

# Uppingham Vanguard Board

Working Together to help Uppingham Become an Exemplar Market Town

## Summary Notes of the Third Meeting of the Uppingham Vanguard Board + held at 10am on November 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 in the Oak Room of The Falcon Hotel

### Physical Contributors

Members/Representatives of – Corby BC; BRA Ltd; Limes Firs & Spurs Residents Association, Uppingham Neighbourhood Forum, Uppingham Community College, Uppingham C of E School, Uppingham Business Forum, Uppingham First, Larkfleet, Langton Homes, Ancer Spa, UTC UNP/Town Plan Groups; E J Toon Housing Trust Task Group; CPRE.

### Virtual Correspondents/Contributors

Gigaclear

### Invitees Unable to Attend

Bloor Homes, Rutland First, Gordon Brown (RCC), Rutland LPU, Robert Wills, Uppingham School.

### 1. Welcome and Declarations of Interest

Edward Baines (Chair) welcomed the excellent attendance and noted the apologies of those not able to attend. A particularly warm welcome was given to the Chief Executive and the Chief Planning Officer of Corby BC. The community, council and business interests of those attending were noted.

### 2. The Vanguard Board+

The meeting was provided with a reminder of the Board's status, purpose and objectives.

### 3. Developing Corby – The opportunities and challenges for Uppingham & Rutland

*A presentation by Norman Stronach, Chief Executive of Corby BC*

An informative presentation followed by discussion summarised the opportunities and challenges for Rutland presented by the planned expansion of Corby and the Corby West development in particular.

### 4. Development of Uppingham as an Exemplar Community – Progress Reports

- a) **2018 Civil Society Review** - Copies of the UNF Civil Society Review were distributed and well received. The online version can be viewed at [www.uppinghamneighbourhoodplan.info](http://www.uppinghamneighbourhoodplan.info)
- b) **Community Led Housing in Uppingham** – The town's submission to the Community Housing Fund (CHF) by the embryonic Badley Affordable Housing Trust is now under preparation. Corby BC offered the support of its Chief Housing Officer. A number of housing developers also offered to support the projects aims
- c) **Neighbourhood Plan** – The Board was updated with the progress being made with updating the Uppingham Neighbourhood Plan. A number of consultant written reports were to be considered at the next meeting of what was now the UNP Working Group, rather than a committee (to allow community representatives to vote). The Group's next public meeting is now to be held on Tuesday December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Concern was expressed about the continuing impasse and disagreements over the leadership of the UNP Working Group. It was hoped to agree an updated timeline at the next meeting. Concerns were also raised over the lack of progress in addressing site specific issues and the potential impact of the St George's proposals

- d) **RCC Local, Transport and St George's Plans** - The delay in updating the Rutland Local Plan was noted as was the RCC decision not to go to the final stages until probably June 2019. The incorporation of St Georges was a major change. It was acknowledged that a number of consultation responses to the Rutland Transport Plan were being prepared. These needed to address links to the A47, the A6003 forecast, community and public transport, the shortage of parking in Uppingham at peak times, the transport needs of the town centre and a study of the need for a north /south bypass of Uppingham.
- e) **Developer Updates** - Developer representatives provided a brief update on the status of their sites and their forward plans. The level of social and economic growth desired by the community was again noted. Discussion revealed significant synergy between identified community needs and developer/landowner aspirations. The lack of progress with the Uppingham Gate site was noted. There was some debate on the failure of the county's economic development function to promote employment sites in Uppingham. It was clear that more needed to be done. The need for a development study of Station Road and its highway access was again noted
- f) **Education and Skills Establishment Updates** - Education leads provided brief updates on the status of their establishments with subsequent discussion exploring the potential benefits of the town's planned expansion and Corby's future growth. It was noted that that the DWP had agreed to attend a future meeting with regard to the town's and employers skills needs
- g) **Community Safety & Wellbeing/Health Updates** – A response was awaited to an invitation to the new LPU Commander to meet with town representatives. The joint Leicestershire Police/ Uppingham First Special Constable initiative was welcomed. The award of a significant sum by the Lottery to Rutland First and the town's schools for their Rutland wide mental health project was welcomed
- h) **Digital Uppingham and the Future High Street** - The RCC funding bid to secure 100Mbps by fibre for the county was noted. Central businesses could benefit. A response from Gigaclear to further extend the 1Gb fttp network in Uppingham was awaited.

## 5. Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)

The difficulties being experienced by RCC with regard to the changing LEP structure were noted.

## 6. Date, format and content of next meeting

To be advised

The meeting closed at 12.30pm followed by a buffet lunch and networking

## Notes prepared by Ron Simpson. 16.12.2018

**Note:** The Uppingham Vanguard Board+ was created at the suggestion of a government advisor who was impressed by the town's forward looking agenda. Its purpose is to share information with, and encourage collective debate between, organisations involved in the operation and forward development of Uppingham as an exemplar market town. The Board is administered by the award winning Uppingham First Community Partnership.

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