

## **NORTHAMPTON TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Community Services Meeting**

**Minutes of the meeting held at 18:00 on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 in the Committee Room at the  
Town Council's offices at the Northampton Guildhall**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Birch (Chair), Holland-Delamere (Deputy Chair), Fuchshuber, Hallam, Hibbert, Ismail, Marriott, Miah, Soan

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Mr S Carter (Town Clerk), Mrs J Thorneycroft (Asst. Town Clerk) and, Miss F Barford (Democratic Services Officer)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** David Smith (South Northants Community Responders)

#### **43. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been submitted by Cllrs Lane, G Eales, T Eales and Ashraf.

#### **44. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were made.

#### **45. To authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the last meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 and ask questions as to the progress of any items**

**RESOLVED:** That the Chair Cllr. Birch was authorised to sign the minutes of the Community Services meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

#### **46. To receive the minutes of from the last Grants Sub-Committee meeting held 6th April 2022 for consideration of their recommendations**

**RESOLVED:** The recommendations contained therein be adopted and approved.

In response to a question it was confirmed that Northampton Town Council will be contacting grant recipients to get feedback and to ensure funds awarded via the Community Grant Scheme (CGS) and the Councillors' Community Fund (CCF) were used for their intended purpose.

A discussion was held on whether amendments should be made to the guidance on the CCF, specifically grant applications being supported conjointly by two or more Town Councillors. It was highlighted applications had been submitted and supported conjointly by multiple Councillors through the CCF which maybe better suited to the CGS due to the funds benefitting the entirety of Northampton Town thereby, enabling the CFF to be solely used for organizations within Councillor's respective wards.

#### **47. Motion to consider installation of Bleed Control Cabinets**

Cllr Soan presented a motion to the Council asking it to support the provision of bleed kits in the town centre. Cllr. Soan explained to attendees the pertinence of knife crime and how sadly, a violent incident occurred in Northampton last week involving a knife.

The motion asked that Northampton Town Council consider working with partner organisations to install Bleed Control Kits within prominent areas of the town; assist our community partners to promote the rollout of Bleed Kits within the night-time economy; and assist our partners with educating residents on their location and use. Councillor Soan paid tribute to South Northants Community Responders (SNCR) and Off the Street Northampton for their assistance with compiling the report, in addition to providing education and a first-line response to residents.

Councillor Soan explained a small number of Bleed Kits were available in Northampton Town however, the majority were held within establishments that were subject to opening/closing times. The purpose of this motion was to provide publicly accessible Bleed Control Kits that were available 24/7 across Northampton town centre and could work in conjunction with the existing 20 defibrillator kits. The key benefit of the Bleed Kits were that they provide specialist supplies that limit the bleeding of those experiencing severe blood loss and enable the Emergency Services enough time to attend the scene. If the motion was passed Northampton Town Council will have a role in preventing a loss of life.

Mr David Smith, the Scheme Co-ordinator of SNCR presented the benefits of Bleed Kits and explained the purpose of each individual item. The Bleed Kits contained:

- Informational card that explains the purpose and instructions.
- Pressure dressing containing haemostatic powder
- Tourniquet kit
- Russel Chest Seal
- Scissors
- Gloves

Mr Smith provided an informative presentation and explained the pressure dressing contains haemostatic powder, that penetrates deep inside and coagulates the wound to prevent catastrophic blood loss which is the main cause of loss of life. The Tourniquet kit could be utilised on wounds inflicted on the upper and lower limbs. The Russel Chest Seal that covers wounds inflicted on the chest allowing air escape without being drawn back in thereby preventing the lungs from collapsing. The contents of Bleed Control Kits had a lifespan of 5 years.

Mr Smith further explained that SNCR intends to provide training to local community partners and establishments to demonstrate the benefits and use of Bleed Control Kits. A concern was raised on how the public would know how to implement the contents of Bleed Control Kits however, it was stated the Emergency Operators of 999 lines would talk them through their use. It was acknowledged by Councillors, if this motion was passed multiple steps would be required for example, costing, procurement and education since visibility alone would not be sufficient.

In response to a question Mr Smith affirmed that SNCR are a voluntary and non-affiliated organization who hope to partner with Northampton Town Council and community partners to deliver Bleed Control Kits, and ensure services are not duplicating effort. Mr Smith further explained there was a growing demand for Bleed Control Kits within communities with local groups fundraising for them to be installed in their area. It was posed by a Councillor that some Councillors could fund the installation of Bleed Control Kits within their individual wards via their CCF grants.

