**Minutes of Uppingham Town Council Full Council meeting,**

**held at Uppingham Town Hall on Monday 18 March 2024 at 7pm**

Present: Cllrs David Ainslie, Liz Clarke (chair), Trevor Colbourne, Christine Edwards, Sam Findlay, Mike Fish, Barry Hobbs, Godfrey Jennings, Tom Johnson. Peter Rees, Ron Simpson

In attendance: County Cllr Christine Wise, 5 members of the public and Locum Clerk P Leppard

(The meeting was audio-recorded.)

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| 646/24  647/24  648/24  649/24  650/24  651/24  652/24  653/24  654/24  655/24  656/24  657/24  658/24  659/24  660/24  661/24  662/24  663/24 | **a**  **b** | **Mayor’s opening remarks**  Cllr Clarke reminded councillors of the importance of the meeting on 4 April called by RCC’s Monitoring Officer. She welcomed Locum Clerk Peter Leppard.  **To receive apologies for absence**  It was resolved that apologies from Cllrs Dalby (illness) and Shaw (holidays) be accepted.  **Declarations of members’ interests and applications for dispensations**  Non-pecuniary declarations were declared by:  Cllr Hobbs: Dispensation for council term – Uppingham Homes CLT  Cllr Colbourne: Dispensation for council term – Uppingham First  Cllr Ainslie: Dispensation for council term – Bloors Land  Cllr Simpson, as a director of Leicestershire & Rutland ALC  Cllr Rees, as a near neighbour, re planning application re Thorpes Terrace  **To confirm the minutes of Full Council meetings on 7 February and 6 March**  After amending one sentence in the 7 February minutes, it was resolved to confirm the minutes of both meetings.  It was pointed out that an incorrectly-edited recording of January’s meeting is still online. The Clerk undertook to rectify this.  **An opportunity for the public to speak**  A member of the public spoke about parking problems on Lime Tree Ave and Leicester Rd when some sports events take place.  Another member of the public spoke against the proposal at agenda item 15 re the forthcoming Independent Examiner’s hearing re the refreshed Neighbourhood Plan.  **To receive any reports from County Councillors**  County Cllr Wise spoke about (1) RCC’s updating of its Corporate Strategy, (2) RCC’s budget and Financial Strategy, (3) RCC’s Biodiversity Net Gain workstream, (4) the need for UTC to appoint a Parish Tree Warden and (5) the likelihood of an announcement soon re Uppingham’s library.  It was resolved to enquire of former Cllr R Reeve if he would like to be the Parish Tree Warden. **Action: Clerk**  **Finance**  **Accounts for payment**  It was resolved to authorise accounts for payment totalling £18,148.27.  **Monthly Finance reports**  In the brief period since his arrival at UTC, the Clerk had not had time to produce these. However, he tabled some incomplete details for January, and undertook to circulate full reports for January and February as soon as available. **Action: Clerk**  **Decisions taken during the temporary absence of the Clerk**  It was resolved to note a written & signed report from the Mayor and Deputy Mayor listing decisions taken by them during the temporary absence of the Clerk.  **Locum Clerk’s report**  **I**t was resolved to note this report, which had been circulated. There was a brief discussion of one issue within it, the forthcoming scaffolding to enable repairs to the boundary wall on the west side of the Town Hall; it was resolved to check that fire-exit arrangements will still be adequate. **Action: Clerk**  **Correspondence**  There was no specific correspondence to bring to the attention of the meeting.  **Arrangements for D-Day commemoration, June 2024**  It was resolved that a working-party of Cllrs Ainslie, Fish and Johnson will consider these and report back to Full Council. **Action: DA/MF/TJ**  **Appointment of a new grounds-maintenance contractor**  The Clerk updated the meeting on the outcome of recent grounds-maintenance tendering at Oakham TC. It was resolved that a proposal for Uppingham TC will be brought to the next full Council meeting for approval, with the Clerk seeking to implement temporary arrangements until then. **Action: Clerk**  **Town Hall roof repairs**  There was no progress to report on this matter.  **Hearing-loop proposal for Town Hall**  It was noted that the agreed survey had taken place on 15 March, and that a report therefrom was expected shortly.  **Independent Examiner’s public hearing re the refreshed Neighbourhood Plan, 12 Apr**  It was resolved (7 in favour, 4 abstentions) that the Town Council be represented at the hearing by its professional advisor Clive Keble, supported as necessary by Cllr Simpson.  **Relationship with Uppingham School**  Following a discussion, it was unanimously resolved that the Clerk would explore with the School bursar the issues raised. **Action: Clerk**  **Business Rates review**  It was resolved to enter an agreement with Messrs Goodman Nash to identify potential Business Rates savings for the Council, subject to first undertaking a due diligence check on Goodman Nash. **Action: Clerk**  **Planning applications**  It was resolved to comment as follows on applications notified to the Council:  2024/0306/FUL (22 North St East) - No objection, subject to a condition that noise assessment (and then mitigation) be undertaken in the event of receipt of a reasonable noise complaint.  2024/0251/FUL (Flat 3, 57A High St) - Objection, on the grounds that replacement of Collyweston slates by a less satisfactory alternative is not acceptable.  2024/0222/FUL (Seaton Hse, Leicester Rd) - Objection, on the grounds that circumstances have not materially altered since the previous application for this parking space was declined.  2024/0205/FUL (5-8 Farleigh Gdns)– Supported  2024/0136/LBA (6 Thorpes Terrace) – Supported  2024/0147/MAF (11 Ayston Rd) – Supported  2024/0109/FUL & 0110/LBA (33 High St East) – Supported **Action: Clerk**  The meeting closed at 8.40pm.  Signed:……………………………….………………………………… Date:…………………………… |