

RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 16TH APRIL 2019 AT RUSHDEN HALL, RUSHDEN, COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

Present: Councillor: Sarah Peacock – Chairman
Philip Humphrey – Vice Chairman

Councillors: Richard Lewis Colin Wright
David Jenney Robin Underwood
Gill Mercer Janet Pinnock
David Coleman [Ex officio] Adrian House
Andy Mercer Barbara Jenney
Ron Pinnock

Town Clerk: Vivienne Prodger

In attendance: Martin Griffin, John Paul Carr, Tom Partridge-Underwood

389/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

390/19 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Steven North.

391/19 MINUTES

The minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting of 5th March 2019 had been previously circulated to members and it was

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on the 5th March 2019 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

392/19 APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

Members had been circulated with details of payments made since 26th February 2019 amounting to £94,029.93

RESOLVED

That payments amounting to £94,029.93 be approved (as attached to these minutes).

393/19 COMMUNITY GRANTS

Members considered the following Community Grant applications:

- a) Rushden Swimming Club
- b) Rushden & Higham Town Cricket Club
- c) Rushden & District Art Society

RESOLVED

- a) To award a Community Grant of £3,000 to Rushden Swimming Club
- b) To award a Community Grant of £4,000 to Rushden & Higham Cricket Club.
- c) To award a Community Grant of £185 to Rushden & District Art Society

394/19 INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

Members had been circulated with Microshade Business Consultants Ltd Internal Audit report of year to 31st December 2018. This report was scrutinised by members and it was

RESOLVED

To accept the Microshade Business Consultants Internal Audit report for year to 31st December 2018.

395/19 TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

The Town Clerk presented two reports on behalf of the Town Manager

a) *Rushden Town Guide*

Rushden Town Guide – recommendation for renewal every 2 years

Based on the Rushden Town Guide that was produced in May 2017

KM Media & Marketing provided 14,000 copies of the Town Guide which were delivered to every household in Rushden - 32 page booklet – 23 pages of information, 9 pages of business advertising

Prices to order further copies April 2019

Further copies can be purchased at £275 per 1000.

RTC purchased a further 3000 copies in 2017

b) *Your Town NN10 App*

*Following on from the very successful Rushden to Higham Ferrers YourTown NN10 5K Community Run held on Sunday 24th March, there is an opportunity to continue the NN10 themed project through the introduction of a **Community and Business App**.*

Benefits of the YourTown NN10 APP:

- *Access to the local community in one place - online/offline connection supporting the locality, local businesses, ideas, projects and the community*
- *The APP allows local businesses access to digital marketing and a level playing field to all*
- *Local businesses will be uploaded (one page marketing) and trained on their unique page by the YourTown team*
- *Once a business has signed up they can start to share, offers, events, awareness of what is going on, tips and more*
- *The wider community can sign up to take advantage of local offers through the APP, booking appointments, buying tickets, events, fitness classes, finding out what's going on and hearing good news stories.*
- *YourTown will create the marketing material to launch the APP in the NN10 area i.e. video/images and work with local councils to share content across the NN10 community*
- *The APP keeps local people interested and informed about the local area and encourages local spend which supports the local economy*

Costs

- *Many similar Apps charge an upfront fee of approx. £1200, there will be **no upfront fees** to the Town Council attached to this scheme*
- *A reduced cost for each business to sign up – YourTown are offering a reduced subscription fee of £10 per month (usually £15)*
- *10% of every transaction will be pledged back into the NN10 community to support a nominated project/initiative*

After discussing both these matters members

RESOLVED

- To update the Town Guide
- Proposed to have a meeting with Your Town to discuss the App idea further

396/19 NORTHAMPTONSHIRE LARGER COUNCILS PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Councillors Sarah Peacock and Richard Lewis, together with the Town Clerk attended a meeting at Raunds Town Council on 28th March 2019. This meeting was organized by NCALC and several of the Larger Town Councils attended.

NCALC explained the process for devolution from unitary councils and how this had taken place in Cornwall, Devon and Milton Keynes.

Various issues were discussed including devolution principles, scoping, business case development and final negotiations.

Another meeting of this group will take place later in the year once the timescale for the Unitaries has been established.

397/19 SWIVEL CLUB

Members discussed a request from the Swivel Club to hire the Walled Garden in June 2020. Further to last year's Swivel Fest members did express some concerns about the noise levels and the length of time the event went on for. Therefore after consideration it was

RESOLVED

- The proposed event to be held on 6th June 2020, timing will be 3.00pm – 10.00pm with no over-run at the end.
- Music will not be continually played through the main PA.
- Two of the acts will be self contained bands not performing on the stage.
- Sound levels to be monitored throughout the event and the volume will be reduced if requested by an officer of the Town Council.
- All residents living in close proximity must be informed via letter of the event, timings etc

398/19 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

The Chairman reported that at this time there was still no clear indication of when the Unitary Councils would be formed. However, there will be Local Town and Parish Council elections next year in May.

399/19 MULTI-AGENCY MEETING

The Chairman informed members she had attended a multi-agency meeting. These meetings are designed to deal with issues within the town and all agencies and authorities can work together to achieve a cohesive approach to specific problems.

The Chairman reported that the garage adjacent to Croyland Motors had been identified as a priority together with the shopping precinct at Grangeway