

RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY 3RD MARCH 2020 AT RUSHDEN HALL, RUSHDEN, COMMENCING AT 7.30PM

Present: Councillor: Sarah Peacock – Chairman

Councillors:	Janet Pinnock	Robin Underwood
	Richard Lewis	Philip Humphrey
	Barbara Jenney	Steven North
	Ron Pinnock	Cesare Marinaro [Ex officio]
	Gill Mercer	Andy Mercer
	David Jenney	

Town Clerk: Vivienne Prodger

346/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Richard Lewis declared a 'bias interest' on agenda item 4a and left the room when this matter was discussed and therefore took no part in any discussions or resolutions made.

Councillor David Jenney declared 'another interest' on agenda item 4a

347/20 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Adrian House, David Coleman and Colin Wright.

348/20 MINUTES

The minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting of 14th January 2020 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 14th January 2020 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

349/20 APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

Members had been circulated with details of payments made since 18th December 2019 amounting to £117547.20

RESOLVED

That payments amounting to £117547.20 be approved (as attached to these minutes).

350/20 COMMUNITY GRANTS

Members considered the following Community Grant application:

- a) Rushden Historical Transport Society

RESOLVED

- a) To award a Community Grant of £6,300 to Rushden Historical Transport Society

351/19 SHOP FRONT IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Members considered the following Shop Front Grant application:

- a) Little Snippers Salon

RESOLVED

- a) Little Snippers Salon - Members deferred this application awaiting further information.

352/20 RISK REGISTER AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

Members had been circulated with the comprehensive Risk Register and all Risk Assessments for all activities carried out by Rushden Town Council. Members scrutinised these documents and it was

RESOLVED

To approve the current Rushden Town Council Risk Register and various Risk Assessments.

353/20 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

Regarding the Unitary, Cllr Russell Roberts from Kettering KBC has been appointed to lead the executive until April next year. Eight other Cllrs make up the executive with Cllrs North, D Jenney and Wendy Brackenbury representing ENC will make the key decisions for how the North Northamptonshire Unitary will be set up. This will progress with district Councillors in the role of the shadow board along with fellow Councillors from the other authorities.

How or where meetings will be held is still to be announced. They will set budgets for the new council and work out how to harmonise tax levels. Currently, the council tax rates vary across the various authorities and they need to be brought into line. More information can be found on the North Northants website.

354/20 TOWN MANAGER

1. YourTown NN10 Community Run

Date: Sunday 29th March 2020

Time: 9am

Venue: Start and finish from Rushden Station

The third YourTown event

130 runners from the local community raising funds for local causes.

Rushden and Higham Ferrers Mayors are opening the event

An opportunity for local businesses to enter a team, donate items for goodie bags, have a stand

2. High Street Interpretation Boards

The four high street interpretation boards have been updated (2020 events/activities) and installed in the high street area.

3. Rushden Town Guide

Work on the latest edition of the Town Guide is progressing.

4. Links with Rushden Lakes Rushden Lakes website – Discover Local Towns

Extra space has been negotiated on the Rushden Lakes website – additional space allowing separate copy and images for both Rushden and Higham Ferrers.

5. Celebrate Rushden

The Soap Box Derby on Sunday 7th June has been promoted to local businesses asking if they would like to construct a soapbox or enter a team.

Antique & Handmade Fayre 13/14 June at Rushden Lakes as part of the Celebrate Rushden week (6th to 14th June) there is an opportunity for local businesses fitting the criteria to apply to have a stall as part of the Fayre. Local charities have been offered the chance to have a cabin for the weekend, local band/choir have also been invited to perform. Looking into a vintage shuttle bus operating between Rushden Lakes and the high street, I am working on a heritage trail to encourage visitors to explore Rushden museum, the High Street and Rushden Historical transport museum. Tea and cakes to be served in Rushden Hall.

As part of Celebrate Rushden I am working with Morrison's and D&B Shoes to organise factory tours throughout the week. Waitrose are also looking to have a healthy eating store tour. Rushden Lakes are funding a quizmaster and refreshments for two pub quiz nights at the Hopmaster Pubs, one evening in Rushden and one in Rushden Lakes.

6. Savills Insights App

Rushden Lakes use a **free App** as a means of keeping approx. 2000 employees informed of news, events and activities, an additional icon has been added into the App specifically for Rushden and Higham Ferrers events. I am working with local businesses to encourage business promotions/concessions through the App.

7. Heritage Family Fun Day

Takes place on **Sunday 13th September**, very successful event last year, growing year on year, in 2018 34 businesses and community groups took part this rose to 46 businesses and community groups in 2019. To date 18 people have signed up to attend.

8. Shop Local Voucher Booklet

Businesses are keen to be included in the 3rd version of the Shop Local voucher booklet.

9. Business Database

The Rushden business database is growing and is updated on a weekly basis. The current system of emailing messages/news to local businesses sometimes fails (possibly due to the amount of contacts) I recommend investment into an email campaign marketing tool, this is a cost effective

way of circulating news to a 1000 recipients approx. cost = £130 annually, please see an example at www.getresponse.com

355/20 PROJECTS/WORK IN PROGRESS

WARD	Location	Job Description	Contractor	Start Date	Completion Date
Sartoris	Rushden Hall	Exterior painting of courtyard	In House – on going		
	Rushden Hall	Disabled Toilet submission of building and drainage	Plans submitted to ENC Awaiting quotations	March 2020	
	Rushden Hall	Titan Spinner	HAGS Equipment installer – Kettering Play Safe	March 2020	
	Rushden Hall	CCTV Upgrade	CrimeSecure	October 2019	Completed

WARD	Location	Job Description	Contractor	Start Date	Completion Date
Spencer	Spencer Park	Refurbishment of MUGA	En-Tout-Cas	October 2019	Lines to be completed when weather is better
	Spencer Park	Refurbishment of Tennis Courts	En-Tout-Cas	August 2019	Lines to be completed when weather is better
	Spencer Park	Inclusive Roundabout	Sutcliffe Play	March 2020	
		Inclusive Spring Toy	Sutcliffe Play	March 2020	
	Spencer Park	Artwork on Changing Rooms	Adrian Turner	Meetng w/c 2 nd February 2020	

WARD	Location	Job Description	Contractor	Start Date	Completion Date
Hayden	Trafford Park	Installation of Climbing Frame	Playground Supplies	October 2019	January 2020
	Fosse Green	Installation of Climbing Frame, Seesaw	Playground Supplies	August 2019	Completed

WARD	Location	Job Description	Contractor	Start Date	Completion Date

Pemberton	Rose Avenue	Inclusive Swing Seat	Sutcliffe Play	March 2020	
	Lynford Way	Inclusive Swing Seat	Sutcliffe Play	March 2020	

WARD	Location	Job Description	Contractor	Start Date	Completion Date
Bates					
	Avenue Road	Street Light Replacements (11)	Eon	4 th November 2019	11 th November 2019
	Manor Park	Master Plan	Hinton Cook	Submitted to ENC December 2019	
	Sports Site	Geo Survey	Soiltechnics	October 2019	Completed
	Sports Site	Topographical Survey	Bright Surv	October 2019	Completed
	Sports Site	Master Plan	Hinton Cook	Submitted to ENC December 2019	
	Cemetery	Refurbishment of Cemetery	In House	November 2019	Completed
	Newton Road	Street Light Replacement	EON	March 2020	

Chairman