

Uppingham Vanguard Board

Working Together to help Uppingham Become an Exemplar Market Town

Summary Notes of the Fifth Meeting of the Uppingham Vanguard Board + held at 10am on
March 5th 2020 in the Oak Room of The Falcon Hotel

Physical Contributors

Members/Representatives of – CPRE Rutland, Rutland Kino, BRA Ltd, Limes Firs & Spurs Residents Association, Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum, Uppingham Community College, Uppingham C of E School, Uppingham Business Forum, Uppingham First, Rutland First, Ancer Spa, Lynton Developments, Langton Homes, Larkfleet Homes UTC UNP/Town Plan Groups, Uppingham Homes Community Land Trust.

Virtual Contributors

None

Invitees Unable to Attend

RCC (Apologies sent) Bloor Homes, Leighfield School (Apologies sent), Uppingham School, Gigaclear, Healthwatch Rutland, Leicestershire Police.

1. Welcome and Declarations of Interest

Edward Baines (Chair) welcomed guests and noted the apologies of those not able to attend. The community, council and business interests of those attending were noted.

2. Uppingham Homes CLT (Community Land Trust)

This new local community benefit society (CBS) intends to build and manage affordable homes making younger people an early priority. Its first project is a proposal to build up to 8 dwellings on the site of a derelict orchard in Uppingham which has been donated to the Trust. A detailed planning application is nearing completion. The application will be informed by a CPRE pilot housing needs survey (See later note) Registered Housing Provider' status with Homes England and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) is being sought. Developers and landowners will soon receive a letter from the Trust seeking collaborative working.

3. Digital Uppingham

A proposal for town centre wifi has been received from Elephant Wifi of Hinckley, Leicestershire. It is being considered in collaboration with Rutland County Council. It was agreed that a study visit to Hinckley town centre be arranged.

4. Uppingham Cashless Society Project

A report outlining the development of UppShop and the ability to shop online at shops in the town centre not on the internet was well received.

5. Development of Uppingham as an Exemplar Community – Progress Reports

a) RCC Local and Transport Plans – The frustrations created by the delays in the production and amendment of both plan were noted. The empowerment of the UNP by the new draft Local Plan text was applauded. The CPRE Rutland 2036 initiative was acknowledged. The desire of RCC to create a 50 year vision for Rutland was applauded and cooperation offered

b) Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan – In the absence of Chair of the UTC Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group, David Ainslie BEM updated the meeting with the progress made to date. The Rutland CPRE housing needs survey project was welcomed

c) Developer and Landowner Updates – i) North Side Leicester Road – The lack of progress in moving this site forward by its landowners was noted ii) Uppingham Gate – The desire to progress this site was noted. A care home, second supermarket, cinema, start up units and affordable housing in the form of bungalows were all a real possibility if supported by the updated UNP iii) Top of Leicester Road – The desire of UTC to see the line of a north south relief road protected in the in the Langton Homes development was acknowledged iv) Badley Orchard – The progress made by Uppingham Homes CLT and their architects GSS of Northamptonshire was reported. The proposals were said to look attractive and had received very positive feedback from the community v) A request from Davidsons Homes to engage with the Vanguard Board was agreed

d) Education and Skills Establishment Updates - Education leads next provided brief updates on the status of their establishments. A major topic was school places and the appeals process. Following enquiries about access to CIL funds, it was agreed to invite Mark Andrews, Strategic Director for People at RCC, to the next meeting. The appointment of Geoff Thompson to represent the Education sector on the board of Uppingham First was noted

e) Youth facilities – The UTC initiative seeking a home base for youth facilities in the town was acknowledged and an outcome awaited

f) Community Safety Update – Speeding, online scams and some drug activity remain a concern

6. Health and Wellbeing

The efforts of the local Patient Participation Group were acknowledged as was the current expansion of services at the surgery. An update of the Uppingham Community Emergency Plan was reported. The initial community response to the threat posed by the Coronavirus was received and thoughts for the future exchanged.

7. Date of Next Meeting

To be agreed with the Chair and guest Mark Andrews (6 month intervals) Meeting closed at 12noon with lunch being served.

Notes prepared by Ron Simpson 19.3.2020

Note: The Uppingham Vanguard Board+ was created at the suggestion of a government advisor who was impressed by the town's forward looking agenda. Its purpose is to share information with, and encourage collective debate between, organisations involved in the operation and forward development of Uppingham as an exemplar market town. The Board is administered by the award winning Uppingham First Community Partnership.

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