

## UPWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council, duly convened on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at Upwell village hall. Commenced at 7.30 pm with Councillor Neil Morgan in the chair.

**Attending:**

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

County Councillor Harry Humphrey  
Sgt. Gary Zoller – Norfolk Constabulary

Clerk – Kate Cobley  
Asst. Clerk – Kate Bennett

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**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received and accepted from Borough Councillor Vivienne Spikings.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

No declarations were made.

**3. Public Forum**

No members of the Public chose to address the Council.

**4. Report from Council Surgery**

No one attended Council Surgery this month.

**5. Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on February 9<sup>th</sup> 2008**

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

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

**Item 9.17.a Garden Allotments.** The meeting heard that Community Service teams had cleared the land of rubbish.

**Item 13.d Gritting Routes.** Cllr. Humphrey offered to chase this issue up at County Council level. There was a further discussion about the routes to be gritted.

**ACTION:** Cllr. Humphrey to action.

**7. To receive the report of the Finance Committee**

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

Cllr. Crofts asked the Clerk to ensure that the items discussed as 'Streetlights' should in future be identified as 'foot way lighting'.

Cllr. Lester asked why the Committee had decided against renewing the Council's membership of the CPRE. There was a discussion about the cost of the subscription and the benefits received and budgets for 2009/10.

**8. To receive the report of the Planning & Transportation Committee**

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

**Item 6.c Consideration Of Parish Council Views By Borough Planners.** Cllr. Pope asked about the Parish Council's response to an email received from the NALC regarding this issue. The Assistant Clerk informed the meeting that she had replied confirming the NALC's views that Parish Councils voices were not loud enough in the planning process.

**Item 7. Hedge On March Riverside Encroaching Onto Highway.** Cllr. Humphrey was asked to expedite the enforcement of hedge cutting before birds begin their nest season.

**ACTION:** Cllr. Humphrey to action.

**9. To receive the report of the Environment & Leisure Committee**

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

**Item 6.0. Police Matters.** Cllr. Lester asked for an update. Sgt. Gary Zoller, who was in attendance, gave the meeting a verbal report on the structure of SNT (Safer Neighbourhood Team) teams in the area. He also advised the meeting that there was the possibility of the SNT carrying out speed checks in the village later in the month in addition to the Traffic Division's checks.

**10. To receive the Village Halls' reports**

Cllr. Morgan reported on activities at Upwell village hall. There was a discussion about dog fouling and it was suggested that information was provided to residents about where the bins are and what the fines are for allowing dogs to foul.

**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 were no Health and Safety issues to report this month.

**13. Parish Affairs**

**Item a. Garden Allotments.** There was a discussion about the work necessary to prepare the land for allotment holders and about the option of offering half plots to those not wishing to take on a 250 square metre plot. As a working group had been established to look at these issues, discussions were curtailed pending its meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Item b. Foot Way Lighting For Lakes End.** Cllr. Morgan updated the meeting about discussions to purchase two new lights in Lakes End. Although previously agreed, further work on this project had uncovered an extra £960 of costs and the Finance Committee had reconsidered the issue and agreed that only one light should now be provided. There were no objections from the floor and the Assistant Clerk was advised to proceed with the order and installation of these lights.

**ACTION:** Asst. Clerk to action.

**Item c. Parish Assembly.** Cllr. Morgan ran through plans for the Parish Assembly with members. He asked whether members wanted to hold an ordinary monthly meeting in addition to the Parish Assembly in April. It was generally agreed that this was not necessary unless such an item came to light as to render this a necessity.

**Item d. Well Creek River Bank.** Cllr Pope reported that there were large amounts of rubbish on the river banks between Church Bridge and Harnwell's. He reminded the Council that Upwell used to win the regional 'best kept village' award and lamented the fact that standards were now so much lower, asking what the meeting thought could be done to improve the situation. Cllr. Mungham reported that the Well Creek Trust would be carrying out their annual litter pick on 4<sup>th</sup> April and asked for volunteers. Cllr. Shorting advised that Community Service teams could also be used for clearing litter, although not from river banks or dykes/ditches.

There was a discussion about an issue with the Borough Council emptying bins in the villages, which had been raised last year. The Clerk was asked to contact Barry Brandford at the Borough Council to establish whether this scheme was progressing.

**ACTION:** Clerk to action.

**14. Internal Council Affairs**

There were no matters for discussion this month.

**15. Agenda Items For The Next Meeting**

No items were raised but it was noted that the next meeting would be the AGM.

**16. Date and time of the next meeting.**

Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009. Commencing at 7.30pm at Upwell village hall.

Signed as a true record of the meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_