



UPPINGHAM TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN/WINTER 2015

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View from the Mayor

It's certainly been a busy time for Uppingham Town Council since our last newsletter. All the councillors had to face the electorate in May and we now have a new council that comprises of some experienced councillors and some new (and very welcome) first time councillors. Personally, I had an additional election to face, that of my fellow councillors, and I was most honoured to be selected to serve a second yearly term as the Mayor of Uppingham with Cllr Alec Crombie being the Deputy Mayor. We are also joined by our new Town Clerk Neil Wedge following the retirement of our previous long serving clerk Mrs Susan Awcock.

I have been to the High Court in London again to observe the appeal of Larkfleet Homes Ltd against the Neighbourhood Plan. As I am sure you will know the appeal by Larkfleet was dismissed and this means that they have now lost their initial case against the Neighbourhood Plan and their appeal. Unfortunately they refuse to accept the democratic view of the people of Uppingham and are now seeking permission to take their case to the Supreme Court. We should hear the outcome of this application by the autumn of this year. In the meantime we have received the first planning application for 75 homes to be built in Uppingham as envisaged by the Neighbourhood Plan and it is so gratifying to all of us who worked on the plan to see it starting to deliver tangible benefits to the people of Uppingham.

Nearer home, the skate park has been occupying all our minds. A number of events have conspired against us which has resulted in the unexpected delay in completing this important project but hopefully we are now on the final leg and this superb facility should soon be open for our young people.

Obviously I and the council apologise for the delays but would like to thank all our young people who have been so understanding during this challenging project.

On a brighter note, after nearly two years of hard work behind the scenes, we should shortly see the commencement of the six month trial for the Uppingham Hopper Bus. I would like to thank my fellow Councillor Ron Simpson for all his hard work here as well as colleagues at Rutland County Council who have helped to make this bus a reality.

I always think that the Town Council is a bit like the proverbial swan on a lake. Nice and serene on the top but paddling like mad below the surface of the water to keep moving forward! I know that all my colleagues on the council will continue to work hard for Uppingham and please remember that all our meetings are open to the public. So if you would like to see us in action please come to any of our regular monthly meetings which are normally the first Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm in the Town Hall.

Cllr Dave Ainslie

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November

8th – Remembrance Sunday

11th – Uppingham Film Night (Love & Mercy)

December

2nd – Uppingham Fatstock Show

3rd – Christmas in Uppingham

6th – Age Concern Uppingham Christmas Party. 3-5pm Town Hall (tickets from Gilbert & Thomas from 6th Nov)

9th – Uppingham Film Night (Mr. Holmes)

22nd – **Special Christmas Market** 8am-2pm – to be confirmed in local press and town council website

Uppingham Fair 28th Feb to 5th Mar 2016 leaving Sunday 6th Mar

Town Hall Refurbishment – Views Sought

Uppingham Town Council was fortunate to obtain a grant from the Homes and Community Agency to produce designs for making the Town Hall more functional in the years ahead. This work follows on from the desire expressed in the Neighbourhood Plan to explore the possibility of eventually developing a community hub that could incorporate the library, provide community rooms, council offices and retain the popular dance floor with associated facilities.

Following a period of public consultation with the people of Uppingham in December 2014 formal planning permission was sought from Rutland County Council earlier this year for an exciting scheme to redevelop the existing Town Hall building to give us the much needed facilities identified in our Neighbourhood Plan. Whilst initially supportive, Rutland County Council refused part of our planning application which has caused us to have to question the whole viability of the Community Hub project. Basically as the Town Hall is within the Conservation Area our submitted



design sought to retain the existing building façade whilst extending the rear area. The Planning Authority passed all of our rear area plans but refused to allow the intended use of glass and steel at the front of the

[more on the centre pages >>>>](#)

MEET YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS



Cllr David Ainslie - Mayor

I have lived in Uppingham since 1989 when my work first brought me to the town. The job that brought me here only lasted for 9 months but my family so loved living in Uppingham that we decided to stay and make our lives here. First my children attended the local primary and secondary schools and now my grandchildren are following in their footsteps.

Why the Town Council matters is that as local people we can try to do things ourselves such as providing youth facilities or a hopper bus to get access for all around the town.

David chairs full council meetings and sits on all committees in the operating structure for Uppingham Town Council.



Cllr Lindsay Cooper

Lindsay Chairs the Staffing Committee and is Vice-Chair of the Finance & general Purposes Committee.



Cllr Christine Edwards

Christine sits on the Finance & General Purposes Committee, Planning and is Vice-Chair of the Staffing Committee.



Cllr Alec Crombie - Deputy Mayor

One product is our Neighbourhood Plan which I am itching to see implemented. As a totally Blind individual I have a keen interest in the built environment and issues of access in particular.

Alec deputises for David Ainslie in full council when unavailable and also sits on the following committee, Finance & General Purposes, Amenities and Planning.



Cllr Sam Findlay

Before retiring, I worked in the steel industry for 43 years, ending my days as Finance Manager for TATA Tubes. I think the experiences I coped with there are a good qualification for an effective councillor.

