

Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group

Minutes of meeting held at Uppingham Town Hall on 9 September 2021 at 7.30pm **DRAFT**

Present: Dave Ainslie, Christine Edwards, Kath Gilbert, Andrew Mankowski, Dick Reeve, Margaret Simpson, Ron Simpson (in the chair) Tony Streeter, Stephen Taylor, Howard Thompson, Nick Townsend.
Also in attendance were Peter Leppard (Acting Town Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** These were received from David Casewell, Chris Merricks, Pat Taylor, Janet Thompson
- 2. Declarations of interest:** N Townsend declared an interest as a neighbour of one of the housing sites under consideration (minute 8d below). Ron Simpson declared an interest as Chair of CPRE Rutland. (Group members who are directors or members of Uppingham Homes CLT explained that they did not need to declare an interest, as the CLT is withdrawing its site from consideration in the Neighbourhood Plan process.)
- 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 29 July 2021:** It was resolved (with 1 abstention) to confirm these as a correct record.
- 4. Public speaking:** Nil
- 5. Neighbourhood Planning Champion's update:** Nil. (R Simpson explained he would instead provide his updates under other agenda items)
- 6. RCC's decision to withdraw its draft Local Plan:**
 - a. The Group considered the consequences of this for the Group's activities. It was unanimously resolved to recommend to the Town Council that, despite RCC's decision, the Group should proceed at the best possible pace towards completion of the revised Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan. (Once the Town Council has endorsed this, all relevant developers will be advised.)
 - b. It was further resolved to ask RCC's Planning Policy Manager to address the group in the near future, to aid mutual clarity and understanding on the way forward in these new circumstances.
- 7. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF):** The Clerk was asked to recirculate to the Group's members (and Town Council members) D Ainslie's notes on the recent revision to NPPF.
- 8. Updates from sub-groups:**
 - a. Transport & Amenities A car-parks usage survey will be carried out in October.
 - b. Environment An update is needed for the next NPAG meeting.
 - c. Economic A written progress report was provided to the meeting. The subgroup will meet again once Locality's decision re awarding a Town Centre improvement grant is known.
 - d. Housing The sites technical assessment had been completed since the Group's previous meeting, and D Ainslie presented the draft results. It was resolved to send these (and the methodology) to RCC's Planning Policy Manager for any comments and feedback.
- 9. NPAG website:** In view of the resolution (minute 6a above) that the Group should continue its work, the Clerk will now resume populating its website.
- 10. Any other business:** It was agreed that each subgroup chair will advise the Clerk of who they consider their current subgroup membership to be.
- 11. Date of next meeting:** This was agreed to be to suit the diary of RCC's Planning Policy Manager (see minute 6b above).

The meeting closed at 9pm.