

Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group.
Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on Thursday 13th January 2022.

Present: Ron Simpson (in the Chair) Dave Ainslie, Christine Edwards, Dick Reeves (ZOOM), Janet Thompson. Howard Thompson, Nick Townsend, Margaret Simpson, Edward Baines, Jim Day, Kath Gilbert, Andy Streeter (Zoom)

Also In attendance Sharon Coe Town Clerk, Roger Ranson RCC and 3 members of the public.

1. **Welcome**
The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting both in person and on Zoom. Introductions were made around the table and zoom.
2. **Apologies for Absence**
Received from Chris Merricks, Stephen Taylor, Dave Casewell
3. **Declarations of interest.**
None declared.
4. **To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting (9th December 2021)**
These were received as a true copy.
5. **An opportunity for members of the public to speak.**
An item was brought to the groups attention which had been received by Janet Thompson.
 - Could we have an update on the Market Place toilets?The Clerk responded that the Town Council had resolved to go ahead with the legal work to transfer the toilets into their ownership without Barclays and the proposed ATM. The legal work was being prepared by both the Town Council's solicitor and also RCC Legal team with a hopeful exchange and completion date of late January early February. The work would then commence to fully refurbish the toilets which would hopefully take 4/6 weeks and thus be ready to use by mid to late March. The Town Clerk would be liaising with other local businesses to secure an alternative toilet provision in the interim period.
6. **To receive an update from Roger Ransom of RCC following withdrawal of the Rutland CC Local plan and discuss progress and arising implications for the Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan.**
Roger presented a very clear and detailed overview for members which included
 - The Uppingham indicative housing figure of 330 dwellings for the period 2021 – 2041. Discretion for the NP to set a buffer of at least 10%.
 - The fact that RCC cannot demonstrate a 5-year supply of housing land.
 - The (long) timescales proposed for the new Local Plan.
 - Roger expressed a view that the NP six large sites identified in our paper (Goldcrest, Beeches, Land in front of Cricket Club, Ayston Road, North of Leicester Road and Uppingham Gate) need no further separate consultation ahead of that which will come in the Regulation 14 consultation on the draft plan.

Members asked for clarification on issues such as windfall sites, and the SHEELA assessments. Members asked if the presentation may be shared, and this was agreed by Roger. (Circulated with these minutes and would be added to the website)

Cllr Ron Simpson thanked Roger for a very in depth and informative presentation. Roger then left the meeting

7. **Neighbourhood Planning Champions update.**

This item was deferred to the next meeting due to the business of the meeting.

8. **Updates from Subgroups**

Local Economy

Cllr Ron Simpson overviewed the meeting and the paper that had been prepared outlining the Policy and Action areas that could be addressed such as

- High street development.
- Signage.
- Loading bay/Parking/speed control
- Pop up shops/start-ups.
- Leisure and hospitality.
- Market support.
- Library.
- Station Road Industrial Estate/Welland Vale Commercial Zone.
- Air Quality/low emission Zones.
- Desired bypass routes.

Transport

Howard Thompson overviewed the work done by the amalgamation of the Amenities and Open Spaces with the transport group.

The findings of the group at this stage highlighted that there is adequate parking but that it is not where needed and not adequately signposted. Initial thoughts were

- Signposting of short/long stay and further parking, this needs to be signed outside of the town also.
- Clarification of the free parking areas.
- Consider upgrade to a rank of E V Chargers (Larger car parks)
- Current parking situation in Ayston road.
- Parking in Seaton Road could be extended for longer, unrestricted parking
- Possible removal of the pedestrian crossing on North Street East.
- Defined Hopper parking space in High Street East.
- More proactive parking wardens to enforce regulations.

A question was raised about resident permits, and this will also be considered as an action plan.

Environmental –

Unfortunately, due to illness no report was available.

The comprehensive site allocations paper had previously been discussed in detail at the previous meeting.

9. **NPAG Website – an update on its development.**

The website had been updated with all the outstanding documents and it had been linked to the Uppingham Town Council website for completeness and transparency. A question was asked about draft minutes going on the website, The Clerk would do this, but stressed that these were only draft until approved at the next scheduled meeting so could change. Thanks were given to Dave Ainslie, Mark Shaw, and the Clerk.

10. **Summary of next steps.**

The minutes of this meeting to go back to the Town Council. The clerk would send the evidence reports to the Consultant for him to start work on our behalf.

11. **Dates of next meeting.**

The second Thursday in the month was suggested at a prior meeting and therefore the next dates proposed will be;

Thursday 10th February

Thursday 10th March

Thursday 14th April (Easter holiday starts Friday 15th so may change)

Thursday 12th May

The Chairman gave thanks to those attending the meeting and it duly closed at 7.36pm.