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

**held at Uppingham Town Hall on Wednesday 1st November 2023 at 7.00pm.**

Present, Cllrs David Ainslie, Trevor Colbourne Christine Edwards, Lindsay Cooper, Pat Dalby, Sam Findlay, Mike Fish, Godfrey Jennings, Peter Rees, Mark Shaw, Ron Simpson. Ray Sutton.

The Town Clerk Sharon Coe, Cynthia Ondeng Administration Assistant.

3 members of the public

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| 558/23  559/23  560/23  561/23  562/23  563/23  564/23  565/23  566/23  567/23  568/23  569/23  570/23  571/23  572/23  573/23  574/23  575/23 | |  |  | **Mayor’s opening remarks**  The Deputy Mayor (Cllr Ainslie ) welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed that he was chairing the meeting as the Mayor was on holiday.  **To receive apologies for absence**.  It was proposed and seconded that the apologies from Cllrs Hobbs, Clarke (holidays) Johnson (other commitments) be accepted. **Resolved unanimously.**  **Declarations of members’ interests and applications for dispensations**  Non-pecuniary declarations were declared by:  Cllr Simpson item 9b & d  Cllr Dalby, Fish, Jennings item 6  Cllr Shaw – dispensation for council term – Uppingham First, Uppingham Homes CLT and Beeches Resident Association.  **An opportunity for the public to speak, in accordance with Standing Orders 2.3.4 – 2.3.9**  A statement was made regarding the development of 163 houses planned for Leicester Road, opposite the Elms estate and an insight regarding the recent design review meeting.  **To confirm the minutes of the full council meeting held on Wednesday 5th October 2023**  Proposed, seconded, and resolved. **Resolved unanimously.**  Questions were raised and answered regarding the hearing loop progress, the audio recording and the allotment yearly amounts.  **To receive a presentation from the Citizens Advice Bureau, and consider any points or actions raised.**  A comprehensive presentation was delivered by Mr Furey, and questions were posed and answered. He was thanked for his report. Council would like to invite him back at a future date.  The meeting was paused whilst Cllr Fish left the room. Cllr Fish returned to the room.  **To receive any reports either verbal or written from our County Councillors.**  RCClr Wise, gave apologies on behalf of RCClr Lambert who was not able to attend due to another meeting.  Salient points included :  Staffing difficulties being experienced at RCC.  The Clerk was being kept fully informed as to the issues that she had raised with RCClr Wise.  Local Plan – biggest difference could be made at this point/stage in the plan by residents engaging with the process. She urged residents to get involved and make their view heard.  Questions were posed and answered.  **To receive an update from the Police.**  Unfortunately the police were unable to attend due to an operation happening in Oakham. The Police report had been included in the agenda packs for members.  Council received the written report as presented in the agenda papers.  Proposed, seconded and **Resolved unanimously.**  **Finance**  **a)**To authorise accounts for payment on 10th November.  Proposed and seconded that the payments for November be authorised, the value of which was £50053.13. **( 10 for 2 abs)**  **b)**To receive the finance report for September including the income and expenditure to budget including year to date, reconciliation, balance sheet and to sign the same. An overview was given and the position as at todays was a break-even position allowing for seasonal adjustments. These were duly signed.  Proposed, seconded, and **Resolved unanimously.**  **c)** To receive the external auditors notice of conclusion of Audit.  An overview was given that the external auditor had picked up on a date issue, which many councils had been picked up on. The Clerk had challenged this. Important learning had taken place.  Proposed, seconded, and **Resolved unanimously.**  **d)** To consider the Grant Aid Applications from  **Curtain Upp.**  A discussion took place and various clarification was given. Council are minded to help but still wish to ask a couple of points for further clarification. These questions will be communicated by the Clerk to Curtain Upp before a final decision can be made.  Proposed, seconded, and **Resolved unanimously.**  **Revised Christmas in Uppingham/LNS**  Cllrs Simpson and Shaw left the room.  A revised application had been received following the deferment previously made. This now meets all Council requirements and met due processes and therefore the grant was approved for £1,500.  Proposed, seconded, and **Resolved unanimously.**  Cllrs Simpson and Shaw returned to the meeting.  **e)** To consider the reply from the Financial Ombudsman and the offer of compensation from Barclays Banks.  The Clerk had received a reply from the Banking Ombudsman confirming that they were unable to progress this claim due to the status of a Town Council. Council therefore resolved that the Clerk contact Barclays and request the £100 compensation be paid.  Proposed, seconded, and **Resolved unanimously.**  **To consider further quotations for the kitchen refurbishments and to proceed with the works if approved.**  Council considered the two additional quotations proposed. and resolved that we go ahead with the original quotation for Howdens previously provided.  Proposed, seconded**, and Resolved unanimously.**  **To consider the report and proposed amendments from the Standing Orders working party and consider whether these should be adopted either in full or in part.