

# UPTON MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at Upton Magna Village Hall  
on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May, 2017 at 7.30pm.

Before the meeting commenced, the Chairman opened the floor to Mr. Stephen Habershon, the forestry consultant responsible for overseeing the woodland management on the Sundorne Estate. Mr. Habershon advised the Parish Council of an ongoing programme of safety work being carried out on the mature and semi-mature roadside trees that are on Estate land. He also outlined the reasons for the current planning application for reduction work to the chestnut tree at The Old Forge (see minute 17/046 below).

**17/052. Present.**

Parish Councillors: Mr. Roberts, Mr. Pillow, Mr. Brooker, Mrs. Brenton, Mrs. Lambert and Mr. Walters.  
Parish Clerk: Mrs. Smith-Wells. Two members of the public (including Frances Steer of Balfours) and Councillor Picton.

**17/053. Apologies.**

Dr. Dawson (holiday).

**17/054. Declarations of Interest.**

Mr. Roberts expressed a personal interest in item 10, "Highway Matters – through traffic on Upton Forge private road". Although the concerns have been expressed by another resident of Upton Forge, Mr. Roberts resides there too.

Mr. Pillow expressed a personal interest in item 9, "Planning" – crown reduction of chestnut tree at The Old Forge. The tree in question overhangs Mr. Pillow's property.

Mr. Brooker expressed a personal interest in item 9, "Planning" – crown reduction of chestnut tree at The Old Forge. The tree in question is located in the garden of a family member.

**17/055. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April, 2017.**

Signed as a correct record of that meeting.

**17/056. Accounts.**

- It was proposed, seconded and resolved that the following amounts be approved for payment: £206.19 – Parish Clerk's salary for April; £280.00 – annual insurance premium.
- Insurance: The Parish Clerk confirmed that insurance is now with Came and Co. for the next three years at a fixed annual premium of £280.00 per annum.

**17/057. School Play Equipment.**

The Parish Council has provided the pupils and staff of the school with the details of the play equipment available. The funding is, at present, with Shropshire Council and the school should advise them of their equipment choices so that the money can be released. The Parish Council agreed that some of the funding should be retained for insurance and future maintenance of the equipment. It was also agreed that the Parish Council will fully support Dr. Dawson in his endeavours to push this project

forward. **ACTION:** Dr. Dawson to report on progress at the next meeting.

There was a brief discussion on the difference between S106 funding and Community Infrastructure Levy.

**17/058. Footpaths.**

Nothing to report.

**17/059. Current Projects.**

- Footpath notice board: Dr. Dawson visited Balfour's offices on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April and agreed on the size and content of the map with Richard Jones-Perrott and Frances Steer. Ms. Steer confirmed that she is to "firm up the agreement" with the Trustees and then arrange for a printer to produce the map in a weatherproof format. The Parish Council will source a suitable noticeboard and confirm agreement with the Haughmond to attach it to their shop wall. **ACTION:** Frances Steer to respond to Dr. Dawson by the 27<sup>th</sup> of May, as agreed. Dr. Dawson to contact the landlady of the Haughmond and also pursue the new noticeboard.
- Graveyard wall: Nothing to report.
- Parishioner consultation: The Parish Clerk is unable to attend the fete on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July but will make all the necessary arrangements. Councillor Brooker has offered to set up and dismantle the display and suggestions box on the day. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to arrange.

**17/060. Planning.**

- 17/02066/TCA Crown reduction of a horse chestnut at The Old Forge: The Parish Council discussed this application and it was proposed, seconded and resolved that, in the interest of the health and safety of parishioners, it supports the work being carried out. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to post a comment on Shropshire Council's Planning Register to that effect.
- 16/04965/EIA Proposed poultry units at The Rea: Shropshire Council decision pending.
- 16/04964/FUL Extensions at Chimneys, Uffington: Shropshire Council decision pending.
- 17/00061/VAR Reprofiling of eastern bund at Haughmond Quarry: Shropshire Council decision pending.

**17/061. Highway Matters.**

- Through traffic on Upton Forge private road: The sign is not yet in place but Shropshire Council has confirmed that it has been ordered.
- Request for a dog waste bin at the village hall: Shropshire Council has advised that the cost of emptying a new dog waste bin would be £342.13 per annum. Councillor Picton agreed to clarify this with Carmen Eccleston of Shropshire Council. **ACTION:** Councillor Picton to relay information back to the Parish Clerk.
- Boundary between BT exchange land and the path from de Quincey Fields: The Parish Council is still waiting for a response to several emails to Balfours concerning the promise of a new hedge in 2016. **ACTION:** Frances Steer of Balfours has agreed to investigate the delay.
- De Quincey Fields: The Chairman opened the floor to Mr. Barrie Hayes who raised several queries concerning de Quincey Fields: i) The lack of grass cutting of the communal areas – Mr. Hayes was assured that the Parish Council has been pursuing this with Balfours for some months now. Ms. Steer of Balfours advised that a contractor will be cutting and reinstating the areas during week beginning the 15<sup>th</sup> of May and weekly cuts will take place from March to October thereafter. **ACTION:** Parish Council to monitor: ii) New trees - three recently planted trees are dying due to lack of water. **ACTION:** Ms. Steer to investigate; iii) Hedge in the centre of the development – this hedge has not been cut and is unsightly. Mr. Hayes was advised that

it is illegal to carry out hedge cutting from the 1<sup>st</sup> of March to the 31<sup>st</sup> of August. **ACTION:** Ms. Steer to check that the hedge is included on the Estate's cutting programme for the future; iv) Appearance of extra parking area – it is understood that the Sundorne Estate requested extra parking spaces to be provided and the resulting spaces were constructed of aggregate rather than tarmac and there is no dropped kerb to them. Consequently, the area is now overrun with weeds and needs urgent attention. **ACTION:** Ms. Steer to investigate.

- Illegal access to Attingham Park: Mrs. Brenton advised that the National Trust has become aware of people gaining free access to the park and that they intend to clamp down on it.
- Pothole on Pelham Road: It was reported that there is a large pothole at the entrance to number 8 Pelham Road. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to report.
- Concern was raised over an incident whereby a large lorry making an early delivery to the Haughmond struggled to gain access to the parking area to the right of the pub and therefore parked on the road. Unfortunately, this coincided with drop-off time at the school and the resulting chaos presented a danger to children. **ACTION:** Parish Council to monitor to see if this becomes a regular occurrence.

**17/062. Correspondence.**

None.

**17/063. Date of Next Meeting.**

The Parish Clerk advised Councillors that the date of the next meeting has been changed to Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> of June as the village hall is to be used as a polling station for the forthcoming Parliamentary Election.

**17/064. Items for Next Agenda.**

- School play equipment.
- Notice board.
- De Quincey Fields.

..... (Chairman) ..... (Date)

**Date of next meeting: Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> of June, 2017.**

**MRS. K.M. SMITH-WELLS, CLERK TO UPTON MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL**