

RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 19TH JUNE 2018 AT RUSHDEN HALL, RUSHDEN, COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

Present: Councillor: David Coleman, Town Mayor
Councillors: Richard Lewis Ron Pinnock
David Jenney Marian Hollomon
Janet Pinnock Robin Underwood
Barbara Jenney Sarah Peacock
Kaye Rawlins Gill Mercer
Colin Wright Melanie Coleman
Tracey Smith Paul Harley
Carol Childs Andy Mercer

Town Clerk: Vivienne Prodger

55/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors David Jenney, David Coleman and Barbara Jenney declared an 'other interest' in the consideration of Agenda Item 15.

56/19 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Steven North, Adrian House and Cesare Marinaro.

57/19 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15th May 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

58/19 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE

Cllr David Coleman, Town Mayor read the following Declaration of Acceptance:-

'I, David George Coleman, having been elected to the office of Mayor of Rushden, hereby declare that I take the said office upon myself and will duly and faithfully fulfil the duties thereof according to the best of my judgement and ability.

I do solemnly declare that I will uphold the highest standards in the performance of the functions of my office in accordance with the National Code of Local Government Conduct.'

59/19 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT

'Firstly, may I thank all members who attended and supported me at my Mayor making during May. It was so good to see you, along with family and friends, who joined in making it such a memorable occasion.

Five weeks in and I must report that it has been a most rewarding and enjoyable time for Melanie and myself. I must commend all involved in the organisation and co-ordination of Celebrate Rushden week, a thoroughly enjoyable event offering something for everyone through its varied programme.

Commencing on the first Saturday with the Salvation Army Craft Fair and concluding with the RHTS Father's Day Car Rally, we managed to attend and support 31 events during the week. There were many highlights, not least being the start of the 2nd stage of the

OVO Energy Women's Cycle tour which was certainly a coup for our town. The Soap Box Derby, The Rushden Town Band's stunning performance at the Park Road Baptist Church, the Rotary Club Inter-Schools Mass Choir in our wonderful Walled Garden – and too many other enjoyable occasions to mention. It was so pleasing and humbling to meet so many dedicated and hard-working individuals and organisations from across the Town.

In addition to the Celebrate Rushden week, invitations have been coming in from far and wide and it has been gratifying to represent the Town across the wider area on ten further occasions. These have included the Civic Leader's Day at RAF Alconbury; the Princess of Wales' Regiment Freedom of the Town Parade in Huntingdon and the Mayor of Peterborough's Farewell Ball where we were pleased to have been joined by Barbara and David (Jenney). Other destinations have included Thrapston, Raunds, Northampton and Kettering. In Rushden, we have attended an enjoyable RBL Coffee morning featuring Dr. Busker, a highly successful fund-raising evening for East Northants Child Contact Services at Pizzeria Venezia where the food was superb.

Moving on, I'm particularly pleased that Cesare and Sabina Marinaro will be supporting us as Deputy this year and I hope that they can similarly enjoy opportunities as they arise.

I am delighted to be participating in the RBL Armed Forces Day on Saturday and the prospect is for a busy year ahead, to which I am looking forward.'

60/19 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Councillor Richard Lewis reported the following result for the referendum on the Rushden Neighbourhood Plan:-

Votes Recorded

Number cast in favour of a Yes 3067

Number cast in favour of a No 539

Electorate: 23702 Ballot Papers Issued: 3621 Turnout: 15.27%

The Rushden Neighbourhood Plan has now been officially adopted as a Planning Policy Document by East Northamptonshire Council.

Councillor Lewis thanked all members for their hard work and determination resulting in a robust and sound Neighbourhood Plan that we should all be proud of.

61/19 POLICING ISSUES

Councillor Hollomon reported that the last JAG meeting was held on 10th April 2018. The following priorities were agreed for the next quarter:-

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

Councillor Hollomon stated that there had been a lot of burglaries locally in recent months and warned members to be vigilant both in their homes and cars.

