

**Minutes of Uppingham Town Council Full Council meeting,
held at Uppingham Town Hall on Wednesday 9th November 2022 at 7.00 pm**

Present, Liz Clarke (Chair), David Ainslie, David Casewell, Christine Edwards, Barry Hobbs, Sam Findlay, Mike Fish, Pete Rees, Ron Simpson

RCCLr Stephen Lambert and 8 members of the public.

The Town Clerk Sharon W Coe and the Administration Assistant Cynthia Ondeng were also in attendance.

375/22

Mayor's opening remarks

The Mayor Cllr Clarke welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Mayor commented upon the successful twinning events that had taken place where she delivered a speech in French to honour our guests. A picture had been given to the town from Caudebec en Caux and we had reciprocated with the Rutland horseshoe. The Mayor had also attended a first responders fund raising event. The poppies were up in Town for the remembrance events. Three of our Uppingham public houses had achieved a CAMRA award and feature in the Good Beer Guide. This is good news for our Tourism. Some items were going to be moved around on the agenda. Item 11 will be taken with item 6b. Item 6A will be discussed in the confidential information pertaining to individual staff members.

376/22

Apologies for absence

It was proposed by Cllr Casewell, seconded by Cllr Edwards, that the apologies from Cllrs Clayton, Pallet, Thompson, Reeve, and Shaw were accepted. **Resolved unanimously.**

377/22

Declaration of members' interests and applications for dispensation.

Non-pecuniary Interests were declared by Cllrs Ainslie and Edwards on item 15 2022/1231/FUL as neighbours. Non-pecuniary interests were also declared by Cllr Fish in item 9, Cllr Hobbs declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 9A.

378/22

An opportunity for the public to speak, in accordance with standing orders 2.3.4. – 2.3.9

The members of the public raised the following views -

A question was asked about the status of the skatepark. The Mayor explained that this was being investigated and actively worked on by the amenities committee.

RCCLr Lambert wanted to raise awareness of the Cost-of-Living support information held on Rutland County Council website, hard copies will also be available at the library. RCCLr will let the Clerk have an email confirming the details.

The Mayor thanked the members of the public for their input and invited them to stay for the rest of the meeting if they so wished.

379/22

To approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting of 5th October 2022.
Proposed by Cllr Rees, seconded by Cllr Casewell, **resolved unanimously**

380/22

To receive minutes and recommendations from the Council's Committees.
Item 6b and item 11 taken together.

NPAG Minutes and updated Maps

The Mayor introduced the item by explaining that minor amendments had been made last night at the NPAG meeting. All Councillors had been given a paper copy of the DNP as they entered the meeting. The Mayor reflected on the hard work that had led us to this point. It was the view that this was the best that the plan could be in the view of our consultant and would pass the technical requirements laid out in procedures. The Mayor explained that she hoped that at the Council meeting in December that we would be able to sign this document off as agreed, and therefore this gave members three weeks to absorb and read the information contained before going to Regulation 14, this would then go to consultation and all comments made publicly would be considered. Cllr Ainslie overviewed the SEA and HRA assessment. A meeting was being held with AECOM on the 10th November to see if the results could be available for the next council meeting on the 7th December if at all possible.

Proposed Cllr Simpson, Seconded Cllr Rees. **Resolved unanimously.**

A further resolution was suggested that Council are happy to send the report as received by Council tonight to the SEA.

Proposed Cllr Casewell, seconded Cllr Rees. **Resolved unanimously.**

A resolution was also made to agree the maps that had been produced by Uppingham School to form part of the Reg 14 document previously referred to.

Proposed By Cllr Rees, seconded Cllr Fish. **Resolved unanimously.**

381/22

To receive the Clerk's report and any recommendations/actions therein.

The Clerk gave a verbal report.

Items covered:

Finance up to date on the system.

Weeds and odd jobs have been completed around the TH.

Plea for heating in Clerk's office.

Some room hirers were not respecting the TH and the flooring. She was following this up and some push back was being received.

