

RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD AT RUSHDEN HALL, RUSHDEN ON TUESDAY 18th September 2018 COMMENCING AT 7.30PM.

Present: Councillor: Adrian House - Chairman

Councillors:	Paul Harley	Janet Pinnock
	Marian Hollomon	Melanie Coleman
	Richard Lewis	Tracey Smith
	Gill Mercer	Carol Childs
	David Coleman [ex officio]	Barbara Jenney

Town Clerk: Vivienne Prodger

163/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest recorded

164/19 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Sarah Peacock.

165/19 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 5th June 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

166/19 PRESENTATION

A presentation was given by Joe Bailey from East Northants Council and a team from NCC regarding sports provision within the district.

A scheme is to start to encourage more people to take up sport and data is to be collected within the district to establish existing facilities and future requirements.

Ward Councillors are to be contacted regarding provision and future requirements within their wards.

The Chairman thanked Joe Bailey and the team for their presentation.

167/19 RUSHDEN TOWN PARTNERSHIP

Barabara Jenney gave the following report:-

Two new members have joined the Committee – Verity and Alison, both from IMC Pro Solutions, which is a business that provides training and internet based services. They have lots of contacts and are now taking over the business networking, setting up the meetings and finding speakers for a regular monthly slot.

It is proposed the slot will be the 4th Tuesday of every month as this does not clash with other networking meetings in the area. The meetings are to be rebranded under the name coNNect10 to give a fresh approach.

In addition Verity and Alison will be taking over the Facebook page as well as overseeing the Partnership's compliance for General Data Protection Regulations.

Simon Bonano from Nene Legal has been co-opted onto the Committee to review and refresh the website.

Additional new photographs have already been added in the meantime.

Next meeting of the Partnership is 2nd October 2018

168/19 EVENTS WORKING PARTY

Members had been circulated with a copy of the reports from the Events Working Party meetings held on 26th July 2018.

RESOLVED

That the reports from the Events Working Party meetings held on 26th July 2018 be appended to these minutes and any actions or recommendations contained therein, be approved.

169/19 POLICING AND HIGHWAYS

a) Policing –

Cllr Hollomon reported that the next JAG meeting will take place on 23rd October 2018. At present priorities are still as follows:

1. Drug use and drug dealing to be kept as a priority for both Rushden and Higham Ferrers
2. Anti-Social Behaviour at Saffron Road Recreation Ground, Higham Ferrers
3. Anti Social Behaviour at the Memorial Gardens, Rushden

Progress has been made concerning anti-social behavior at the Memorial Gardens and a number of warnings have been issued and PC Paul Mitchinson has undertaken a lot of work regarding this matter.

Undercover drugs work is still continuing within both towns and further arrests have been made in recent weeks.

b) Highways

A number of prolonged roadworks have caused a lot of traffic problems within the town. The roadworks at ASDA have resulted in very long queues and will continue for the next couple of months.

Traffic congestion at Rushden Lakes is still a problem at peak times but the new road markings and arrows are making the Waitrose roundabout less confusing, particularly for visitors from out of town.

170/19 TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

*'The **Heritage Family Fun Day held on Sunday 16th September was organised by Rushden and Higham Ferrers Town Councils**, the event was held as part of the annual 10 day **Nene Valley Festival** and also as a part of the National Heritage open weekends. The Heritage Family Fun Day was supported by Rushden Lakes and brought together a family day out together with an opportunity for new visitors to learn about the heritage and history of nearby Rushden and Higham Ferrers.*

*Local businesses from Rushden and Higham Ferrers were invited to have a stall free of charge at the event. **Over 35** local businesses and community groups took up this opportunity and attended on the day, feedback has been extremely positive from all parties.*

The entertainment on the day included performances from Rushden Town Band, medieval fun and entertainment, heritage displays, family activities, a chance to meet Cyril the Squirrel (Rushden Towns Council's mascot) and also a chance to browse the local stalls.

*The Town Councils worked together to produce a "**Shop Local in Rushden and Higham Ferrers**" booklet containing over 48 redeemable discount vouchers, over 1500 booklets were given out to visitors at the event.*

Other giveaways handed out on the day included approximately 500 promotional shopping bags containing interesting local literature aimed to encourage new visitors to come and explore the nearby towns.