62/19 LEADER'S ADDRESS

'After a very busy week last week, we should all be very pleased with the way the Women's Tour went. All the teams for East Northants Council and Rushden Town Council worked very hard to ensure the event went as smoothly as possible and I would like to thank all involved for their hard work and professional attitude. The sight of over a hundred cyclists riding through Hall Park was really quite special and we have certainly never seen so many police in the park!

Events for Celebrate Rushden went well and the Soap Box Derby was very successful and well attended. A few tweaks maybe needed for next year! I would like to thank Janet and Richard for their hard work in organizing Celebrate Rushden and all who helped them. We have a busy summer ahead with Party in the Park in a few weeks, Proms, the Dog Show and the Bernard Vann event in September.

With the uncertainty surrounding the County Council at the moment it is important we continue to keep focused and deliver our projects and events in our usual professional manner. Here's to a good summer.'

63/19 PUBLIC ART

Councillor Peacock advised that the Policy and Resources Committee had considered using the street artist who decorated the shutter at Sassy Belle to undertake some work at Spencer Park. Members were circulated with examples of Adrian Turner's work and it was

RESOLVED

That Adrian Turner be commissioned to design and paint a mural on one of the walls on the Spencer Park pavilion and possibly the back of the old bowls pavilion.

64 /19 CHAIRMAN'S REPORTS OF COMMITTEES MEETINGS

Policy & Resources Committee 22nd May 2018

The Chairman gave a verbal report on the agenda items from the meeting held on 22nd May 2018.

Planning Consultative Committee 29th May 2018

The Chairman gave a verbal report on the agenda items from the meeting held on 29th May 2018

Community Services Committee 5th June 2018

The Chairman gave a verbal report on the agenda items from the meeting held on 5th June 2018

65/19 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2018

a) Annual Governance Statement 2017/2018

Members had been circulated with a copy of the Annual Governance Statement for 2017/2018 and the Town Clerk went through this in detail. After consideration it was

RESOLVED

That the Annual Governance Statement for 2017/2018 is approved by this Council

b) Annual Accounting Statements 2017/2018

Members had been circulated with Accounting Statements for 2017/2018 and these were considered.

After consideration it was

RESOLVED

That Accounting Statements for year ending 31st March 2018, is approved by this Council

c) Statement of Accounts 2017/2018

Members had been circulated with Statement of Accounts for year ending 31st March 2018.

RESOLVED

That the Statement of Accounts for 2017/2018, is approved by this Council

66/19 POLICIES

Members had been circulated the following Rushden Town Council policies for consideration

- a) Data Protection Policy
- b) Consent Privacy Notice
- c) Press and Media Policy
- d) Complaints Procedure

RESOLVED

The above policies were approved and duly signed by the Town Mayor.

67/19 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Community Services Committee 6th February 2018

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Planning Consultative Committee held on 6th February 2018, be received and adopted.

Policy & Resources Committee 6th March 2018

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Policy & Resources held on 6th March 2018, be received and adopted.

Planning Consultative Committee 13th March 2018

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Planning Consultative Committee held on 13th March 2018, be received and adopted.

Community Services Committee 27th March 2018

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Planning Consultative Committee held on 27th March 2018, be received and adopted.

Planning Consultative Committee 3rd April 2018

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Planning Consultative Committee held on 3rd April 2018, be received and adopted

Policy & Resources Committee 17th April 2018

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Policy & Resources held on 17th April 2018, be received and adopted.

Planning Consultative Committee 24th April 2018

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Planning Consultative Committee held on 24th April 2018, be received and adopted

Planning Consultative Committee 8th May 2018

RESOLVED

That the report of the meeting of the Planning Consultative Committee held on 8th May 2018, be received and adopted

68/19 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.

