

UPWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary meeting of the Parish Council, duly convened on Monday, 11th May 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. Neil Morgan
Cllr. Roger Mungham
Cllr. Chris Robinson
Cllr. Sylvie Short
Cllr. Ros Shorting

Borough Councillor Vivienne Spikings
PCSO Steve Ross Downham Market Police Station

Clerk – Kate Cobley
Asst. Clerk – Kate Bennett

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Pope.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Robinson declared a Personal Interest in item 14.b, citing information that his company is responsible for the product being treated at the site in question. He also passed a statement of information to the Clerk for circulation at the appropriate time.

3. Public Forum

No members of the Public chose to address the Council but PCSO Steve Ross, the parish PCSO for Upwell, Outwell and surrounding areas, reported on recent activities. He relayed recent crime statistics for the Parish and discussed the investigation into the theft of gates from Parish Council land on Low Side, Upwell and the attempted break in to a container at the rear of the village hall. Cllr. Morgan thanked PCSO Ross for his attendance and asked him to visit the Parish Council meetings whenever it was possible. PCSO Ross Left the meeting.

4. Report from Council Surgery

No one attended Council Surgery this month.

5. Minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on March 9th 2008

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

6. Matters arising from the Minutes (information only)

Item 8 Hedge on March Riverside. The meeting heard that this had not been cut and was not now likely to be until the nesting season had finished.

Item 13.d Well Creek Riverbank. The meeting heard that the Welle Creek Trust had carried out a rubbish clearance day on April 4th and that the Middle Level Commissioners had also carried out a cleanup recently, undertaking to do so on a more regular basis.

7. Minutes of the Parish Assembly held on April 14th 2009.

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

Cllr. Morgan read through the minutes and reported that the Parish Assembly went well and the new format had attracted residents in to hear Council reports.

Cllr. Crofts apologised for his non-attendance.

8. To receive the report of the Finance Committee

The reports of both the April and May Finance meetings had been previously circulated. On a proposal by Cllr. Barnard, seconded by Cllr. Andrew Harrison, both reports were accepted.

9. To receive the report of the Planning & Transportation Committee

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

Item 6.b Core Strategy for Kings Lynn & West Norfolk. There was a question about the minute detailing the entities of Lakes End and Three Holes in the Core Strategy planning document. There were questions asked as to the accuracy of the minute and whether Three Holes and Lakes End were actually treated as separate entities from Upwell by the planners. It was established that for the purpose of the Core Strategy document, 'Upwell' related only to the village, not the Parish and that Lakes End and Three Holes were seen as separate and individual areas by the planners.

10. To receive the report of the Environment & Leisure Committee

The report of the March and April Environment & Leisure Committee meetings had been previously circulated. On a proposal by Cllr. Short, seconded by Cllr. Keith Harrison, the reports were accepted.

Item 7.1.(April) Speed Watch Signage . There was a discussion about the proposed signage in the village notifying drivers that this was a Speed Watch area. The Environment & Leisure Committee had decided that the costs were prohibitive but it was suggested that grants could be found to cover the costs, once they had been established. The item was put back to the Environment & Leisure committee to discuss further.

ACTION: Asst. Clerk to add to next E&L agenda.

Item 9.0. (April)Tyres on Three Holes Playing Field . A question was asked about disposal of the tyres dumped on Three Holes Playing Field. Enquiries had established that, due to the fact that this was privately owned land, the landowners would have to pay to have them removed.

Item 14.0. (April)Garden Allotments . A question was asked about the longevity of the allotments, given that the land would be needed for burial space at some point. There was a discussion about this and it was agreed that although not long term, the provision of allotments was a worthwhile task.

11. To receive the Village Halls' reports

Cllr. Morgan updated councillors on events at Upwell Village Hall and Cllr. Humm reported on the AGM which had recently taken place at Three Holes Village Hall.

12. 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.

A request had been received for the Parish Council to act as a trustee for the extended Three Holes Village Hall and Playing Field trust. As the Parish Council already acted as a trustee for Three Holes Village Hall, all members agreed that the extended trust should be supported in the same way. It was also agreed that the Parish Council, as a trustee, should hold a copy of the audited accounts each year.

ACTION: Clerk to respond.

13. Health and Safety Issues.

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

14. Parish Affairs

Item a. Garden Allotments. There was a discussion about the possibility of providing gates to the allotments. Cllr. Robinson offered a redundant counterbalance barrier at no cost. Cllr. Morgan thanked him on behalf of the Council and the issue, with others, was referred back to the Allotment sub-committee.

ACTION: Clerk to convene a meeting of the allotment committee ASAP

Item b. Problem with odour from potato riddling at yard to the rear of St. Peter's Road. Cllr. Robinson had declared a personal interest in this item as he was the proprietor of a business supplying potatoes to this yard for processing. He had prepared a statement on behalf of Robinsons Transport Ltd, which was circulated to members, regarding the process. Cllr. Morgan read this statement to the Council.

Borough Councillor Vivienne Spikings called a Point Of Order and informed the meeting that both Cllr. Robinson and Cllr. Barnard (who lives on St. Peter's Road) had prejudicial interests in this item and should not be present while the issue was discussed.

Cllr. Morgan tempered this by informing Council that it had no power to act or make any decision about this item as it was a Borough Council Environmental Health issue (which had already been instigated by residents).

15. Internal Council Affairs

Item a. Theft of gates from Low Side. There was a discussion about the options for replacing the stolen gates from Council land on Low Side in Upwell. Council heard that second set of gates could be purchased or that concrete pipes could be supplied to 'block' the entrance to the land permanently as there was a second access to the field just yards away.

Proposal: To obtain cut concrete pipes to form a permanent barrier to the land on Low Side, Upwell, instead of replacing the gates.

Proposed By: Cllr. Andrew Harrison

Seconded By: Cllr. Barnard

The proposal was agreed unanimously by a show of hands.

ACTION: Clerk to write and inform Mr. J Kok – the current tenant and the insurance company.

16. Agenda Items For The Next Meeting

- Report of work-group activities circulated by Cllr. Morgan.

17. Date and time of the next meeting.

Monday, 8th June 2009. Commencing at 7.30pm at Upwell village hall.

Signed as a true record of the meeting: _____

Date: _____