It was posed by a Councillor that the redundant Phone Boxes could potentially house Bleed Control Kits however, they acknowledged the Phone Boxes fall within West Northamptonshire Council's remit and, Northampton Town Council would have to work in partnership or acquire them. Councillors acknowledged if the motion passed, the roll-out of Bleed Control Kits would require a multifaceted approach of visibility, accessibility, proximity and, education on their use. Another Councillor raised if the motion was passed local community groups should be consulted to determine the most appropriate locations to install Bleed Control Kits to make sure adequate spacing between them, and ensure areas are left with little to no access.

The amendments to Councillor Soan's motions included partnership with all agencies and partners, since Northampton Town's community have a joint goal of removing knives and saving lives. A concern was raised by a Councillor that May 2022 is a short deadline to implement the motion if passed, Councillor Soan concurred and the deadline would be amended at a later date.

**RESOLVED:** All Councillors agreed to pass the motion and do some further groundwork to implement Bleed Control Kits in Northampton Town.

#### **48. Events Update for 2022/2023**

The Assistant Town Clerk advised the Northampton Town Council was close to finalizing the Events Agreement Plan, that will enable the transfer of events and funds from WNC. Bands in the Park was currently underway with 2 of the 23 bands have already performed on the Bandstand at the Abington Park furthermore. The Town Council had utilised social media channels and the two notice boards outside the park for promotion.

Northampton Town Council was currently focused on Eid in the Racecourse event which would occur on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2022, the event consists of a Marquee that will be opened by the Mayor for the public and entertainment would be provided. Another large scale event in Northampton was the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Parade however, Northampton Town Council had minimal involvement with this. Northampton Town Council would host a Tea Party which was coming together with the venue all booked.

It was explained that with regards to carnival Northampton Town Council would be supporting the event as NBC had done to ensure waste and litter was collected in addition to security.

Meetings had been held for Pride, Party in the Park and Diwali to discuss the arrangements. With regards to Pride, the Assistant Town Clerk explained the event was a collaborative operation and at present the Town Council had not been asked by the organizers to provide funding or sponsorship however, funds were available.

It was noted that the company that supplies fireworks for Bonfire Night have been booked for 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

Finally, it was reported that quotes had been received for 3 large Christmas Trees with two for the Guildhall and another displayed in the Town Centre. In response to question about Christmas Trees at the Guildhall the Assistant Town Clerk explained it had been a tradition during the former Northampton Borough Council and the new Northampton Town Council have continued to do so.

The Assistant Town Clerk was thanked for her report.

#### **49. Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

The Chair gave a verbal update and explained that Northampton Town Council would host an afternoon tea at the Guildhall between 4pm-6pm, in which the invitations had been sent to CCF and Community Grants Scheme recipients and from today (11<sup>th</sup> April 2022) invitations will be issue to Councillors with tickets to be provided to residents or community groups in their wards at a later date.

Father Koss of All Saints Church was attempting to arrange a Queen's Platinum Jubilee Service that Councillors would be invited to, it was appreciated by the Chair that some Councillors may have pre-existing engagements and be unable to attend.

**NOTED**

#### **50. Covid Memorial**

The attendees were provided a briefing pack with information and conceptual designs from the Students of the University of Northampton. The Chair had attended their first presentation and it was agreed an engagement event would take place on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022 at 5:30pm for interested councillors to ask questions and provide feedback. It was highlighted by the Chair the design circulated within are conceptual and may change once implemented in practice.

The importance of engaging with the residents of Northampton who experienced loss during the Covid-19 pandemic was highlighted. The Chair advised that it was intended that the designs submitted by students would be reviewed and whittled down to a few that are practical and financially feasible, once this had occurred residents who had experienced loss, medical staff, faith groups and those who had funded the project would be consulted. The Chair explained students had received input from Health Care and Trauma Specialists to assist with the creation of their designs.

**NOTED**

#### **51. Multi Faith Covid Memorial Church Service**

The previous discussion of hosting a Multi-Faith Covid Memorial Church Service was held last year and it was requested Councillors provide their thoughts. The Chair explained the initial service was delayed due to the Covid infection prevention and control measures. It was further explained that the main purpose of the service was to recognise those who have experienced loss, sacrifices and contributions made by the residents of Northampton. It was posed that a delegation could be invited whose lives have changed due to the Covid pandemic to highlight the resilience of our communities. It was raised by Councillors that as the event was proposed to be multi-faith an outdoor venue may be preferable.

It was commented that the Inter Faith Forum should be consulted and may be interested in organising a service on behalf of the town and with the Council's support.

**RESOLVED:** That the Council approach the Inter Faith Forum about organising a multi faith covid memorial service.

At the end of the meeting it was commented that the Rotary club had contacted Councillors regarding the Northampton Dragon Boat Race due to be held at Midsummer Meadow and potentially require Northampton Town Council to support the event.

**MEETING CONCLUDED AT 19:17**

Signed ..... (Chair)

