

Uffculme Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held
Thursday 3 May 2018 at Magelake

18.5.5.3 Magelake

The Clerk advised that works in respect of the Pavillion Room are now complete.

It was discussed that a suggestion had been received to install a speed hump at the end of the concrete as you enter the car park. This would be designed to try and slow vehicles down and mitigate the effects of the car wheels turning and the gravel being dragged. It was also suggested that the gravel within the car park needed some attention to re-level and fill in the pot holes that had arisen.

18.5.5.4 Clerks Laptop

Following the April meeting the Clerk had purchased a new laptop and she wished to thank the Parish Council for this. The new laptop was able to synchronise all of the files held for the Parish Council meaning that it was a lot more straight forward.

18.5.5.5 Jess Grass Cutting

The Clerk advised she had received the summary of grass cutting carried out during April and this would be attached to the payment confirmation within the records.

The Clerk had also received a request to consider asking Jess to cut the grass bank below the Rec and the stretch of grass below the War Memorial play area. The areas should be cut by DCC although as they have reduced the number of cuts each year this area was becoming increasingly untidy, as it was last year, and it was agreed at the meeting that the Clerk should approach Jess Lucas to see if he would be interested in cutting this area. The Clerk advised the meeting that this area of grass cutting would be outside the scope of the contract for 2018.

18.5.5.6 Coldharbour Mill Signage for Sensory Garden

The Clerk advised the meeting that she had been requested by Coldharbour Mill to transfer the £1,000 that had previously been agreed towards a project for engaging with lonely individuals, and the printing of brochures to this effect to contributing towards the cost of signage and benches within the sensory garden that was being developed alongside the car park at The Mill. The Clerk was able to show the meeting the proposed designs and the meeting agreed to contribute. This was proposed by Councillor Pollard, seconded by Councillor Golding and everyone was in agreement.

18.5.6 Business Arising

18.5.6.1 Uffculme Central

The Clerk advised that she had recently met with Sue Warren, one of the MDDC Conservation Officers. The Clerk advised the meeting that Sue Warren did not look favourably on the use of a decking type of material within The Square and that she felt that a chipping type surface would be better suited to the area. It had also been suggested that car parking within The Square should be removed, almost in its entirety, with the few spaces being defined by street trees. The meeting did not think that the use of street trees was a good idea for the area.

The Clerk advised that despite the disappointing outcome with regards to The Square, the proposal put forward in respect of Ayshford Green was welcomed, although there were reservations about the loss of trees.

The meeting was advised that the developments would only be considered together, ie: the loss of parking within The Square offset against the parking provision within Ayshford.

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Despite the disappointing meeting it was agreed that another meeting should be arranged with the Ward Councillors present to try and add some weight to the proposals given the length of time that they have been going.

It was agreed that the Clerk would arrange a meeting with the Ward Councillors in due course.

18.5.6.2 Mid Devon Local Plan

Councillor Chesterton was able to advise the meeting that the Mid Devon Local Plan and its most recent submissions had been presented back to the Inspector. The District Council was awaiting a date for review of the plan, it was expected although not confirmed, that the Inspector would look at the area surrounding J27 in advance of the full hearings on the plan as a whole.

18.5.6.3 Landfill Site at Broadpath

The meeting discussed again that the landfill site had been increasingly smelling recently, and Councillor Haglestein was able to advise that after a site meeting with the Manager this was due to the slightly revised capping process that was being used. Viridor are using an alternative capping system so that the view as you drive down Lamb Hill, looking towards the site, wasn't of an open rubbish tip, but a more structured site.

The meeting was encouraged to once again call the Environment Agency hotline to report any excessive foul smells as this is what Viridor are accountable for and measured against.

18.5.6.4 ABN Feedmill

The Clerk advised that she had recently had a complaint from a resident on Commercial Road about the speed of and frequency of the lorries passing the residents house. The Clerk advised that she had contacted the Transport Manager for ABN and reported the residents comments.

A meeting was scheduled for 11 June 2018, alongside the Broadpath meeting.

18.5.6.5 Uffculme Mens Club

The meeting was advised by Councillor Kingdom that at the last meeting of the Mens Club the current Chairman, Martin Johns, had resigned from his post. He had additional work commitments and could not also commit to the Mens Club at the same time.

It was thought that an AGM would be arranged for Tuesday 8 May 2018. At this meeting a new Chairman would be agreed, along with other officers for the committee.

It was noted that the front of the building was looking very messy and it was agreed that the Clerk should e mail asking for the area to be tidied up.

18.5.6.6 Uffculme Bowling Club

The committee was very pleased with the canopy that had been installed and they were proceeding with the application to Viridor to seek grant funding for an extension or a portacabin. The purchase of a portacabin would still require a lot of works to the drainage of the site due to the poor sewerage connections.

18.5.6.7 Green Team

The meeting discussed that the Green Team and the work that they do was featured within the Daily Mail the previous weekend. The Green Team were to be congratulated on their efforts.

The Green Team were working with Coldharbour Mill to try and improve the Mill's green credentials.

Verity Aldridge
Clerk to Uffculme Parish Council
21 March 2018

Uffculme Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held
Thursday 3 May 2018 at Magelake

The Green Team were also having a stall at the Uffculme Show on bank holiday weekend.

