

UPPINGHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM



**Notes of a General Meeting held on Thursday January 31st 2019 in
The Garden Room of The Falcon Hotel, Uppingham at 7.30pm**

Present

Chair and Executive Member Janet Thompson: Town Councillors and UNF Executive Members, Christine Edwards and Ron Simpson BEM: Town Councillors Peter Rees and Steve Rozak: County Cllr Edward Baines: UNF Executive members Pam Dalby and Margaret Simpson: Forum Dementia Lead Margaret Demaine and a total of 63 other residents including representatives, volunteers and members of the following institutions and community groups:-

Beeches Residents' Association, Uppingham Methodist Church, St Peter & St Pauls Church, E J Toon Trust, Uppingham Rotary Club, Uppingham Business Forum, Uppingham N Plan Advisory Group, Uppingham First, Rutland First, Leicestershire Police, Emerging Badley Affordable Housing Trust, Neighbourhood Watch, Uppingham in Bloom, The Crown Inn, Uppingham Hopper Team, Limes, Firs and Spurs Residents' Association, Uppingham Post Office, Rutland First, Uppingham C of E School, Uppingham Brownies and Uppingham Bowls Club.

Guest Speakers

Inspector Siobhán Gorman and PC Joshua Ace - Leicestershire Police
Robin Bromiley - Uppingham Post Master
Geoff Thompson - Rutland First

Apologies for Absence

County Cllrs Rachel Burkitt and Lucy Stephenson, Town Councillor and Executive Committee Members David Ainslie and Mark Shaw and five other residents

1. Chair's Welcome

Janet Thompson welcomed everyone to the meeting and particularly the guest speakers. She advised that notes of the meeting would be circulated to attendees who entered an e-mail address on the sign-in sheets.

2. Community Safety and Crime

- **New Rutland Commander** - Inspector Gorman briefly introduced herself to the Forum and indicated that she was delighted to have been given the opportunity to serve the community in a rural area like Rutland. She next introduced the new Rutland Policing newsletter and confirmed that future editions would have more relevance to Uppingham. It was noted that the Forum and Uppingham First collaboration with Leicestershire Police on an initiative to recruit and train police special constables for Uppingham was still ongoing. She next introduced PC Joshua Ace and his local crime statistics for the final quarter of 2018 (appended)

- **Last Quarter Crime Statistics** – PC Joshua Ace, based at Uppingham Town Hall, invited the Forum to note the nature of the recorded crime and the police response indicated. He acknowledged the vehicle crime and increase in burglaries and that the community had been troubled by a rise in anti-social behaviour in the town centre, exacerbated by the dry summer weather. Good progress was being made on tackling the drugs issues mentioned. Full details would emerge soon. Following questions from the Forum about poor responses to calls for help, for example when vehicles were being damaged, it was agreed to look into this further but it was acknowledged that resources were on occasions very stretched. It was also agreed that the e-mail address of PC Ace, could be published in these notes. (joshua.ace@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk) See also the direct link to the Uppingham beat team information on the Uppingham First website at www.uppinghamfirst.co.uk Access to the police is also available through social media as indicated in the appended crime report. The Forum was again reminded that we are still looking for 2 'Special Constables' to be fully trained by the Police and dedicated to Uppingham.



3. Bank Closure

Presentation – Uppingham Post Office Services

Uppingham Postmaster Robin Bromiley, supported by his team of staff, provided a very well received presentation on the facilities offered by him and his colleagues at the Post Office. In an illuminating talk he addressed the contextual background of how a PO branch operates, touching briefly on some subjects which still cause confusion in the minds of customers: These included:-

- The difference between the PO and Royal Mail
- How a PO branch is financed, and what it needs to do in order to survive
- What services it offers - including banking, savings, and credit cards: insurance: travel, passports/photos etc.
- A new product just about to launch, the International Driving Permit which may well become necessary for people driving abroad post Brexit
- What Barclays and other bank customers might expect from the Post Office



Bank Closure – Following Robin's presentation an extensive question and answer session followed. It touched upon a range of issues and moved smoothly into a wider discussion on the implications of the closure of Barclays Bank in April and the action that should be taken by the community. These included:-

