



UPPINGHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM



Notes of a General Meeting of the Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum held on Tuesday September 15th 2020 at 7.30pm on Zoom

Present

UNF Chair Janet Thomson; Town Councillors and UNF Executive Members David Ainslie BEM, Christine Edwards, Mark Shaw and Ron Simpson BEM; UNF Executive Members Margaret Simpson, Sue Streeter and Tony Streeter; and a total of 42 other residents including representatives, volunteers and members of the following institutions and community groups:-

Beeches Residents' Association, St Peter & St Pauls Church, E J Toon Trust, Uppingham Bowls Club, Uppingham Rotary Club, Uppingham Business Forum, Uppingham First, Neighbourhood Watch, Uppingham Brownies, The Limes, Firs and Spurs Residents' Association, Uppingham in Bloom, Uppingham WI, Uppingham Town Council, Rutland County Council, UppWatch and the Hopper Heroes.

Apologies for Absence

Edward Baines; David Paget

1. Roll Call of Organisations and Residents

48 Attendees were recorded as being present on Zoom.

2. Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks

Chair Janet Thompson welcomed everyone to this the second UNF public meeting of 2020 on Zoom and noted the excellent attendance which included new residents and a number from The Elms development in Leicester Road. It was hoped to create a new residents association in The Elms and appoint an official representative to the Forum Executive. **(An Elms resident has now agreed to initiate this with Forum support)**. Janet next explained the rationale behind the Forum and the opportunities it offered for community collaboration and mutual support.

3. Policing Update

A summary quarterly report of recent crime prepared by Neighbourhood Officer PC Joshua Ace was presented to the meeting and note taken of the incidence of crime against businesses. See Appendix A. The meeting was pleased to see that a police priority was noisy motorcycles. Public concern was expressed about the recorded anti-social behaviour, bullying and vandalism on Tod's Piece, much of which was presumably being recorded on CCTV. Following discussion it was agreed that Leicestershire Police be invited to indicate in future reports some of the outcomes achieved and actions taken. The opportunity to register on Neighbourhood Link was noted. On the issue of repeated anti-social behaviour Cllr Lucy Stephenson undertook to make enquiries.

Post meeting Lucy was able to report that all CCTV cameras on Tod's Piece were working and that residents had offered the names of the culprits which she would pass on to the police.

4. Schools Return

The Forum noted the regular exchange of information and community liaison now established between the town's education sector and its Community Emergency Plan Coordinator team with regard to COVID – 19 and the re-opening of schools. With support from the Forum, Uppingham School had distributed newsletters to every household in Uppingham. Future updates will be found on the school website. Following public letters to parents from UCC, Geoff Thompson, Chair of Governors at UCC brought the meeting up to date with plans for a full re-opening of the college by September 21st 2020. He confirmed that continued communication is being circulated by the UCC Headmaster to all parents to update them on procedures and contingency plans for the temporary classrooms being made ready for the phased return of pupils from September 21st.

5. Social Sundays 2020

Uppingham First Secretary Ron Simpson BEM reported on the success of the August Social Sunday's events thanks in no small part to the extensive support of local residents and the efforts of the Jervis family and the church team. Uppingham First directors James Torbell and Lucy Stephenson had led on the events with the cost of road closure being paid by the Town Council/RCC COVID – 19 business support fund. It was hoped to repeat the events in the summer of 2021. Many positive messages of approval had been received. Live music on the last Sunday was funded by The Falcon Hotel. A video of the events can be found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6TPcC_qz7GU

6. NHS Hospitals Update - Presentation by Jennifer Fenelon

As Chair of the Rutland Health Consortium Uppingham resident Jennifer Fenelon offered a short presentation to draw community attention to the ongoing concerns in Rutland over the current status of the plan to reorganise hospitals in Leicester. In particular she outlined the content of a letter sent to Andy Williams, the CEO of the three Clinical

Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and advised residents to take care when completing the questionnaire due to be circulated to every household on 28th September. Before agreeing to the closure of Leicester General, residents were advised to ask for clear plans showing how community services would be built up in Rutland to compensate for the loss of Leicester General. See Appendix B.

7. Planning Update

Malcolm Touchin, Uppingham resident and Chair of CPRE Rutland, delivered an excellent PowerPoint presentation on the new government proposals to change the nation's planning regime before moving on to outline the issues emerging from the current public consultation on the new Rutland Local Plan. Appendix C is the latest RCC newsletter which provides links to the key documentation and an explanatory video.

