

UPPINGHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM



Minutes of a Meeting of the Executive Committee of Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum held on Thursday March 18th 2021 at 7pm on Zoom

In attendance

David Ainslie BEM (Limes Firs and Spurs); Trevor Colbourne (TERA); Christine Edwards (E J Toon Trust); David Greengrass (Methodist Church) Andrew Mankowski (TERA); Mark Shaw (BRA); Margaret Simpson BEM (Rotary) Ron Simpson BEM (UHCLT); Tony Streeter (Uppingham in Bloom); Sue Streeter (WI); Janet Thompson (Leics. Road Residents/Church/Brownies)

Invited Observer

Cllr Lucy Lewin

1. Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks

Janet Thompson welcomed everyone to the meeting with particular mention of Trevor Colbourne and Andrew Mankowski who are the nominated UNF Executive representatives from the newly formed residents association at The Elms on Leicester Road. Janet sadly reported the very recent death of Margaret Demaine, the Forum's Dementia Champion and UppShop volunteer.

2. Apologies for absence

None

3. Declaration of Interests

The declared community, business and statutory sector interests of Executive members were noted. The Chair advised that any interest pertinent to an agenda item should also be raised when that matter was discussed.

4. Significant meetings, visits and correspondence

The coordinator reported briefly on a number of virtual meetings attended since the last meeting. Virtual briefings provided by the national charity Locality on affordable housing, design and neighbourhood planning had been most helpful. Collaboration with Rotary, the Co-op and local company ClockedIn had gone well with the UppShop project featuring on ITV. The Forum's response to Covid-19 and the actions of its Emergency Committee had attracted much praise. The defibrillator network now totalled 8 devices. TERA was being supported with the UF Zoom licence. Other positive matters were featured later in the meeting agenda.

5. Finance update

Bank balance is £957.43. Principal income in 2020 was from the Co-op Community Fund, Principal expenditure items were newsletter printing and the UppShop project.

6. UppWatch, Emergency Plan Committee and Covid -19 update

The success of UppWatch and the support arrangements put in place during the Covid-19 lockdowns under the guidance of the Community Emergency Plan Coordinator Committee was noted. Uppingham is considered an exemplar by the L& R Community Resilience Team. The Forum's Help Desk and the Uppingham Hopper have continued to operate throughout.

7. 2021 Budget – Grant opportunities for Uppingham

Coordinator Ron Simpson BEM provided a resume of community grant opportunities published as part of the Chancellor's Budget. A copy of Locality's analysis is attached

8. Community Led Housing Update

David Ainslie BEM and Margaret Simpson BEM provided a brief update on the positive progress being made by Uppingham Homes CLT. Locality and Homes England have been very supportive. It was hoped to work with a number of the town's housing developers in providing affordable homes on several sites. Community Shares in the CLT are also being considered.

9. 2021 East Midlands Women's Awards

Candidate nominations from community groups are invited. It was proposed by Janet Thompson and unanimously agreed that Helen Swift be nominated if she is agreeable.

10. UppShop – The Next Steps

The achievements of organiser Margaret Simpson BEM, the ClockedIn team and supporting Rotarians were noted as was the funding received from the Coop. It is proposed to restart the scheme once group training sessions are again possible.

11. New Corporate Structure Recommendation to AGM

It was agreed that this be determined in time for an August AGM.

12. Uppingham Events Plan

The following events are under development

- a) Big Picnic – Sunday August 22nd – Tod's Piece
- b) Social Sundays – May 2nd to September 26th – Market Place
- c) Live and Local – Children's event planned for the Big Picnic
- d) Round Rutland Classic Vehicle Run – September 19th linked to Social Sunday
- e) Rotary Christmas Craft Fair – Friday November 5th in The Falcon Hotel
- f) Uppingham in Bloom – Plant Sale – May 22nd – 11am to 4pm – At the Streeters
- g) Rotary President's Evening – June 27th 2021 – The Falcon Hotel

13. Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan

- a) A general update on progress with the UNP was given. It was noted that an updated bypass survey was imminent. A cycle rack in Mercers Yard is being progressed by Uppingham School. Town is going for around 225 homes on up to a possible 7 sites. A higher figure may be necessary if the Local Plan fails
- b) Site booklet distribution – David Ainslie BEM detailed the final arrangements for completion and distribution of the N Plan Site booklet. UTC was grateful to the UNF and its volunteers for undertaking the distribution of the 2000 booklets. All groups were collaborating to achieve distribution before the end of the month.

14. Police and Crime Commissioner Election Hustings

To be held on Thursday April 22nd at 7pm on Zoom. Returning Officer and the office of the PCC notified.

15. 2021 AGM

Thursday August 19th 2021 at 7.30pm

16. Any other business

- a) Rutland Conversation – RCC aspirations to communicate with community groups were noted
- b) In Bloom – Tony Streeter advised that The Elms had been invited to enter the regional Neighbourhood competition.

Ron Simpson 28.3.2021

Attachment - Grants information

Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum - The Voice of Civil Society in Uppingham

7 Hawthorn Drive, Uppingham Rutland LE15 9TA
Chair: Janet Thompson Vice Chair Mark Shaw Coordinator: Ron Simpson BEM
E-mail: rons@clara.net Tel: 01572 823465 Mobile: 07710 328469