**  An overview was given on the amount of work that had gone into the papers from the working party and a thankyou was duly noted. All gender specific terminology had been removed. Any items with statutory force were marked in bold font. Committees had also been colour coded for easier use.  After a full run through and debate the following was resolved:  **NPAG** elements would be “parked”. This would be revisited following the NP decision early next year.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **2.29.0 – 2.29.1** Policies should be separated out and should not sit within the Standing Orders as currently. The Clerk pointed out that they were already separated and on the Council website.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **Staffing Handbook** - The staffing committee should look at the various emails/documents and bring them together as a staffing handbook.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **2.1.16 Point of Order –** Ability to change the ruling of the Chair and challenge the Chair when there was disagreement. A full debate took place, and the vote was tied. The Chair used his casting vote, and the motion was defeated, the Chair made a further proposal that the matter will be referred to LRALC for clarification.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **2.3.6 Addition to Democratic 15 minutes.** Members of the public consent to name and resolutions being minuted.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **2.3.13 and 2.3.13a –** to adopt NALC model ofreporting on the meeting.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **2.9.7 – Challenge of the Proper Officer as to whether to include an item on the agenda as final.**  A full debate took place, and the vote was again tied. The Chair used his casting vote, and the motion was defeated, the Chair made a further proposal that the matter will be referred to LRALC for clarification.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **2.12.5 Draft minutes be destroyed after approved minutes are released.** This should be removed.  Proposed, seconded**, and Resolved unanimously.**  **A proposal was made to adopt the Standing orders subject to the changes as agreed tonight.**  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **The Chair made a proposal was made to extend the meeting by 15 minutes to continue the business of the agenda.**  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **To receive the Clerk’s report and any recommendations within it.**  The Clerk’s report had been sent to all members prior to the meeting.  The Clerk updated members on further items received since production of her report.  Feedback was received on the LRALC training being intense and at times unsatisfactory.  Authorisation required for hedge trimming at the Leicester Road Cemetery, to allow further interments. Delegated power was given to the Clerk to progress this as quickly as possible. Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  Poppies need to be put up around the town.  Help requested for setting up of the chamber.  Invite for Remembrance Sunday.  Amenities committee extra meeting 15th November.  Internal Audit visit – initial feedback was she very happy with the procedures instigated.  Remote meetings will not be able to take place following the Royal Assent to the Levelling Up and Regeneration bid which is now an Act of Parliament.  Roofing quote had been received – two more quotes are being awaited.  A proposal was made to accept the Clerk’s report.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **To receive the Design Review panels conclusion letter regarding the land north of Leicester Road.**  This had been part of the agenda pack, and it was proposed to receive this document as a valid endorsement of our Draft Neighbourhood Plan.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **To seek agreement of the Town Council as the qualifying body for the appointment of Andrew Ashcroft to be appointed as the external examiner for the neighbourhood plan.**  Council had received the appropriate request from RCC including documents and a CV and it was felt that he would represent a fair-minded approach.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **To consider applications for planning permission.**  **A) 2023/0524/FUL | Section 73 Application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of application 2021/1386/FUL - Construction of a new dwelling with associated external works including drive connecting to existing access to No.9 Stockerston Road. | 9 Stockerston Road Uppingham Rutland LE15 9UD**  Council support the neighbours objections to this application.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **b) 2023/1074/PTA | G1, group of Sycamore trees that overhang in the rear garden to be reduced back by 2m so it’s not so encroaching on the garden and house. | 15 Poplar Close Uppingham Rutland LE15 9RQ**  Council approves this application for approval.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **2023/1072/FUL | Proposed new single storey porch extension to front of property. | 33 North Street East Uppingham Rutland LE15 9QJ**  Council approves this application for approval.  Proposed, seconded, **and Resolved unanimously.**  **To receive Planning decisions**  The Planning decisions as per the agenda item were noted and received.  **Proposed, seconded, and Resolved unanimously.**  **To note correspondence.**  **The correspondence was notes as per the agenda item.**  Proposed, seconded, and **Resolved unanimously.**  The meeting closed at 9.10pm.  Signed…………………………………………………………………… Deputy Chair of Council  Dated…………………………………………………………………… |
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