8. Neighbourhood Plan

As recently elected Chair of the Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group (NPAG) Chris Merricks brought residents up to date with the progress being made with updating the Neighbourhood Plan. It was hoped to have a draft text ready early in 2021. A new call for sites was likely to be issued by the Town Council in October.

9. Uppingham Housing Survey

Ron Simpson outlined the importance of the recently distributed CPRE Rutland Housing Needs Survey which is being piloted in Uppingham. He asked all residents to complete and return it to one of the designated letterboxes listed in the UNF Newsletter or to the address listed in the survey. An online version is now also available at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GDRMQLW>. Obviously, residents should complete one or the other, not both.

10. Uppingham Hopper

Uppingham First Vice Chair and UNF Executive member David Ainslie BEM reported on the re-opening of the Hopper bus service for passengers. The bus had been operating throughout the COVID -19 lockdown delivering shopping, food boxes and medicines. Passenger numbers were now picking up but clearly income from passenger donations has been severely affected. Such is the community and business support for the Hopper, however, that Uppingham First had received several anonymous donations including one of £1000 and another of £2000. The Town Council had also agreed another grant of over £1000. David confirmed that the UF Community Partnership wished to place on public record its appreciation of the gifts at this difficult time.

11. Uppingham Town Centre

UNF Coordinator Ron Simpson reported that a 'local economy' working group was to update the ideas and aspirations expressed in the Uppingham Town Centre and Business Zones Plan to help inform the updating of the Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan. See the original plan and its update at www.uppinghamneighbourhoodplan.info

12. East Midlands Women's Awards

The meeting was advised that all three of the town's nominations to the 2020 East Midlands Women's Awards have been shortlisted. They are Liz Clarke, Lucy Stephenson and Janet Thompson. Residents can register to join the final online at <https://thewomensawards.com/buy-tickets/em-awards-2020/>

13. Issues from the Floor

- a) **Skate Ramp** – The council is aware of the damage to the tiled walls of the skate ramp and will be repairing it
- b) **Speeding** – A resident not able to attend the meeting registered his concerns about motorcycle and car speeding on the A47 and at the Uppingham junction. More speed detection sessions by the police were required. The meeting agreed.
- c) **Masks** – Residents are asked to note the updated mask wearing requirement in the latest government regulations
- d) **Post Office Parking** – A resident asked if a little car parking space could be given up in front of the post office to help make it safer for those queuing and leaving their cars. This was referred to the council for action if approved.

There being no other matters for debate the meeting was closed by the Chair at 9pm.

Notes circulated 24.9.2020

Ron Simpson BEM

Crime Stats for 3rd Quarter in Uppingham 2020 – Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum

July:

01/07/20 – 3 x Shed Breaks at the Allotments on Leicester Road

04/07/20 – Shed Break on Goldfinch Road

17/07/20 – Damage to Vehicle and Building (linked) on Southwell Way

21/07/20 – Theft of Fuel from the Budgens Garage

August:

16/08/20 – Shop Theft from Co-Op on NSE

16/08/20 – Shop Theft from Budgens Garage

17/08/20 – Shop Theft from Budgens Garage

19/08/20 – Burglary at Jewellery Shop on High Street East

24-29/08/20 – 3 x Damage to Vehicles in Uppingham

September:

14/09/20 – Damage to ATM in Market Place

Message from the Beat Team:

We are aware of an increase in reports around troublesome youths on the skate park on Tod's Piece. We will tackle this by confronting any anti-social behaviour, attempt to divert youths away from trouble and speak with parents to stem this issue. We will increase patrols in the area and hopefully get this behaviour to stop soon. Our 3 local priorities in Uppingham are currently to tackle anti-social behaviour, stop nuisance motorbikes and target drug use in public spaces.

If you would like to join a system called Neighbourhood Link, which keeps local residents up to date around local policing matters, please email me your name, address (inc. post code) and a contact detail (email and mobile if you would like to receive text alerts) and I will sign you up. This is a great way to stay informed on what is happening locally.

My email is:

joshua.ace@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

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 – we have masks and can ensure social distancing measures are kept. We are also active on social media and can be contacted at "**Rutland Police**" on **Facebook** and "**@UppinghamPolice**" on **Twitter**.

