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

**held at Uppingham Town Hall on Tuesday 16 July 2024 at 7pm**

Present: Cllrs David Ainslie (chair), Liz Clarke, Trevor Colbourne, Lindsay Cooper, Christine Edwards, Barry Hobbs, Mark Shaw, Ron Simpson.

In attendance: County Cllr R Ross, approx. 30 members of the public and Locum Clerk P Leppard

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| 735/24  736/24  737/24  738/24  739/24  740/24  741/24  742/24  743/24  744/24  745/24  746/24  747/24  748/24  749/24  750/24  751/24 | **a**  **b**  **a**  **b**  **c** | **Mayor’s opening remarks**  Cllr Ainslie advised that he was exercising the Mayor’s discretion to, for this meeting, disapply the requirement in Standing Orders to stand while speaking. He reported on his attendance as Mayor at Uppingham School’s speech day, the Flag-raising ceremony at Oakham Castle, and the funeral of D-Day veteran Dennis Wright. Cllr Ainslie noted that it is proposed that the next full Council meeting be held on Wed 4 September.  **To receive apologies for absence**  Nil  **Declarations of members’ interests and applications for dispensations**  Cllr Simpson declared an interest in agenda items 10(i) and 14b through being associated with potential recipients of payments.  Cllr Shaw sought a dispensation - which was granted - re agenda item 10(i), on the grounds that too few councillors are not associated in some way with Uppingham Late Night Shopping to enable a quorate decision to be made without such a dispensation.  **To confirm the minutes of the Full Council meeting on 19 June**  It was resolved to confirm the minutes of this meeting.  **An opportunity for the public to speak**  Various members of the public spoke about (a) the independent Assessor’s review of Uppingham’s draft revised Neighbourhood Plan, (b) the adequacy of communication of the Council’s decision to discontinue the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group, (c) an allegation (unsubstantiated) of an assault on Feast Day, (d) costs caused by the turnover rate of Council staff, (e) the positive nature of the Uppingham in Bloom judging day, (f) whether June’s council meeting suggested that the Council might need to reflect on its culture, (g) the Council’s decision at its June meeting on a grant application from Uppingham Late Night Shopping, (h) a decision by Uppingham First to refund £1500 of unspent grant monies to the Town Council, and (i) the perceived need for installation of more dog-waste bins.  **Reports from County Councillor(s)**  Nil  **Filling of vacant Town Council seats**  It was noted that RCC have now issued the relevant Notices to Electors re the filling of 7 vacant seats.  **Council representative on Uppingham in Bloom committee**  Following the recent resignation of Cllr Johnson, it was resolved that the Council’s representative on the UiB committee will now be Cllr Simpson.  **Council’s complaints procedure**  It was resolved to defer this item until September’s Council meeting.  **Grant applications**  It was resolved to award grants of (a) £1,500 to Uppingham Late Night Shopping and (b) £2,000 to Uppingham in Bloom.  **Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan**  It was resolved to endorse a paper tabled proposing next steps re populating the Neighbourhood Planning subcommittee. The Clerk will action accordingly. **Action: Clerk**  Cllr Ainslie noted that the decision at June’s meeting to engage the services of a consultant had now been actioned, and that he has started work.  **Reports from Committees**  Reports of recent meetings of (a) the Finance & General Purposes Committee and (b) the Environment, Infrastructure & Amenities Committee were given, respectively, by Cllrs Colbourne and Clarke.  **Clerk’s report**  The Locum Clerk reported on (i) a recent discussion with RCC re how best to spend UK Shared Prosperity Fund monies allocated to Uppingham, and (ii) a now-proposed meeting with RCC in August to further progress creation of a UTC licence for Baines Corner.  **Finance**  It was resolved that the Clerk will develop a revised version of the Council’s Financial & Management Risk Assessment for approval at September’s meeting. **Action: Clerk**  It was resolved to authorise the tabled schedule of accounts for payment, totalling £21,255.48.  It was resolved to receive the monthly Finance report for June, and this was signed.  **Planning applications**  It was resolved to comment to RCC’s Planning department as follows: **Action: Clerk**   * 2024/0608/DIS (9 Stockerston Rd): No objection * 2024/0603/RG3 (Public library, Queen St): No comment * 2024/0605/CAT (3 Stockerston Rd): Supported * 2024/0110/LBA (33 High St E): The Council supports the Conservation Officer’s comments. * 2024/0706/FUL (8 Cedar Clo): The Council objects, due to adverse effect on 6 Cedar Clo. * 2024/0713/FUL (25 South View): Supported * 2024/0385/FUL (School carpark, Leicester Rd): The Council objects, due to the height of the lighting being detrimental to the street scene. * 2024/0688/FUL (2 Poplar Clo): The Council objects, due to the adverse effect on neighbours (which might be lessened by creating a hipped end?). * 2024/0722/CLP (4 Stockerston Cres): Supported * 2024/0741/FUL (Public RoW, North St W): No objection * 2024/0681/FUL (Field, Uppingham Gate): No comment   It was also noted that RCC has refused application 2024/0543/FUL (62 High St E).    **Exclusion of press & public**  It was resolved that, in view of the confidential nature of the following item, the press and public be excluded from the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, s1.  **Recruitment of new Town Clerk**  The outcome of the recent interviews was reviewed, and it was resolved to make a job offer (the details of which were agreed) to the most suitable candidate.  The meeting closed at 8.50pm.  Signed:………………………………………………………………………..…… Date:…………………………… |