Community speedwatch – feedback was given and reinforced that 12 volunteers were needed.

Thank you to Cllr Casewell for finally getting the Poor's Charity to meet. The Town Clerk merely offers clerking duties to this charity.

Still chasing the HSSI grant through Locality and Groundworks, to enable payment. Cynthia is booked into training for the Allotments to allow the system to be fully utilised.

We also have issues with the Flagpole on the TH. It may be that we must replace this or get in a cherry picker for safety whilst we investigate the issue. It was planned to ask the electricians to look at this when they are putting up the Christmas Lights.

The mayor thanked The Clerk for her verbal report and the hard work that had been put into the office by the Clerk and Cynthia.

382/22

To receive the financial reports and reconciliation statements for the months Apr- September following input to the upgraded software, and an update on the informal working party meeting held on the 4th November.

Cllr Findlay gave an overview; we were in a good position.

Cllrs Findlay and Ainslie explained the thinking around the budget going forwards. We were trying to balance the hardships being faced by everyone with the possible increases in precept. Cllr Ainslie explained we were keen tonight to hear how members wished the Finance committee and the Clerk to start their deliberations to get a direction of travel. The LRALC document was discussed. We have a stratagem to address a possible flat budget in as much as we have a certain amount of CIL monies (which needed to be spent prior to 2024) which could be used to address certain areas, such as development of the TH including renovation of the kitchen, which should be capital spending.

Cllr Findlay was looking at a budget which would be brought back to this council. Cllr Simpson also mentioned the Doctor's surgery which was also a priority. We could be looking at £1.2m in extra CIL money coming into the Council.

It was resolved the CIL monies were used wherever possible legally to alleviate the pressures on the budget.

Proposed Cllr Findlay, seconded Cllr Ainslie. **Resolved unanimously**

383/22

To consider the grant applications from Uppingham Bowls Club and Root and Branch.

Uppingham Bowls Club

The Clerk overviewed the grant application to restore and make safe the brick wall in front of the bowls club. The grant is for £2,000. It fits with the grants policy. Cllr Ainslie suggested using the Community Chest CIL fund previously set up, this was agreed to be a good use of the funds as it fitted with both a community facility and also infrastructure streams.

Proposed Cllr Ainslie, Seconded Cllr Rees (8 for, 1 abstention)

Root and Branch

The Clerk overviewed the grant application, Ramsey Ross had withdrawn his previous application, but had been working with Root and Branch who operated the community fridge from the TH. The idea is now to have a souper space and low-cost cooking course. This would run initially as a pilot and hopefully develop into a permanent offer. The idea is to use the left over produce to produce soup in a slow cooker which would be served with the bread from the community fridge, which would otherwise be destined to landfill. The initial cost would be £750. This is also fits with grants policy as Root and Branch are constituted so can offer proper legal protection. Cllr Fish has been actively working on this application and will not take part on the vote. Cllr Casewell will also not vote due to volunteering.

A slight amendment was proposed that we give the full amount of £750 requested but this is not to go towards staffing costs.

Proposed Cllr Ainslie, Seconded Cllr Edwards. (7 for, 2 abstentions)

384/22

To consider the siting of the outdoor gym equipment on Tod's Piece.

There had been some feedback that this should be reverted to the Gainsborough Road side of Tod's Piece. There would need to be some consultation with the Scout hut (brownies) to ensure that they were happy with the change in location. We need to bring this to a conclusion, so were members happy to let the Clerk negotiate this with the suppliers/brownies to locate the equipment to Gainsborough Road. Cllr Rees/Pallett would talk to the brownies as the Clerk was due to go on holiday. Cllr Fish wished the Clerk to minute that the young people using the skate park were not the problem with the ASB.

Proposed Cllr Rees, seconded Cllr Casewell. **Resolved unanimously.**

385/22

To receive a letter from the twinning association following the recent visit.

Cllr Rees read a report from Henry Dawe, who runs the twinning association. This report is produced in full as an addendum to these minutes. A fantastic weekend was enjoyed by all.

