

UPPINGHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Public Meeting



December 14th 2023

Notes of Public Meeting of the Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum held on Thursday December 14th 2023 at 7.30pm in the Garden Room of The Falcon Hotel

Present

UNF Chair Janet Thompson BEM, Uppingham Deputy Town Mayor and UNF Executive Member David Ainslie BEM, RCC Cllr Lucy Stephenson (UF), Uppingham Town Councillors and UNF Executive Members, Trevor Colbourne, Christine Edwards, Mark Shaw and Ron Simpson BEM; UNF Executive Members, David Greengrass, Andrew Mankowski and Margaret Simpson BEM and representatives, volunteers and members of the following institutions and community groups:-

The Beeches Residents' Association, St Peter & St Pauls Church, Uppingham Bowls Club, Uppingham Rotary Club, Uppingham Business Forum, Uppingham First, Neighbourhood Watch, Uppingham Brownies, The Elms Residents Association The Limes, Firs and Spurs Residents' Association, UppWatch, the Uppingham Surgery Patient Participation Group, Uppingham WI, Mothers Union, Uppingham in Bloom and the Hopper Heroes.

Apologies for Absence

Police Officer Rebecca Angel of Leicestershire Police, Uppingham Town Mayor Liz Clarke, Alderman Edward Baines (UF) PPG Chair John Leslie, Residents John and Elizabeth Rankin, Hilary Dawe and Helen Swift.

Roll Call of Organisations and Residents

41 attendees were recorded as being present. Attendees were advised that the meeting was to be recorded and photographed at some point in the evening.

1. Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks

Welcome everyone, I am Janet Thompson the Chair of the Forum, a special welcome to anyone who is attending for the first time. People who have attended before will know I like to start with a light heartedness....

Two patients limp into two different medical clinics with the same complaint. Both have trouble walking and appear to require a hip replacement.

The first patient is examined within the hour, is x-rayed the same day and has a time booked for surgery the following week.

The second patient sees his family doctor after waiting 3 weeks for an appointment, then waits 8 weeks to see a specialist, then gets an x-ray which isn't reviewed for another week and finally has his surgery scheduled for 6 months from then.

Why the different treatment for the 2 patients?

The FIRST is a Golden Retriever and the SECOND is a Senior Citizen.



Janet Thompson BEM

2. Crime and Policing Update

Janet next presented a crime report and action plan from Uppingham Beat Officer PC 1668 Rebecca Angel supported by an onscreen presentation of the current crime statistics. The relevant monthly police reports and emerging issues can be read online at www.uppinghamfirst.co.uk on the Neighbourhood Forum page.

3. Health and Wellbeing Project

Resident and Senior Health Service Professional Liz Sargeant OBE reported on a developing new project aimed at enhancing support in the community using volunteers registered on the health service smart phone app known as 'Smart Sam'. The initiative was to be a joint collaboration between Rotary in Uppingham, Uppingham First and Uppingham Surgery. The project would be an opportunity for existing and new volunteers to register on the app and offer local support on a range of issues, such as supporting those with dementia. The community will be updated on developments early in the New Year.

4. Uppingham Surgery

In the absence of John Leslie, Chair of the Uppingham Patient Participation Group (PPG) Forum Chair Janet Thompson BEM at Uppingham Surgery led members of the public through recent developments at the surgery with the help of an on screen presentation prepared in advance by John. Janet also reported that the December Winter Newsletter was available from the Surgery in paper version and is also available via the surgery website

5. Uppingham Community Emergency Plan

Forum Coordinator Ron Simpson BEM advised the meeting that the town's Community Emergency Plan was being updated and that, as part of this, there was an opportunity for new volunteers get involved. These volunteers would be called out in the event of a major incident. Anyone interested should contact him at secretary@uppinghamfirst.co.uk or Tel: 01572 823465.

6. Hopper Update

Deputy Town Mayor and Uppingham Hopper Champion David Ainslie BEM updated Forum attendees on the progress being made with a bid to secure a £100k+ grant to fund the capital cost of a new electric Hopper Bus. The bid had made it to the final round of consideration and it was hoped to have a final answer by March 2024.

7. Planning Update

Deputy Mayor David Ainslie BEM provided the meeting with a short update on the timetable for both the new Local Plan and the new Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan. It is expected that both will be approved for the next stage of publication by the October meeting of RCC Cabinet with the next stages of public consultation commencing soon after.

8. Community Group Updates

- a) Mike Fish updated the Forum on the work of Youth Space, a young people's project located in the town hall. More volunteers to help would be welcome he advised.
- b) On behalf of Uppingham WI, an updating report on Institute activities was read out.
- c) On behalf of Uppingham in Bloom, Deborah delivered a community update.
- d) Rotary Secretary Margaret Simpson BEM read out formal thanks to residents and Forum members for their generosity in the recent 'Toys on the Table' Christmas Toys appeal. 2023 had been the best year since the projects inception with substantially more toys donated this year.

9. Any Other Business

Travellers Site – A resident spoke of his concerns about the proposed location of a travellers site in Uppingham. In subsequent discussion it was agreed that concerned residents should respond to the current public consultation on the draft Local Plan and indicate their views.

Janet thanked everyone for attending. These notes and the presentation slides will be available on www.uppinghamfirst.co.uk under the 'Forum' section.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Notes distributed in January 2024.



Notes: Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum is a fully constituted, non-political, neighbourhood infrastructure network which brings together residents and a number of town councillors, charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups. In addition to acting as the voice of Civil Society for Uppingham, the Forum oversees the work of UppWatch (the town's neighbourhood watch and good neighbour scheme), the operation of the Uppingham Community Emergency Plan and the supervision of the community's defibrillators along with community partnership Uppingham First. The Neighbourhood Forum is led by its Chair Janet Thompson BEM and a strong Executive Committee of local organisation representatives. All public meetings of the Forum are preceded by a volunteer distributed newsletter to every household.



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

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