

Uffculme Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held
Thursday 4 April 2019 at Magelake Parish Pavilion Uffculme

Chairman: E Haglestein

Present: P Best P Cornish S Kidd R Kingdom J Nash
I Duncan J Gardner P Mackian P Blackman

19.4.1 Apologies

D Wells – Unwell M Pollard – Holiday S Stimson – Work Commitments
G Doe

19.4.2 To Approve the Minutes of Meeting held 7 March 2019

The minutes were approved as an official council record.

19.4.3 County Councillors Report – Councillor Radford

Councillor Radford advised that the funds available for Highway had increased and that there had been developments with Connecting in Devon supplying the broadband through company Gigaclear this had generated some 60.5 million pounds.

There had been a saving within Trading Standards by amalgamating companies and this totalled some £456,000.

County were looking at ways to generate extra income and they had an interest in a number of external third-party companies whereby they were able to generate an income from the profits received.

19.4.4 District Councillors Report – Councillors Chesterton & Evans

Although Councillors Chesterton and Evans attended the meeting they were not able to provide a report on recent matters due to being in Purdah.

19.4.5 Finance

19.4.5.1 To Approve March Financial Statement

The March financial statement was agreed as official Council minutes.

19.4.5.2 Ashill Village Hall

Councillor Blackman raised a query with regards to insurance within the Village Hall however it was agreed that the insurance was the responsibility of The Village Hall committee.

19.4.5.3 Bowling Club Gates

The meeting was provided with an additional e mail from The Bowling Club giving further explanation as to the reason they had chosen the contractor from outside the area to deal with the installation of the gates at the Bowling Club. At the March meeting the Council had agreed a grant of £500 towards the cost of the gates as they had applied for funding from other sources. As some of the funding had fallen through the Council had been asked to reconsider whether an additional sum of money could be provided. Councillor Best proposed a contribution of £1,250 to the Bowling Club and this was seconded by Councillor Cornish the whole meeting was in agreement.

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19.4.5.4 Coldharbour Mill

The meeting discussed whether to grant the £5,000 requested by Coldharbour Mill for The Pond restoration project. As last month there was still a number of concerns as to whether this money would be used to fund the Archimedes Screw project which the Council had received a significant number of concerns about and therefore the Council considered that it needed further information to ensure that the funds were going directly to the restoration of the Mill Pond.

Coldharbour Mill had also requested £5,000 towards the cost of running the Spring Lambs project. As above the Council felt that the information provided from Coldharbour Mill was not adequate to make any sound decision on the funding and it was suggested that they prepare a short summary ahead of the next meeting.

19.4.5.5 Uffculme Men's Club

The Council were not aware of any request for funding to deal with the refurb of the Mens Club at this time. It was agreed that this item should be removed from future Agendas.

19.4.5.6 S106 Monies for Culm Valley Way Bench

Following the meeting in March where a local resident had asked the Council to confirm support for about £1,000 to be used from the Section 106 monies for the installation of a bench along the walkway at Culm Valley Way. There had been an exchange of e mails between the Clerk, District Councillors and the officer at MDDC however the resident who was requesting the installation of the bench had not provided sufficient public support and therefore at the current time the District Council were not minded to award monies for this project. If the resident could confirm in a substantive manner that the local residents around him at Culm Valley Way were also in support of spending of 106 monies in this way then they would reconsider the project. The Chairman, Councillor Haglestein would also arrange to contact the resident.

19.4.5.7 Cemetery Software/Safety Review

The Clerk advised the meeting she had recently attended a Cemetery Training Seminar which was carried out by representatives of HIT Systems Ltd they had prepared a summary of the services they offer and following a conversation with the Clerk had prepared a quote to supply, train and provide ongoing support services to a piece of software that would allow much easier recording of cemetery software items. The cost of the software would be £198 per year, assuming at least a five year contract. The additional cost in terms of setting up and training which would include all of the specific documentation for Uffculme Cemetery would be £370.

The Clerk had also asked the trainer, who used to manage the Exeter Cemetery on behalf of Exeter City Council to carry out a safety review of the Cemetery, including detailing the memorials and considering whether they meet current Health & Safety regulations, the total cost of this is slightly guesswork as we are not 100% sure on the number of memorials in the Cemetery. Assuming there are 200 memorials the cost would be around £350. There would also be a charge of £250 which would provide us with 5 hours worth of consultancy services to ensure that we had all of the correct documentation and we had the right systems in place for dealing with burials and memorial installations.

The Council approved the cost in full and it was agreed that the Clerk would arrange to engage these services.

19.4.5.8 Donation in Memory of Former Councillor Mrs Fairie

As reported at the March meeting Mrs Fairie had recently passed away and it was suggested that a donation is made in her memory. It was suggested that a donation to Uffculme United Charities would be a good suggestion

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however it was also suggested that a tree be planted in her memory at The Leat. It was agreed that Councillor Haglestein would contact Mrs Fairie's son to see what he thought she would prefer.

19.4.5.9 Other Finance Matters

The Clerk confirmed that the £45,000 precept monies had been received on the 1 April 2019.

19.4.6 Business Arising

19.4.6.1 Uffculme Central

There has been no progress to report since the last meeting.

19.4.6.2 Mid Devon Local Plan

The meeting was advised that some questions had been raised by the Inspector to MDDC and these had been responded to as required. The exact timescale for dealing with the plan was still waiting to be confirmed

19.4.6.3 Landfill Site at Broadpath

The capping of the site is continuing, and it is expected to close in June/July, although no formal notification has been issued.

19.4.6.4 ABN Feed Mill

Councillor Hagelstein reported that Marcus has been moved to Cullompton and therefore Uffculme is currently without a manager. Brian Sutcliffe is currently responsible for the site.

19.4.6.5 Uffculme Men's Club

No report was given for the Men's Club.

19.4.6.6 Uffculme Bowling Club

No report was given for the Bowling Club.

19.4.6.7 Green Team/Green Day – plastic free community

Councillor Kingdom reported that there was a litter pick scheduled for 13 April 2019 and that the Green Team are happy with their letter confirming the Council's support of the Surfers Against Sewage campaign.

19.4.6.8 Allotments

Councillor Best advised that there were two quarter plots available and he would liaise with the Clerk regarding payment of the ground rent.

19.4.6.9 Kingwood parking at Magelake

This item would be discussed at a Magelake meeting which will take place on Thursday 11 April alongside the planning meeting where this item would be discussed.

19.4.6.10 BMX Track/Skatepark

The Clerk advised that the request for tender documents had been circulated with a return date of 30 April 2019. It was hoped that by the May meeting we would have some tender documents back.

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19.4.6.11 Parish Maintenance Update

There had been a meeting with Councillor Haglestein to discuss areas in and around the village that would require maintenance and the schedule was work in progress.

The Clerk advised that they would need to add the Cemetery shed to their maintenance schedule as this was in need of repair.

19.4.6.12 Coldharbour Mill

There were no further updates in respect of Coldharbour Mill, other than the finance requests as above. The Mill would be invited to attend the Parish Council meeting in May.

19.4.7 Police Report

Since the March meeting no further data was available publicly in respect of reported incidents.

19.4.8 Highway Matters/Road and Traffic

19.4.8.1 Ashill 30mph Limit

Since the last meeting when the Clerk was able to report that the 30mph was now in force in Ashill we have received some two letters of complaint regarding the placing of the 30mph limit signs. The Clerk had made an initial enquiry with Devon County Council with regards to what action could be taken and whether there have been any issues reported. Following the conversation with the County officer they would not look to review the placing of the signs as this is in line with their set principles. The Clerk had also visited Ashill and had taken note of the consultation posters which were still in existence, even although the consultation ended in December. The Clerk had previously had concerns from Devon County Council that during the consultation period no Ashill residents had submitted any responses.

19.4.9 Clerks Report

19.4.9.1 Devon Air Ambulance Night Landing Site

The electrics for the site were now progressing following the approval of funds by Council at the March meeting.

19.4.9.2 Markers Pond

It was agreed that Councillor Pollard would contact Westwood Housing.

19.4.9.3 Village Hall Ground Clearance

The concerned resident Annie had been in contact with Richard Taylor who had provided assistance in clearing the area. It was agreed that this item would be removed from future agendas.

19.4.9.4 Boundary Review

There were no further developments in respect of the boundary review that is scheduled to be carried out in the summer of 2019 however it was expected we will hear something in the summer months and therefore it will remain as an agenda item until the review has concluded.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 9 May 2019 at Magelake Parish Pavilion.

Please note that this is the last meeting of the existing Council as Local Council Elections will take place on Thursday 2 May 2019 where a new Council will be elected.

Verity Aldridge
Clerk to Uffculme Parish Council
18 April 2019