

# UPTON MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held at Upton Magna Village Hall on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2019.

Before the meeting started, the Chairman opened the floor to Sergeant Becky Thomas who gave information/advice on the following:

- She is one of a team of 4 (based at Monkmoor police station) which covers a very large area from Battlefield in the north to All Stretton in the south, and from Dorrington in the west to Buildwas in the east;
- At the present time, responses to reported crimes are unfortunately slow due to the lack of police officers employed in the West Midlands region. However, the regional Police and Crime Commissioner has secured an additional 120 officers and some of these will be based in Shropshire;
- The most recent crime statistics for Upton Magna are encouragingly low;
- Types of crimes in the parish and surrounding area include; theft of lambs; van break-ins; trailer thefts.
- The PCSOs for the area have been working with St. Lucia's school to address the irresponsible attitude of parents towards parking at drop off and collection times. It was agreed that the occasional presence of the police officer would probably deter haphazard parking more than signs etc.

Sergeant Thomas was thanked for taking the time to attend the meeting.

### 19/039. Present.

Parish Councillors: Mr. Roberts, Dr. Dawson, Mr. Pillow, Mr. Brooker, Mrs. Brenton, Mr. Walters, Mrs. Lambert. Mrs. Smith-Wells (Parish Clerk). Shropshire Councillor Lezley Picton. Mr. Jordan (Sundorne Castle Estate Manager), Miss E. de Quincey.

### 19/040. Apologies.

None.

### 19/041. Declarations of Interest.

None.

### 19/042. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2019.

Signed as a correct record of that meeting.

### 19/043. Monthly Report from Councillor Picton.

Councillor Picton gave details of Shropshire Council's consultation on their proposed cuts to the bus services in Shropshire. She encouraged everyone to respond by the deadline.

### 19/044. Accounts.

- It was proposed, seconded and resolved that the following amounts be approved for payment:

£229.59	Parish Clerk's salary, Working from Home Allowance and mileage for March
£45.00	Hire of village hall for January, February and March

£154.60	PAYE for final quarter
---------	------------------------

**19/045. Planning.**

- 19/00148/FUL. Demolition of existing cottages and replacement with 2 new dwellings. Decision pending. Historic Environment representatives have attended a site visit and submitted an approval report.
- 16/04965/EIA. Poultry units at the Rea. Decision still pending.

**19/046. Current Projects.**

Replacement/repair of village hall boundary fence: It was agreed that the work will require specialist contractors. It was agreed that if the Parish Council provides financial support, the Village Hall Committee will be required to manage the project. Councillors Walters agreed to act as the liaison point between the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council and he will obtain 3 quotations for the work. **ACTION:** Councillors Walters to obtain 3 quotations and report back to the Parish Council.

**19/047. General Village Matters.**

- Houghton Crossroads: As promised, the Forestry Commission has cut back the hedge and removed some sycamore saplings. This has already improved visibility for motorists emerging onto the B5062. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to thank the Forestry Commission. In the meantime, Councillor Picton will continue to pursue further improvements.
- Trees at de Quincey Fields: Although the developers promised to replace any dead trees on the communal area (and despite the trees having a 5-year warranty), this has not taken place. Mr. Jordan (Sundorne Castle Estate Manager) offered to arrange the replacement.
- Grass at de Quincey Fields: Mr. Jordan advised that the first cutting of the communal area grass will take place shortly. He also advised that a resident’s group to manage the maintenance of the area, may be formed in the future.
- Mr. Jordan had arranged for the manual clearing of the verge gullies by Grange Farm. This has already improved the flooding situation in inclement weather, but the ditch is overgrown and requires clearing out before the problem will be fully resolved. **ACTION:** Parish Clerk to report the overgrown ditch to Shropshire Council.

**19/048. Correspondence.**

Dr. Dawson advised that he had received a letter from a parishioner concerning the Hunkington bridleway. **ACTION:** Dr Dawson to liaise with Mr. Jordan regarding the points raised and to respond directly to the parishioner.

**19/049. Items for Next Agenda.**

No new items.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20.31pm.

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

**Date of next meeting: Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2019.**

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