

RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT RUSHDEN HALL ON TUESDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER 2021, COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

Present: Cllr Melanie Coleman, Town Mayor

Councillors: David Coleman Phillip Humphrey Tracey Smith
Paul Harley Gill Mercer Andy Mercer
Janet Pinnock Kay Rawlins Steven North
Barbara Jenney Cameron Clarke Adrian Winkle
Carol Childs

Harriet Pentland Michael Tye

Town Clerk Vivienne Prodger

137/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

138/22 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Sarah Peacock, Richard Lewis, Marian Hollomon, David Jenney, Adrian House, Cesare Marinaro and Colin Wright

139/22 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 27th July 2021 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

140/22 MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT

Summer has been and gone and with it some events we were able to attend in person. 29th July we attended the Mayor of Huntingdon's Mayor Making, on the 30th I rode the new zlp wire at Spencer Park..... along with a nine-year-old and a senior gent celebrating his birthday.

August saw many great events, Happy Mondays Coffee shop opening down the high street, a great venue and decent coffee run by a local family. Sunday 8th the Car Show in Hall Park, most enjoyable day and, I got to choose my favourite car, a Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Style.

Friday 20th I joined some of the veterans from the Falklands War as we paraded to the Cenotaph before they began their 74km walk. We were to join them for a BBQ

at the Station on the Saturday as well as see them return triumphant on the Sunday. A very memorable weekend.

21st August was very busy, Opening Sinful Delights, another new High Street Shop, delivering flowers and anniversary congratulations to the Facey's as well as judging the fancy dress at Newton Bromswold Fair... traumatic you might think.... But sadly, only one entry. Spiderman!

28th finally saw the opening of the newly refurbished King Eddy. A rather tasteful hostelry that is within walking distance for us.

September saw the Merchant Navy Flag raising on the 3rd and on the 4th, we held our first event in the Town for what seems forever. A huge thankyou to everyone who helped towards my first Mayoral event, The Proms, it really was a fabulous evening and several compliments received from the Chain Gang.

No rest as it was straight into another full day, the annual Dog Show. I thoroughly enjoyed this and was delighted to find out my choice was chosen as the Best in Show. A journey to Alconbury for a fascinating insight into, what we were allowed to know, at what happens at the Base and all its subsidiaries Finally we attended the first Civic Service at Higham Ferrers and at last, I could wear a hat. It was good to catch up with colleagues and friends and it really felt almost normal. Except for singing with masks on.

Today is one of the most special events....my consort's birthday. Happy Birthday David.

That's me signing off for this report

141/22 POLICING ISSUES

The Town Clerk reported that a JAG meeting had taken place on 12th August 2021. Sargent Leigh Goodwin reported the following;-

- 1 x PC and PCSO for Irthlingborough now.*
- 1 x PC and PCSO - PC to arrive soon post tutoring.*
- 3 x PC and 4 x PC for Rushden*

Warrant - MDA in Higham Ferrers - looking at ASB legislation to surround this.

PWITS - 2 x arrested and investigation ongoing for PWITS in Irthlingborough - substantial amount of drugs on person, cash and offensive weapons.

Warrant - Palace Court, Rushden - PWITS investigation ongoing. Applied for closure order but tenancy given up on day of court hearing. Same male recently arrested for further PWITS offences.

Warrant - Risdene Court - subsequent closure order at 19. Further closure order at 29. Further work ongoing in Risdene Court.

*Top Priorities next quarter:-
Road Safety & Road Traffic Offences
Drug Dealing & Drug Misuse*

527 ppl in EN completed the form. 49.2% for road safety and 32.5% for drug dealing.

Moving forward - team effort working together. Situational and environmental awareness to reduce issues. Funding for VAS signs via OFPCC. Cutting down hedgerows etc, improve lighting etc. Streetwatch/NHW schemes.

Everyone to provide an update at the JAG as to what they have done toward the LIP's.

JAG meeting to specifically be around the LIP's - AOB needs to be brought to police attention outside of the meeting via PLR or email to the team inbox/direct to local officer.

Drugs dog has been funded by RTC - any more support for funding means we can run it more often.

The date for the next JAG has been set for 28th October 2021.

142/22 LEADERS ADDRESS

Good evening.

In my absence I would just firstly like to say a big "Thank you" to all those who helped in the events over the last weekend. The weather was kind to us, and the community turned out to support us.

The Mayors Proms was well attended and the Dog show likewise. It seemed strange to be getting out the gazebos once again, but it was like riding a bike everything soon became very familiar. The amounts raised will be much appreciated by the nominated charities who over the past 18months have received very little income from their fund raisers.

I am looking forward to the Soap Box Derby and dare I say it the Christmas lights switch on.

Our Covid precautions stay in place for the foreseeable future, but it is good to see that some of the groups are starting up again.

Projects are still being delivered and new ones started. Hopefully at the end of September we will start on our work with Troy on our Design Brief. A project we can all get involved in.

The planning applications are still with the officers at NNC but a recent meeting has hopefully answered most of the outstanding questions and we move towards a committee date. This is such a fantastic project for the town, and we have lost so much time we need to run with it now so that we can get the pitches prepared.

As usual we have many projects lined up and I look forward to working with you all on my return to deliver them.

143/22 UNITARY COUNCIL

Unitary Councillors Harriet Pentland and Michael Tye attended the meeting. Harriet gave a report on Unitary activities including action that was due to be taken in Rushden regarding road markings/yellow lines.

Cllr Smith raised the problem of lack of effective lines in the High Street, which has resulted in the traffic wardens being unable to issue parking tickets. Cllr Pentland stated that she would look into this matter and report back with a timeline for the works to be carried out.

The Mayor thanked both Cllr Tye and Cllr Pentland for attending the meeting.

144/22 CHAIRMAN'S REPORTS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Personnel Committee 26th July 2021

The Chairman gave a verbal report on the agenda items from the meeting held on 26th July 2021

Policy & Resources Committee 31st August 2021

The Chairman gave a verbal report on the agenda items from the meeting held on the 31st August 2021

Planning Consultative Committee 7th September 2021

The Chairman gave a verbal report on the agenda items from the meeting held on 7th September 2021

145/22 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Members discussed recommendations from the Policy and Resources Committee meeting of the 31st August 2021 regarding;

1.
 - a) Complaints Procedure
 - b) Have your say at a Council Meeting
2. Wisteria Close shrub bed

RESOLVED

1.
 - a) Complaints Procedure – to approve this policy and it was duly signed by the Mayor.
 - b) Have your say at a Council Meeting – to approve this policy and it was duly signed by the Mayor.
2.
 - a) Members agreed that the shrub bed at Wisteria Close be sold to the owners of the house adjacent to it, at market value. The purchasers to pay all legal costs relating to the sale and land registry documentation.

146/22 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Policy and Resources Committee 13th July 2021

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held of the 13th July 2021 be received and adopted.

Planning Consultative Committee 26th July 2021

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Planning Consultative Committee held on 26th July 2021 be received and adopted.

Planning Consultative Committee 17th August 2021

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Planning Consultative Committee held on 17th August 2021 be received and adopted.

82/22 DOCUMENTS FOR SIGNING

RESOLVED

The Mayor signed the documentation relating to the sale of part of the shrub bed adjacent to 34 Lime Street

147/22 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

To resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential and sensitive nature of the following item of business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the meeting.

148/22 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Policy and Resources Committee [confidential section] 1st June 2021

RESOLVED

That the confidential section of the report of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee [confidential section] held on 13th July 2021, be received and adopted.

Town Mayor