

Uffculme Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held
Thursday 5 September 2019 at Magelake Parish Pavilion, Uffculme

Chairman: E Haglestein

Present: S Kidd R Kingdom J Nash M Pollard T Pointing
 J Gardner P Mackian P Blackman D Wells P Cornish

19.9.1 Apologies for Absence

I Duncan – Work Commitments

R Chesterton

R Radford

19.9.2 To Approve the Minutes of the meeting held 4 July 2019

The minutes were approved as an official Council record.

19.9.3 County Councillors Report

Councillor Radford was unable to attend the meeting and a report was not provided.

19.9.4 District Councillors Report

Councillor Evans advised that the liaison meeting for the Broadpath Landfill/Aggregate Industries was being held the following week.

The Boundary review that was being carried out in Mid Devon by the Boundary Commission had established that the District as a whole would be keeping the 42 Councillors however it had not yet been decided as to how they will be split and whether there would be any variations.

Councillor Evans asked the Clerk to and all Councillors to send in the register of interest forms.

The Councillors were attending meetings over the next few weeks to discuss the proposed budget deficit for 19-20 which is currently predicted to be £427,000.

Councillor Warren advised that whilst the Boundary Review was ongoing he encouraged Uffculme to make a submission that would see the boundary between Halberton/Uffculme/Willand reviewed to bring it more in line with what was going on in the area.

The meeting was also advised that at appeal the planning for 125 houses in Willand had been successful.

19.9.5 Finance

19.9.5.1 To Approve the July Financial Statement

The July financial statement was agreed as official Council minutes.

19.9.5.2 To Approve the August Financial Statement

The August financial statement was agreed as official Council minutes.

19.9.5.3 Coldharbour Mill

The following Councillors declared an interest and did not take part in this matter – Councillor Wells, Councillor Pollard and Councillor Haglestein

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The meeting considered the information shared at the July meeting with regards to funding requests and the site visit by Councillors Duncan and Kidd. The proposal for the £5,000 towards the shipping containers was discussed and it had been suggested to the Coldharbour board that the Council would wish to retain the shipping containers after the 10 year period. Coldharbour Mill expressed concerns about this and on review the Clerk was now recommending to the Council that the shipping containers were purchased by the Parish Council at a cost of £5,000 + vat and after say a 12 month period were then bought by Coldharbour Mill for £1. The meeting discussed this and agreed in full.

The funding with regards to the Spring Lambs was yet again in doubt and whether the project would even be continuing this year was discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Board and advised that whilst they were happy to spend the 18-19 monies on the shipping containers, we would request a further proposal for any monies for 19-20.

19.9.5.4 Uffculme Men's Club

Councillor Kingdom advised that the Men's Club had recently undertaken the painting of the exterior of the building, along with some works internally to improve the building. The meeting agreed in its entirety that painting the front of the building has made a marked improvement across the front of the building. The meeting was reminded that a provision was made in the 19-20 budget for £1,000 for the Men's Club. Councillor Kingdom was attending a meeting the following week and would then understand how much the Men's Club committee had spent on materials for the redecoration of the exterior of the building. The meeting agreed that the Clerk could make a payment for the materials, directly to their supplier, up to the value of £1,000, this was proposed by Councillor Gardener and seconded by Councillor Pollard with the whole meeting in agreement.

19.9.6 Business Arising

19.9.6.1 Uffculme Central

The Clerk advised that there had been little progress on this matter and a meeting should be scheduled during September to discuss options.

The meeting also discussed drafting a letter to send to the former garage owner requesting details of whether they were looking to sell the land.

19.9.6.2 Mid Devon Local Plan

The Clerk advised that there were no further updates regarding the Local Plan and this remained with the Inspector.

19.9.6.3 Landfill Site at Broadpath

As advised by Councillor Evans the Liaison meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday and therefore an update would be provided at the October meeting.

The Clerk advised that she had received a planning application from DCC which looked to place a shipping container up at Broadpath and this would be considered by the planning committee next week and hopefully further information would be established at the Liaison meeting.

The meeting discussed the continuing issues over road sweeping and whether there should be a more appropriate wheel wash installed to prevent debris from entering onto the roads. It was agreed that Councillor Haglestein will raise this at the Liaison meeting.

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19.9.6.4 ABN Feed Mill

Councillor Hagelstein advised that the next meeting would take place in December 2019 and discussed that she is looking for members of the public and or Council to keep odour diaries so that there was a reasonable amount of information to feed back to the Environment Agency and also the Feed Mill as to when smells from the Mill.

The meeting also discussed the issues with lorries frequenting the Avenue and it was agreed that these are largely not ABN lorries but other contractors and again this would be fed back.

