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UPWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council, duly convened on Monday, 10th March 2008 at Upwell village hall. Commenced at 7.30 pm with Councillor Neil Morgan in the chair.

Attending:

Cllr. David Barnard
Cllr. Jill Gooch
Cllr. Andrew Harrison
Cllr. Keith Harrison
Cllr. Frank Humm
Cllr. Prue Lester
Cllr. Neil Morgan
Cllr. Roger Mungham
Cllr. David Pope
Cllr. Chris Robinson
Cllr. Ros Shorting
Cllr. Sylvie Short

Clerk – Kate Cobley
Assistant Clerk - Kate Bennett

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Chris Crofts, Borough Councillor Vivienne Spikings and County Councillor Harry Humphrey.

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. Report from Council Surgery

No member of the public attended the surgery this month.

5. Minutes of the meeting held on February 11th 2008

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

6. Matters arising from the Minutes (information only)

No matters were discussed.

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7. Report of the Overview Committee

The report of the Overview Committee had previously been circulated. On a proposal by Cllr. Andrew Harrison, seconded by Cllr. Gooch, the report was accepted.

8. Report of the Finance Committee.

The report of the March Finance meeting had been previously circulated. On a proposal by Cllr. Mungham, seconded by Cllr. Lester, the finance report was accepted.

Item 9 Donation to Village Hall Committee for display equipment. The Finance Committee had agreed to donate a sum of £80 towards display equipment required by the village hall. It now transpired that the sum total required for the equipment was £99 and therefore the Chairman recommended to the meeting that the Parish Council should donate the full amount. This was agreed unanimously.

9. Report from the Planning Committee.

The report of the February Planning & Transportation Committee meeting had previously been circulated. On a proposal by Cllr. Andrew Harrison, seconded by Cllr. Short, the report was accepted.

10. Report from the Environment & Leisure Committee.

The report of the February Environment & Leisure Committee meeting had previously been circulated. On a proposal by Cllr. Barnard, seconded by Cllr. Humm, the report was accepted.

Item 7.0 War Memorial. It was noted that Cllr. Andrew Harrison and Dave Short had now planted a large number of roses at the war memorial.

ACTION: Clerk to write letter of thanks to David Short for his help.

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.

12. Health and Safety Issues.

There was nothing to report this month.

Cllr. Pope asked why the offer of free help with Health & Safety documentation from Mr and Mrs Kelly of Upwell had been turned down. As neither the Clerk nor Council members had any knowledge of this offer it was agreed that the Clerk would follow the issue up.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Mr & Mrs Kelly for more information.

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13. Internal Council issues.

Item a Sub-Group Reports. Councillors were reminded that all copy should be in for the next Newsletter by Friday 16th at the latest.

Cllr. Morgan provided the meeting with information regarding the forthcoming Home watch meeting on March 26th. The public meeting aims to provide interested residents with information about the scheme and available security products.

Cllr. Morgan reminded all councillors that the parish Assembly next month called for an update on Parish Plan activities and all groups should report on progress to date by the end of the month.

Item a Planning Investigation. Cllr. Morgan reported that he and Cllr. Barnard had reviewed planning applications made during the previous twelve months and had not found any issues or problems with Council procedures. With the recent work carried out instructing members on Declarations of Interest, it was felt that this area would no longer be an issue.

14. Parish Affairs.

Item a Upwell Cemetery. Cllr. Morgan reported on a meeting with the Borough Council regarding the possibility of Upwell Parish Council taking over the Cemetery and closed churchyard at St. Peters. Minutes of the meeting had previously been distributed and Cllr. Morgan reported that the unanimous verdict of the Overview Committee was that, due to the number of tasks and physical work/administration/costs involved in the operation, it would not be preferable to take over this service.

There was a consensus amongst meeting members that the job was too large for this Parish Council and there was a general discussion about the issues surrounding the maintenance of the cemetery and churchyard.

This discussion resulted in a suggestion that large trees in the Parish should be identified and protected. Cllr. Morgan suggested that an interest group be formed to look at this issue. The meeting agreed and Cllrs. Lester, Pope and Humm offered to take this issue forward.

15. Agenda items for the next meeting.

None were identified at this time.

16. Date and time of the next meeting.

Monday, 14th April 2008. Commencing at 7.30pm at Upwell village hall. Preceded by the Parish Assembly at 7.00pm.

Signed as a true record of the meeting: _____

Date: _____