PC 2988 Joshua Ace | Melton and Rutland – DNO NR38 Beat
Uppingham Community Beat Office

The letter below has been sent to Mr Andy Williams, the CEO of the three Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) responsible for commissioning health services across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR)

Dear Mr Williams

“New plans for Leicester hospitals ignore the implications for healthcare in Rutland.”

We understand that at the end of September you will be writing to every household to launch public consultation on changes at Leicester Hospitals.

As you can imagine, proposals which include the closure of **all** beds (including the Obstetric Unit) at Leicester General Hospital and the Birthing Centre at St Mary’s Hospital, Melton Mowbray will worry the Rutland population and need to be considered very seriously. As you will see from this letter it makes Rutland people angry lest our county, its inhabitants and their needs are simply forgotten or dismissed.

Therefore release of the Pre Consultation Business Case (PCBC*- how to obtain a copy at the end of this letter) on 1st September was a key moment. For the first time the details of the proposals were available to Rutlanders.

The Rutland Health & Social Care Policy Consortium is a group of Rutlanders experienced in working in and with the NHS. We have had a first read through of the 1,600 plus pages and are setting out below our initial comments on the proposals as a first contribution to the debate. We anticipate making more detailed comments at a later date as we study the PCBC in detail.

After six years of planning (started in 2014) it is disappointing that the PCBC proposals are largely limited to reconfiguration of Leicester hospitals. Their main focus is the closure of all beds at Leicester General Hospital (LGH) with maternity moving to a new greatly expanded maternity hospital (capable of 11,000 deliveries) at Leicester Royal Infirmary (LRI). Beds will be redistributed between Glenfield and the Royal and planned (elective) procedures will move to a new unit at Glenfield Hospital (GH). There is one proposal to retain a midwife unit at LGH for a period of 12 months but to shut it if births do not reach 500 in the first year.

Reassuringly, and reflecting the National Long Term Plan (January 2019) LLR have separately stated their intention to keep care as close as possible to home. No proposals are put forward for compensating services within Rutland. Instead the document does say that in terms of transport the whole of Rutland will be disadvantaged by these proposals.

As health commentators, we consider it is a missed opportunity to redesign acute and community services together and would urge the Clinical Commissioning Groups, even at this late hour, to bring forward proposals for community services (including for Rutland Memorial Hospital). Indeed Rutlanders feel so strongly about the need for a whole system approach that in September 2019 a group of about 100 met in Oakham and mapped out “*A Health Plan for Rutland*” and sent it to you.

This plan produced by Rutlanders closely reflects government policy as outlined in the National Long Term Plan (2019) and includes modernising of facilities at Rutland Memorial to help keep residents from having to be admitted to hospital or to enable their early discharge. It recognises that acute and community care are flip sides of the same coin and strengthened primary and community services can keep people out of hospital – a lesson not lost during Covid.

Although “*A Health Plan for Rutland*” was welcomed and an official local plan for Rutland was promised in January 2020 **here we are nine months later with nothing published** so all that is on offer is closure.

Consultation is planned to start at the end of September on the proposals to combine three hospitals into two by transferring services from Leicester General to Glenfield and the Royal retaining only a few services on the LGH site selling off most of the site for housing.

The PCBC tells us that if Rutlanders find difficulty travelling the extra distance to LRI or GH they can go elsewhere. Peterborough and Kettering are not equivalent options. They are not teaching hospitals like Leicester which offers secondary and tertiary (specialist) care and has a reputation for excellence in research. While Peterborough and Kettering Trusts offer secondary care, those needing specialist care may be referred on to Addenbrookes or the Oxford Hospitals. It is imperative that Rutlanders are given good quality information to know what they are being offered in order to make informed decisions. Alternatives are possible but must be made explicit *before* consultation commences.

We urge Rutlanders to seek that information and we urge you to describe what you plan in the community before they are asked to respond to what appear simple questions on the closure of one acute hospital and two maternity units. This will be the biggest change to health services for Rutlanders in many generations and cannot be reduced to a tick box exercise because the decision has far reaching consequences.

Engagement out here has been so limited that one person commented that our community's work on its health plan was the only piece of *real* engagement they had experienced. For that reason we would urge you to take account of their knowledge of living in a sparsely populated area and engage with them to develop plans.

