

RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD AT RUSHDEN HALL, RUSHDEN ON TUESDAY 6th November 2018 COMMENCING AT 7.30PM.

Present: Councillor: Adrian House - Chairman

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

Town Clerk: Vivienne Prodger

218/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest recorded

219/19 APOLOGIES

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

220/19 MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 18th September 2018 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

221/19 REMEMBRANCE DAY

Members were reminded of the events taken place for Remembrance Day. There will be a Dedication of the Garden of Remembrance, at the Cenotaph, on Wednesday 8th November 2018. The service will commence at 10.45am. Children from various local schools will be laying crosses in the RBL Planter.

The Annual Service of Remembrance will take place on Sunday 12th November 2018 and an invitation has been received from the Royal British Legion for Councillors to attend.

As in previous years, the parade will start from Robinson Road and proceed to the Cenotaph for a service and wreath laying ceremony. Those attending the parade are requested to assemble on Robinson Road at 10.00am, for the parade march off at 10.30am. The ceremony at the Cenotaph will be followed by a service in St Mary's Church.

222/19 RUSHDEN TOWN PARTNERSHIP

Rushden Town Partnership met in October 2018. Work is continuing on the website and further networking events are to be held, both as breakfast and evening meetings.

It was agreed that the Partnership would not be organising the St George's Day event in the High Street in 2019.

223/19 EVENTS WORKING PARTY

.RESOLVED

That the minutes from the Events Working Party meetings held on 20th September 2018 and 25th October 2018 were signed as a true record.

224/19 POLICING AND HIGHWAYS

- a) **Policing** – The minutes for the JAG meeting held on 28th October 2018 are below:-

Update on Agreed Priorities

Report from Paul Mitchinson

Drug use and dealing

A lot of drug warrants had been issued and good results were being seen. 1 known address had closed down its activities. Large and small quantities of class A and class B drugs had been seized. The targeted activity was achieving results.

Anti Social Behaviour at Rushden War Memorial

This was not as bad. A question was raised as to how the new CCTV was going to be installed. An order from Rushden Town Council was outstanding.

Anti-Social Behaviour at Saffron Road Recreation Ground, Higham Ferrers.

Report under next item.

Feedback on issues in Higham Ferrers – Arson and anti-social behaviour.

Three juveniles had been arrested and released under investigation. There were more witnesses and suspects to interview. The CCTV has been brilliant and was very clear. The Police were waiting for the CCTV from the fire engines as further evidence. Phones had been taken from the youths for investigation. The case was ongoing.

Consideration would be given to putting a Community Protection Notice for Saffron Road Recreation Ground in place.

Priorities

Members considered current issues and the following priorities were set for the next three months.

- a. Drug issues in both Higham Ferrers and Rushden to be kept as a priority.
- b. Anti Social Behaviour at Saffron Road Recreation Ground.
- c. Anti Social Behaviour at Rushden War Memorial (Town Project).

Any other business

Chris Healy reported that the direct link with Wootton Hall was still not operational. The Town Councils had agreed, but the equipment at Wootton Hall would not work.

Marian Hollomon raised the following issues: -

- Off road bikes issue in Rose Avenue - PC Mitchinson reported that 2 possible offenders had been spoken to – 1 had no bike and the other had a bike in bits
- Drug gangs are very active in Rose Avenue
- Osbourne Toy Shop – Shoplifting incident. PC Mitchinson would go and talk to the person.
- Incidents in Rushden High Street at night. Police called and no response.

- Incidents of people taken to cashpoints under duress with a machete and knives in Rushden. PC Mitchinson did not know of these and would make enquiries. May well have not been reported.
- Cars going wrong way in Coffee Tavern at around 6am. Chris Healy would make sure that the CCTV picks them up, so Police can take action.

Louise Morfitt would look to issue some publicity around the risks of insecure vehicles and properties.

Time and date of next meeting

Tuesday 8th January 2019 10:30am – Rushden Hall.

- b) **Highways** - The usual issues were raised regarding congestion at the Waitrose Roundabout and potholes in various locations throughout the town. Some works have been programme by Highways for resurfacing and this should be carried out in the next few months. Additional temporary parking has been added at Rushden Lakes and this should help with the parking issues that have occurred at Crown Park. Waitrose are being more with their vigilant parking restrictions and this will of course increase with the run up to Christmas.

225/19 TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Working with Rushden Lakes

1. Heritage Family Fun Day, Sunday 16th September at Rushden Lakes

The Heritage Family Fun Day on Sunday 16th September was organised on behalf of 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 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 **"Shop Local in Rushden and Higham Ferrers"** booklet containing over 48 redeemable discount vouchers was produced in September, over 1500 booklets were given out to visitors at the heritage day 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 Management team at Rushden Lakes have confirmed **an increase in cars visiting their site on the day of the event in comparison to the Sunday before, an approximate increase of 8% of vehicles.**

The aim of the Heritage Family Fun Day was to raise awareness of what is available in the nearby towns of Rushden and Higham Ferrers and to offer visitors at Rushden Lakes the chance to learn more about the local heritage. By handing out promotional material, the "Shop Local" booklet and by talking to visitors about the area it is hoped more people can be encouraged to come and visit.

