

## **RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2018 AT RUSHDEN HALL, RUSHDEN, COMMENCING AT 7.30PM**

Present: Councillor: Philip Humphrey – Vice Chairman

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

Town Clerk: Vivienne Prodger

#### **122/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Colin Wright declared a 'bias' interest on Agenda item 5 Community Grant in respect of The Swivel Club and left the room when this item was discussed and took no part in discussion and voting thereon.

#### **123/19 APOLOGIES**

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

#### **124/19 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> July 2018 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 17<sup>th</sup> July 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

#### **125/19 APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS**

Members had been circulated with details of payments made since 10<sup>th</sup> July 2018 amounting to £87671.32.

#### **RESOLVED**

That payments amounting to £87671.32 be approved (as attached to these minutes).

#### **126/19 COMMUNITY GRANTS**

Members considered the following Community Grant applications:

- a) Swivel Club

## **RESOLVED**

To award a Community Grant of £710.00 to the Swivel Club

### **127/19 TOWN COUNCIL POLICIES**

Members had been circulated with Rushden Town Council Policies. These policies were scrutinized by members and it was

## **RESOLVED**

- a) Data Security Incident Procedure – approved and recommendation to Full Council for signing
- b) Employees Privacy Notice – approved and recommendation to Full Council for signing
- c) Suppliers Privacy Notice – approved and recommendation to Full Council for signing
- d) Shop Front Grant Policy – approved and recommendation to Full Council for signing

### **128/19 STANDARDS BOARD**

The Chairman advised that East Northants Council have requested candidates to be put forward for election onto the Standards Board. Members discussed the matter at length and it was

## **RESOLVED**

That the Policy and Resources Committee recommend to Full Council that Councillor David Coleman be considered as a candidate.

### **129/19 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

Members had been previously circulated with the detailed Income and Expenditure Account for April – July 2018. Members considered the account in depth and discussed budget levels and it was

## **RESOLVED**

To accept the Income and Expenditure Account for the period April – July 2018.

### **130/19 TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### ***Business Drop in Session on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July***

*The first Rushden and Higham Ferrers business drop in session was held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July at Rushden Library. James Tennant, Business Account Manager at ENC came along*

to offer advice on business support. The drop in session wasn't particularly well attended (3 local businesses and a Higham Ferrers Town Councillor) however I have received a number of business enquiries as a result of the session. My intention is to hold a repeat drop in session in October.

### **Links with Rushden Lakes**

The Rushden Lakes Management team have volunteered their support and funding for specific projects linking Rushden, Higham Ferrers and Rushden Lakes. The proposals outlined below were submitted to the Management team at Rushden Lakes for consideration on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April, the proposals also required approval from The Crown Estate (TCE) and have now been agreed.

### **Project 1**

**Heritage Family Fun Day on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September 10am to 4pm** – this event is taking place at Rushden Lakes as part of the Nene Valley Festival and the National Heritage open weekends (matched funding and more from the HLF has been obtained through the Nene Valley Festival). The event brings together an array of interesting local information about Rushden and Higham's heritage; there will be performances from Rushden Town Band, fun entertainment, displays, activities and a chance to meet both Cyril the Squirrel and Nemo the water musical instrument that featured in the performance of Nene by Northampton Music and Performing Arts Trust. There will also be an assortment of medieval entertainment/activities and games on offer on the day.

I am working with local businesses across Rushden and Higham Ferrers to produce a booklet full of "shop local" concessions which are redeemable in the local High Streets throughout the autumn. The voucher booklet will be handed out to visitors in promotional shopping bags on 16<sup>th</sup> September and distributed to motorists visiting the Lakes throughout the weekend prior to the event. The 20 page booklet offers accessibility information, a local map and a total of **48** varied business offers to encourage visitors to come to the local high streets. The Shop Local booklets will be available from 10<sup>th</sup> September.

The following community groups plus many local businesses are taking the opportunity to have a stall at the heritage event:

Higham Ferrers Tourism Group, HiFars, Higham Ferrers Charters Group, Higham Ferrers Chichele Society, Higham Ferrers and Rushden Town Councils, Rushden Historical Society, Rushden Museum, Rushden District History Society, H E Bates Group, Destination Nene Valley, Nenescape.

On the same day the Rushden Historical Transport Museum are holding a Food Festival and the new Artcodes App on the Rushden to Lakes stretch of the Greenway will be launched. The "Shop Local" business offers will be incorporated into the App to provide further incentive for visitors to come to the High Street shops.

### **Project 2 Proposal 2 - agreed**

**YourTown Walk, Run or Ride – The NN10 Run**

*The introduction of a community event either a walk, run or cycle ride that links Rushden Lakes, Rushden and Higham Ferrers (NN10 Area). The physical action of the run is just one part of the Your Town concept, the whole idea is more about encouraging pride in what can be achieved locally and involving members of the community to play an active part in making where they live or work the best it can possibly be. In this area I believe a community event or series of events of this kind will help to build on the linkages between the towns and Rushden Lakes. For further information please see the following link <https://youtu.be/Sryn31KqmlA>*

*A meeting was held on Thursday 5th July to enable the various partners (Rushden Lakes, ENC, RTC and HFTC) the opportunity to meet Mark White (founder of the scheme) and fully understand the benefits of the scheme.*

*A date for the first NN10 Get Together has been agreed as **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019**. I will progress this project in close liaison with the Town Clerks and the Rushden Lakes Management team.*

*I am also approaching businesses to gain sponsorship for some elements of the YourTown event.*

### ***Splash & Dash Event***

*Local children's charity Spurgeons are holding a Katakana Challenge on Sunday September 30<sup>th</sup> at Rushden Lakes 11.00-3.00pm.*

*The Charity Katakana Challenge involves teams of 6 people competing in heats with 4 Katakanas per heat. Winning team from each heat then going through to quarter, semi and final heat with a prize for the winning team (and other prizes along the way)*

*The aim is for a fun day for families, activities for children to enjoy as well as the action on the water. There is limited space for businesses that **do not** normally trade at Rushden Lakes to take part in the event. It is hoped to create a 'Village Fete' feel to the boardwalk area for visitors to enjoy. Rushden Lakes have agreed Rushden and Higham based businesses can be offered use of a stall free of charge (usual charge £50). I have several local businesses have signed up to have a stall for the day.*

### ***Raising Aspirations Programme – Ferrers School***

*On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July I attended a Business Partners Meeting as part of the Raising Aspiration Programme at Ferrers School – I am looking at ways in which we can link students with local business.*

### **131/19 WALMER CLOSE**

The Chairman explained that Rushden Town Council had been approached by David Wilson Homes, to take on a piece of land adjacent to the Cemetery and Walmer Close.

The Town Clerk had been in negotiation with David Wilson Homes and a commuted sum of £18,000 had been agreed as a fair sum for maintenance of the site. The site consists of grass and a few small trees. The Clerk had estimated maintenance costs for 15 years based on our Grounds Maintenance schedule of rates. Members considered this matter and it was

**RESOLVED**

To recommend to Full Council that Rushden Town Council takes ownership of the site a Walmer Close, Rushden together with a developer contribution for maintenance of £18,000.

Chairman