18.5.7 Police Report

The Clerk advised that she had attended a meeting on Wednesday 25 April 2018 at Cullompton Police Station. This meeting was run by the Community Policing Teams and gave attendees, fellow parish and town councils, an opportunity to hear about the works that the police were doing and also the challenges that they faced. At the meeting a short power point was used as a reference point and the contents of this were going to be forwarded to those who attended the meeting so that it could be circulated further. As and when the Clerk received a copy she would forward to the Councillors.

18.5.8 Highway Matters

18.5.8.1 Issues Around School Traffic

The issues around the primary and secondary schools continue to be an issue. As we have a new Highways Officer it was hoped that this would be looked at again, although the meeting agreed that there was probably little the District Council would do.

18.5.8.2 Kitwell Street

The Clerk advised she had received complaints about the road resurface at Kitwell Street. It was thought that the road surface became particularly poor whilst resurfacing works were being carried out in the vicinity and the large equipment was stored in Kitwell Street overnight, seemingly this damaged the carriageway.

The Clerk had also received a telephone complaint by a resident in Coldharbour that the speed of vehicles passing down through Coldharbour was dangerous. The resident also raised concerns about parking within the area. The Clerk advised the meeting she had advised the resident that she would pass it onto the County Highways officer although in reality there was probably very little that would be done.

18.5.9 Correspondence

18.5.9.1

The Clerk advised that she had received a letter of thanks from Spotlight in respect of the donation provided.

18.5.10 Clerks Report

18.5.10.1 Devon Air Ambulance Night Landing Site

The Clerk advised that she had been liaising with the Devon Air Ambulance liaison in respect of the electrics at Magelake and a quote was being prepared by David Tumulty for the revision required to the existing lights.

18.5.10.2 Website

The Clerk and Councillor Best advised the meeting that there had been some issues gaining the domain for the Parish Council due to it going through additional government security clearance, being a '.gov.uk' website. This was taking longer than expected although the Clerk was able to show the meeting a preview of the site. It was agreed that the site dealt with a lot of the requirements of the Parish Council and the aesthetics of the site would be improved once it was live, however the primary aim at the moment was to get it online.

18.5.10.3 Proposed New Planning Response Policy

Councillor Wells explained the theory behind the policy in that some years ago a councillor had been called before the standards committee of MDDC in respect of the Parish Councils response to a planning application. Following

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this the council had agreed to write a planning response policy and it had previously been suggested that this would be reviewed annually. The policy had not been reviewed since its drafting, some ten years ago and therefore this revised policy dealt with the changes required. These had been agreed by the planning committee in March 2018 and it was now presented to full council for approval.

Following discussion regarding the wording of the clause which stated the Parish Council would have automatic opposition to the expansion of the feedmill, The Quarry and other Landfill site was discussed and it was agreed that this would be revised to say that the Parish Council would be unlikely to support any application.

18.5.10.4 GDPR Data Protection

Following the update provided by the Clerk at the April meeting she had recently received a further update from DALC – Devon Association of Local Councils in respect of the data protection requirements imposed on the Parish Council. Legislation had been passed to ensure that they did not need to be an independent person for the data protection requirements and as such this would mean that the Council wouldn't need to buy in external support.

18.5.10.5 Weir Issues on The River

The Clerk advised that she had been contacted by a resident concerned about the collapse of a weir near to Gibraltar Bridge, on the road from Coldharbour towards Smithincott. The weir had collapsed and as a consequence the river bed was seemingly moving. Although this would not be seen to be an issue as such the concerned resident felt that due to the sewerage pipe for the large majority of the village passing underneath the river bed, if the river bed moved then this could cause severe issues in terms of the village sewerage. It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk would contact the Environment Agency in this respect.

18.5.11 County Councillors Report

Councillor Radford was not in attendance at the meeting.

18.5.12 District Councillors Report

Councillors Chesterton and Doe.

Councillor Doe advised that works on The Premier Inn in Tiverton would commence on the 8 May 2018. It was thought that parking would not be an immediate issue as the majority of it had been retained in the proposals.

The meeting was also advised that Lidl had recently sent out marketing material to Tiverton residents asking whether they would be in of support Lidl arriving in Tiverton. This was not as part of a formal planning application, it was thought it was pre-planning works and that a planning application would arrive with the District Council shortly.

The charity Involve which works to support voluntary organisations was looking for some more trustees as they are very low on numbers. If anybody was interested then they should contact Councillor Doe.

The final point was that on 24 May 2018 Councillor Doe would be undertaking a walkabout with the housing officers for Uffculme. If anybody was available on this date it would be appreciated to attend and any issues that anyone was aware of should contact Councillor Doe in advance of this date.

Councillor Chesterton advised that all of MDCC's waste was now being processed by means other than landfill. The recycling activities were very positive and the refuse waste that was not recyclable was going to the incinerator at Exeter.

As previously advised the Local Plan has now been passed back to the Inspector and we were awaiting a date for the hearings.

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The District Council is currently consulting on a regeneration scheme for Tiverton Central Town area and Councillor Chesterton encouraged the Parish Council to respond if able.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 7 June 2018 meeting at The Square Corner.