



Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP.

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Minutes of the **MEETING of the PARISH COUNCIL FORUM** held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP on Monday, 29th January, 2018 at 7.00 pm

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Mr K Bool – Chairman of the Council (in the Chair)

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SPEAKERS:	Mr S Della Rocca	Assistant Director – Finance, Rutland County Council
	Mr R Littlejohns Mr M Andrews	Barrowden Parish Council Deputy Director for People – Rutland County Council
CLERK TO THE FORUM:	Mr K Silcock	Corporate Support Officer
APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:	Mrs M Towel	Burley Parish Meeting
	Mr N Milne	Edith Weston Parish Council
	Mr P Ind	Oakham Town Council
	Mr A Lowe	Oakham Town Council
	Mrs M Gallacher	Pickworth Parish Meeting
	Mr E Baines	Rutland County Council (Martinsthorpe Ward)
	Mrs H Briggs	Chief Executive, Rutland County Council
	Mr O Hemsley	Acting Leader, Rutland County Council
Mr I Munro	Stoke Dry Parish Meeting	
Mr R Simpson	Uppingham Town Council	

1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

The Chairman welcomed all parish representatives to the first Parish Council Forum of the year.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received as listed above.

3 NOTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Notes of the Parish Council Forum held on 2 October 2017 were confirmed by parish representatives and signed by the Chairman.

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

At the last Parish Council Forum there was a presentation regarding the Electoral Review. The Local Government Boundary Commission for England's consultation for the Electoral review ends on 19th February 2018, with any comments to be sent directly to them.

It was noted that the latest letter submitted by Rutland County Council could be found on the Council website at:

<http://rutlandcounty.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=145&MId=1652>

5 "TALKBACK"

- i. Mr Derek Palmer – Exton and Horn Parish Council raised concern regarding street light compensations. Rutland County Council had offered compensation for all updated street lights. Exton had replaced 18 lights in 2012-18, which in total cost £12,500. The total compensation received was £2888, which came to 23% of the original cost. Mr Palmer felt that this was not a fair compensation. The Chair noted that he would pass this on to the relevant person.
- ii. Mr Paul Cummins – North Luffenham read out a statement regarding the development of St George's Barracks.

Please find the full statement attached.

- iii. Mr David Hodson – Greetham Parish Council noted that the current Local Plan did not take into consideration new developments such as St George's Barracks. It was asked whether the development would be in addition to the number of new houses proposed in the Local Plan or would it be taking some of the development proposed.

The Chair noted clarification would be sought.

Post meeting comment from Mr Roger Ranson – Planning Policy Manager (RCC):

There is no definitive answer to this question at the present time. Currently, we do not have any certainty on the nature, quantity, potential timing, and impact on infrastructure to determine what we can include in

the new Local Plan. These matters are being considered alongside the Government's recent consultation on housing need. We will be producing a new version of the Local Plan which will be subject to consultation under Regulation 19 of the Local Plan regulations and so will look to brief the Parish Forum at the appropriate time.

- iv. Mr Jake Atkinson – Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils mentioned that in response to feedback from Parishes, there would be two training events held at Rutland County Council, one would be Councillor Training that would take place on 30th August. Details of which could be found at the following website:

<http://www.leicestershireandrutlandalc.gov.uk/councillor-training.html>

The next General Data Protection/Freedom of Information training would take place on 24th September 2018, 10am-1pm. Further details could be found at the following website:

<http://www.leicestershireandrutlandalc.gov.uk/data-protection-and-freedom-of-i.html>

The new General Data Protection Regulations would come into effect on 25th May 2018. A 12 step guide to the new regulations can be found at the following website:

<https://ico.org.uk/media/1624219/preparing-for-the-gdpr-12-steps.pdf>

6 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Mr Sav Della Rocca – Assistant Director (Finance) for Rutland County Council, provided the Forum with an overview of the Rutland County Council Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan.

Please find the full presentation attached.

