1) and SKPR-284 (DEP-SE1) as essential employment development sites. We object to any proposals that seek to change SKPR-55 into residential development on the grounds that: a) it is required for employment use and b) it is not needed for housing.

EN3 Green Infrastructure

Councillors welcome all proposals and policies to increase and improve Green Infrastructure for community health, wellbeing, active transport, improved connectivity with neighbouring settlements, and opportunities for enhancing the visitor economy. The Deepings Green Walk provides a long-term strategy for improving our local Green Infrastructure and all references and acknowledgement of this by SKDC and any developers will be appreciated.

EN6 The Historic Environment

This greater focus on historic assets is appreciated as there are currently many under-appreciated Heritage and Archaeological Assets within The Deepings area that are at risk due to proposed nearby developments affecting their context e.g. The Car Dyke.

DE1 Promoting Good Quality Design

Councillors are aware that the Deepings Neighbourhood Plan Group has commissioned a substantial project to produce a Design Code for The Deepings. This work is due to be completed in summer 2024. Deepings has experienced far too much ordinary and uninspiring development and the promotion of good design is a mission close to our hearts. We very much welcome the policies that support us to refuse development that is not well designed.

OS1 Open Space

Improved clarity and quantification of the types of Open Space will help to ensure a sufficient variety of open spaces are included in all development plans. Inclusion of 'Recreation' is helpful.

Policies still to be Reviewed

We await final versions for consideration once the position on Climate Change and Biodiversity Net Gain has been researched and the studies completed.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping**

Allocation SKPR-26 (Priory Farm Land, Deeping St. James) is a potentially acceptable site. We understand this allocation is supported by Deeping St James Parish Council.

H2 Affordable Housing Contributions

We welcome the update and trust that contributions will be proactively sought to deliver affordable housing in the Deepings.

H5 Gypsies and Travellers/H6 Travelling Showpeople

Although 'risk of flooding' is now included in policy EN5 and applicable across the Local Plan, we consider that the nature of traveller accommodation and the likelihood of independent foul water management within the sites, makes these communities particularly vulnerable to flood water and we wish to see this aspect remain as a key criterion in the assessment of sites. If suitable sites with acceptable facilities already exist, we would recommend initial expansion of these sites as a matter of policy in order to provide the additional pitches in a timely way.

SP4 Development on the Edge of Settlements

Councillors have queried whether this is a significant change from the previous version of the policy and consider that all development on the edge of settlements – employment and residential should be subject to the same tight restrictions and criteria as policy SP3.

John Hayes has written to Debbie Barnes asking for support regarding the Green Lane status for Millfield Road, which if granted will be the 1st quiet lane in Lincolnshire.

Village services & Facilities survey 2024

Cllr Dr Byrd explained that this was an additional piece of work to look at local amenities and suggested that a small working party was set up to complete the survey. It was **RESOLVED** that the party comprise the Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Cllr Dr Byrd, Cllr Shelton and Cllr Mrs Jones.

191. For members to consider locations for Electric vehicle chargers

A discussion took place regarding possible locations for fast charging electric vehicle chargers which were Coronation Hall Car Park, Eventus Centre, New River Retail car park, Community Centre.

Cllr Dr Byrd offered to feed back potential locations to SKDC.

192. For members to consider the Election of a new Councillor

As there has been no call to SKDC for an election to be held, it was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the cooption for a new Councillor at the full Council meeting dated 12th June 2024.

The deadline for applications from prospective new Councillors is 31st May 2024.

193. For members to consider meeting schedule for 2024/25

The meeting schedule for 2024/25 was reviewed and it was **RESOLVED** unanimously to accept the dates for 2024/25.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping**

194. For members to consider a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for The Spinney

As it is an area in which ashes are scattered, the Councillors feel that the PSPO is relevant and still needed. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to instruct the Clerk to contact SKDC to request that the PSPO is renewed.

195. For members to consider Grant Aid for Market Deeping Bowls Club

Cllr Mrs Sked proposed that a grant of £400 should be given with a further amount of £400 to be given if Deeping St James Parish Council (DSJPC) were not able to contribute, this was **RESOLVED** with 9 in favour and 1 against.

NB. DSJPC voted to contribute £500 at their meeting on 23rd April 2024.

196. For members to consider funding for the Green Walk

Cllr Dr Byrd explained that she had put in a funding application to SKDC for 20 wayfinding posts, 10 activity trail posts and a number of benches.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously, if the funding application is successful, to allocate £2,000 from the Planning and Highways budget (4498 -300 Benches and installation) towards 2 more benches on the Green Walk.

197. For members to discuss forthcoming events: Mayor's Civic Dinner (20.04.24) Annual Town Meeting (30.04.24), Civic Service (9.6.24) Funday Sunday (7.7.24) and Celebration event.

Cllr Broughton brought the dates of the above events to members attention:

Mayor's Civic Dinner (20.04.24) – The Clerk reported that plans were in full swing and that approximately 40 tickets had been sold.

Annual Town meeting (30.4.24) - The Clerk advised there would be presentations by Lincolnshire County Council Waste Officers, Market Deeping Army Cadets, Deepings Rotary Club, Citizens Advice Bureau (Foodbank), Deeping Neighbourhood Plan and Deeping Men in shed.

Stalls and displays are expected from Age Concern, The Lions, Deepings Men's Group and the Deepings Youth Group amongst others.

Civic Service (9.6.24) – Councillors were reminded of the date

Funday Sunday (7.7.24) - The Clerk reported that the insurance, Community 4 x4, Vehicle show, Police and fire presence, first aid provision and permission from LCC were in the process of being organised.

Cllr Shelton proposed a contribution of £1,000 towards The Funday Sunday and stated that Deeping St James Parish Council were going to contribute the same amount, this was seconded by Cllr Broughton, this was **RESOLVED** unanimously.

Celebration Event – Cllr Mrs Jones reported that she was in the process of obtaining 3 quotes for an information lectern at Cardyke. Cllr Mrs Jones will liaise with ex Cllr Mrs Redshaw regarding the wording and information to be displayed on it.

198. For members to consider and discuss any points raised in the public session

There were none

**Minutes of the Meeting of Market Deeping Town Council
Held on Wednesday 10 April 2024 at 7.30pm
At the Town Hall, Market Deeping**

199. Personnel Matters: Consideration to go into Closed Session to discuss: Staff Issues

The member of the public left at 8.55pm

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to go into Closed Session to discuss staffing issues.

Staff matters were discussed

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to end the Closed Session.

200. To consider items for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting of the Town Council, to be held at the Town Hall, Market Deeping on 8 May 2024.

The Chairman thanked all members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.00 pm. The next scheduled meeting of the Full Council will be held on Wednesday 8 May 2024.

Chairman's signature.....

Date.....