

Chairman's report for September 2017 Council meeting

14 August

On the invitation of Oakham Town partnership, The Vice Chairman and myself attended an informal meeting with the OTP board to discuss the possibility of OTC and OTP working together for the benefit of the community. Since then OTP have requested that Cllr Haley, with Cllr Ind deputising, join the OTP management board, representing OTC. A paper has been prepared for Council's consideration.

20 August

I opened the final 2017 OTC Band in the Park event in Cutt's Close. This was well attended and I would like to thank the Promotions and Publicity working group and in particular Cllr Wadsworth, for all their hard work in arranging these events throughout the summer.

31 August

The Governor of Stoken Prison invited the Mayor to open a new bistro within the prison. The bistro provides an area for relaxation and refreshments for staff on a commercial basis. It is staffed by prisoners who also produce all the food that is sold. This enables prisoners to work towards achieving NVQ industry recognised qualifications such as Barista. This fits in with the prison's system of encouraging prisoners to work, train and improve their educational attainment.

1 September 2017

The Vice Chairman and myself attended an informal quarterly meeting with the Leader, Deputy leader and Chief Executive of RCC. Notes of the meeting will be circulated in due course.

5 September 2017

The Vice Chairman and myself attended a Rutland branch LRALC meeting. Minutes will be circulated in due course.

In recent weeks the Chairman and Vice Chairman have held a number of meetings with various organisations. It is clear that these are interesting times for the Town Council with a potential for OTC to receive additional income from the Community Charge levy that has replaced Section 106 income. OTC will receive 15% of the CCL that is levied on new builds and extensions within the parish boundary. This increase to 25% following ratification of the Neighbourhood Plan. The general view is that OTC might have better input if there was a policy in place to inform these opportunities. A list of topics that could be beneficial:

OTC 5 year development Plan

Town centre improvements / Market Square

One Centre hub

CCTV (Oakham)

You will be asked for your views on moving forward so that the Town Council is at the vanguard of discussions affecting the town and develops sustainable and deliverable plans for the use of CCL income.

It is alleged that Police officers provided details of a bank account holder gained from a sort code and account number. This related to a payment of £18,000.00 made by resolution of Council, details of which are contained within exempt minutes. The payment is subject to a legally binding, non-disclosure agreement. In consultation with the Vice Chairman, Clerk and consultant Clerk, it was agreed that I should write to the Chief Constable of Leicestershire Police outlining the allegation and seeking a response before bringing this matter to Council for deliberation. The Chief Constable has replied denying that this information was provided and in light of this I will not be bringing a paper to Council.