

Upton Magna Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on

Thursday 21st March 2024 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

24/24 REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE and APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Present: Cllrs Phil Roberts (Chair), Andy Brooker, Julieanne Lloyd, Dan Sims, Andy Pillow, Jeanna Bennion

Apologies: Michael Dawson

Clerk: Jennifer Turner.

In attendance : Lezley Picton, Huw Williams

24/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION – Presentation by Cloud9 arranged by member of the public.

Tests show an upgrade for fibre installation is possible in the Upton Magna area and all residents have the opportunity of upgrading using government provided vouchers towards the installation cost. This is in readiness for the reduction in current speeds due to the alteration to provision by copper. Users would need to sign up to a contract with Cloud 9, with the first fifty subscribers receiving free internet for an agreed time. In addition to this the Village Hall and Church would also be provided with free internet. Fibre will be delivered either via cables on poles or placed underground. Design work will take four weeks, build six-eight weeks, with installation planned for summer 2024. The most rural properties in the area could also enlist the help of Shropshire County Council to facilitate this. There is more information on Shropshire County Council website.

The above is not an endorsement by the Parish Council, just a statement of fact. There are other providers available.

Councillors suggested that Cloud9 advertise their services in the Church Times and on notice boards.

24/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None.

24/27 MINUTES – It was proposed, seconded and resolved that the Chairman should sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 8th February 2024 as a true and correct record of that meeting.

24/28 REPORT FROM CLLR. LEZLEY PICTON (SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL)

- Queen Camilla will be visiting Shrewsbury on 27th March
- Princess Anne will visit Ellesmere in April
- There are more holders of the Voluntary Award Medal in Shropshire than in any other county
- Ongoing work to make significant savings during 2023-24, this work is to continue into 2024-25 with a target set of saving £62m. Parking charges will be increased slightly. Council Tax will be increased by 5%. Agreement with Cheshire University – Staffordshire Nursing and Education, Keele Social services and Harper Adams are all interested in negotiating with Shropshire County Council.
- Haughmand Hill (café) road will be resurfaced.
- The planned dropped kerb at Upton Magna School is on the list to be completed as urgent
- Withington – large pool of water. LP will provide further information

- Haughmand Hill parking – since the introduction of the app to pay for parking, visitors are parking on the street. This has resulted in emergency service vehicles not being able to gain access. LP suggested that double yellow lines are added.
- Shropshire has won an award for ongoing work in the town centre
- The bus lane is being removed from Castle Street and a cycle lane added.
- Trial of ‘movement strategy’ – 65% of town traffic drives straight through without stopping
- LP left the meeting at 20.15

24/29 REPORTS

- a) **West Mercia Police** – None. Invited but DNA.
- b) **SALC** – None.
- c) **Footpaths** – No issues
- d) **Village hall** – No further update

24/30 PROGRESS REPORTS

- a) **Defibrillators** – PR met with a Paramedic who in his own time, provides maintenance to defibrillators. He replaced the pads, these will need to be replaced in 2026. He also suggested replacing the batteries to ensure two more years life for the defibrillator. The green light should stay flashing and needs to be checked on a weekly basis. Councillors discussed costs of maintaining the defibrillator and the possibility of fundraising by the community or Village Hall. It was proposed (AB) and agreed (DS) that the Parish Council maintain this for two years, (buying a new battery) whilst consultation is sought with the local community regarding permanent fundraising to maintain, if residents wish to keep this facility.
Consultation could include information on the Parish Council web page, in the Church Times, via Survey Monkey and a paper survey available in the shop.
- b) **Street Lights** – The light opposite the school is not working. Penguin Electrical have visited the area and taken photos. The connection to National Grid is full of water and this has obviously caused the failure. Penguin have advised this is not their responsibility, Clerk has emailed back to confirm that this was part of the original installation carried out by Penguin who contracted National Grid and therefore it is felt to be their responsibility. Response not received as yet.
- c) **Litter Pick** – twelve helpers plus JB for two hours. Twenty bags of litter were collected. This will be repeated and will be part of the Great Litter Pick. JB to be reimbursed for bags.

24/31 GENERAL PARISH & HIGHWAY MATTERS

Please note: Most highway and general repair matters are best reported using [fixmystreet.com](https://www.fixmystreet.com). This will usually get the quickest results.

- a) **Flood Water** – Flooding at Grange Farm. There has been some major remedial work on this area and no flooding has occurred since. There is a strong stench from water accumulating on the field behind the school this could be due to a break in a sewage pipe – JB to report
- b) **Ditches** – no updates
- c) **Potholes** – no updates
- d) **Haughmond Hill Parking** – Suggested double yellow lines for this area

24/32 PLANNING

- a) 24/00542/LBC Installation of a charging point for electric vehicle – approved
- b) 24/00468/TPO To crown reduce by up to 30% Lime

24/33 FINANCE

a) Payments and receipts

It was proposed (PR), seconded (JB) and resolved that the following **payments** be approved:

AMOUNT	DETAILS
256.65	Clerk's salary and expenses Mar
26.00	
333.60	HMRC
64.20	HMRC March
11.99	Hugo Fox
50.43	West Mercia Energy

- b) **Payments and receipts** - The above outstanding payments were approved

24/34 Any Other Business/Correspondence

- a) **Information regarding Shrewsbury Sports Village** – AB reported that many clubs who currently meet at The Quarry are concerned

24/35 – Items for next agenda

None

The meeting closed at 21.02pm.

Date of the next meeting: 11th April 2024 at 7.30

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Jennifer Turner – Upton Magna Parish Council
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