69/19 POLICY AND RESOURCES

The following report had been prepared following an Assetment Management working party meeting:

Land at Manor Park

- 1.1 The Asset Management Working party approached three Land Agents/Development Consultants to provide a preliminary Residential Development Appraisal of Rushden Town Council's land known as Manor Park, prior to disposal of the land with the benefit of an Outline Planning consent.
- 1.2 The Land Agents/Development Consultants approached were as follows:

King West, Market Harborough
Bletsoes, Thrapston
Carter Jonas, Cambridge
- 1.3 The potential land values varied considerably as did the calculation of GDV, affordable housing % and build cost. After careful consideration members felt the King West appraisal offered the most realistic and beneficial assessment of the site.

1.4 With regard to proposed fees for marketing and selling the site, these were as follows:

King West	1.25%
Carter Jonas	1.5%
Bletsoes	1.75%

2. Appointment of Architect for proposed Sports/Community hub development

2.1 Members of the Asset Management Working Party considered the appointment of an architect for the development of a Sports/Community hub on proposed site east of Bedford Road.

2.2 Fee costs and references/testimonials were obtained from the following:

DLP Planning
Hinton Cook Architects
Woods Hardwick Ltd

2.3 All three practices appeared to offer the expertise required to carry this project forward. However, members agreed that Hinton Cook Architects offered best value in terms of fees and costs. It was therefore resolved to recommend that Hinton Cook Architects be appointed as our architects for the proposed Sports/Community hub.

3. Appointment of contractor to carry out site investigations

3.1 The Town Clerk had been in discussion with RSK Group who carried out the original site investigations on Manor Park in 2009. Nigel Austin from RSK confirmed that they still had the original reports and would be happy to carry out an updated report based on Rushden Town Council's indicative master plan of Manor Park.

3.2 Members felt it would make sense to appoint RSK to undertake this additional work as they had already had a good knowledge of the site and held a considerable amount of information regarding the soil conditions. Therefore, it was resolved to recommend to full Council that RSK are engaged to carry out further soil investigations at Manor Park and the Sports/Community hub site.

4. Services and service capacity investigations

4.1 As part of the preliminary works on both sites it will be necessary to carry out some work on identifying existing and future service requirements. TDS (our tenants at Rushden Hall) are specialists in this field. TDS had given an estimate of £3,000 to carry out the necessary works. Members considered that given the specialist nature of this work it would be appropriate to engage TDS to carry out the preliminary works.

5. Expenditure for Professional Fees relating to Manor Park and the Sports/Community Hub

5.1 Members of the Policy and Resources Committee resolved to recommend to Full Council that future expenditure for professional fees relating to Manor Park and the proposed Sports/Community Hub would be taken from the Rushden Improvements

The following recommendations made by the Policy and Resources Committee were

RESOLVED

- a) **Land at Manor Park**
To engage King West to act as agents for the disposal of Manor Park, Rushden.
- b) **Appointment of Architect for proposed Sports/Community hub development**
To appoint Hinton Cook Architects for architectural services relating to the proposed Sports/Community hub development
- c) **Appointment of contractor to carry out site investigations**
To appoint RSK Group to carry out further site investigations at Manor Park and initial site investigations at land east of Bedford Road.
- d) **Services and service capacity investigations**
To appoint TDS to carry out services and capacity investigations at Manor Park and land east of Bedford Road.
- e) **Expenditure for Professional Fees relating to Manor Park and the Sports/Community Hub**
To take future expenditure for professional fees relating to Manor Park and the proposed Sports/Community Hub from the Rushden Improvements budget.

70/19 REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Community Services Committee [confidential section] 6th February 2018

RESOLVED

That the confidential section of the report of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee [confidential section] held on 6th February 2018, be received and adopted.

Policy & Resources Committee [confidential section] 6th March 2018

RESOLVED

That the confidential section of the report of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee [confidential section] held on 6th March 2018, be received and adopted.

Policy & Resources Committee [confidential section] 17th April 2018

RESOLVED

That the confidential section of the report of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee [confidential section] held on 17th April 2018, be received and adopted.

Chairman