

## Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group

### Minutes of meeting held at Uppingham Town Hall on 29 July 2021 at 7.30pm **DRAFT**

**Present:** Chris Merricks (chair), Dave Ainslie, Edward Baines, David Casewell, Christine Edwards, Andrew Mankowski, Dick Reeve, Mark Shaw, Tony Streeter, Howard Thompson

Also in attendance were Peter Leppard (Acting Town Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** These were received from Margaret Simpson, Ron Simpson, Pat Taylor, Geoff Thompson, Janet Thompson.
- 2. Declarations of interest:** Nil
- 3. Chair's opening statement:** Chris Merricks wondered whether it might be possible to hold future meetings on a hybrid (*i.e.* in the Town Hall, but with some online attendees) basis. He would offer the Clerk some advice on how best to achieve.
- 4. Minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2021:** It was resolved unanimously to confirm these as a correct record.
- 5. Public speaking:** Nil
- 6. Neighbourhood Planning Champion's update:** None had been received from Ron Simpson. In Ron's absence, David Ainslie noted the recently-issued revised National Planning Policy Framework, and asked that this be circulated with the minutes, and agenda'd for discussion at the Group's next meeting.
- 7. RCC's draft Local Plan:** Edward Baines explained the currently-stalled position with this, with a decision expected by RCC in September on the way forward. The Group decided that its activity must carry on regardless.
- 8. Locality grants:** The Clerk noted that our bid for a Locality neighbourhood-planning grant for FY2021/22 had resulted in an award of £7,986. Our bid for a Locality town-centre regeneration & improvement grant had yet to produce an outcome.
- 9. Updates from sub-groups:** None except for Housing.  
Housing David Ainslie gave an interim report (omitting any site-specific data) on the themes emerging from responses to the survey booklet distributed to every home in the spring; a fuller report including site-specific data will be available for the next meeting. The Housing sub-group's Sites Technical Assessment working party had completed some of its tasks, and expected to fully complete shortly.
- 10. Next steps:** It was agreed that, once the site assessment process is fully complete, the outcomes would be sent to RCC Planning for comment. Steps now need to be taken to bring the Group's website into use.
- 11. Any other business:** The Clerk was asked to advise the consultant Clive Keble that the Group anticipates needing his further input from around October.
- 12. Date of next meeting:** This was agreed to be on Thursday 26 August at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.