The following points were noted:

- i. More information could be found on fly-tipping in the quarterly annual performance reports that the Council publishes. If land with fly-tipping is owned by Rutland County Council, then the Council would remove it, however if the land was not owned by the Council, then the land owner would need to remove it themselves.
- ii. The Council does monitor general waste, if there was an increase spike in general waste after the cost to green waste collection was introduced, the Council would investigate.
- iii. Concerning the proposed increase in “Council Tax” of 4.99% 3% of the increase is general Council tax, the remaining 2% was for Social Care.
- iv. Various deputations had been sent to Westminster regarding gaining additional funding from Government.
- v. Any profits generated from units at Oakham Enterprise Park (OEP) would subsidise other services.

Further questions could be forwarded on to Mr Della Rocca at sdrocca@rutland.gov.uk

7 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND BUILDING CONTROL

Mr Richard Littlejohns gave a presentation regarding the gap between local authority Development Control and privatised Building Control bodies; problems arising from the separation of the planning process from building regulations.

Please find the transcript of the presentation attached.

During discussion the following points were noted:

- i. It was noted that the Sustainable Community Act was extended to cover Parishes a few years ago. It was a route for Parishes to forward suggestions to the Government.

Further information regarding the Sustainable Community Act and how to submit proposals can be found at the link below:

<http://www.leicestershireandrutlandalc.gov.uk/news/2013/10/parish-council-ability-to-make-and-submit-proposals-to-government-under-sustainable-communities-act>

- ii. This was a national issue, not just Rutland. The Planning department at Rutland have to work from inherited rules from Government.
- iii. It was suggested to raise concerns in the form of a report from the Parish Council Forum, and push it through the Sustainable Community Act.
- iv. Mr Bacon, Clipsham Parish Meeting, proposed the setting up of a Task and Finish Group, to investigate what could be done within RCC to improve the communications between the Development Control department and Building Control Services, so that similar situations to those experienced by Barrowden can be avoided in future. The Task and Finish Group would also raise their concerns in the form of a report from the Parish Council Forum, and push it through the Sustainable Community Act.

Those interested in being a part of the Task and Finish Group, should forward on their interest to Rutland County Councillor Gordon Brown at gbrown@rutland.gov.uk

8 PARISH BRIEFING PAPER

The Parish Briefing Paper for 29 January 2018 was circulated at the meeting.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Mark Andrews, Deputy Director for People at Rutland County Council gave an update regarding the Rutland One Public Estate.

There were concerns on the future of health services in Rutland, with NHS England only planning 3-5 years in advance. NHS money and Capital Investment is currently

limited and something was needed to be done. The Council would look at the public estate owned by the Health, Police, and Fire Service, and would see if it was possible to use the land in a different way. The land value of certain places could be used to reinvest back into development. The One Public Estate would look to bring services to one site, integrated reception areas, and staff working together.

The Council was looking to involve the community, and would look at community participation groups where people would be able to speak on behalf of communities. Mr Andrews mentioned that the Council wished to involve parishes in discussions, however it was noted that it wasn't possible for all to be on the group, but representations were welcome.

Mr Andrews asked that those interested in getting involved with discussions regarding the future of health services in Rutland, forward on their interest to governance@rutland.gov.uk

10 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 16 April 2018

Potential agenda items for the Parish Council Forum should be sent to Governance Team, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Rutland, LE15 6HP, or emailed to governance@rutland.gov.uk

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

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PARISH COUNCIL FORUM
Monday 29 January 2018, 7.00PM

