

UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 20 January 2016 at the Village Hall commencing at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:

Ian Johnson (Chair)

Adrian Wood

Peter Snow

Malcolm Yates

David Jordan

Cath Jewitt

Theresa Pick

In attendance:

Catherine Millward (Clerk)

R. Blaney (from 7.45 until 8.00 pm)

B. Laughton (from 8.25 pm until 8.45 pm)

Members of the public (3)

	DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS	ACTION
UPC/1/16	Apologies for absence: There were no absences.	
UPC/2/16	<p>Chair's comments: The chair expressed the council's appreciation of the Christmas lights which had enhanced the village appearance over the festive season and added to the ambience of the carol concert. He thanked B Woodcock for the donation of the tree and Mrs Wood for making the Father Christmas arrangements.</p> <p>The repair of the noticeboard was formally noted. The chair thanked all those who had worked on returning it to a safe, secure condition.</p>	
UPC/3/16	<p>Declarations of interest: Mr Yates declared an interest in item 18 b (Planning matters - Gravel extraction proposals – Flash Farm, Averham).</p> <p>Mrs Pick declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 18 a (planning matters – Application 15/20139/FUL – Dairy Farm). Councillors noted that the declaration was a formality, the application having essentially been withdrawn.</p> <p>There were no other declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.</p>	
UPC/4/16	Dispensations: None required.	
UPC/5/16	<p>10 minutes public speaking time: Previous concerns were repeated regarding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hockerton Lane - Councillors agreed that these had been previously discussed and that there was nothing further to add to those discussions pending the start of NCC's 2016/17 financial year. b. Village bus service – The outcome of Mr Blaney's enquiries at NSDC into the possibility of re-directing the afternoon Fiskerton bus service to Upton to provide a return service from Newark during the afternoon were awaited c. Gravel extraction proposals at Flash Farm – An agenda item for discussion later. 	
UPC/6/16	Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.	

	<p>a formal request in April 2016.</p> <p>Mr Laughton left the meeting at 8.45 pm.</p>	
UPC/10/16	<p>Financial Matters:</p> <p>a. Financial position as at 31 December 2015: The clerk presented her report showing the precise financial position at 31 December 2015. This was noted with particular reference to the budget. Councillors also noted the VHMC accounts to 30 November 2015.</p> <p>b. Accounts for payment: The council unanimously approved four payments totalling £805.56.</p> <p>c. Review burial ground fees: Councillors approved the proposed 2016 burial fees in the form circulated by the clerk. The clerk will write to the PCC to seek permission to display an information notice regarding the open part of the churchyard in the church noticeboard.</p> <p>d. To consider the financial information provided by the Clerk and NSDC's letter regarding 2016/17 precept estimates and to agree the precept for the year ending 31 March 2017: Councillors considered the financial information provided by the clerk. After discussion, they agreed by a majority of 6:1 to amend the budget and increase the precept for the year ending 31 March 2017 by 1.9% to £6,388. This is intended to protect the council against the incremental effect of cost increases over time.</p>	Clerk
UPC/11/16	<p>Provision of community defibrillator, including funding sources, location and alert system: The clerk confirmed that the current BHF funding programme had ceased following the allocation of all the funds. She confirmed that her enquiries had established that any funded cabinet would almost certainly need to be heated and unlocked.</p> <p>Mr Snow will approach the Cross Keys landlord for consent to install a defibrillator on the building.</p>	PS
UPC/12/16	<p>Village Neighbourhood Watch scheme: Mrs Jewitt updated councillors as to progress with the new group. Councillors thanked the volunteers who had come forward and noted that the group should be active by the end of February 2016. They thanked Mr and Mrs Jewitt for their efforts.</p>	
UPC/13/16	<p>Bus shelter outside the French Horn: NCC has confirmed that the new shelter reinstatement is in hand.</p>	
UPC/14/16	<p>Condition of Home Farm, Upton: Discussed at UPC/9/15 above (Reports from councillors).</p>	
UPC/15/16	<p>Renewal of village map boards: Ownership of and responsibility for the boards was discussed. It was agreed that they were the council's responsibility. The clerk will check prices and availability of new mapboards. Any new boards will ideally be concreted in to protect against rot and set at a better angle.</p> <p>Mr Laughton arrived at 8.25 pm. The meeting reverted to item 9 on the agenda (Reports from councillors) to allow Mr Laughton to address the meeting.</p>	Clerk
UPC/16/16	<p>Green spaces and rights of way including review of monthly burial ground, The Green and The Collies inspection and maintenance reports: The chair confirmed that no issues had been identified on his monthly inspection of the burial ground and passed his written inspection report to the clerk.</p> <p>Mr Jordan confirmed that no issues had been identified on his monthly</p>	

