

UPPINGHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM



Notes of an Annual General Meeting held on Thursday August 31st 2017 in The Garden Terrace of the Falcon Hotel, Uppingham at 7.30pm

Present

Chair Janet Thompson, Vice Chair Mark Shaw, Town Mayor Cllr Alec Crombie MBE and Town Councillor Cornelius Vincent - Enright, County Councillor Rachel Burkitt, Town Cllrs and Executive Members David Ainslie, Christine Edwards, Miranda Jones, and Ron Simpson BEM. UNF Executive members Pam Dalby, David Greengrass, Helen Hutton and Margaret Simpson and a total of 54 other residents including representatives, volunteers and members of the following institutions and community groups:-

Age UK, Beeches Residents' Association, Uppingham Methodist Church, St Peter & St Pauls Church, E J Toon Trust, Uppingham Rotary Club, Uppingham Business Forum, Uppingham First, Neighbourhood Watch, Uppingham Brownies, Uppingham WI, Uppingham Town Partnership, the Limes, Firs and Spurs Residents' Association, Uppingham in Bloom, UppWatch, Healthwatch Rutland, Hopper Heroes and Uppingham Surgery.

Guests

PC Joshua Ace (Leicestershire Police) and Jennifer Fenelon (Chair – Healthwatch Rutland)

1. Chair's Welcome

Janet Thompson welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the excellent attendance. As part of her introduction, Janet provided a Surgery update on the new arrangements for repeat prescriptions and commented positively upon the new facility on the RCC website to submit photos of matters of concern.

2. Notes of the 2016 AGM

It was noted these had been circulated by e-mail. Copies were available for anyone who had not received them.

3. Notes of the 2017 Executive Committee AGM held on August 17th 2017

Distributed at the meeting and distributed in advance electronically, the notes were received and the decisions and appointments within them approved. Reflected in the notes was the extensive amount of work undertaken by the Forum during 2016/2017 with a number of new projects completed and significant national meetings attended. The notes are appended.

4. 2016/17 Accounts

These were circulated in the meeting and received. Grant aid from the Rural Community Council (2016/17) and the Rotary Club of Uppingham (2017/18) was acknowledged as was Hopper running cost donations of £854. Expenditure of £1397, income of £1154 and a closing balance of £177 were noted.

5. Confirmation of Chair for 2016/17

The re-election of Janet Thompson as Chair for 2017/18 by the Forum's Executive Committee was unanimously endorsed by the meeting.

6. Executive Committee Membership

The Chair reminded the meeting that Executive Membership was open to all constituted community groups in the town. Additional organisations would be welcomed.

7. Presentations and Discussions

- a) **Community Safety and Crime Update** – PC Josh Ace was introduced by Chair Janet Thompson noting he was attending on his day off. Josh led the meeting through an extensive updating report (appended)

registering concern about an increase in the figures. His action plan to tackle the matter is documented in his notes

- b) **Healthwatch Rutland** – Jennifer Fenelon updated members on both the activities of Healthwatch Rutland and proposals to amalgamate Rutland's Healthwatch with Leicester and Leicestershire.

Survey - She thanked everyone for the high level of response to the Rutland wide survey of health services in Rutland which provided essential information about what residents wanted from local services. These would be invaluable in helping shape all services for the future.

Key messages included a very high level of satisfaction with both Uppingham surgery and community pharmacy services but low levels of satisfaction with mental health, ambulance response times, information about urgent care and others.

One Healthwatch - It was strongly felt that proposals to amalgamate Healthwatch Rutland with HW Leicester and Leicestershire would lose Rutland its independent voice just at the point when largescale cuts to services were being proposed and should be opposed.

Members were urged to complete the survey by **8th September 2017** to help ensure Rutland's voice was retained.

Online: <https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-council/council-news/share-your-views-healthwatch-services/>

For a hard copy to be delivered please ring 01572 823267 or email jafenelon@aol.com

- c) **Uppingham Community Emergency Plan** – On behalf of the team of volunteers who created the Plan, Ron Simpson offered a short resume of its content and construct. Its final two pages consisted of a household reminder card which would be distributed to all households as soon as funds permitted. The Plan was to come into force on September 1st 2017 and would also be published online. The Forum, via UppWatch, now held the responsibility of updating the Plan annually. £600 worth of emergency equipment to support the Plan had been donated by the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Resilience Forum. See the plan at www.uppinghamneighbourhoodplan.info
- d) **UppWatch Update** – Janet Thompson spoke on behalf the UppWatch Team to provide a summary of progress to date. A volunteer handbook is now available online at www.uppwatch.uk The scheme had got off to a strong and steady start, she said, and local charities were collaborating and acting as referral agencies. Written praise for the efforts of UppWatch volunteers had been received from a number of sources and the scheme was set to expand
- e) **Green Waste Charges** – The meeting was advised that RCC was proposing to start charging for the collection of green bins; perhaps £35 per bin per year from April 2018. This was in line with many other local authorities. Following extensive discussion on the current high level of council tax and the potential environmental and financial impact of such charges on waste disposal and recycling, the meeting was asked to express an opinion on the change: all but five attendees expressed the view that the charge should be subsumed into the general rate so as not to penalise those who disposed of green waste in a responsible manner using the authorised bins
- f) **Housing Update – Bloor Homes** – Work will commence very soon and a sales office will be on site from January 2018 – **Housing for Young People** – A town survey was now under way with expression of interest forms available from secretary@uppinghamfirst.co.uk An E J Toon Housing Trust viability grant application was currently under preparation
- g) **Uppingham Hopper** – Following a slide presentation on the UK context of Community Transport and the challenges it currently faces, the past and present history of the Uppingham Hopper was explored. It was noted that a final decision on whether to proceed with the purchase of a nearly new bus would be taken on September 12th by the Uppingham First Board. Noting that gifts and promises to date now totalled £12k and following extensive discussion whether it was appropriate that the very elderly be asked to contribute toward the capital cost of the bus, the meeting unanimously resolved to encourage volunteers to press forward with the project using all legal means to raise the necessary funds
- h) **747 Campaign** – The efforts of the Deputy Town Mayor Steve Rozak to collaborate with neighbouring parishes to encourage support for the bus was noted and applauded by the meeting. Following UNF consultation with Leicestershire County Council, residents with e-mail were urged to write to the Leicestershire CC stressing the importance of the bus and urging the continuation of an appropriate subsidy. Agreement has been reached with the Forum to encourage citizens to forward a letter by e-mail to LCC urging council members to continue support for the service. These letters will be forwarded by LCC officers to the relevant elected members and portfolio holder. If you wish to support the 747 as a publicly subsidised service for the long term please send your letter to chosehowyoumove@leics.gov.uk It will be important to give substantial reasons for your request e.g. to get to work, school, hospital, family etc. Please write now!!!

- i) **Rutland Local Plan** – Councillor David Ainslie, UTC lead on the Rutland Local Plan delivered a PowerPoint presentation on a number of key issues arising from the draft plan published by Rutland County Council. It was noted that the draft plan sought to overturn several elements of the Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan and restrict the economic development of the town in favour of Oakham. Residents were urged to read the lengthy plan and then make clear their views by responding to the RCC public consultation at

<https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-services/planning-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy/local-plan-review/>

- j) **Uppingham Online Portal** – The meeting was updated on the efforts being taken to implement the key recommendation in the recently updated Town Centre & Business Zones Plan to create a £50k Uppingham Online portal linked to an Uppingham Smart Phone App. Part of the portal would relate to the community sector and, as part of the project, it would be necessary to survey community group needs. Business aspirations for the portal were already on record but were currently being updated as part of a grant application process. Interested community groups would be consulted as part of the next stage of the process.

8. Community Group Reports and Event Notices

The following activities and events were mentioned, or are posted, for information:-

- a) Uppingham Methodist Church Bicentenary – see www.uppmethodist200.co.uk
- b) Two hour Refresher Driver Training - Thursday October 12th - Contact tbarnwell@rutland.gov.uk
- c) RCC Future of Healthwatch consultation event - Wednesday Sept. 6th 4pm – 7pm RCC Council Chamber
- d) Art in Lyddington – Friday Nov 3rd to Sunday Nov 5th in St Andrews Church – Tickets £7.50 (inc glass of wine) for the preview evening from barbara@theoldparsonage.net
- e) Macmillan Volunteer Recruitment Drive – Friday Sept 22nd in Uppingham Library – 10am to 12 noon
- f) Rotarian Anne Porter (86 year old) Skydive in aid of Dove Cottage. To contribute call 01572 823465
- g) Uppingham in Bloom Ball – November 25th – Tickets from uppinghaminbloom@gmail.com
- h) Rotary Club Christmas Craft Fair with 15 local crafts– November 3rd – Garden Terrace – The Falcon Hotel

9. Open Forum

Residents were afforded the opportunity to raise issues of interest or concern prior to the closure of the meeting.

10. Date of Next Meeting

November/December 2017. Date to be notified by newsletter

Notes: Residents are reminded that the constitution of the Forum states that it is a non-political institution with party political comment being inappropriate

Signed as a True Record..... Chair Dated.....

Notes:

1. Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum

The Forum acts as the collective voice of Civil Society in Uppingham and has an elected Executive Committee. Its primary purpose is to encourage collaboration between groups and offer mutual support whilst addressing issues of community interest and concern. The Forum has representatives on the Rutland Consortium and Uppingham First. The Forum has its own bank account and distributes four newsletters a year to every household in the town. The Forum is represented on the Neighbourhood Plan Committee and the Town Centre and Business Zone Plan Task Group.

2. Meetings

The Forum meets quarterly as does its Executive Committee. Forthcoming meetings are notified by newsletter, e-mail and website at www.uppinghamfirst.co.uk

Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum - The Voice of Civil Society in Uppingham

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



07710 3218469

UPPINGHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM



Uppingham

Notes of the UNF Executive Committee AGM Held on Thursday August 17th 2017 at The Falcon Hotel, Uppingham at 7pm

Present

Beeches Residents Association – Amanda Shaw representing Mark Shaw
E J Toon Trust – Ron Simpson BEM
Limes Firs and Spurs Residents Association – Christine Edwards and David Ainslie
Leicester Road Residents and Brownies – Janet Thompson
Methodist Church – David Greengrass
Rotary - Margaret Simpson
Uppingham in Bloom – Pam Dalby
Uppingham WI, Mothers Union & History Group – Helen Hutton

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Janet Thomson welcomed everyone to the 2017 AGM of the Forum Executive Committee.

2. Apologies for Absence

BRA - Mark Shaw; Uppingham in Bloom - Miranda Jones

3. Declarations of Interest

None

4. Minutes of Previous Meetings

- a) 2016 Executive Committee AGM – Received
- b) 2016 UNF Public AGM – Received

5. Matters Arising

None

6. 2016/17 Financial Report and Accounts

Approved and authorised for signature. Closing bank balance at 31.3.2017 of £177 noted. Additional sponsorship to the approximate value of £500 acknowledged with thanks. The support of Robert and Carols Wills and their staff in providing a venue during the year was gratefully acknowledged. Grants from the Rural Community Council - £150 [2016/17] and Rotary - £500 and the LLR Resilience Forum (£600 equipment) [2017/18] were noted with gratitude.

7. Membership of the UNF Executive Committee

It was agreed that the availability of Executive Committee membership to all bona fida groups in the neighbourhood would be mentioned at the public UNF AGM on August 31st 2017.

8. Elections and Nominations

The following were unanimously agreed:-

Chair - Janet Thompson

Vice Chair - Mark Shaw

Coordinator - Ron Simpson BEM

Uppingham First Board Community Directors - David Ainslie, Mark Shaw and Janet Thompson
N Plan Committee Delegates - Janet Thompson and Pam Dalby
Uppingham Hopper Community/UF Liaison - Christine Edwards
Local Plan Consultation Respondent - David Ainslie

9. Public AGM Arrangements

These were confirmed as 7.30pm on Thursday August 31st 2017 in the Garden Room of The Falcon Hotel.

