

UPTON MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held at Upton Magna Village Hall
on the 13th of April, 2017 at 7.30pm.

17/038. Present.

Parish Councillors: Mr. Roberts, Dr. Dawson, Mrs. Randle, Mr. Pillow, Mr. Brooker. Parish Clerk: Mrs. Smith-Wells. Three members of the public.

17/039. Apologies.

Mrs. Brenton and Mrs. Lambert (holidays).

17/040. Declarations of Interest.

Mr. Roberts expressed a personal interest in item 9, "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.

17/041. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 9th of March, 2017.

Signed as a correct record of that meeting.

17/042. Accounts.

- It was proposed, seconded and resolved that the following amounts be approved for payment: £170.12 – Parish Clerk's salary for March; £53.00 – Clerk's expenses for final quarter; £168.51 – SALC affiliation fee; £41.00 Npower electricity; £127.52 – HMRC PAYE (repayable to Parish Clerk); £27.66 – Morrisons petrol for mower (repayable to P. Woods); £128.00 – EH Edwards mower repairs (repayable to P. Woods).
- Accounts for final quarter: The Parish Council considered the accounts and bank reconciliation prepared by the Parish Clerk. It was proposed, seconded and resolved that the accounts be accepted.
- Insurance: Two quotations for insurance renewal were considered and it was proposed, seconded and resolved that the quotation from Came and Co., in the sum of £289.47 for 1 year, be accepted. This sum is £58.60 less than the sum quoted by Zurich who are the current providers.

17/043. School Play Equipment.

Members of the Parish Council met with a playground equipment supplier at the school at the end of March. The supplier has since provided further information about suitable equipment for the Key Stage 1 toddler area and the Key Stage 2 junior area. Dr. Dawson is to present the information to school staff, pupils and parents and ask for their opinions on this and the possible provision of a shelter near to the woodland area. **ACTION:** Dr. Dawson to report back to the next meeting.

In the absence of Mrs. Lambert, discussion on the possible inclusion of S106 funding was deferred until the next meeting.

17/044. Footpaths.

Nothing to report.

17/045. Current Projects.

- New lawnmower for graveyard mowing: The new lawnmower has been purchased and collected. The Chairman wished to formally record the Parish Council's thanks to Mrs. Lambert for organising this purchase.
- Footpath notice board: Dr. Dawson is to visit Balfour's offices on the 27th of April to obtain a suitably sized map. The notice board will be purchased after the map has been obtained.
- Graveyard wall: The Chairman opened the floor to Mr. Woods who advised the Parish Council that the church council are waiting for a quotation for carrying out the repair work and will advise the Parish Council when this has been received.
- Parishioner consultation: It was agreed that the Parish Council would like to provide information on its responsibilities and achievements, together with a "suggestions box", at the forthcoming fete. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to assess feasibility.

17/046. Planning.

- 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 Reprofilng of eastern bund at Haughmond Quarry: Shropshire Council decision pending.

17/047. Highway Matters.

- Through traffic on Upton Forge private road: Shropshire Council Highways Department has agreed to erect a new sign in the near future.
- Request for a dog waste bin at the village hall: The Village Hall Committee has requested the provision of a new bin at the village hall following complaints from caravan site users. The Parish Clerk is waiting for Shropshire Council to confirm that they would empty a new bin, should the Parish Council provide one. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to chase Shropshire Council.
- 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 2016 promise of a new hedge. It is concerned that the planting season is nearly over with no action taken to date. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to continue to chase.
- De Quincey Fields: It has been reported that no grass cutting of the communal areas at de Quincey Fields has taken place to date this year. The Parish Clerk is awaiting a response from Balfours concerning this. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to chase.
- It was reported that the road surface between the Haughmond car park entrance and the entrance to the quarry is in very poor condition. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to report to Shropshire Council.
- It has been noted that an increase in parking fees at the Haughmond car park is imminent and this may encourage dangerous parking on the corner at the Criftins. **ACTION:** All Parish Councillors to monitor.

17/048. Elections.

The Parish Clerk reported that there is no contest for the Parish Council as 7 candidates have stood for the 7 available seats. There is, however, a contest for the Tern division and the election will be held on the 4th of May.

It was noted that Mrs. Randle has decided to step down from the Parish Council after serving over 30 years in total. The Parish Council thanked her for her hard work, dedication and commitment over the years and wished her and her family well in the future.

17/049. Correspondence.

An email has been received from the Parochial Church Council thanking the Parish Council for the donation of the new lawn mower and for its continued support in the upkeep of the churchyard.

17/050. Review of the Parish Clerk's Hours.

The Parish Clerk left the meeting while the Parish Council discussed the information provided by the Clerk on hours for previous years. It was proposed, seconded and resolved that the number of hours worked per month be increased to 24 with effect from the 1st of April, 2017.

17/051. Items for Next Agenda.

- School play equipment.
- Notice board.
- Shropshire Council Election.

..... (Chairman) (Date)

Date of next meeting: Thursday, 11th of May, 2017.

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