

UPWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council, duly convened on Monday, 14th January 2008 at Upwell village hall. Commenced at 7.30 pm with Councillor Neil Morgan in the chair.

Attending:

Cllr. David Barnard
Cllr. Chris Crofts (from 8.10pm until close of business)
Cllr. Andrew Harrison
Cllr. Keith Harrison
Cllr. Frank Humm
Cllr. Prue Lester
Cllr. Neil Morgan
Cllr. Roger Mungham
Cllr. Chris Robinson
Cllr. Ros Shorting
Cllr. Sylvie Short

Clerk – Kate Cobley
Assistant Clerk - Kate Bennett
RFO – Paula Hailey

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Pope and Crofts (it should be noted that Cllr. Crofts did attend the meeting from 8.10pm onwards).

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made.

3. Public Forum

No member of the public availed themselves of the opportunity to address the Council.

4. Discussion with PCSO David Goodchild

This item was deferred until next month due to Police staffing issues. PCSO David Goodchild sent his apologies.

5. Report from Council Surgery

No member of the public attended the surgery this month.

08/02

6. Minutes of the meeting held on December 10th 2007

On a proposal by Cllr. Barnard, seconded by Cllr. Mungham, the minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

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

Item 8.0 Cllr. Lester asked for progress on this issue. The item was deferred until the end of the meeting as Borough Cllr. Spikings had not yet arrived and she was the holder of the requisite information. Ultimately, Cllr Spikings did not attend the meeting and the matter was referred to the Planning & Transportation meeting on January 23rd for further discussion.

8. Minutes of the Overview Committee meeting held on December 18th 2007

The report of the December Overview committee meeting had previously been circulated. On a proposal by Cllr. Andrew Harrison, seconded by Cllr. Shorting, the minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

9. Report of the Finance Committee.

The report of the January Finance meeting had been previously circulated. On a proposal by Cllr. Robinson, seconded by Cllr. Andrew Harrison, the finance report was accepted.

Item 9.a **Budget 2008/9.** Cllr. Morgan introduced forthcoming budget and the RFO presented the budget document to the meeting for approval. There were no significant changes in this year's budget and the overall aim of the Council was to maintain cash reserves at the existing level, maintain allotment lettings at their present (full) level and to remove cost for the parish Newsletter by turning it into a self-funding item. Expenditure had been adjusted to reflect inflation of 4.4% and there were only two exceptional items budgeted for this year: contribution to the maintenance of both the Health Centre car park and the CCTV system at the village hall. The precept had therefore been set at £35,300.

Proposal: To accept the presented 2008/9 budget and submit the detailed precept to the Borough Council for payment.

Proposer: Cllr. Andrew Harrison

Seconded By: Cllr. Roger Mungham

The proposal was carried unanimously by a show of hands.

10. Report from the Village Halls.

Reports from Upwell had previously been circulated. Cllr. Morgan reported that the New Year ball at Upwell had raised £1626 for village hall funds.

Cllr. Humm reported from Three Holes village hall. The meeting heard that building of a new extension is to commence shortly.

08/03

11. Correspondence

The Clerk drew members' attention to a number of items received and reminded them to look at the correspondence folder for information about activities.

ACTION: Clerk to pass details of the NPA meeting to Cllr. Barnard
ACTION: Clerk to refer the letter about street lighting to the Environment & Leisure Committee.

12. Health and Safety Issues.

Cllr. Morgan reported that the system is in the process of being reviewed and more information will be forthcoming at future meetings.

13. Internal Council issues.

Item a Sub-Group Reports. The Chairman presented a review of progress against Parish Plan activities. This was a partial report with the second instalment to follow at the February full council meeting.

Cllr. Chris Crofts arrived at the meeting at this point.

ACTION: Clerk to pass minutes of previous meetings with NCC Highways to Traffic committee for further action on traffic calming.

14. Parish Affairs.

Item a Refuse collection form litter bins. The Clerk provided the meeting with information about a proposal from BCKL&WN to empty one litter bin in the Parish free of charge. The Borough Council had asked for feedback from Parish Council's and there was a unanimous agreement amongst councillors that this was to be commended.

Item b Mayors Civic Awards For Voluntary Service. Following a general discussion about possible nominations, the Council agreed to nominate Pat Moat for this award.

ACTION: Clerk to complete nomination forms.

Item c Riverside railings on Town Street. Cllr. Morgan reported that, following informal discussions, Outwell Parish Council had confirmed that they would be interested in jointly funding the repairs to the railings. Cllr. Barnard noted that the Council should contact NCC Highways to ascertain Upwell Parish Council's liability for the railings in the event of an accident, should it take over their maintenance.

ACTION: Cllr. Andrew Harrison to fully survey the railings and report back on final repair requirements.

08/04

Item c **Footpath on Newbridge Road.** The meeting heard that NCC Highways had carried out a 'Points Count' to establish whether it was feasible to construct a footpath along Newbridge Road. Unfortunately, the road did not score enough points to qualify. There was a general discussion about this issue, during which Cllr. Barnard referred to the original planning permission for building along Newbridge Road, which stipulated that a footpath should be provided.

ACTION: Asst. Clerk to add this item to the agenda of the next Planning & Transportation committee meeting.

15. Agenda items for the next meeting.

- Police & local youth attendance.

16. Date and time of the next meeting.

Monday, 11th February 2008. Commencing at 7.30pm at Upwell village hall. Cllr. Crofts tended his apologies in advance.

Signed as a true record of the meeting: _____

Date: _____