10 Executive Committee Member Reports

Volunteers reported on the following matters:-

- a) **Attendance** at a National Council of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) member conference in Liverpool
- b) **Attendance** at a Community Transport Association (CTA) Member Briefing in Cambridge
- c) **Participation** in a Nottingham based regional event organised by the national charity Locality
- d) **A meeting with RCC to agree an In Bloom License for Existing Planting in the town** – Pam Dalby reported on a very positive meeting with RCC Highways. A photographic record of all existing planting had been submitted to RCC and a draft licence was now awaited for partner consideration
- e) **RCC proposals to charge for the collection of green waste without public consultation** – This RCC matter was noted with concern and agreed for discussion at the Public Forum on August 31st
- f) **Uppingham Online Portal and EU funding bid** – Executive members were updated on the resubmission of the EU Leader Fund bid for the town and the creation of a new Uppingham Virtual Portal and Smart Phone App. In support of the initiative it was agreed that, if the Expression of Interest to Leader was successful in September, then the full bid should be informed by a survey of community groups to ascertain their needs in the final design
- g) **Uppingham 'fibre to the premise' Network** – The Executive Committee was pleased to learn that Bloor Homes have signed an agreement with Gigaclear to extend the Uppingham Fibre Broadband Network to all their new homes on Leicester Road thereby honouring their undertaking as part of the UNP discussions. Implementation would lead to other parts of town being empowered including, perhaps, the north side of Leicester Road, the Firs Estate and the Cricket Club.
- h) **The Uppingham Hopper and 747 campaigns** – David Ainslie and Margaret and Ron Simpson reported on the progress being made on raising funds for the Uppingham Hopper and the proposed £25k loan agreement with RCC. Target date for bringing back the Hopper was December 2017. Margaret advised that over 80% of E J Toon Charity respondents to date had agreed to donate this year's payment to the Hopper fund. A full report would be presented to the public AGM of the Forum. The Deputy Mayor was complimented on his efforts to help the Leicester bus campaign and Executive members agreed to again publicise at the UNF AGM the Leicestershire CC e-mail address that residents had been asked to write to.
- i) **UppWatch** – Executive members noted with pleasure the very positive progress made with UppWatch, the excellent feedback from its clients and the substantial support given by the Rural Community Council, volunteers and Rotary. It was agreed that an RCC offer of additional safeguarding training for volunteers be accepted
- j) **Uppingham Community Emergency Plan** – Following positive discussion on the content and character of the draft plan, its acceptance and approval by the LLR Resilience Forum, volunteer training delivered by Andrew Murr of the LLR Resilience Forum and the receipt of a £600 grant assurance for emergency equipment, it was agreed that, subject to a minor amendment, the Plan be approved and the document authorised for distribution to the community. It was noted that it would now require updating annually in August each year
- k) **A Meeting of Uppingham Neighbourhood Watch Coordinators** – David Ainslie reported on an Uppingham N Watch Coordinators meeting called under the auspices of the UNF. The meeting had gone well and notes produced. It was agreed that the Forum should call such meetings every 6 months to support N Watch in the town
- l) **Healthwatch Rutland** – Public concern over the content and character of the current joint authority consultation on the future of Healthwatch Rutland was noted by Executive Members. It was agreed that this matter be the subject of a short presentation at the public AGM
- m) **Uppingham Town Centre & Business Zones Plan - August 2017 edition** – It was noted this would be published before the end of the month
- n) **Member organisation updates** - The date of the Uppingham in Bloom Ball was noted as November 25th 2017 – The detail of the Methodist Church bicentenary was noted and distribution of its programme at the UNF AGM approved.

11. To Consider the Draft Rutland Local Plan

It was agreed that:-

- a) David Ainslie take a lead in this matter and offer a presentation at the Public Forum on August 31st 2017
- b) Public opinion on areas of concern be sought

12. To Consider Community Consultation on Amendments to the Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan

It was agreed that consultation on an updated N Plan be separated from that of the Local Plan and Cllr Dave Casewell be invited to contribute his views on a proposed update of the UNP at the autumn meeting of the UN Forum.

13. To consider the Forum's further development as the voice of civil society in Uppingham

As the Forum is already delivering a wide range of community services and is set to do more, it was agreed to review the organisation's legal construct by the date of the next AGM.

14. AOB

- a) Following receipt of an offer from LRCC it was agreed that a community safety and scam prevention event for the elderly be organised in the Garden Room of The Falcon Hotel 10am to 12noon on October 24th 2017. Invitees to include Age UK; LRCC; The Fire Service; Leicestershire Police and RCC
- b) The skydiving Dove Cottage fund raising initiative of 86 year old Rotarian Anne Porter was approved for distribution at the public AGM on August 31st 2017

15. Date of next meeting

To be advised

Notes:

1. Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum

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2. Meetings

The Forum meets quarterly as does its Executive Committee. Forthcoming meetings are notified by newsletter, e-mail and website at www.uppinghamfirst.co.uk

**Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum - The Voice of Civil Society in Uppingham and a Founding Partner of UppWatch
A Member of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO)**

7 Hawthorn Drive, Uppingham Rutland LE15 9TA
Chair: Janet Thompson **Coordinator:** Ron Simpson BEM
E-mail: enquiries@uppinghameighbourhoodforum.org.uk **Tel:** 01572 823465 **Mobile:** 07710 328469

Crime Stats for 2nd Quarter in Uppingham 2017 – Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum

April:

01/04/17 – Theft from Vehicle (TFUMV) on Metcalf Cres.
05/04/17 – Attempt Burglary on Leics Rd.
13/04/17 – 2 x TFUMV on Newton Rd.
13/04/17 – TFUMV on Willow Close.
13/04/17 – Damage to Vehicle in Town Square
24/04/17 – Shop Lifting from Co-Op
27/05/17 – Burglary at Petrol Station
26/04/17 – TFUMV on Queens Rd.
29/04/17 – Theft of Vehicle on Linnet Court

May:

06/05/17 – Assault on London Rd.
14/05/17 – Shop Lifting from Co-Op
18/05/17 – Theft from Petrol Station
29/05/17 – Shop Lifting from One Stop

June:

06/06/17 – Attempt Burglary on Blackthorn Close
08/06/17 – TFUMV on Newton Rd.
08/06/17 – Attempt TFUMV on High Street West
08/06/17 – TFUMV on Old School Mews
16/06/17 – Theft of gardening Equipment on Chestnut Close
19/06/17 – Assault on Station Rd.
24/06/17 – Shop Lifting in Co-Op
25/06/17 – Assault on Queens Rd.
25/06/17 – Shop Lifting in Co-Op
29/06/17 – Shop Lifting in Co-Op

Message from Beat Team:

The second quarter of 2017 has seen a rise in shop lifting and vehicle crime. Vehicle crime is currently an issue across the force, and it is therefore not surprising that Uppingham has also suffered from this issue. Vehicle crime suffered in Uppingham has tended to be targeted at vans, where tools have been stolen; again this is in line with the trend across the force. This is an issue which is being monitored at a high level and any instances of vehicle crime are being run under “Op Pioneer”. Unfortunately there is not a pattern to this offending, and offences tend to be in the early hours where there is little to no police or public presence. I would take this opportunity to remind van owners to store tools inside were possible to prevent loss occurring. If vehicles such as these could also be parked on private garages, rather than on the road, this too would help prevent occurrences.

Shop lifting has also become more of an issue recently, and a matter of public concern due to a local shop keeper being assaulted whilst trying to prevent a theft from taking place in a neighbouring store. Intelligence suggests offenders are from out of town, so the local beat team have begun to identify the perpetrators with the help of colleagues from Northamptonshire Police and the Northampton Business Crime Partnership.

Last year there were a number of cars being damaged randomly, which PC Icke led the investigation into. Unfortunately no offender was identified, however preventative work undertaken by PC Icke proved successful and the issue abated. Until recently, there have been no further issues of such a spree. Overnight on Thursday 20th July into Friday 21st July two vehicles were recklessly damaged on Station Road in Uppingham. Hopefully this will not continue, and is something the local beat team will monitor closely and tackle if it starts to become an issue again.

Of note, it is worth mentioning in a little more detail about the work the local beat team are undertaking with the Northamptonshire Business Crime Partnership and the Uppingham Business Forum. Between us all, we are looking

at pioneering an intelligence led program in Uppingham with a view of preventing, deterring and disrupting retail crime. Due to offenders being from out of town, stores have been left in the dark as to who is committing the offences. By pioneering this intelligence program, we are looking to provide stores with all the information they need to effectively challenge and prevent offenders from entering their stores and commit offences. Work is ongoing to establish this, with a project lead time of roughly 6 months until launch.

For other 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 –

Consultation with the community has identified the following priorities that we will be concentrating on over the coming months:

- In the last 30 days, there have been 5 occurrences of shop lifting in Uppingham. This is a stark rise in figures, and during the most recent occurrence, a member of the public has been assaulted whilst trying to prevent the crime from occurring. This is of public concern and therefore a matter that the beat team will strive to impact in a positive way by working collaboratively with the community, partner agencies and proactive police teams.

What we are doing:

So far the local beat team have established intelligence links with officers from Corby to attempt to identify the persons responsible for committing the recent offences. Two persons have been arrested and a further three suspects have been identified and will be actively sought in regards to the matter. The local team have also met with a retail crime partnership, with a view of pioneering a similar initiative in Uppingham and will work closely with the Uppingham Business Forum to try and establish this. The Eastern Counties neighbourhood pro-active team (NPT) have also been contacted and will be drafted in to help actively seek out offenders, and the beat team also seeks to collaboratively work with local businesses to promote crime prevention and help to deter, disrupt and prevent future offences.

If you have any concerns you would like made known to the police, then you can always report them through calling '101', approaching us in the street when on patrol or attending a "Beat Surgery" which we hold every month in various locations around Uppingham. The next Beat Surgery is on the 29th of September 2017 at the Methodist Church between 10am – 11am. PCSO Andy Wylie will be attending that day and will listen to any concerns you may have.

Thank you all for attending tonight's meeting and your commitment to making Uppingham a safe and prosperous place to live and work.