

Upton Magna Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 10th April 2025 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

25/01 REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE and APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Present: Cllrs Phil Roberts (Chair), Jeana Bennion, Adam Kelly, Dan Simms, Andy Pillow, Bob Newton, Lezley Picton

Apologies: None

Clerk: Jennifer Turner.

Attending : Huw Williams, two members of public

25/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None.

25/03 PUBLIC SESSION – Huw Williams provided information on the new pathway, which will be up and running in April. A recent meeting with Councillors went well and further plans were made for the upkeep of pathways in Upton Magna

Members of the public asked for the location of the Tommy's to be reviewed based upon the following :- The fingerpost is the most googled and known location in Upton Magna, it is the most prominent of locations but is overcrowded with a planter, handrail, signpost and now Tommys. It was also requested that they shouldn't be a permanent display. It is thought the Church had offered for them to be sited on their land which may be more suitable. MOP also requested to know the cost of these, as the cost of living is rising and precept has been increased.

Members of the Public also raised the pending local elections which are contested, with four new nominations and that there is dissatisfaction amongst some residents within the village regarding the Public Session in March's meeting. Councillors are the elected representatives of the local community and should not assume to know how residents feel, residents felt they were not listened to.

25/04 MINUTES – It was proposed, seconded and resolved that the Chairman should sign the minutes of the meeting held on the 13th March 2025 as a true and correct record of that meeting. Proposed JB, seconded AK

25/05 REPORT FROM CLLR. LEZLEY PICTON (SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL) –

LP is retiring in May and thanked the Parish Council for their support and welcoming attitude during her tenure

25/06 REPORTS

a) **West Mercia Police** – No update

- b) **SALC** – No update
- c) **Footpaths** – a productive meeting has taken place with Sundorne Estate regarding current and future plans for maintenance of footpaths. The PC thanked HW for weed spraying and installation of new gates
- d) **Village hall** – No update
- e) **Litter Picking** – Still ongoing. Hours pledged forty. A local young lady is helping as part of her Duke of Edinburgh Award

25/07 PROGRESS REPORTS

- a) **Street Lights** – Councillors would prefer a bigger deflector to be fitted – no update
- b) **Fibre Project** – Current contact has left. Chair will contact her replacement. Installation is planned between now and September 2026

25/09 GENERAL PARISH & HIGHWAY MATTERS

*Please note: Most highway and general repair matters are best reported using **fixmystreet.com**. This will usually get the quickest results.*

- a) **Double Yellow Lines – Haughmond Hill** – PC will possibly chase this after May, however there is an issue with enforcement if this goes ahead. PR to contact LP to ascertain progression of this so far.
- b) **Location of Tommys** – JB relayed how the original decision was reached. There has been no offer from the Church to site them on their land. After discussion it was decided to leave the Tommy's as a permanent feature as many villages also do this (VE day is in May too) and to de-clutter the Finger post area removing the handrail and footpath sign. Clerk to contact Shona Butler of pathways regarding this.

25/10 PLANNING

- None

25/11 FINANCE

It was noted that the current election is contested and no funds have been included in the budget for this and/or training costs for potential new councillors. The cost is as yet unknown.

a) **Payments and receipts**

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

Bank Balance £4,405.82

Amount	Payment Details
300.00	Clerk's salary and expenses
26.00	
63.88	Printer costs

150.00	HMRC
11.99	Hugo Fox
6.00	Unity Charges
20.00	Village Hall
241.00	Insurance
48.08	WME – Electricity
300.00 26.00	Clerk salary and Expense May
36.48	JB reimbursement printer
Amount	Income Details
	None

25/12 Any Other Business/Correspondence

25/13 – Items for next agenda

Possible donation to Community News once cost of election has been determined

The meeting closed at 20.14

Date of the next meeting: 8th May 2025 at 7.30pm

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Jennifer Turner – Upton Magna Parish Council
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