

RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2019 AT RUSHDEN HALL, RUSHDEN, COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

Present: Councillor: Cesare Marinaro, Town Mayor

Councillors:	David Coleman	Melanie Coleman	David Jenney
	Carol Childs	Barbara Jenney	Tracey Smith
	Adrian House	Paul Harley	Sarah Peacock
	Robin Underwood	Richard Lewis	Marian Hollomon
	Philip Humphrey	Andy Mercer	Colin Wright

Town Clerk: Vivienne Prodger

195/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

196/20 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Steven North, Gill Mercer, Janet Pinnock, Kaye Rawlins and Ron Pinnock

197/20 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 3rd September 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

198/20 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT

'This month began with Proms in the Park on Saturday 7th September. It was an extremely enjoyable evening; we were joined by Rushden Town Band, Northampton Opera Group and soprano Jeni Melia.

On Sunday 8th September we had Bark in the Park which was held in Hall Park. The park was very busy as it was a lovely sunny day. I thoroughly enjoyed judging the Mayor's Award category which was a tough decision as there were 52 dogs to choose from!

On Thursday 12th September, I attended Royal Airforce Wings Appeal at Park Road Baptist Church.

On Friday 13th September, I opened Rushden Feast Fair. This was highly enjoyable, I persuaded my 90 year old father in law to join me on the dodgems and the fish and chips after were delicious!

On Sunday 15th September, my consort and I attended Higham Ferrers Town Council Civic Ceremony at St Mary's Church for Chis O'Rourke and the Mayoress Kathleen Meredith. The ceremony was well attended and we received refreshments at Bede House.

Following the ceremony, we caught the open top bus from Higham Ferrers to Rushden Lakes to celebrate Rushden Heritage Day. It was a fabulous day with a variety of stalls promoting Rushden with performances from Rushden Town Band and Salvation Army Band.

On Monday 16th September we attended the opening of the Ron Manning Centre Conservatory. David Lang, Lord Lieutenant unveiled the plaque.

Monday 23rd September, I hosted my Charity Golf Day. We managed to hold the rain off throughout the day, followed by a meal, raffle and auction to end the day. Thank you to all those that assisted and helped me to raise money towards my charities.

On Thursday 26th September, I attended an awards ceremony at Rushden Academy.

On Friday 27th September, we attended Macmillan coffee mornings at the Fire Station and Rushden Hall.

On Monday 30th September, we attended the Service Six AGM. They are an amazing charity committed to changing lives and creating futures.

On Tuesday 1st October, my consort and I travelled to Peterborough for the opening of Bridge Fair and the sausage supper. It was a shame the weather stopped the opening of the fair, but the supper was lovely and the raffle raised lots of money for the Mayor of Peterborough's charities.

I attended a memorial for the 7 children that died in the bombing at Alfred Street School on Thursday 3rd October. This was the 79th anniversary and I laid a wreath in memory.

On Friday 4th October, my consort and I awarded Denfield Park Primary School the Summer Reading Challenge award. The Council gave vouchers and a certificate. A shield was also presented to the school children.

On Sunday 6th October, we attended the Mayor of Irthlingborough Town Civic Service.

Last week, we celebrated Victoria House Team with afternoon tea and entertainment, awards were given to staff that had worked there for 5, 10 and 15 years.

On Sunday 13th October, my consort and I attended the Mayor of Godmanchester Town Council's Civic Service at St Mary's Church in Godmanchester.

In the afternoon, we attended Wellingborough and Rushden Macmillan 30th Anniversary Afternoon Tea Party. They had raised just over £947,000.'

199/20 POLICING ISSUES

Councillor Marian Hollomon (JAG Chairman) presented the minutes of the JAG meeting held on 8th October 2019.

1. Update on Agreed Priorities *Anti-Social Behaviour in all Public Parks within Rushden & Higham Ferrers.*

There had been an issue in Saffron Road Recreation Ground at the end of August. The youths interviewed had been passed to the Youth Offending Service. The youths who had attempted arson in a bin had been spoken to. Cllr Gardner spoken about

her interaction with the youth group in Higham Ferrers and youths at the skateboard park.

Julie Thorneycroft raised the issue of the homeless people in Rushden. Sgt Wildman said that they can't criminalise anyone for being homeless. Need to ensure there is intervention in place first.

Cllr Gray asked if anything can be done where residents are reporting issues of cannabis smells from neighbours properties. Sgt Wildman said they can't get a warrant for personal use, but it should be reported for intelligence for possible cannabis factories.

No problems at Rushden toilets.

Sgt Wildman could not be specific on when patrols are deployed as it varies according to what other duties and incidents they are deployed to.

Cllr Gardner asked about intervention in schools. PCSO's go into all primary schools and there is 1 PCSO who visits all the secondary schools.

2. To consider new Priorities

The priority to remain the same - Anti Social Behaviour in all Public Parks within Rushden & Higham Ferrers & Irthlingborough with specific focus on Hall Park, Saffron Road Recreation Ground and Crow Hill.

3. PCC Meeting – 22nd October

The following would attend the meeting: -

Cllr Jon Gray and Angie Daly – Irthlingborough Town Council.

Cllr Bert Jackson and Cllr Angela Gardner – Higham Ferrers Town Council

Cllr Marian Holloman and Vivienne Prodder – Rushden Town Council

Marian Holloman as Chair would be the spokesperson. The attendees would talk via email before the meeting. The need for more officers was raised. The new funding would take 2 to 3 years to produce trained officers on the beat. One point to be raised is that Neighbourhood Policing should be just that and officers should not be used on other duties e.g. covert operations. Currently in the East Northants area there are 4 Pc's, 1 Sgt, 12 PCSOS.

4. Highways

- Cllr Gray asked for barriers to be installed on Attley Way to stop Travellers accessing the area.
- Julie Thorneycroft raised the issue of the tarmac repairs instead of having slabs in High Street Rushden.
- Block paving starting to sink on Victoria Road, Rushden.
- Sarah Barnwell confirmed Ditchford Lane won't be closed until A45 works finalised.
- Sarah would circulate programme for gully cleansing.
- Sandra Mitcham asked Sarah to look at Market Square potholes.

5. Any other business

Chris Healy raised the issue of the radio areas reducing from 4 to 2 with effect from 14th October. He was concerned that this would make it difficult to get on the airwaves.

Angie Daly asked whether an information sharing agreement could be put in place between Police, Town Councils and CCTV.

6. Time and date of next meeting

Tuesday 7th January 2020 – 10.30am - Rushden Town Council

200/20 LEADER'S ADDRESS

'A brief update on the Local Government reform position and a Structural Change Order that needs to go before Parliament. Rushden will be part of the North Northamptonshire Unitary. Wellingborough and Kettering will have to set up new town councils as the old Borough Councils will disappear. Joint Committees have been set up ready for the shadow authority.

Members have also decided to fund the Drug Dog Operations. These are carried out by the licensing authority at East Northants and spot check local licensed premises searching for drugs. A previous operation proved very successful and it is hoped that these will continue in the future.

Rushden Sea Cadets, Running Buddies along with over 40 other volunteers gave a helping hand to remove rubbish and clear areas around recently planted trees along the Greenway. This project grows day by day and the support from the community is fantastic.

New green tracks have been painted onto the pavements from Rushden Lakes to Rushden Station to take visitors into town and vice versa due to a National Lottery Funded project called Out to Water, Into History. More work is proposed on various parts of the track in the future.

Three classes of children from South End Infants School descended on Hall Park to the nature trail area to hear stories read from the new Storyteller's Chair. Whilst one class was listening, the other two took it in turns to explore the trail to see what they could find and also to enjoy the play equipment. Councillors were on hand to answer questions and talk about the various trees around the trail and to show them the new interpretation board that had been erected on the edge of the trail.

It was a really fun afternoon with the children thoroughly enjoying themselves and returning to school with bulging pockets of conkers.'

201/20 CHAIRMAN'S REPORTS OF COMMITTEES MEETINGS

Community Services Committee 17th September 2019

The Chairman gave a verbal report on the agenda items from the meeting held on 17th September 2019.

Policy & Resources Committee 24th September 2019

The Chairman gave a verbal report on the agenda items from the meeting held on 24th September 2019

Planning Consultative Committee 1st October 2019

The Chairman gave a verbal report on the agenda items from the meeting held on 1st October 2019.

202/20 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Community Services Committee 4th June 2019

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 4th June 2019 be received and adopted

Planning Consultative Committee 20th August 2019

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Planning Consultative Committee held on 20th August 2019 be received and adopted.

Policy & Resources Committee 27th August 2019

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee (non-confidential Section) held on 27th August 2019 be received and adopted.

Planning Consultative Committee 10th September 2019

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Planning Consultative Committee held on 10th September 2019 be received and adopted

203/20 NCALC

Councillor Lewis reported on the NCALC AGM, this was held at Moulton Community Centre on 5th October 2019. Councillor Lewis, together with Councillor Sarah Peacock and Vivienne Prodger, Town Clerk, attended the AGM.

The event was well attended and the guest speaker was Sarah Mason, Chief Executive, Cornwall Association of Local Councils and she spoke about Life after Unitary Reorganisation – The Parish & Town Council Perspective. This was a very interesting presentation and highlighted a lot of the problems encountered by the parishes when Unitary happened in Cornwall.

Daventry Town Council were awarded Star Council status this year, as they have now taken on the playgrounds and open spaces from Daventry District Council in preparation for Unitary.