- Sending a letter to Alan Duncan MP querying the value of last bank in town procedures (they appear to be toothless with no penalty)
- Asking Barclays to help the post office expand its capability (present building is not disability friendly or big enough)
- A community letter of extreme disappointment to go to Barclay's, copy to Government
- A presentation on Credit Unions/Community Banks, to be arranged for the next public meeting of the Forum
- There is concern about those who cannot drive. The Uppingham Hopper will be a vital link to the Post Office and banks. It was agreed that Uppingham First be asked to explore the case for special Hopper trips to banks via some villages e.g. Ridlington. Perhaps on a Monday, beginning in May 2019. Such a service must be careful not to compete with RF1 service or take business away from Post Office
- Asking the Business Forum to discuss the issue at their next meeting on Tuesday evening. It was noted that the Town Council is also to discuss issue on Wednesday
- Following further discussion it was proposed that a long term banking solution for Uppingham be incorporated into the community bid to the government's Future High Street Fund in collaboration with Uppingham First, RCC and UTC colleagues (£10-£15M bid possible). The Task Group will prepare and submit a bid by the March deadline.

4. Health and Wellbeing

- Uppingham Surgery** – Janet Thompson provided a brief update on surgery matters and noted the problems being created by turnover of administrative staff but they have just taken on 2 new team members and waiting for them to commence. Residents were reminded to accept the Triage system of appointments and advice which the GPs believe is the best way forward to ensure that patients get to have a consultation with a Clinician asap
- Rutland Healthwatch** – It was noted that Dr Janet Underwood has now been appointed as Chair of Healthwatch Rutland. It was agreed that she be invited to address the AGM of the Forum on May 30th 2019
- Rutland First** – Geoff Thomson of Rutland First reported on the successful bid to the National Lottery for funding to undertake a major mental health project with local schools. Just under half a million pounds has been secured. The project, known as 'Resilient Rutland', has now been officially launched and involves all Uppingham Schools.



Resilient Rutland launch at Oakham Castle

5. Transport

- a) **Uppingham Hopper** - A statistical analysis of passenger numbers for the first 8 months of Hopper operation was circulated for public information (appended). A full economic report on the Hopper is due out soon, but funding has been secured to cover much of the running costs for 2019. Continued public and business support is necessary to look to the longer term.
- b) **Hopper Survey** - Responses to this survey are now coming in. Forum members were encouraged to complete the survey if they had not already done so. Support for the Hopper on an occasional basis by those who would not normally use it would be a great help to its sustainability.
- c) **Bypass Survey** - Responses to this survey were now coming in with the majority of responses to date favouring a bypass but with 25% of these respondents expressing concern about the potential impact on local businesses. Full results of the survey will be published in February.

6. Economic and Social Development

- a) **Badley Housing Trust** – UNF Coordinator Ron Simpson reported on the success of a grant aided pre-feasibility study of the need for affordable housing for younger people in Uppingham. A bid had now been submitted to Government by Uppingham First and the Forum for support to form a local housing trust to build and manage affordable homes in Uppingham starting with the Badley Orchard site.
- b) **Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan Workshop** – Despite problems with the leadership and governance of the next Neighbourhood Plan, a community led workshop, to which all will be invited, is being planned for late March 2019. Full details soon.

7. Future High Streets Fund

Following an explanation of the opportunity afforded to address some of the town centre's major challenges by the Future High Streets Fund competition, it was agreed that a bid should be prepared for Uppingham and the County Council invited to submit it to government.

8. Information Items

- **May 2019 Elections** - The Forum is to host a Hustings to enable residents to hear from councillor candidates. Interested residents are urged to consider standing for election in May 2019
- **Uppingham in Bloom Winter Warmer Lunch** - Saturday February 16th in the Town Hall at 12 noon
- **Rotary President's Evening** - Saturday March 9th 7.30pm - Black Tie Dinner - Speaker Alex Leger – Blue Peter - Behind the Badge - Limited number of tickets left – Contact Margaret on 01572 823465 mjs@clara.co.uk

Notes dated 2.2.2019

Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum

The Forum acts as the voice of Civil Society in Uppingham, has an elected Executive Committee, and is a member of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (No. 22162). In 2017 the Forum founded UpWatch, the town's next generation good neighbour scheme and resilience network. The Forum's primary purpose is to encourage collaboration between groups and offer mutual support whilst addressing issues of community interest and concern. It is represented in the Rutland Virtual Consortium, on the board of Uppingham First and in the Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group. The Forum has its own bank account and distributes four newsletters a year to every household in the town.

Meetings

The Forum meets quarterly and its Executive Committee half yearly: Forthcoming meetings are notified by newsletter, e-mail and online.

Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum - The Voice of Civil Society in Uppingham
A Member of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and One East Midlands (OEM)

7 Hawthorn Drive, Uppingham Rutland LE15 9TA
Chair: Janet Thompson **Vice Chair:** Mark Shaw **Co-ordinator:** Ron Simpson BEM
E-mail: enquiries@uppinghamneighbourhoodforum.org.uk **Tel:** 01572 823465 **Mobile:** 07710 328469

Crime Stats for 4th Quarter in Uppingham 2018 – Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum

October:

09/10/18 – Bilking, Uppingham Central Garage

10/10/18 – Burglary (Non-dwelling), Elizabethan School Rooms

18/10/18 – Theft from Motor Vehicle, Lime Tree Avenue

18/10/18 – Theft from Motor Vehicle, The Quadrant

18/10/18 – Theft from Motor Vehicle x 2, Lime Tree Avenue

31/10/18 – Burglary Dwelling x 2, Firs Avenue

November:

01/11/18 – Shop Lifting, North Street East

02/11/18 – Criminal Damage and Vandalism, High Street East

03/11/18 – Burglary Dwelling, Bramble Close

December:

01/12/18 – Theft From Person, High Street East

07/12/18 – Public Order, Stockerston Road

08/12/18 – Burglary (Non Dwelling), Castle Hill

21/12/18 – Theft of Motor Vehicle, Hawthorn Drive

24/12/18 – Assault, Queen Street

Message from the Beat Team:

For local Uppingham Police related news, you can visit the following link to see what our priorities are:

<https://leics.police.uk/local-policing/uppingham>

Current priorities are as follows –

- ***You told us:*** *There has been a rise in the number of reports of drug dealing/taking at licenced premises in Uppingham, and amongst youths hanging around in the street. You have told us this through messages on Facebook, Twitter, in person and telephone calls to police.*

What we are doing:

- *We are working with local pubs to combat this issue, raise awareness and enforce bans.*
- *We are conducting pro-active patrols in affected areas, and will in some cases carry out "plain clothes" patrols to catch the offenders red handed.*
- *We have created a "Problem Management Profile" which helps co-ordinate the beat team's response to the issue, as well as highlighting it to senior management to gain support.*
- *We are seeking help from specialist teams within Leicestershire Police to*

If you have any other concerns you would like made known to the police, then you can always report them through calling '101' or '999' if it's an emergency, or by approaching Andy or I in the street when on patrol. You can also meet us by attending a "Beat Surgery" which we hold every month in various locations around Uppingham. The next Beat Surgery is on Friday 14th Feb 2019 between 10-11am in the Uppingham Library on Queen Street. We are also very active on social media and can be contacted at "**Rutland Police**" on **Facebook** and "**@Uppingham Police**" on **Twitter**.

PC 2988 Joshua Ace | Eastern Counties – DNO NR38 Beat

Uppingham Community Beat Office



Leicestershire
Police

Protecting our communities

Uppingham Hopper Passenger Numbers - May to October 2018 (26 Weeks)

Appendix A

Analysis by Hour and Day of the Week

Hour	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Total			Notes	
9 - 10	53	80	102	69	202	506				
10 - 11	97	200	134	78	186	695				
11 - 12	115	193	139	108	214	769				
12 - 1	59	169	123	89	187	627				
Sub Total	324	642	498	344	789	2597				
1 - 2	50	81	114	71	105	421				
2 - 3	50	73	113	53	95	384				
3 - 4	41	58	103	78	59	339				
4 - 5	28	32	64	32	43	199				
Sub Total	169	244	394	234	302	1343				
Totals	493	886	892	578	1091	3940				

Uppingham Hopper Passenger Numbers – November to December 2018 (9 Weeks)

Appendix B

Analysis by Hour and Day of the Week

Hour	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Total			Notes	
9 - 10	15	24	23	21	90	173				
10 - 11	41	39	30	25	56	191				
11 - 12	33	46	29	26	59	193				
12 - 1	37	50	31	33	49	200				
Sub Total	126	159	113	105	254	757				
1 - 2	22	27	21	21	26	104				
2 - 3	31	19	21	8	35	96				
3 - 4	23	30	29	25	23	116				
4 - 5	30	15	19	27	13	96				
Sub Total	106	91	90	81	97	465				
Totals	232	250	203	186	351	1222				

Total Number of passengers May to December 2018 - **5162**

Bus Mileage Data

Start Odometer Reading 18056 Mileage completed 14399 End of Year Odometer Reading 32455

Route Daily - circa 89miles Route Weekly - circa 450miles

Six months total mileage – 10870 projected annual mileage 23000 miles