

UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 17 October 2018 at the Village Hall, Church Lane, Upton commencing at 7.30 pm

Present: Councillors:

Ian Johnson (chair)

David Jordan

Malcolm Yates

Adrian Wood

PeterSnow

In attendance:

C Millward (clerk)

R. Blaney (until 7.45 pm)

R. Jackson (from 7.55 pm until 8.10 pm)

	DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS	
UPC/202/18	Apologies for absence: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mrs Jewitt and Mrs Pick. Mr Wood had been delayed.	
UPC/203/18	Chair's comments: None.	
UPC/204/18	Declarations of interest: There were no declarations of interest, direct or indirect, in any items of business on the agenda.	
UPC/205/18	Dispensations: None required.	
UPC/206/18	10 minutes public speaking time: None present.	
UPC/207/18	Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2018 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.	
UPC/208/18	Matters arising: All action points having been completed, being in hand or appearing elsewhere on the agenda, there were no matters arising.	
UPC/209/18	The Village Hall Management Committee, including minutes of VHMC meeting (if available) and parking: Mr Jordan had nothing to report.	

<p>UPC/210/18</p>	<p>Reports from Councillors: Mr Blaney reported that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NSDC had attended a site meeting with the owner at Home Farm 2. The owner had agreed to undertake a number of the items of work set out in the s215 notice 3. NSDC is monitoring progress and will take a view on what steps it should take, if any, in late November 2018. <p>Mr Blaney left the meeting at 7.40 pm.</p> <p>Following Mr Jackson's arrival at 8.00 pm, the meeting reverted to this item after item 12 on the agenda (Playground). Mr Jackson:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Reported on discussions at NCC level in relation to a unitary authority. b. Enquired about progress in relation to the petition for the A612 speed limit reduction. c. Had no update in relation to the enclosure of the pavement at The French Horn. <p>Mr Jackson left the meeting at 8.25 pm. The meeting reverted to item 13 on the agenda (Community defibrillators).</p>	
<p>UPC/211/18</p>	<p>Financial Matters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Financial position as at 30 September 2018: The clerk presented her report showing the precise financial position at 30 September 2018. This was noted with particular reference to the budget. b. Accounts for payment: Councillors unanimously approved nine payments totalling £748.78. c. CIL levy – Projects including churchyard lamp replacement – Councillors agreed that the churchyard lamp was now a matter for the Parochial Church Council. No longer required as a council agenda item. The chair will seek a progress update. 	<p>Chair</p>
<p>UPC/212/18</p>	<p>Green spaces and rights of way including review of monthly burial ground, The Green and The Collies inspection and maintenance reports: The chair confirmed that no issues had been identified on his monthly inspection of the burial ground and passed his written inspection report to the clerk. Mr Jordan reported that there were no apparent issues to report on the Green and Collies and passed his written inspection report to the clerk. There is to be a final cut and the ground elder and nettles sprayed.</p> <p>Mr Wood arrived at 7.45 pm during this item.</p>	
<p>UPC/213/18</p>	<p>Playground including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Review of councillor's monthly playground inspection and maintenance report: Mr Wood confirmed that he had inspected the playground and there were no issues other than the swings as identified in the annual inspection report. b. Swing repair/second inspection report: Councillors noted the cost of a second report, £165 + VAT. Mr Jordan reported that he and Mr Marshall had inspected the swings together. The repair cost was estimated at £3000. Mr Marshall had advised against a collar because it would mask any structural problems beneath it. He had recommended removal and replacing the frame with a stainless steel structure. <p>The clerk advised that, in the light of the annual report, the equipment should be removed and taken out of use in the meantime. Councillors discussed the alternatives which they identified as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Take no action b. Leave the swings in use with a warning and regular inspection c. Seek the council's insurers' view. d. Taking the swings out of use. <p>The clerk reminded councillors of the availability of funding for replacement equipment from WREN and other sources, provided the</p>	

	<p>council amassed sufficient evidence of community need, demand and benefit. Councillors recognised the benefits of an application. The clerk will check the next funding dates. Mr Wood will obtain drawings from children in the village of the equipment they would like to be installed. After extensive consideration, councillors agreed that, given that the inspection report assesses the level of risk as moderate rather than high or very high, they were reluctant to take the swings out of use whilst they pursue the replacement of the existing equipment. They decided that, subject to the insurers' endorsement to be sought by the clerk:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The swings should be left in use with regular inspections during this time. 2. If the condition of the swings deteriorated to the extent that councillors felt it was unsafe, the equipment would immediately be taken out of use. <p>In the meantime, Mr Wood will try to find the manufacturers' guarantee documentation. Mr Jackson arrived at 8.00 pm during these discussions. At the conclusion of this item the meeting reverted to item 9 on the agenda (Reports from councillors) to allow Mr Jackson to address the meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk AW</p> <p>Clerk Cllrs</p> <p>AW</p>
UPC/214/ 18	Community defibrillators monthly inspection reports: The chair reported that he had inspected the village hall defibrillator and there were no apparent issues. The battery is a five year battery whose life began in March 2016. Currently, it shows 100% charge. Mr Yates reported that he had inspected the Cross Keys defibrillator and there were no apparent issues.	
UPC/215/ 18	Planning matters: a. Applications: None. b. NSDC decisions: None. c. Enforcement matters: Nothing reported.	
UPC/216/ 18	Village entrances – Wild flower feature: Mr Wood had obtained a quote from Pictorial Meadows who had supplied the wild flower features for the 2012 Olympics. Seed or turf could be used but turf was recommended as easier to put down and providing more consistent growth. Turf sufficient for a 10 metre square strip on each side of the road at each end of the village would cost approximately £1000. Delivery was an additional £140 or councillors could collect the turf. Councillors could lay it themselves. Alternatively Pictorial Meadows provided a laying service for approximately £500 (to include sparing and rotavation). The wild flowers should last for 10 years and were specially selected to prevent dominant species taking over the ground. NCC's consent would be required. Steps would also need to be taken to prevent the ground being accidentally mown. Councillors recognised the aesthetic appeal of such a scheme but had some concerns regarding its appearance throughout the year. The chair and Mr Jordan will investigate this further.	Chair/DJ
UPC/217/ 18	Boundary treatment at the former French Horn site, Main Street Upton – enclosure of pavement: See UPC/210/18 above (Reports from councillors).	
UPC/218/ 18	A612 – Speed limit reduction to 50 mph: See UPC/210/18 above (Reports from councillors).	

UPC/219/18	Condition of Home Farm, Upton: See UPC/210/18 (Reports from councillors) above.	
UPC/220/18	LIS application – Village entry signs including authorisation of councillors to sign funding agreement: Councillors authorised the chair and Mr Jordan to sign the LIS funding agreement which they did and passed to the clerk. The clerk will forward NCC's emails in relation to the siting of the signs to the chair.	Clerk
UPC/221/18	Service faults: NCC's response in relation to the water on A612 noted.	
UPC/222/18	Correspondence: The clerk will order a new grit bin for The Close and the 2018 winter salt allocation to be delivered to Mr Yates.	Clerk
UPC/223/18	10 minutes - Public response to matters arising from meeting: Nothing raised.	
UPC/224/18	Agenda items for next meeting: See above.	
UPC/225/18	Date of next meeting: Wednesday 21 November 2018 at 7.30 pm.	

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm