

Uffculme Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held
7 April 2016 at Magelake Parish Pavilion

Chairman: E Hagelstein

Present: P Blackman P Disley T Emms G Evans
J Gardner P Golding R Little J Morgan
M Pollard

Apologies: P Cornish – family illness P Mackian – family commitment
D Wells - Holiday

Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2016 Approved and signed as a correct record.

Finance:

March Financial Statement

APPROVED as official Council Minutes

Lloyds Bank revised mandate

The Clerk reported that the mandate was now in place and that she would begin making enquiries to set up online bank access.

DCC Footpath Grant

The Council has received confirmation that the grant applied for of £1,500 will be paid in April 2016.

Defibrillator

Cllr Hagelstein that she had made enquires with the Co-op in respect of the siting of a Defibrillator on the external wall of the Co-op. In principle the Co-op would support this and would need a letter to forward onto area managers for confirmation. The Co-op may also be able to make a contribution towards the cost, using funds raised from the sale of plastic bags in the shop.

The Clerk also reported that we had received an offer from Tony Kidd on behalf of UPCC to contribute £200 towards the cost. It was agreed the Clerk will accept this offer.

Cllr Golding to include in her Spotlight write up that any other personal or organisational based donations could be made to help towards the cost.

Item deferred to May meeting to allow for further donations etc and contact to be made with the Co-op, although this may not lead to a prompt response.

Cllr Blackman also reported that Ashill was trying to fundraise to allow an application to the BHF for a Defibrillator in Ashill, it was also thought Markers were doing the same.

Public Toilets

Following contact from a visitor to the village about the cleanliness of the public toilet Cllr Pollard had made enquiries of an external cleaning company to conduct weekly/fortnightly cleaning of the toilet.

It was reported that the cost for weekly cleaning would be £15 per clean and fortnightly cleaning would be £20 per clean. Discussion thought that weekly cleaning would be required in the summer months, but fortnightly

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during the winter. The Clerk to make contact to establish the contract terms and length and report to May meeting for a decision.

Play equipment Purchase

Cllr Little reported that she has been in contact with the Primary School to work with the School Council to understand what the children would like to see installed at the recreation ground.

Council confirmed the spend of £25,000, as provided in the budgets and had found a suitable floor covering for c £1,500 which would leave a substantial balance for actual equipment.

Update to be given at May meeting regarding progress.

TAP Fund Monies

The Clerk reported that Zoe Lentell of MDDC has reported a likely change in the TAP fund application and award process. A meeting was scheduled for 18 April and more information would become clear following this meeting. The expected funds to be available for Uffculme is about £2,500. Although more information should be available by the May meeting.

Pensions – Auto Enrolment

The Clerk confirmed that the Council's staging date was 1 April and the Clerk has submitted the necessary information to confirm that her earning are below the current threshold.

Financial Audit

The Clerk advised Councillors of the change in Audit process this year and the need for Council to confirm its responsibilities in protecting public funds. The accounts and audit documents would be prepared and issued ahead of the next meeting for approval at the meeting.

Budget agreed projects

The Clerk confirmed the need for a Council Notice board in the village to display public notices on. The Clerk had received an email from Rev. Garner in respect of notices not being able to be displayed in The Square Corner once renovations were complete. The Clerk to make enquires about a notice board which would have a locked section for the council and a separate unlocked section for general notices. The idea would be to replace the notice board on the wall of the Co-op. The Clerk to write to the Co-op

Cllr Blackman also mentioned that the MUGA in Ashill was very slippery and in need of professional cleaning and wondered if the Council would support this – however enquiries had been made for funding from Lawn Tennis Association. To be considered at May meeting.

Business Arising

Uffculme Central

Cllr Emms reported that the submission had been made to Viridor credits, although the process had encountered issues due to a recent change in Viridor requirements. One issue was that funds must be drawdown within 6 months of approval. The application has therefore been withdrawn, with some updates planned prior to submission in the next round.

Mid Devon Local Plan Review 2013 – 2033 – Update

Cllr Evans said that MDDC are still awaiting the technical data ordered by The Environment Agency on J28. However, in the meantime four members have put a motion to Council to have a report written on the viability of including J27 in the plan. This would be discussed at the Council meeting on 27 April. It was agreed that we should

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organise a meeting to rally local support against this motion and to ask residents to attend the Council meeting on 27 April and present questions to those members who have put the motion forward. Cllr Evans raised concerns over delays that this motion, if successful, may present to further delaying the local plan. An estimate of a further 6m delay was given. A meeting of local residents was subsequently agreed.

It was also reported the pre-application advice that had previously been requested by the promoters of the J27 Eden Westward Scheme had stalled – no funds had been paid and therefore the Chief Executive if the Council had withdrawn meetings until such funds had been paid.

Devon Minerals Plan – Update

Cllr Evans reported that the Inspector would be conducting his enquiry at County Hall in Exeter 24-27 May.

The Inspector has begun reviewing the plan and so far has asked for amendment to the provision for recyclable aggregate to move from 15% to 20%, although Cllr Evans was hoping to again increase this to 30%

Landfill site at Broadpath – Update

Cllr Evans reported that the planning application had been submitted to DCC for an extension to quarrying at Houndaller to extract the 100 Tonnes of dug sand.

Discussions are ongoing regarding the ROMP process to extend works for 15 years – it was hoped that agreement would be made to mitigate impact.

Allotment allocations

The Council had met with the Allotment Association to discuss their ongoing operation and the funding from the Parish Council. At the meeting it was felt that for the Council to provide match funding for 27.5 of the full size plots, being those currently occupied by Uffculme Residents was more than adequate, reference was made to the Thorpe Report and the guidance this gave to the number of plots per household in a Parish, for Uffculme this was 15 plots. The Allotment Association would then determine how it would fill the remaining 2.5 full plots and this would have no bearing on Uffculme Parish Council.

Cllr Gardner proposed the agreement and this was seconded by Cllr Blackman, with Councillors in attendance all in agreement.

Cllr Little also agreed to join the Allotment Association Committee to represent the interests of Uffculme Parish Council.

Pete Best, Secretary to the Allotment Association expressed his thanks to the Council for their support and understanding and was pleased to have Cllr Little join their committee.

Planning at Harvesters

The Clerk confirmed that she had made contact with the Inspectors office in Bristol and the email submitted by the retired Clerk in August 2015 was on file and the Inspector had considered this.

Willand - Proposed Boundary Change

Following the correspondence received from Willand Parush Council and circulated to Councillors in advance of the meeting the Clerk confirmed that Cllrs Wells, Little and Evans had all come forward to be involved in discussions with Willand about applying for a boundary change. This would become even more essential if the planning was granted at Harvesters.

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Cllr Little proposed that a meeting should be arranged to seek a formal boundary review, this was seconded by Cllr Evans.

The Clerk to progress with Willand Parish Clerk.

Highway Matters/Road and Traffic

Ashill 30 MPH

The Clerk reported that she had received confirmation that the cost for implementing the Road Traffic Order would be £3,000, with a further cost for signage etc.

As Cllr Ray Radford was not in attendance at the meeting and it was considered about using some of the locality budget it was agreed to defer this item to the May meeting.

Correspondence

Information available

Information was available at the meeting.

Other Correspondence

The Clerk had been asked to ensure all Councillors were aware of the Uffculme Green Day, Saturday 14 May 2016.

Cllr Evans also advised the meeting that Magelake was organising a curry night for Saturday 23 April 2016.

Clerk's Report

Pathfields Play Area

Following issues with getting information from MDDC officers the Clerk had involved Cllr Chesterton and this had progressed a letter which would be sent the following week. The letter would invite the Council to enter into discussions about a long-term lease, similar to that Willand has recently entered into.

Cllr Chesterton also confirmed that MDDC would not look to improve and or replace the equipment prior to any form of lease and that it may be a consideration for use of S.106 monies which Cllr Evans confirmed at £10,813.81

Ashill – Proposed new Doggie Bin & notices – ‘On Hold’

Cllr Evans said that a review was ongoing in respect of the use of general waste bins for dog litter as they are combined once collected.

Cllr Blackman told the meeting that Ashill's only general waste bin had also been removed and therefore no public bins were available – Cllr Evans said that he would follow this up.

Website

The website had been slightly delayed, although it was hoped it would be live very soon!

Chairman's reception

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Cllr Wells had asked for his email to be read at the meeting, attached as official Council Minutes. Cllr Wells thank everyone for attending and a special thanks to those who had been involved in organising such a successful event.

It was also agreed that a thank you gift should be arranged for David Tucker to thank him for his time and photos.

It was also agreed that a photo book would be prepared as a formal record of the evening, this would be gifted to Francis, with a further copy held on parish records.

Community Showcase

The Clerk reported that a request had been made from Jenni Lupton for Uffculme Parish Council to arrange an event to showcase to local businesses and organisations in the Parish. It was agreed to try and incorporate this into the Parish Annual Meeting for 2017 or the Village Hall Fete in 2016. Cllr Golding would make enquires for the Fete as to whether this would be an option.

It was agreed the Council would look at the options to organise an event like this.

Devon Best Kept Village

The Clerk reported that we had received notification for nominations for Devon Best Kept Village. It was agreed that we should look to enter something like this once The Square redevelopment was complete.

County Councillor's Report (Cllr Radford)

Cllr Radford sent his apologies, although asked Cllr Evans to report on his behalf.

Cllr Radford had been approached by Uffculme Bowling Club about the installation of a brown tourist attraction sign. The Council had no objections to the request to install. The Bowling Club is also making enquiries about the use of the Locality Budget to part fund it.

District Councillors' Reports (Cllrs Chesterton and Evans) – Apologies given by Cllr Doe

Cllr Evans reported that he had reported the signs that had been placed along the A38 and in and around Willand to Willy Pike who has informed that permission had not been given and therefore these would be removed.

He also reported that the electronic sign on the A38 as you approach the landfill site entry from Wellington direction had been out of order for a while and he had requested that this is repaired/replaced.

Cllr Chesterton reiterated the meeting on 27 April and its importance to progress of the local plan. He also confirmed that as no monies had been paid the pre-application advice had not been given in respect of J27.

Cllr Chesterton confirmed he would meet with the Clerk and MDDC officers in respect of the Pathfields play area.

The next meeting will be Thursday 5 May 2016, 7.30pm at Magelake Parish Pavilion