ATTENDANCE LIST

NAME	REPRESENTING
Mr Kenneth Bool	Chairman
Mr Christopher Marsland	Barleythorpe Parish Council
Mr Richard Littlejohns	Barrowden Parish Council
Mrs Susan Pickworth	Barrowden Parish Council
Mrs Sheila Saunders	Barrowden Parish Council
Mr Hugh Neill	Belton in Rutland Parish Council
Mr Chris Bichard	Braunston Parish Council
Mr Derek Harrington	Brooke Parish Meeting
Mr Cliff Bacon	Clipsham Parish Meeting
Mr John Meara	Cottesmore Parish Council
Mr Chris Donovan	Cottesmore Parish Council
Mr Derek Palmer	Exton & Horn Parish Council
Mr John Pitts	Exton & Horn Parish Council
Mr David Hodson	Greetham Parish Council
Dr Janet Higgins	Langham Parish Council
Mr Jake Atkinson	Leicestershire & Rutland Association of Local Councils
Mrs Linda Ryder	Market Overton Parish Council
Mr Lawrence Webster	Market Overton Parish Council
Prof Stuart Sanderson	Market Overton Parish Council
Mr Christopher Renner	Normanton Parish Meeting
Mr Paul Cummings	North Luffenham Parish Council
Mrs Joyce Lucas	Oakham Town Council
Mr Nick Begy	Rutland County Council (Greetham Ward)
Mr Gordon Brown	Rutland County Council (Ketton Ward)
Mrs Stella Smith	Ryhall & Belmesthorpe Parish Council
Mr Victor Bacon	South Luffenham Parish Council
Mrs Patricia Bellamy	South Luffenham Parish Council
Mrs Susan Sewell	South Luffenham Parish Council
Mr Michael Clatworthy	Tickencote Parish Meeting
Mr David Jarvis	Tinwell Parish Meeting
Mr Dave Casewell	Uppingham Town Council
Mrs Pat Lake	Whissendine Parish Council

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NLPC/EWPC/St George's Barracks

4 February 2018

Governance Team
Rutland County Council
Catmose
OAKHAM
LE15 6HP
(By email: governance@rutland.gov.uk)

**STATEMENT TO PARISH COUNCIL FORUM ON MON 29 JANUARY 2018
BY CLLR PBG CUMMINGS - CHAIR NORTH LUFFENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
ON BEHALF OF NORTH LUFFENHAM AND EDITH WESTON PARISH
COUNCILS**

I would wish to bring to your attention the current proposals being developed by the County Council in Partnership with the Ministry of Defence concerning the development of St George's Barracks following the closure of the barracks in 2020/21. MOD and RCC are working in partnership under a Memorandum of Understanding which is now available on the RCC web site - please do look it up: (<https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-council/st-georges/>)

The current proposals are to bring the 300 hectare brownfield site forward for development. The County Council believe that regardless of RCC involvement the site will be brought forward as a development site based on a need for new homes and a capital receipt for the MOD

We have been advised that the development is being designed to replicate a Rutland village community. "The homes we will create will be at a density appropriate for the location and a mix of sizes to suit all needs." However rather than a typical Rutland Village Community, what is actually being planned is a development of up to 2,000 new homes, which cannot be considered to be a typical Rutland Village – a new village that will be larger than Uppingham, planned in addition to the homes required under the draft local plan. In addition a huge extension of the Ketton limestone quarry is planned for almost a third of the 300 hectare site.

It is essential that we are all aware of the scale of this development and the impact that it will have upon the County as a whole. Most importantly it is vital that promised infrastructure improvements are put in place ahead of the proposed development. This will involve enhancements to the roads surrounding the area and access to both A47 and A1 trunk roads. 2,000 homes is likely to bring an additional 3,000 cars onto our roads, concentrated in a very small area. We are all aware of the difficulties already in parking in Oakham and Uppingham, let alone Stamford. If such a massive development is to take place we must consider infrastructure enhancements in the broadest possible way. We need to aware of the impact that this will have on Schools, Medical

Facilities, Social Services etc. Clearly investment in jobs on the site is essential in parallel with the proposed development. I would ask you to consider how we are to find sufficient jobs to meet the needs of 2,000 families, without increasing the number of people commuting to work outside the County.

It is therefore essential that we are all aware of the scale of the proposed development and indeed the potential impact that it will have not only upon Edith Weston and North Luffenham but every community within the area. An initial master plan for the site is proposed to be prepared by Mid March, so do please ensure that your representatives are aware of the concerns that such a development will have on our small rural County.