	<p>inspection of the Green and The Collies. Councillors noted that REACH has started work on the Collies. Mr Yates will return the key to the electricity cubicle padlock to Mr Jordan.</p> <p>Landowners' rights and obligations regarding bulls in fields crossed by footpaths were discussed.</p>	
UPC/17/16	<p>Playground including</p> <p>a. Review of councillor's monthly playground inspection and maintenance report: Mr Snow confirmed that no significant requiring action issues had been identified on his monthly inspection of the playground. He passed his written inspection report to the clerk.</p> <p>b. Annual NSDC inspection report: Mr Snow's review of the condition of the equipment against the paper copy report is continuing.</p>	PS
UPC/18/16	<p>Planning matters:</p> <p>a. Applications: 15/02139/FUL Householder application for conversion and extension of existing stables/storage barn to create an artists studio/games room Dairy Farm, 48 Main Street Upton – Not discussed, Mrs Pick having confirmed that the application is not being pursued.</p> <p>b. Gravel extraction proposals – Flash Farm, Averham: See UPC/9/16 (Reports from councillors).</p> <p>c. Conservation areas – Boundaries: Councillors noted that, as a rule, conservation area requirements take priority over General Development Orders, including the conversion of agricultural buildings to residential use.</p> <p>d. To note NSDC decisions:</p> <p>i. 15/01978/FUL - Application to vary condition 2 attached to planning permission 13/00899/FUL to amend the approved plans for the erection of a pair of Two Bedroom Semi-Detached Bungalows, New Vehicular Access and Pedestrian Access and Ancillary Car Parking - Land At Hockerton Road Upton - Approval noted.</p> <p>ii. 15/02263/TWCA – Ingleborough, 2 Church Walk, Upton – Fell six leylandii – Approval noted.</p> <p>iii. 15/02206/TWCA - Tallington 12 Hockerton Road Upton – Remove fir trees (3) and willow tree (1) – Approval noted.</p> <p>iv. 15/02068/TWCA - Upton House 80 Main Street Upton – Fell conifers (12), reduce poplar height, reduce beech height and spread - Approval noted.</p> <p>v. 15/01903/TWCA - The Mews Cottage 25 Main Street Upton – Reduce/tidy beech trees (2) and remove conifers (5) - Approval noted.</p> <p>Councillors also noted the approval of 15/02090/FUL – Householder application for single storey rear/side extension with canopy roof, 3 No dormers to rear and velux window, car parking barn and alterations at Ivy Cottage 19 Main Street Upton which was received subsequent to distribution of the agenda.</p>	Clerk
UPC/19/16	<p>Service faults: The clerk will notify:</p> <p>a. Fly tipping on New Lane to NSDC</p> <p>b. The crumbling surface of Hockerton Lane</p>	Clerk Clerk
UPC/20/16	<p>Correspondence: Item a – NCC – Nottinghamshire County Council Spending Proposals 2016/17 – 2018/19 – The potential implications for free school bus travel were discussed.</p> <p>Item b - NSDC – Open space provision and needs assessment – The clerk was authorised to complete and return the form, including the play area.</p>	Clerk

	All other items of correspondence on the agenda were noted together with NSDC's invitation to the New Year celebration on 7 February 2016 and the police "Tackling Rural Crime" information flyer.	
UPC/21/16	10 minutes public speaking time: The clerk will report that the streetlight outside the village hall is not working. Comments were made on the withdrawal of sixth form traffic concessions by NCC.	Clerk
UPC/22/17	Agenda items for next meeting: See above	
UPC/23/16	Date of next meeting Wednesday 17 February 2016 at 7.30 pm.	

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm