

Proposal for F&GP : The creation of a UTC ' Uppingham Covid Fund' to support the safe and effective re opening of retail businesses in the town of Uppingham .

Uppingham Town Council (UTC) is currently working with Rutland County Council (RCC) to ensure that the central govt. fund of circa £36,000 for the safe opening of retail businesses awarded to Rutland is spent effectively and efficiently for the support of businesses re opening in Uppingham. This is being moved forward through a 'covid working party' agreed at Full Council Meeting 03 06 20 consisting of Cllrs Liz Clarke (subsequently agreed chair) Steve Rozak, Miranda Jones, Lucy Lewin, Dave Casewell and Ron Simpson. They have met via Zoom and at 'distanced' on site meetings at the Friday Market. The group liaises with RCC CEO Helen Briggs and Cllr Lucy Stephenson RCC Portfolio Holder Market Towns.

In addition to central govt. funding , the group are asking UTC to further support businesses in the town through:

1) Uppingham Covid Fund. Retail premises

The purpose of this fund would be to enable sole proprietor retail businesses to apply for limited funds from UTC to gain some 'token' re imbursement of expenditure to enable their establishments to safely re- open for business as Govt. regulation allow. It is anticipated that the fund would be capped at £5,000, and that there should be a maximum claim of £200 per business allowing 25 businesses to gain support.

Applicants for such funding should apply to the clerk prior to the 31 August indicating the nature of the expenditure and whether it is retrospective or planned. A simple application form is envisaged. For auditing purposes applicants will be required to affirm that the application will not breach the 'de minimus regulations' for State Aid for their business (a maximum total of 200,000 Euros support) The clerk would use delegated powers to respond to such applications . In the case of query, the clerk should in the first case seek the advice of either the Chair of F&GP and/or the Mayor/Deputy Mayor. The clerk will prepare a report to F&GP on the usage of such funding.

F&GP are asked to consider and approve these figures, and the source of such funding, and also determine whether the total figure is a definite maximum.

2) Uppingham Covid Fund Market Traders UTC should seek to similarly reward Uppingham market stall traders through a one week market rent grant, automatically awarded . It is anticipated that the total sum required to pay such a grant should not exceed £300 . This would be awarded to those stall holders trading on Fri June 19th. This grant will be administered through the normal invoicing actions of the clerk.

F&GP are asked to consider approve these figures , and the source of such funding, and also determine whether the figure is a definite maximum

Dave Casewell June 2020 (on behalf of covid working party)