PAUL CUMMINGS
NL Parish Council Chairman

NORMAN MILNE
EW Parish Council Chairman



BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN - LATEST

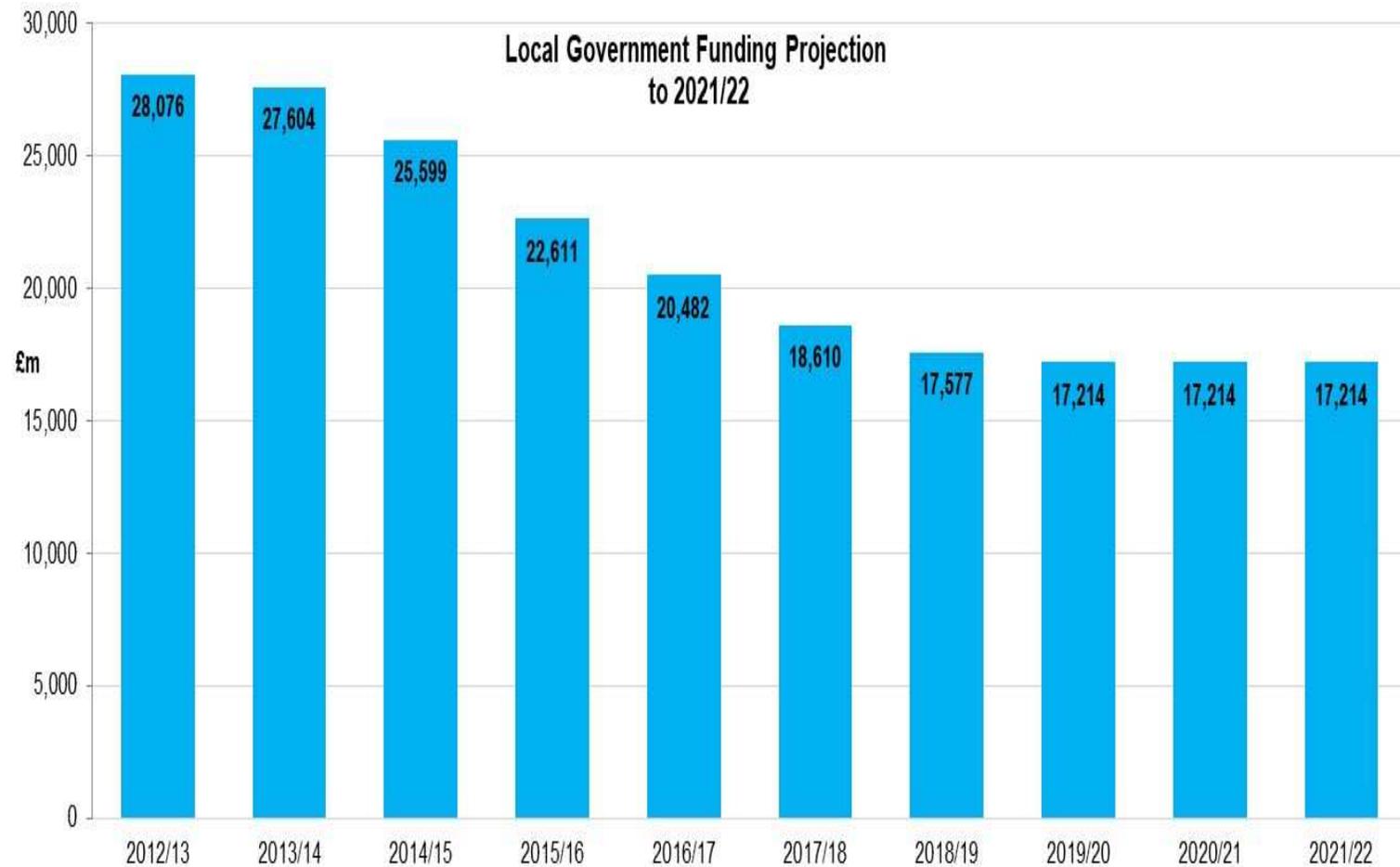


National Funding position

- 4 year settlement to 19/20 in place
- 4 year settlement includes substantial reductions to Government funding
- 4 year settlement assumes Councils will raise Council tax
- No significant new funding for local government
- Opportunity to raise general council tax by 3% rather than 2% as well as a precept for adult social care of 2%
- Position beyond 19/20 unclear



