

UPWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council, duly convened on Tuesday, 10th April 2007 at Upwell village hall. Commenced at 7.30 pm with Councillor Neil Morgan in the chair.

Attending:

Cllr. Chris Crofts
Cllr. Jill Gooch
Cllr. Keith Harrison
Cllr. Frank Humm
Cllr. Prue Lester
Cllr. Hazel Medlock
Cllr. Neil Morgan
Cllr. David Pope
Cllr. Sylvie Short
Cllr. Ted Skelton
Cllr. Ros Shorting
Cllr. Paul Williams

Clerk – Kate Cobley
Assistant Clerk - Kate Bennett
Borough Councillor – Vivienne Spikings

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from County Councillor Humphrey and Councillor A. Harrison.

2. Declarations of Interest

No councillors declared any interest in the agenda items for discussion.

3. Public Forum

No members of the Public availed themselves of the opportunity to address the Council.

4. Report from Council Surgery

No members of the Public attended the surgery this month.

5. Minutes of the meeting held on March 12th 2007

On a proposal by Cllr. Williams, seconded by Cllr. Humm, the minutes were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

6. Matters arising from the Minutes (information only).

Item 7.3 Cllr. Humm reported that he had attended the Upwell Age Concern Luncheon Club's AGM and had been asked for a donation towards the running of the club. It was agreed that the matter be passed to the Finance committee for discussion.

ACTION: Clerk to pass to Finance Officer for addition to the May agenda.

Item 7.4 The Clerk reported that the Middle Level Commissioners had no specific requirement for the registration or licensing of residential boats on their waters but were concerned about such usage and have asked the Parish Council to pass the matter on the planning at the Borough Council for investigation.

Item 9.10 Cllr. Short reported on progress with Village In Bloom and the IWA rally Plans.

7. Report of the Finance Committee.

The report of the February Finance meeting had been previously circulated.

It was noted that Cllrs. Humm and Keith Harrison had not received their copies by email this month.

Cllr Short reported that an exact figure for the collection of rubbish from an additional bin (to be installed for the period of the IWA rally) could not be obtained, other than from the Finance Officer.

ACTION: Finance Officer to obtain an exact figure for the May Finance meeting.

On a proposal by Cllr. Williams, seconded by Cllr. Short, the finance report was accepted.

8. Correspondence Received.

The following correspondence had been received:

- Information had been received inviting Upwell to put forward teams for the Norfolk Inter-village games in July.

ACTION: Clerk to pass the information to Cllr. Shorting.

9. Report of the Planning committee

The report of the March Planning committee meeting had been previously circulated.

Cllr. Williams reported on planning application 07/00297/LDE (Mr & Mrs Webb – Four Acres, March Riverside, Upwell), presenting the 10 year history of the planning issue.

There was a discussion about the issue, during which Borough Cllr. Spikings reminded the Council that in such situations it should write to the Borough Council Planning Department **constantly** to keep the issue at the forefront of the enforcement team's notice.

On a proposal by Cllr. Lester, seconded by Cllr. Medlock, the Planning committee report was accepted.

10. Report of the Environment & Leisure committee

The report of the March Environment & Leisure committee meeting had been previously circulated. On a proposal by Cllr. Short, seconded by Cllr. Lester, the Environment & Leisure committee report was accepted.

11. Report from the Village Halls.

Cllr. Morgan reported that WREN had offered funding to the sum of £10,000 towards the cost of work on the roof of the village hall. This sum is assured on the condition that third party funding can be secured for the rest of the work. Cllr. Morgan told the meeting that a decision is still awaited from Norfolk Rural Community Council as to the funding they can offer towards this work.

Cllr. Short proposed congratulations to Cllr. Morgan for his efforts to obtain this money and the Council heartily agreed.

There was a general discussion about the concerning amount of vandalism that has been occurring against the village hall and in the playing field car park. Cllr. Morgan informed the meeting that a 'Mosquito' device and CCTV had been obtained on loan from the Borough Council's ASB team and that photographic evidence will be required to bring prosecutions. Cllr Humm reminded Councillors that any incidents should be reported to him as he has close links with Kings Lynn and Downham Market police forces.

12. Health and Safety Issues.

Nothing to report this month.

13. Internal Council issues.

Progress Reports from the Council's sub-groups working on Parish Plan actions were received from: Landscape/Gardens; Business/Employment/ Community/School; Newsletter; Neighbourhood Watch; Wildlife. The remaining reports were to be obtained from the responsible councillors as soon as possible.

14. Parish Affairs.

Item a Cllr. Humm reported on the recent meeting of Parishes regarding the flooding at Welney this winter. A report had previously been circulated and the Council is now awaiting a sample letter from Welney parish Council to send out to Parishioners.

Item b Cllr. Morgan reported on the Middle Level Commissioners intention to cut the riverbank five times this year – an increase from the usual two cuts. The Commissioners are looking for a financial contribution of £700 towards these extra cuts.

Proposal: To offer the Middle Level Commissioners the sum of £700 to be paid at the fifth cut of the river in 2007.

Proposer: Cllr. Gooch
Seconded By: Cllr. Humm

The proposal was carried by eight votes to three (one abstention).

07/16

15. Agenda items for the next meeting.

- Opening Hours of Local Shops
- Dates For Meetings at Three Holes and Lakes End

16. Date and time of the next meeting.

Monday, 14th March 2007. Commencing at 7.30pm at Upwell village hall. Preceded by the AGM at 7.00pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting: _____

Date: _____