

**Uffculme Parish Council**  
**Minutes of meeting held**  
**Thursday 2 November 2017 at The Square Corner**

**Chairman:** E Hagelstein

**Present:** P Blackman    P Best            P Cornish        P Golding        R Kingdom        S Stimson  
                  D Wells            J Gardner        S Kidd            M Pollard

**17.11.1 Apologies**

P Mackian – Family Commitments        Bob Evans – Work Commitments

**17.11.2 Councillor Vacancies**

The Clerk advised the meeting that she and the Chairman had met with Sue Kidd to complete all of her new councillor paperwork.

The Clerk had not received any further applications towards the vacancy.

**17.11.3 To Approve Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 October 2017 approved and signed as a correct record.

**17.11.4. Finance**

**17.11.4.1 October Financial Statement**

Approved as official council minutes.

**17.11.4.2 Markers Pond Regeneration**

Following the October meeting the Clerk had not received any further details in respect of the work required on Markers Pond. The Chairman advised that the works were being carried out by West Country Housing were being arranged with ABN Feedmill. This was to rectify the broken pipe at the back of the pond.

**17.11.4.3 Ashill Village Hall Marquee**

Councillor Blackman advised the meeting that for the time being the new marquee for Ashill Village Hall had been placed on hold.

Councillor Blackman would update the Council as and when the Ashill Village Hall Committee wanted to put together a proposal for the Parish Council to consider.

**17.11.4.4 Uffculme Village Hall**

The meeting was advised that the committee was again in better structure the Uffculme Village Hall committee is now in a better standing in respect of its committee members. The Committee understood their errors in submitting the funding application to Viridor, not including the VAT. As agreed at the October Parish Council meeting the Village Hall would be willing to make a contribution towards the works required however it would not be able to make up the shortfall as a result of their error. The Committee was meeting the following week and therefore Councillors would report back to the Council if a formal request for monies was going to be made.

**17.11.4.5 Road Signs for Road Closures**

The Clerk advised that the road signs would be delivered on Friday 3 November. The Clerk advised she had arranged for the signs to be delivered to the Compost area of Magelake and this is where the signs would remain. The Lights and British Legion Committees would arrange for a more permanent storage however this would probably be after all the signs had been used in 2017. The Clerk was also trying to find a solution to mark the signs with Uffculme Parish Council details so that they did not go missing.

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**17.11.4.6 Other Finance Matters**

The Clerk advised the meeting she had written a cheque for the Royal British Legion of £50 in respect of the Remembrance Wreath which will be laid on Sunday 12 December.

**17.11.5 Business Arising**

**17.11.5.1 Uffculme Central**

The meeting was updated on the progress that had been made, mainly a meeting with a plastic 'decking company'. Councillors Pollard, Golding and Hagelstein had attended the meeting with the company who would directly supply and install the decking. They were awaiting plans from the Clerk in respect of levels and would come back to the Parish Council in due course.

During the meeting it was raised whether developing The Square in the future was worth doing, the Council reiterated that it had a mandate which had been passed at a previous Council meeting to redevelop The Square. The meeting agreed that something needed to happen as the cobbles around The Square were becoming loose and dangerous and without action there could be injury.

**17.11.5.2 Mid Devon Local Plan**

There have been no official updates regarding the Local Plan released to the Council however Councillor Chesterton was able to advise that an independent firm had been engaged to prepare a report which would form the first part of the works that Mid Devon District Council wanted to carry out. It was expected that the first phase of works would take 3-4 weeks and at this point we would then know whether a further public consultation was required on the report or whether the District Council would then revert back to the Planning Inspector.

**17.11.5.3 Landfill Site at Broadpath**

Councillor Hagelstein advised the meeting that a meeting was scheduled for the beginning of December with the Environment Agency to attend the date was yet to be confirmed.

**17.11.5.4 ABN Feedmill**

As above Councillor Hagelstein is trying to arrange a meeting early December, the meeting will be on the same date as the Landfill Meeting to ensure the Environment Agency is in attendance.

**17.11.5.5 Willand - Proposed Boundary Change**

The Clerk advised the meeting that little progress had been made on this. The Clerk had agreed to write to MDDC to request that we are consulted on all planning applications on this parcel of land in the interim period. As MDDC could not guarantee that this would happen the Clerk had made provisions to review the MDDC website on all planning applications relating to Halberton in the period.