National funding projections



Rutland overview - funding

- 4 year funding offer confirmed (RSG, Transition grant, Rural Delivery grant).
- Rural grant was due to decrease by c£157k but has not
- Main grant was £888k but is now £0. It was c£4m in 15/16.
- Our total Government funding is down by £1.5m
- Better Care Fund continues at same rate as prior year, c£2m
- Council tax rises of 4.99% will net an additional £1.6m
- Our total funding available is £34.28m (was £34.36m last year)





Rutland overview - funding

- Increasing dependency on Council tax
- If Council tax was not raised, losses are significant
- Even with tax rises, we don't have more to spend with inflation at 3.1% and social care demand increasing

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Main government funding	(3,537,109)	(1,906,180)	(680,891)	277,427
Other grants/rates	(8,407,046)	(9,045,824)	(8,808,666)	(8,922,155)
Total government funding	(11,944,155)	(10,952,004)	(9,489,557)	(8,664,728)
Council tax (inc collection fund and social care precept)	(22,172,000)	(23,412,155)	(24,800,222)	(26,168,275)
Total resources	(34,116,155)	(34,364,159)	(34,289,779)	(34,813,003)

2018/19 Budget

- Spending is £34.318m, compared to £32.295m prior year (6.2% higher but includes some one off items)
- Includes >£1m extra cost to meet new demands
 - Transport - £88k – additional demand and changes in needs
 - Children with disabilities - £199k – increased demand
 - Social care placements - £90k – savings anticipated not achievable as VFM already achieved
 - Fostering and Adoption - £323k – increased demand
- Includes £1.3m of savings/extra income
 - Highways - £300k – efficiencies and reviewing planned/reactive split
 - Green Waste - £220k – introduction of charging like neighbours



2018/19 Budget

- Other pressures
 - Inflation (general and pensions) - £945k
 - pay award of 2%+ (negotiated nationally) - £340k
- Council tax proposal of 4.99% (2% for social care)
 - Current Council tax is **£29.75** a week for average property
 - With 4.99% will be **£31.23** a week
 - Extra cost is **£1.48** a week (about £77 a year)
 - If you are on low income and get support then max you pay per week is £7.81 in total (37p a week more)
- The Council is using £248k from its General Fund and £562k from earmarked reserves to support the budget



Rutland challenge

- By 20/21 Council spending £1.5m more than available resources
- By 20/21 General Fund balances reduce to £6.5m
- Uncontrollable costs increasing – inflation, pension fund contributions, demand for social care
- Government funding – under review - not likely to increase
- Council's response includes:
 - Looking at invest to save capital projects – generating revenue income
 - More savings (getting harder given we are low cost)
 - Focus on growth