Sam is Chair of the Finance & General Purposes Committee and sits on the Staffing and Amenities Committees.



Cllr David Casewell

As well as a member of the Town Council, I am also a member of Uppingham Town Partnership, Uppingham Feast Committee, Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan task group, Uppingham Masonic Lodge, membership secretary of the Rutland CAMRA branch and member of Rutland Morris Men.

David sits on the following committees, Amenities and Planning.



Cllr Richard Reeve

I am on the Operating Committee of Uppingham Town Cricket Club and have served as an Uppingham Town Councillor for the past 25 years.

Dick is Chair of the Planning Committee and also sits on the Amenities Committee.

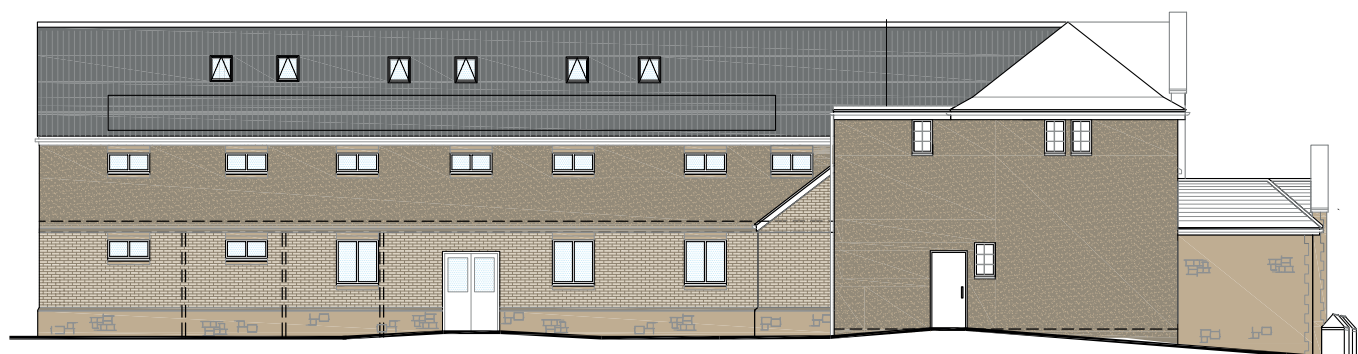
Town Hall Refurbishment – Views Sought *continued*

building. The Planning Committee did however indicate that they may be more sympathetic to a stone built frontage that keeps the feeling for the existing building.

Whilst we have had some amended plans drawn up as requested by the Planning Authority, before we decide whether or not to submit them we want to consult the people of Uppingham once more to ensure that we have the local community with us on this project. Indeed we would like to take this opportunity to seek views not only on the physical design of the building but on the whole idea of undertaking such a massive redevelopment project. As part of our initial efforts we obtained the services of a Quantity Surveyor and his view is that the potential redevelopment of both the “rear” and “front” sections will cost around

£1.3m. Whilst the Town Council have yet to formally debate this issue, but will do so in December once the consultation and feedback from you has been received and studied. I am happy to say that it is not our intention to try to fund this through the Precept (Council Tax) but to continue to seek grants, possibly loans and to look at other fund raising options.

Working with our Town Clerk Neil Wedge, the Town Council have put together a formal survey to gather the thoughts of local people and I would ask you to please let us know your views on this important matter. The questions in the survey are far wider than just the fabric of the building but I do appreciate that these will be of interest to you which is why I have shown the latest design for you above. Thank you for your help with this key issue.



WEST ELEVATION



Cllr Peter Rees

Born and raised in the town. Secretary of Uppingham Colts FC, member of The Uppingham Town Partnership and committee member of Age Concern Uppingham.

Peter Chairs the Amenities Committee and also sits on the Planning Committee.



Cllr Mark Shaw

I am an active member of our community, a local businessman, and a regular participant in community projects. My aim now is to represent the priorities of local residents to help ensure the future of our town is in the safest possible hands.

Mark sits on the Staffing and Amenities Committee.



Cllr Ian Salt

Ian is Vice-Chair of the Planning Committee and also sits on the Amenities Committee.



Cllr Miranda Jones

As the Council's representative for Uppingham in Bloom I have taken an active part in their preparations for this year's judging days. This year I joined the Feast Day committee and have just taken over as Chair of the Christmas in Uppingham committee.

Miranda is Vice-Chair of the Amenities Committee.



Cllr Ron Simpson

Ron is a Neighbourhood Planning Champion and principal author of a series of economic and social planning documents for Uppingham including 'Uppingham 2025', the 'Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan' and the 'Uppingham Town Centre and Business Zone Plan'.

Ron doesn't sit on any council committees.



Cllr Bill O'Leary

My priorities are to enable the young people of the town to have fulfilled and creative lives whilst supporting the needs of our elderly population.

Bill sits on the Finance & General Purposes Committee.



Cllr Cornelius Vincent-Enright

As a town councillor I would like to promote better facilities for the youth in our fantastic town as they are our future and they deserve our continued support.

Cornelius sits on the Amenities and Planning Committees.



Cllr Stephen Rozak

Uppingham has given me a lot in the 18 years we have lived here and by becoming a councillor I hope to be able to give something back to the town and its people.