**17.11.5.6 Magelake Update**

The Clerk advised that she would be arranging a meeting with Martin Halse to progress matters in respect of the redecoration and new furniture that was to be ordered to ensure that things are progressed.

There had been some issues at Magelake and it was wondered whether CCTV might be a good idea as a deterrent and or aid in dealing with these matters. This would be discussed with Martin Halse and or Adrian Legg of Devon & Cornwall Police. It was raised whether the w-fi was now being turned off during the evenings while the building was not in use and the Clerk would again confirm this with Martin Halse.

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**17.11.5.7 Uffculme Mens Club**

Councillors Best and Kingdom reported that they had attended the Mens Club meeting last month. They advised that they were made to feel very welcome after a slightly frosty introduction as to why the Parish Council was in attendance. The Mens Club Committee, once they understood that the Parish Council did not want to interfere, just be there to support them was actually very amenable in terms of their presence. The Council meeting received the report that stated that there were a couple of errors within the accounts for the month, although given the relatively sparse committee members in terms of their ability to run the club in a commercial manner this was to be expected. The Mens Club were advised that the Parish Council would there to support them if required.

They were advised during the meeting that there were between 60-70 members now which is a significant fall on previous years memberships which is what is causing the club to suffer financial difficulties.

The committee also acknowledged that their club rules were slightly contradictory in places and that they would look to address this. However given the above comment in respect of the skills of those involved in the committee this would present issues.

**17.11.5.8 Land West of Harvesters Existing Permission for 60 Houses**

The application was ongoing for the reserved matters and various slightly revised schemes had been submitted to MDDC and the Planning Committee have commented.

**17.11.5.9 Land West of Harvesters 30 Houses**

As advised at the October meeting the permission was granted at appeal for the 30 houses. The Clerk had contacted DCH to enquire whether they had purchased the land and the response that had been received was that they would be interested in acquiring it although at that time nothing had been finalised.

There was also provision in place to amend the Section 106 agreement to ensure that now the 30 houses were going to be built that the Section 106 agreement allowed for Uffculme residents to be given the same priority as Halberton residents. This was the same amendment as had been made on the 60 houses above.

**17.11.5.10 Belle Vue Planning Application for 9 Houses**

The meeting was advised that the Parish Council had met with the agent acting on behalf of the applicant for the 9 houses. At the meeting the agent advised that the plan that had been submitted to MDDC was to mirror the outline permission that had been granted however he acknowledged that the design and layout was relatively poor. At the meeting he had presented an alternative scheme to the Council which was in the planning committees opinion a much better scheme. Following that meeting he contacted the officer in charge of the planning application at MDDC and it had been agreed that the application be withdrawn and then re-submitted with the revised drawings.

**17.11.5.11 Green Team Event 4 November 2017**

The meeting was advised the Green Team event Refill launch would take place on Saturday in The Square, with the involvement of Councillor Hagelstein.

The scheme would encourage local businesses to display a sign to say that anybody could refill a water bottle, rather than continually buying bottles of water and disposing of the bottle afterwards.

The event on Saturday would also tie in with the autumn street clean.

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**17.11.6 Police Report**

The Clerk had not been provided with a full police report although was able to update that the new officer allocated to the area was Hannah Hodgson, officer Adrian Legg had been re-allocated Bradninch in principal although when the Clerk had discussed matters with him over the last couple of weeks he was still very much willing to be involved in Uffculme matters.

**17.11.7 Highway Matters/Road and Traffic**

The meeting discussed the poor road condition around Penslade Cross and we had received confirmation that £31,000.00 would be spent re-surfacing this road effectively from the primary school. The pothole outside the Library would also be attended to.

The Clerk asked Councillor Radford whether an update was available on the Ashill 30mph scheme and Councillor Radford could not offer any further information and it was therefore agreed the Clerk should contact Tony Matthews at DCC.

**17.11.8 Correspondence**

The Clerk advised that she has received correspondence from MDDC to the effect that the Tapp Fund application had been reallocated to Section 106 application for the Connets Basketball Team the Clerk had a discussion with Councillor Radford as to the reasoning behind this reallocation. Councillor Radford advised the meeting that there were sufficient funds within the Tapp fund pot although officers within MDDC felt that as the application would meet the criteria for Section 106 Monies it should be reallocated. The Clerk raised the issue with regards to Uffculme not receiving any Tapp fund monies within a 12 month period, despite applications being made due to this reallocation, the meeting agreed that the Clerk would write to MDDC and Councillor Radford to express its thoughts on this poor choice of allocation.

**17.11.9 Clerks Report**

**17.11.9.1 Pathfields Play Area and Picnic Benches**

The Clerk advised that following the issues with regards to installation the picnic benches had now been moved to the correct locations and she would arrange to make payment. The Clerk advised the meeting that despite raising complaints with Broxap/Handmade Places she had not received a formal acknowledgement of the issues that had been encountered on installation. The Clerk would arrange to settle in the invoice over the next couple of weeks when her queries had been dealt with.

**17.11.9.2 Dog Waste Bins/Signage**

The Clerk advised she had sent the posters to AG Signs to arrange for the signs to be made.

**17.11.9.3 Devon Air Ambulance Night Landing Site**

A meeting was to be arranged with Devon Air Ambulance to ensure that Magelake would meet the criteria for a night landing site, Councillors Pollard and Hagestein agreed to be involved in the meeting.

**17.11.9.4 Website**

The Clerk advised she received an e mail from Jacob Lane a few days prior advising that he had created a link to view the draft website although by the time the Clerk had looked at the site it had been taken down because the link had expired. Councillor Best would arrange a meeting with Jacob Lane to progress matters.

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**17.11.9.5 Bowling Club Porch**

The Clerk advised the meeting she had been contacted by the Bowling Club to request an approval of their planned submission of a planning application in respect of a new porch at the Bowling Club. The meeting supported the works and agreed that the Clerk should have a discussion with the Bowling Club as to monies to see if the Parish Council could be involved in structuring this in any way. The Clerk would write to the Bowling Club.

**17.11.10 County Councillors Report – Councillor Radford**

Councillor Radford had provided various updates during the meeting and therefore he also commented that DCC is currently working on the 2018/19 budget.

He also reported that adult care within DCC represents 47% of spending which is naturally quite significant.

The waste committee also reported that the recycling percentage rate within Devon as a whole was 55.7% and the rate within mid Devon is only 53% and therefore Mid Devon were striving to improve this, he advised that Mid Devon had seen a 2.67% increase in the recycling.

East Devon District Council are reportedly collecting waste three weekly and it had been agreed that Mid Devon would meet with East Devon District Council to discuss how this was working. The average waste per person within Devon was 461kgs although this has now improved to 355kgs per person.

**17.11.11 District Councillors Report - Councillors Chesterton and Doe**

Councillor Doe advised the meeting that the state of the district debate was taking place on Monday 6 November and encouraged as many Councillors to attend as possible, it was being held at MDDC offices at Phoenix House and would include attendance by the Police & Crime Commissioner.

Councillor Doe also advised the meeting that a breakfast event had been arranged for Thursday 9 November to engage with homeless people or those who may be affected by homelessness.

Councillor Chesterton advised the meeting that the issue regarding the Tapp fund and the allocation of monies to Section 106 should potentially be raised within Mid Devon to ensure that if this happened again the Parish Council was given the opportunity to provide comment as timescales did not allow this time.

Councillor Chesterton advised that Carl Bush had resigned his role from the cabinet and at the time the Chairman had agreed that rather than appoint a new member to the cabinet he would simple re-allocate roles that Carl Bush had previously undertaken – these are that The Environment had been re-allocated to the Chairman, Car Parking & Play area issues had been re-allocated to the Finance Department.

MDDC was in the process of installing electric vehicle charging points both at MDDC leisure centres and also within the multi storey in Tiverton.

The Council is also trialling recycling bins within the towns within Mid Devon and a review would be undertaken in due course.

Councillor Chesterton had a meeting arranged with the Planning Minister to discuss how the District had been treated over the recent planning applications and effectively penalised by the Inspectors decisions in allocating permissions. Although Councillor Chesterton was not confident that he would come away from the meeting with any solid progress he felt that raising this at government level would help to reiterate the concerns of the district council.

**The next meeting will be held on Thursday January 2018 at The Square Corner.**

**Verity Aldridge**  
**Clerk to Uffculme Parish Council**  
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