386/22

To consider the letter from RCC concerning the error made on the charging for the community lights.

The Clerk overviewed the letter received and read this to the Council. There was a miscalculation by RCC, and most Parish/Town Councils were only charged for 80% of the power used. UTC will shortly be receiving a new invoice which adjusts the 20/21 charge to the correct figure. Members were not happy with this, the Clerk pointed out that if a mistake had happened, we were liable for the costs, however she would want to see proof that the recalculations were based on the energy costs in 20/21 and not today's costs. The Clerk suggested that she write to RCC on this basis and asked members for their permission to do this.

Resolution. This item to be deferred until further information is received from RCC.

Proposed Cllr Simpson, seconded Cllr Ainslie **Resolved unanimously**

387/22

To consider a request from Leighfield School: would Uppingham Town Council be prepared to be a party to a new management committee to be set up to oversee community development.

One of the conditions of the grant (that wasn't taken up due to a private benefactor) was to provide a MUGA for the facility and include community usage of the same. The group will meet occasionally and would like a volunteer from the Town Council. Would any member like to volunteer? Council Hobbs would like to take on this responsibility.

Cllr Clarke proposed that Cllr Hobbs be our representative, seconded Cllr Rees, resolved unanimously.

The Clerk will add this to the Council appointments going forward.

388/22

To discuss planning applications:

2022/1120/FUL | Garage extension with home office above. | Bay House, 50 Firs Avenue, Uppingham, Rutland LE15 9RE.

<https://publicaccess.rutland.gov.uk/onlineapplications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=RJONP2NN00900>

Council thinks this would cause overdevelopment to the property. Council therefore doesn't approve this application.

Proposed Cllr Edwards, seconded Cllr Casewell. **Resolved unanimously**

2022/1231/FUL | Construction of a new front porch. Existing conservatory to be replaced with a new single storey structure. Relocation of existing side garden wall to the boundary. | Brook House 24 Lime Tree Avenue Uppingham Rutland LE15 9SS

<https://publicaccess.rutland.gov.uk/onlineapplications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=RKF0I5NNI3N00>

Council do not have any objections to the application.

Proposed Cllr Casewell, seconded Cllr Rees (7 for, 2 abstentions.)

2022/1173/FUL | Garage conversion incorporating single storey front extension and 2 no. roof lanterns. Single storey rear extension. Front Gates. | Springfield 74 Leicester Road Uppingham Rutland LE15 9SD

<https://publicaccess.rutland.gov.uk/onlineapplications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=RJKXNGNN00D00>

Council approves this application.

Proposed by Cllr Casewell, seconded by Cllr Hobbs **Resolved unanimously.**

2022/0946/FUL | Change of Use from Residence & Hotel to Residence and Three Flats. Replacement of existing extension with a single storey extension. | Garden Hotel 16 High Street West Uppingham Rutland LE15 9QD

<https://publicaccess.rutland.gov.uk/onlineapplications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=RHOV6QNNGVH00>

Council approves this application.

Proposed Cllr Casewell, seconded Cllr Hobbs (7 for 2 abstention)

2022/1235/FUL | 3 no. outbuildings, car store, raise existing garage roof, new fence, alterations to existing house to include canopy to South Elevation and changes to fenestration. | Knoll House London Road Uppingham Rutland LE15 9TJ

<https://publicaccess.rutland.gov.uk/onlineapplications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=RKGO2RNNI4V00>

Council approves this application.

Proposed Cllr Simpson, seconded Cllr Casewell.

389/22

Correspondence

Uppingham Town Beat – Police report - **NOTED**

Parking issues on Queens Road **NOTED**

Police and Crime Commissioner – Chief Constable recruitment update **NOTED**
Uppingham Fatstock Show **NOTED**

390/

To consider the following resolution **“that in view of the confidential nature of the following agenda item, the press and the public be excluded from the meeting, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, section 1”**

Staffing.

All confidential text has been removed.

There being no further business, the Mayor closed the meeting at 9.18pm

SignedMayor/Chair of Council.

Dated