

**Uffculme Parish Council**  
**Minutes of meeting held**  
**Thursday 16 January 2020 at Magelake Parish Pavilion, Uffculme**

**Chairman:** P Blackman

**Present:** S Kidd            R Kingdom        J Gardner        M Pollard        P Mackian        J Nash  
D Wells

**20.01.01 Apologies for Absence**

E Haglestein – Unwell    T Pointing – Unwell

B Evans – Another Meeting

**20.01.02 Vacancies of the Council**

As agreed at the December meeting this agenda item would be carried forward and no decision made.

The Clerk advised that there had been no interest in vacancies to date and it was hoped that the vacancy could be filled prior to or at our March meeting.

**20.01.03 To Approve the Minutes of the meeting held 5 December 2019**

The minutes were approved as an official Council record.

**20.01.04 County Councillors Report**

Councillor Radford had circulated an e mail to the Clerk ahead of the meeting and this is appended to the minutes. Councillor Radford also highlighted that the funding by County Council is somewhat squeezed and they are going through their budget setting process for 2021.

**20.01.05 District Councillors Report**

Councillor Warren was able to notify the meeting that the main modifications of the MDDC Local Plan were now out for consultation, all responses should be received by 17 February 2020. Councillor Warren highlighted that only the main modifications could be responded upon as opposed to the whole plan.

The Council is reviewing fly tipping charges with a view to increasing the penalty from £250 to £400 and it had been agreed that temporary cameras would be put up in particularly bad spots. There was also a policy being updated with regards to dogs and whether dogs are allowed in certain areas and the penalties for dog fouling. This will be consulted on and it is expected that the policy will be site specific as opposed to the whole of the district. In addition this will also cover recycling and those in the district who do not follow the recycling guidance.

Councillor Warren also advised that fellow Mid Devon District Councillor John Daw had passed away recently after a very long tenure within the Council.

Councillor Chesterton was able to advise that the budget setting for Mid Devon District Council was also ongoing at the moment and they were facing some difficult decisions to try to balance the budget.

A motion had been passed by Councillor Evans for funding available land to plant trees. It was advised that funding is often available but this is only where the land is ready to plant trees almost immediately and therefore the District had undertaken to identify the land which would then be available as and when planting options came forward.

**Verity Aldridge**  
**Clerk to Uffculme Parish Council**  
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There was also a motion put forward in that any new housing developments would include policy updates as they have last been reviewed some 8-9 years ago this included a policy item for electro vehicle charging and infrastructure required.

**20.01.06 Finance**

**20.01.06.01 To Approve the December Financial Statement**

The December financial statement was approved as official Council minutes.

There was a query raised with regards to the fence that had been installed along the long shrubbery and whether the length of fence was adequate. It was agreed that this would be reviewed and contact would be made by Mike Pollard to Stacey who had undertaken the works.

**20.01.06.2 2021 Budget**

The draft budget was discussed and updated during the meeting and a final copy is appended to the minutes.

**20.01.06.03 Coldharbour Mill**

The Clerk advised that the funding available to Coldharbour Mill from the Parish Council from the precepts from 18/19 and 19/20 would be carried forward to be spent during 20/21. The first grant of £5,000 had been agreed towards the cost of two shipping containers for storage on site whilst other works were carried out. However the Mill requires some preliminary work for the siting of the shipping containers and this works will commence in April hopefully. The other item had not been confirmed although it was anticipated that the funding would go towards a walkway around the meadow by the Leat Pond.

**20.01.06.04 Ashill Play Area**

The Clerk advised that the play equipment had been installed just before Christmas and the balance had been paid. Councillor Blackman was able to advise that Ashill had been successful in Tesco funding as well as Co-op funding and therefore they were now in a position to order a zip wire. As discussed within the budget funds were available from the 20/21 budget towards the cost of the zip wire and therefore the Council will cover this cost.

**20.01.06.05 Uffculme Village Hall**

The meeting did not have any details with regards to the refurbishment of the toilets and therefore this item was carried forward.

**20.01.06.06 Uffculme Christmas Lights**

The Clerk reminded Councillors of the costs incurred in respect of the Christmas Lights and advised that since the December meeting some additional invoices had come forward these totalled £247 net of VAT and the Clerk asked Council to consider whether they would look to request an additional donation from the Lights Committee for this cost. Councillor Mackian proposed that the Council cover the cost, this was seconded by Councillor Pollard and all of the meeting was in agreement.

**20.01.06.07 Grass Cutting Contract 2020-21**

The Clerk advised that she had circulated the tender documents to the agreed three Councillors before the meeting and that both Councillor Nash and Mackian recommended the grass cutting contract for 2020-21 be awarded to Jess Lucas. The meeting discussed the merits of each of the quotes we had received and the meeting agreed this was proposed by Councillor Nash, seconded by Councillor Wells and all of the meeting was in agreement.

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The Clerk did advise the meeting that the finer details of the grass cutting contract would evolve over the next couple weeks, to be effective from 1 April 2020.

**20.01.06.08 Uffculme Bowling Club**

As discussed within the budget the Bowling Club is looking to replace the steps and Councillor Mackian had suggested previously that the Council cover this cost, which is anticipated to be around £4,000. It was agreed that Councillor Mackian would revert back to the Bowling Club committee and discuss gaining three quotes for the works and the Council would consider these at the March meeting as to who they would award the works to.

**20.01.07 Business Arising**

**20.01.07.01 Mid Devon Local Plan**

As raised by Councillor Warren the Mid Devon Local Plan was out for consultation on the main modifications. The deadline for submissions was 17 February 2020 and the meeting agreed that the Council should make a representation. Councillor Wells offered to draft a response to the major modifications, and it was agreed the Clerk would forward items to him as previously submitted.

**20.01.07.02 Landfill Site at Broadpath**

As Councillor Haglestein was unwell and unable to attend the meeting there was no report.

**20.01.07.03 ABN Feed Mill**

As Councillor Haglestein was unwell and unable to attend the meeting there was no report.

**20.01.07.04 Uffculme Men's Club**

Councillor Kingdom advised the meeting that work continued in respect of the works to install a disabled toilet on the ground floor. The committee continued to be very pleased with the financial support from the Parish Council.

The Club had expressed their sadness over the last week or so after the passing of Derek Ingersent, a long time and dedicated member of the Club.

**20.01.07.05 Uffculme Bowling Club**

Councillor Mackian recapped the request for funding in respect of the Bowling Club steps and advised that this was the only item that had raised following the recent committee meeting of the Bowling Club.

**20.01.07.06 The Green Team**

Councillor Kingdom advised that the Green Team were continuing with their efforts and that they would be working towards the Green Day in September.

**20.01.07.07 Allotments**

As Councillor Duncan was not attending the meeting there was no report.

**20.01.07.08 BMX Track/Skatepark**

The Clerk updated the meeting that she was still waiting for the Land Registry documents for the Skatepark and it was hoped that these would be received prior to the end of January filing deadline for the Viridor credits application.

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**20.01.07.09 Parish Maintenance Update**

Councillor Pollard was able to advise the meeting that the gates that had been agreed to be fitted to Denners Way should be installed next week as he was getting the gates.

**20.01.07.10 Magelake Management Contract with MRH**

The Clerk advised that no progress had been made to date in respect of the Management Contract due to Martin's mother passing away just before Christmas. The meeting agreed that there was no immediate rush as the previous contract was rolling on in the meantime.

**20.01.08 Police Report**

As Councillor Pointing was unable attend the meeting no report was available.

**20.01.09 Clerks Report**

**20.01.09.01 Markers Pond**

The Clerk advised she had been in contact with Kay at Westwood Housing and that they had instructed solicitors in the drafting of the lease. It was hoped that the new lease would be in place by 1 April and that the Council should begin requesting quotes for the work required to make the Pond both safe and of interest to the village.

**20.01.09.02 Boundary Review**

The Clerk advised that the Local Boundary Commission are expected to consult on their initial recommendations during February and March although no details had been received to date.

**The next meeting of the Council will be held on Thursday 1 February 2020 at Magelake Parish Pavilion**