“Thanks so much for the opportunity. Sunday was a huge success for the Sandwich Shop. I am very interested in future events”. Amy’s Pancakes – The Sandwich Shop Rushden

“Was an excellent day, thank you Julie for all your hard work in organising” Lisa - Cupalicious Higham Ferrers. Lisa reported she has received new customers plus orders from further afield. Lisa has a regular stall at the Higham Ferrers Farmers Market and commented the September Market was busier than usual due to promotional fliers being handed out at the heritage day event.

“Sold out of cakes! Good day, spoke to lots of people, vouchers from the booklet are starting to come in” Elaine Mrs B’s Rushden

“thanks Julie, I thought it was great. Lots of the shoppers stopped for a chat, and we managed to pick up some new members, so a worthwhile day for HiFARS” thanks Rachel Higham Ferrers Archaeology and Research Society

“Firstly, may I say how much the band enjoyed playing at the Heritage Day in September. We have had many comments from people saying how much they enjoyed the day and the music. The band definitely enjoys playing for our local community.

“Awe (Rushden Town Band) weren’t selling anything but we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and would like to do it again sometime”. Regards Hilary Hill Treasurer Rushden Town Band

“We are very pleased with the Shop Local booklet, we have handed out over 50 goody bags to customers” Will Osbornes Toy Shop, Rushden

Babies Galore, Rushden

Rushden Town Council Stall



Mrs B, Rushden

Colemans Craft Warehouse, Rushden

2. Splash & Dash Challenge Event at Rushden Lakes

The Splash and Dash event took place at Rushden Lakes on Sunday 30th September and saw local teams of 6 racing in KataKanu's across the lakes. The event was organised by Rushden based Spurgeons Children's Charity, in partnership with Rushden Lakes and Canoe2. Some local businesses supported the charity event and took up an opportunity to have a business stall for the day.

The winners of the KataKanu Challenge were Anytime Fitness from Rushden.

3. Future Events – YourTown NN10 Get Together

YourTown NN10 Get Together is a Pilot project for a community based initiative for Rushden and Higham Ferrers. The goal of the project is to be a catalyst for collaborative working between local authorities and the business and voluntary communities around a town centre focussed event.

The "Get Together" is a community focussed event to re-connect people with a sense of place – High Streets, town and local charities. The event is focussed around healthy living – a 5k run ideally starting and finishing in the town centre. This is limited to 100 people who donate £5/£10/£50 to a nominated local charity. At the least this will be £500.

The event lasts just under an hour plus set up/clear down. It is timed to be early on a Sunday 9am so it won't cause too much disruption as well as giving runners the maximum benefit.

The first run is provisionally planned for 24th March 2019 with a view to holding another one 3 months later possible as part of Celebrate Rushden week in June.

We have set up a YourTown NN10 Core Group (Rushden and Higham Town Councils, Rushden Lakes, East Northants Council and YourTown) and are having regular meetings – anyone wishing to attend a meeting please let me know.

4. Christmas Events/Activities

I am continuing to work with Rushden Lakes Management team on Christmas events/ideas that allow opportunities for a variety of local business to participate (supply of local choirs, bands, mince pie makers, hairdressers etc).

I have also been asked to provide a monthly update to the Management team.

Working with Northamptonshire Business Crime Partnership Ltd

Previous conversations have indicated there could be some funding available from East Northants Council towards a Business Crime Partnership scheme in Rushden.

The Northamptonshire Business Crime Partnership (NBCP) team have offered membership for the High Street, Mrs B's to the Original Factory Shop, including Wilko's. (Iceland are already members) at a reduced rate of **£3,000 per annum** (this would normally be in the region of £5,500). I am corresponding with Mike Greenway (Community Partnership Manager) to see how we can progress this.

226/19 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	Completed

Hall Park	Nature Trail		yes	In house	Autumn bulb planting 2018.
Spencer Park	Tennis Courts Improvements			TBC	
Spencer Park	MUGA Improvements Some funding to come from Grensons Site Section 106			TBC	
Rose Avenue	Climbing Frame Funding from Station Road Site Section 106 monies				Completed
Fosse Green	New Play Equipment Section 106 monies – Grensons Site section 106				Spring 2019
Rushden Hall	Glass Doors	Met with Lloyd-Architect to draw up design			On hold
Spencer Park/Washbrook Road Entrance and pollarding	Tree works				Completed
Memorial Gardens	Refurb post/new seats/new litter bins				Completed
Trafford Park	New play equipment Section 106 monies – Station Road Site				Spring 2019
Hall Park	Public Toilets				
St James Park	New Swings				Completed
Hall Park	Refurb benches and extension of bases for disabled				November 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	November 2018
Spencer Park	CCTV			Crimesecure	December 2018
Skidders Hill Bus stop	Benches				Completed
War Memorial	Bernard Vann				Completed

	stone and plinth				
Rushden Hall	Structural report disabled entrance/bar room				Completed
War Memorial	Interpretation Board			Ordered	Completed
Cemetery	Memorial tributes review				November 2018
Rushden Hall	Disabled Entrance Works				December 2018

Chairman