The aim of the Heritage Family Fun Day was to raise awareness of what is available in Rushden and Higham Ferrers and offer visitors the chance to learn about the local heritage and also to encourage new visitors to come and visit through promotional material and the "Shop Local" booklet.

Splash & Dash Event

*As part of the Heritage Family Fun Day (16th Sep) and Splash & Dash (30th Sep) events local businesses are being offered the opportunity to have a stall and trade for the day at Rushden Lakes, this is free of charge (usual charge £50). Previous events of this nature held within House of Fraser and attended by local businesses have been reported as successful and we know have brought new visitors into the town. The aim of the events are to raise awareness of what is available in the nearby towns, learn about the local heritage and encourage new visitors to come and visit through promotional material and the "**Shop Local**" booklet.*

15 businesses are taking part in the Spurgeons Splash & Dash event and are having a business stall for the day.

*Coming Soon - **YourTown NN10 Run in March 2019, links between Rushden, Higham Ferrers and Rushden Lakes** – a community building event, working with a local running group to champion the event.*

***Working with Rushden Lakes** – Christmas events/ideas that involve local businesses.*

***Working with Northamptonshire Business Crime Partnership Ltd** to allow Rushden businesses the opportunity to sign up to a local scheme.*

171/19 CELEBRATE RUSHDEN

Members considered the Celebrate Rushden event and it was agreed that this years was very successful. The change of date seem to work well, but members did agree that the Soap Box Derby should be held at the weekend in future. It was therefore

RESOLVED

To recommend to the Policy and Resources Committee that Celebrate Rushden continues for 2019. The proposed date with be the 2nd week in June and Richard Lewis, Barbara Jenney, Janet Pinnock and Julie Thorneycroft will form the membership of the working party for Celebrate Rushden.

172/19 EVENTS IN WALLED GARDEN

The Clerk informed members that a small number of complaints had been received regarding the Swivel Cub event that took place in August. Complaints were about the noise levels and the length of time the event went on. Members discussed the matter at length and it was agreed this matter needs to be discussed by the Policy and Resources Committee at a future meeting.

173/19 MUSEUM

Councillor Peacock had asked that the matter of the Museum Lease be raised in her absence. The Lease is due to expire in March next year and it was

RESOLVED

The Community Services Committee recommends to Policy and Resources that a lease be granted to Rushden Museum with the same terms. To be a 5 year lease with an option to extend for a further 5 years.

174/19 WARD PROJECTS

Location	Job Description	Quotes	Committee Approval if applicable	Contractor	Commence/ Finish Dates
Rushden Hall	Interior painting	n/a	n/a	In house	Ongoing
Rushden Hall	Perimeter wall adjacent to track			PAD Builders	October 2018
Hall Park	Nature Trail		yes	TBC	Summer 2018.
Spencer Park	Tennis Courts Improvements			TBC	Awaiting CFF results
Spencer Park	MUGA Improvements Some funding to come from Grensons Site Section 106			TBC	Awaiting CFF results
Rose Avenue	Climbing Frame Funding from Station Road Site Section 106				September 2018

	monies				
Fosse Green	New Play Equipment Section 106 monies – Grensons Site section 106				October 2018
Rushden Hall	Glass Doors	Met with Lloyd-Architect to draw up design			On hold
Spencer Park/Washbrook Road Entrance and pollarding	Tree works				Sept/Oct
Memorial Gardens	Refurb post/new seats/new litter bins				Sept 2018
Trafford Park	New play equipment Section 106 monies – Station Road Site				October 2018
Hall Park	Public Toilets				Awaiting CFF results
St James Park	New Swings				September 2018
Hall Park	Refurb benches and extension of bases for disabled				October 2018
Birkdale	Fence around play area			J W Clark	Completed
Dog Area	Fence along Wymington Road side of area			TBC	November 2018
Memorial Gardens	CCTV			Crimesecure	October 2018
Spencer Park	CCTV			Crimesecure	October 2018
Skidders Hill Bus stop	Benches				Completed
War Memorial	Bernard Vann stone and plinth				September 2018
Rushden Hall	Structural report disabled entrance/bar room				October 2018
War Memorial	Interpretation Board			Ordered	October 2018
Cemetery	Memorial tributes review				November 2018

Chairman