Stephen sits on Finance & General Purposes and Planning Committees.

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Town Hall Refurbishment

The precise detail of the finished layout and design internally will be subject to further work and consultation with interest groups in town. At this point in time your council are just looking to establish local appetite for the general refurbishment of the existing building at an estimated cost of £1.3m. The funding for this would need to be raised over a period of time if the community and council approve the plan of which the majority will be sought through grants. You can now inspect the proposed outline plans and visuals at the Town Hall between 9am and 4pm Tuesday to Friday. We are keen to get your views and welcome them in whichever way you feel is easiest, we can capture them when you visit the Town Hall, you can complete the section below and cut along the dotted line (these can be dropped into the Town Hall letterbox) or you can let us know your views online at the Town Council website. Links will be available on our social media pages.



www.uppinghamtowncouncil.gov.uk

QUESTIONS

Your name:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Do you broadly support the re-development of the existing Town Hall to become a 'Community Hub' incorporating the library and upgrading of community rooms for meetings, classes (dance, aerobics etc.) and local services? | <i>please tick</i> |
| | YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Are you broadly supportive of redeveloping the front elevation of the existing Town Hall to create a 'heritage space' for local history artefacts and public information? | |
| | YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Are you keen to see the library incorporated into the new building if it is refurbished? | |
| | YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> |

4. If there was one other 'facility or service' you would like to be included in a new community hub – what would it be?

5. Please provide us with any additional comments you have about the front elevation:

6. Please provide us with any additional comments you have about the decision to go ahead or not with the overall refurbishment:



Christmas in Uppingham

The date to note now in your diary is **Thursday 3rd December 2015**.

The event this year is looking to build strongly on the great success of last year with record numbers of visitors enjoy the unique atmosphere our market town offers. To make the event a continued success the organising committee are keen to ensure we have a strong contingent of volunteers especially as there are plans to improve parking for the event. If you want to help out for part or all of the evening please contact Miranda Jones by email – mirandajones2015@outlook.com The Uppingham Town Partnership look forward to welcoming you to the event, updates and more information can be found at www.christmasinuppingham.co.uk The Skating Rink has been booked along with a number of other attractions and performers – plus a few surprises!



Anti-Dog Fouling Campaign

Earlier this year the Council took part in a campaign to try and educate those dog owners who fail to collect faeces left by their dogs. The campaign wasn't across the whole of town but specifically in locations where there were high incidences being reported. The campaign has been successful but there remain some areas that continue to suffer. These are mainly Tod's Piece and the surrounding footpaths. Additionally there is an increasing issue on Uppingham School playing fields in particular the middle, which like Tod's Piece provides a significant risk to children, sportsmen and women in terms of infection. The campaign will continue and we'd encourage residents to report locations and known offenders to the Town Council website for follow up. Council is also acting on feedback from responsible dog owners about the provision of more bins on dog walking routes around town. We thank those responsible dog owners for continuing to do the right thing.

We have also had a handful of complaints about dogs off leads on Tod's Piece and allotments – can I please ask that those dog walkers observe the local bye laws in place.

PART-TIME VACANCY Weekend Caretaker and Park Attendant

We have a current vacancy working for Uppingham Town Council. The hours in total will be between 8-10 and are flexible across the week, but do include weekend hours.

Duties include supporting weekend hirers of the Town Hall and outdoor work on Tod's Piece and the Market Place.

For more information call into the Town Hall for an application form or email townclerk@uppinghamtowncouncil.co.uk

From the Town Hall



Since taking up the role one of the first priorities has been to improve the ways Uppingham residents can let the local council know about issues and problems. The Town Hall office is not open around the clock and when we are there, we are only too pleased to help with any queries. If though you find it difficult to call into the Town Hall, there are now other ways you can get a message to us to follow up. The website is being refreshed over the course of 2015, the social media profile has been raised with a Facebook page and Twitter account. Additionally there is a fault reporting page which generates an email to me personally. Take a look at us on **Twitter - @UppinghamTC** or search for 'Uppingham Town Council' on Facebook. Our website address is www.uppinghamtowncouncil.gov.uk

Another useful site is www.rutland.gov.uk – Rutland County Council naturally provide a significant number of services as our County authority, so if it's not covered on our site that's a good next step.

Town Clerk: Neil Wedge 01572 822681

YOUR LOCAL POLICE SUPPORT

CURRENT LOCAL PRIORITY: To deal with Anti social behaviour with youths drinking on the play areas on Tod's Piece, the Middle Field and at the bottom of Meadow Sweet Lane off South View.

BEAT SURGERIES – Come and meet your local officers:

27/11/15 10-11am 10am Methodist Church, Orange Street, Uppingham, LE15 9SQ

27/11/15 11am in the Church Rooms, St Peters and St Pauls Church, Market Place, Uppingham, LE15 9QH

Contact for a
NON EMERGENCY: 101
EMERGENCY: 999
Web site: Leics.police.uk
Local officers:
Pc 2113 Icke
peter.icke@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk
Pcso 6613 Wylie
andy.wylie@leicestershire.police.uk



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