Abbreviated MTFP



	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
	Q2 Forecast	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed
	£	£	£	£	£	£
People	17,956,000	18,135,900	17,811,800	18,118,700	18,528,600	18,961,600
Places	12,166,000	12,033,100	12,083,600	12,361,200	12,635,100	12,909,900
Resources	5,859,000	5,906,400	6,030,900	6,112,400	6,217,400	6,326,700
Net spending	36,294,365	35,752,944	35,915,227	36,823,977	37,870,169	38,932,369
<u>Resources</u>						
Government funding subtotal	(10,952,004)	(9,489,557)	(8,644,728)	(7,767,664)	(7,634,455)	(7,505,271)
Council Tax/Social care precept	(23,242,155)	(24,870,222)	(26,168,275)	(27,462,455)	(28,803,675)	(30,194,909)
Collection fund surplus	(170,000)	70,000	0	0	0	0
Total available Resources	(34,364,159)	(34,289,780)	(34,813,003)	(35,230,119)	(36,438,130)	(37,700,181)
Use of Govt grant/Income Received	(238,000)	(302,600)	(175,600)	(133,600)	(96,000)	(36,000)
Earmarked Reserve	(996,000)	(562,300)	(306,900)	(11,600)	(38,600)	(38,600)
Ringfenced reserves	73,000	(350,400)	(35,000)	0	0	0
Use of General Fund Balances	769,206	247,864	584,724	1,448,658	1,297,439	1,157,588
Balance brought forward	(9,634,546)	(8,865,340)	(8,617,476)	(8,032,752)	(6,584,094)	(5,286,654)
Transfer of Fund to Earmarked Reserves						
Balance carried forward	(8,865,340)	(8,617,476)	(8,032,752)	(6,584,094)	(5,286,654)	(4,129,066)

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Presentation to Rutland Parish Forum, 29 January 2018

Development Control and Building Control

A gap exists between these two functions which Barrowden Parish Council stumbled upon recently while dealing with a controversial planning application and in the light of a very helpful briefing on planning procedures given to the Council jointly with Ketton Parish Council by Gary Pullan of RCC. On the one hand, there is the planning process operated by local authorities, i.e. development control, and, on the other and quite separately, the oversight of building regulations, i.e. building control, which some years ago was largely privatised.

It may help to start with two examples of the problem. First, on the planning side. If an application were to be submitted now to build a residential tower block with the type of cladding which caused the Grenfell Tower blaze, local authority planning officers would not necessarily reject it. This is simply because the cladding would be a building control issue and thus not part of the remit of planners.

Secondly, in relation to building control, and a case much nearer home. In Ketton a dwelling under construction exceeded the roof level approved by planners by approaching two metres. However, if building control inspectors had spotted this infringement of planning conditions, they would have had no reason, in fact no channel, for reporting it, since they have no duty to monitor adherence to planning conditions. In this case it was only through the vigilance of residents that the problem was brought to the attention of the County Council. You may think it regrettable that neighbours are thus forced to act as vigilantes.

In considering planning applications local authorities have no remit to take account of building control issues such as fire risk. Conversely, building control bodies have no duty to ensure that development takes place in accordance with the approved plans or with the conditions attached to planning permission. This lack of liaison or cross-referencing is clearly detrimental.

Moreover, building control bodies appear to operate without accessibility or accountability to the general public, so that neither transparency nor

impartiality are ensured. There is no means by which members of the public or bodies such as parish councils can alert building control to worrying features of planning applications. In the recent case in Barrowden there was a crucial error in maps appended to a planning application, which had a bearing on fire hazard. However, there was no means by which this inaccuracy could be brought to the attention of building control, indeed no means even of discovering which building control body might eventually be handling the case.

At the same time, we are told by planners that inaccuracies of this kind are not necessarily taken into consideration when decisions on applications are taken. So there appears to be no mechanism by which such discrepancies can be picked up. They fall between two stools, in fact between all stools.

In Barrowden Parish Council's view there is a strong case for ending the division of responsibility between planning bodies and building control by again placing both functions within the remit of local authorities, thus ensuring cross-checking in house. Alternatively, it should be a requirement that building control bodies ensure that development proceeds in general accordance with the approved plans and conditions.

On behalf of Barrowden Parish Council I wrote to Sir Alan Duncan in early November 2017 about this matter, and he referred it to Alok Sharma MP, the Minister for Housing and Planning at the Department for Communities and Local Government. To date we have not received any further communication on the subject.

We appreciate that this is a problem which can only be fully resolved at governmental level and that we are not the only body to have drawn attention to it. But we believe that it is only by highlighting the issue frequently at every level that it will be addressed.

Richard Littlejohns, Clerk

Barrowden Parish Council