To give just a few examples of problems with the PCBC:-

Transport. You have used a computer package to assess travel times and conclude that the whole of Rutland will be disadvantaged by the move but that it will only involve an increased journey of 10 minutes. Rule of thumb for most Rutlanders is 40 minutes to LGH and one and a half hours to LRI. As we pass the outskirts, we soon find out why Leicester is the tenth most congested city in England! Many older people will not even try to drive to LRI or GH and taxis are of the order of £100.

To give you a feel of the **reality of public transport** let us look at getting from a Rutland village to Glenfield for a 9.00 am appointment. It requires a 6.54 departure, three bus journeys and 30 minutes walking, some 1h55m. Return journey assuming the appointment is over at say 11.00 am. Departure would be at 11.33, bus, train, bus and 15 minutes walk so some 1h40m in total.

Public "Engagement" CCG staff are always welcome in Rutland but there has been only one meeting to discuss UHL proposals. Glossy artists' impressions were presented but no detail then discussion of the implications was abruptly cut short before people's questions could be answered. For most people these are completely new proposals so please leave the glossy presentations at home and talk **with** us not **at** us.

Legal requirements. There is a legal requirement to consult with the public. The CCGs have already decided they would fail to meet their obligations when transferring a substantial proportion of Leicester General to Glenfield despite urging by the combined LLR Scrutiny Committee to comply. **Such disregard of legal obligations and possible prejudice of this consultation breeds distrust.**

Maternity. Most of the public engagement took place in Leicester. There was just one event on 17th July 2015 in Rutland but only 6 members of the public (and no mothers) were involved. Rutland people have not had an adequate say in the redesign of Maternity Services serving Rutland.

In conclusion

We look forward to constructive discussion of some very serious changes and we hope you are willing to supply the whole picture of where these changes fit into the wider picture of primary, community, acute (including physical and Mental Health) and social care.

You are our commissioner of health services and we look forward to working with you to develop a proposal that works for Rutland. Some of the narrative in the PCBC dismisses our minority rural population as unimportant and we are sure that you personally do not see things that way.

Yours sincerely

The Rutland Consortium

PS - The PCBC can be found on the agenda for the East Leicestershire and Rutland CCG meeting of 8th September <https://eastleicestershireandrutlandccg.nhs.uk>

Local Plan Newsletter

September 2020

Local Plan Review Public Consultation



Rutland
County Council

This issue of the Local Plan newsletter provides an update on the Local Plan Review Consultation and how to find out more.

Find out more about the Rutland Local Plan

- [Watch 'Rutland's Local Plan- The Journey so Far'](#)
- [Watch 'Where are we now? An introduction to Regulation 19'](#)
- [Hear from Councillor Gordon Brown, Deputy Leader for Rutland County Council](#)
- [View the Local Plan, maps and all the technical evidence documents](#)



Have your say on the legal compliance and 'soundness' of the Local Plan

- [Go to the online consultation response form](#)
- **No Internet Access?** You can make an appointment to view the Local Plan documents at the Council offices in Oakham.
- **Please telephone 01572 722577** if you would like a copy of the response form, information about the consultation or to book an appointment to view the Local Plan.
 - Appointments are limited to 30 minutes and to 2 adults from the same household. Please book at least 72 hours in advance. Measures will be in place to meet Covid-19 restrictions.

Parish Councils

- The following Parish Councils are offering appointments to see the Local Plan in your village. Contact your Parish Clerk if you would like to arrange to see the Local Plan document.
 - Cottesmore
 - Edith Weston
 - Ketton
 - Normanton
 - North Luffenham
 - Oakham
 - Ryhall
 - South Luffenham



Contact us

If you have any questions, please contact the Local Plan team on:
localplan@rutland.gov.uk or
 call Customer Services on :
01572 722577

The deadline for all responses to the Local Plan consultation is 4.15pm on Friday 9 October 2020.

What next?

- When the Local Plan consultation ends, we will take time to process all the representations and send them along with the Local Plan to the Secretary of State and Planning Inspectorate. We aim to submit this by the end of the year.
- A planning inspector will then conduct the Local Plan Examination where they will consider all the representations and the evidence provided. The planning inspector will hold hearing sessions to consider specific issues during the examination.
- The timetable for the Local Plan Examination will not be confirmed until the Local Plan is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.