

Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group.
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 24th March 2022.

Present: Chris Merricks (in the chair) Ron Simpson, Christine Edwards, David Ainslie, David Casewell
Dick Reeves, Nick Townsend, Jim Day, Andrew Mankowski

Also In attendance Sharon Coe Town Clerk,

1. **Welcome**
The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting and reflected that we were nudging closer to the finish line which was very exciting.
2. **Apologies for Absence**
Received from Mark Shaw, Tony Streeter, Howard Thompson, Janet Thompson, Margaret Simpson.
3. **Declarations of interest.**
Non-Pecuniary interests were declared by David Ainslie, Nick Townsend, Ron Simpson as members of the CLT and Ron Simpson as a resident on the Beeches. Andrew Mankowski as a resident of the Elms resident association (TERA)
4. **An opportunity for members of the public to speak.**
None
5. **To receive the minutes for the Housing Subgroup – Thursday 10th March 2022**
It was proposed by David Ainslie, seconded by Ron Simpson, and **resolved unanimously.**
6. **To review the draft policies for the new Neighbourhood Plan.**
It was felt vitally important by all members of the group that these draft policies should be drilled down into, which would ensure that our new revised plan would be both robust and fit for the emerging needs and future place shaping of Uppingham. It was therefore decided that the committee would take these page by page. Once this exercise had been completed and amendments/questions had been raised/debated the Clerk would invite Clive Keeble to join us on a Zoom meeting to get his advice. It was acknowledged that there had been excellent work done on drafting of the policies, but the local knowledge could only enhance this work.

A wide ranging and positive discussion was held highlighting topics such as:

- Access around/through the Beeches.
- Bungalows should be redesignated throughout the plan as single storey dwellings.
- Positivity around the developers.
- Good package of site numbers.
- Diversity within the sites.

- Landscape of Leicester Road needing to incorporate speed and safety measures, and Zebra crossings to enable safe passage.
- Some policies need to be more specific.

It was acknowledged that the overriding drive and desire was to ensure that the Plan demonstrated a balanced approach to the development in the Town.

Further meetings would need to be held to facilitate this work and it was agreed that an additional meeting should be arranged for Tuesday 29th March and the meeting scheduled for 14th April be moved to Thursday 28th April at 5.30pm.

It was recognised that we may need to buy an additional day of the consultant's time and the Clerk would find out the costing of this and present this to the relevant committee of the Town Council.

7. **To consider a request from Somerby Parish Council regarding the support for the weighting of Neighbourhood Plans in the planning systems by writing to our MP.**
This request was positively supported by NPAG and would form part of the recommendations that would go to Uppingham Town Council through the minutes. **Resolved unanimously**
8. **Neighbourhood Planning Champions update**
This was deferred due to the business being discussed as a priority.
9. **To consider Rutland County Council's plan for the Uppingham Bus Interchange.**
Members were concerned from a safety perspective and while this Neighbourhood Plan was being developed, would like to know what Rutland County Councils possible solutions would be. **Resolved unanimously**
10. **NPAG Website – an update on its development.**
This is a standing agenda item which was felt could now be removed due to the website being up and running.
11. **Summary of next steps**
The next agenda would be solely to continue the work on the draft policies.
12. **Date of next meeting**
Tuesday 29th March at 5.30pm
Change of date from 14th April to 28th April following the additional meeting above.

The meeting closed at 8.47 pm

