

Upton Magna Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 10th March 2021 at 7.30pm.

The meeting was conducted on Zoom.

21/028 REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE and APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Present: Cllrs Phil Roberts (Chair), Jeana Bennion, Andy Brooker, Michael Dawson, Andy Pillow, Steve Walters. Cllr Mel Board joined the meeting at 8.30pm.

Apologies: None.

Clerk: Alison Utting

Also: SC Cllr Lezley Picton (until 8pm). 1 member of the public.

21/029 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Concern was raised over potholes. Cllr Picton said that she had reported quite a few recently, with UMPC Clerk copied in.

21/030 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

21/031 MINUTES

It was agreed that the Chairman should sign the minutes of 11th February 2021 as a true and correct record of the meeting.

21/032 PROGRESS REPORT

- a) **Community Tree Scheme** – Trees are ready for collection w/c 22nd March.
ACTION: AB to collect and store until planting areas have been agreed.
- b) **Pelham Road gritting** – Atcham PC has been informed. Response from SC Highways: “The link roads between Upton Magna and Berwick Wharf are not on the defined or secondary gritting route. We are not aware of any recent specific accidents being reported to our Customer Service Centre at this location however, we will assess both road links as potential roads for inclusion on the defined network for winter 2021/22.”

- c) **Leg'O'Mutton Road flooding** – Sundorne Estate Manager reported that work is in hand to try to lessen the problem and should be completed within 4 weeks.
- d) **Footpath No. 0437/1/1 (electric fence)** – Now clear.
- e) **Parking on verge by Criftin Bank** – No response from Highways yet about installing rocks. AB commented that this would make hedge-cutting extremely difficult. **ACTION:** Clerk to request alternative proposals from landowner (Sundorne). AB to liaise.
- f) **Hedge cutting on Pelham Road bend** – Cllr Picton offered to approach National Trust again.

21/033 REPORT FROM CLLR. PICTON (SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL)

Councillors accepted Councillor Picton's general written report circulated prior to the meeting (included on the Parish Council website). She added that she would also speak to National Trust regarding clearing up from the tree felling (Pelham Road) and improving the remaining stretch of hedgerow.

21/034 PLANNING

- a) **21/00690/FUL** *The Grange, Upton Magna. Proposal: Erection of single storey extension to rear following demolition of existing.* Council agreed to support this application. **ACTION:** Clerk to submit UMPC response.
- b) No other planning applications were received in advance of this meeting.
- c) It was noted that **16/04965/EIA** (*Rea chicken farm*) has now been removed from the planning register (not proceeded with).

21/035 GENERAL PARISH & HIGHWAY MATTERS

- a) **Felling of trees on Pelham Road** – see item 21/033 above.
- b) **Request from St Lucia's Church** for a donation towards the cost of repairs to the storage shed roof (lawnmower storage). Council agreed to pay 50% of the bill (£65.44). SW pointed out that local companies would probably be willing to donate towards this sort of project as part of their community outreach budgets.

21/036 FINANCE

- a) **Payments and receipts**
Council agreed to make the following payments:

113.15	Clerk's salary & WFH allowance (February)
154.80	HMRC Employer payments (4 th quarter)
24.66	Electricity for streetlighting
65.44	Donation towards shed roof repairs (St Lucia's)

- b) Council received and approved the **accounts** and **bank reconciliation** to date
- c) Council considered the Clerk's report and resolved to open a Unity Trust Bank current account with online banking. **ACTION:** Clerk to progress. Also to find out whether having a separate reserve account is still recommended, and if so whether this can also be set up with Unity (at no extra cost). UMPC Financial Regulations will need to be updated to cover online banking.

21/037 ELECTIONS & ANNUAL MEETING

Parish Council elections - Nomination forms will be available online. Completed forms must be hand-delivered before 4pm on 8th April – drop-off points and appointment system TBC. Postal voting is being encouraged. Last date to apply for postal vote is 20th April. In-person polling day 6th May. Results 10th May.

No further update to legislation regarding local government meetings has yet been announced. Current permission to hold meetings remotely ends on 6th May.

It was agreed that the Annual Meeting of Upton Magna Parish Council (including Community Reports) should be held on 19th May 2021. This is subject to confirmation in the light of further legal updates and COVID-19 restrictions.

21/038 MEETING DATES

Next meeting: 15th April 2021 7.30pm.

Meeting dates for the rest of the year to be decided at Annual Meeting.

21/039 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **National Trust** – Cassie Drakeley (Regional Project Support & Senior Project Co-ordinator) would like to speak briefly at the April UMPC meeting.
- b) **SC - Farmers Markets** will be taking place on The Square in Shrewsbury on 2 Apr, 17 Apr, 7 and 8 May, 4 Jun, 12 Jun, 2 Jul, 10 Jul and 17 Jul 2021. The road will be closed from 7am to 8pm each day.
- c) **Community Right** – Removal of Upton Magna Village Green and Memorial Hall Field from register of Assets of Community Value. **ACTION:** To be on next agenda.

21/040 OTHER MATTERS

Council agreed to the purchase of a USB stick to back up UMPC laptop files.

AP reported a request for dog waste bin(s) at the north end of the village. Shropshire Council will not provide a designated dog waste bin as poo bags can be disposed of in existing general waste bins.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

FUTURE MEETINGS –

15th April 2021 at 7.30pm on Zoom.

19th May 2021 – TBC.

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