19.9.6.5 Uffculme Men's Club

Councillor Kingdom advised that she would be attending the meeting next week and if there were any messages from the Council. The meeting agreed that the Councils acknowledgement of the improvement in the view of the building since it has been redecorated and that the Committee should be very proud of themselves for arranging this work on a volunteer basis. The meeting thanked Councillor Kingdom for her involvement with the Men's Club and that the redecoration was a great success.

19.9.6.6 Uffculme Bowling Club

Councillor Haglestein attended a meeting recently that advised the Bowling Club had made an application to Viridor Credits for new flooring and they were hopeful that they would be successful in their bid.

19.9.6.7 Green Team

Councillor Kingdom advised that following a recent meeting Delia had passed on her continued appreciation for the Council's support and that the community as a whole was making really good progress towards the Surfers Against Sewerage criteria.

There would be an Unwrap outside of the Co-op on Saturday 12 October 2019 and that they would also be holding a Coffee Morning to raise awareness.

The meeting at this point discussed Agenda item Parish Maintenance Update (19.9.7.10) The Clerk was going to propose that the Parish Council holds a Coffee Morning to try and gain an understanding and names of people who would perhaps be willing to volunteer in the instance of snow and also to put together a Community Group that would look to work on areas around the village that were no longer maintained. It was suggested that the Parish Council could perhaps join forces with the Green Team and hold a larger event within The Square Corner. There would be a large number of people that would be out and about for the Green Team Unwrap and also that the Council could promote its message in terms of maintaining areas which would fit well with the Green Team ethos. It was agreed that Councillor Nash would contact the WI to confirm that they were dealing with the catering and Councillor Kingdom would contact Delia to find out if we would be able to join their Coffee Morning.

19.9.6.8 Allotments

Councillor Best advised that the allotments are now at capacity with 4 people, who are all Uffculme residents, who are on the waiting list. Councillor Best did advise that some plots are not being utilised to their full potential and therefore he would be working with these allotment holders to establish if they did wish to carry on or whether they could be passed to those on the waiting list.

19.9.6.9 BMX Track/Skatepark

Councillor Pollard advised that he had attended a meeting last week with Councillors Haglestein and Nash in a way to publicise the BMX Track/Skatepark. It was agreed that the Coffee Morning on the 12 October would be another good way to raise the profile of the Skatepark and that we were looking for public support to assist us

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with our application to Viridor for funding. Some of the avenues that were considered were a quiz, breakfast meeting, Co-op bag token scheme and also the Tesco tokens, these would be looked into.

19.9.6.10 Parish Maintenance Update

Councillor Best suggested that in addition to the Community Group as discussed above that Phil Morgan had been in contact with regards to Chapter 8 training which would allow members of the public to carry out repairs on the highway, this would include pot hole filling and such like, Councillor Best suggested that once we have a list of volunteers we look at who we can perhaps send on this free course.

19.9.6.11 Magelake Contract with MRH Management

The Clerk advised that herself and Councillor Gardner had attended a meeting with Martin Halse to discuss the ongoing contract for Magelake. Whilst in principle it seems that Martin is willing to continue the contract on a similar basis to what is in place now there are some aspects that would need refining and adjusting. Martin is looking for a 5 year lease as he is looking in investing in the building and the use of Magelake and the meeting did not envisage any initial issues with this.

The costs would need to be borne by Magelake/the Parish Council however these would need to be recouped over the period of the contract and this is something that would require final details. It was agreed that the ongoing discussions should continue with the Clerk and Councillor Gardner and the Magelake Committee and then once a final contract has been agreed by all parties it would be signed off at a Parish Council meeting prior to implementation.

19.9.7 Police Report

Councillor Best advised that in July there had been 23 crimes within Uffculme however there have been no prosecutions on any of these. The large majority were under the category of anti-social or behaviour related and it seems looking at previous trends that crimes generally increase as the weather improves which suggests that people are out and about more up to mischief. On review over the last 12 months there was 93% of investigations that were either ongoing or no further action was taken.

19.9.8 Clerks Report

19.9.8.1 Markers Pond

The Clerk advised that both herself and Councillor Pollard had been in contact with a very helpful employee of Westwood, Kay who had been arranging the valuation on the Markers Pond and setting out the anticipated costs of drafting up a legal agreement. In short it was as follows: Annual Rent of £1000 plus the legal fees for the setting up the lease which would be borne 50/50, the anticipated costs of those were £3000 + VAT. Following a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would revert back to Kay at Westwood and propose the annual rent of £1 and that we would then be willing to contribute up to £1000, preferably £1000 towards the legal fees.

19.9.8.2 Boundary Review

As advised by both Councillors Evans and Warren the boundary review was ongoing and it was agreed that Uffculme should make a joint representation with Willand. It was agreed that a meeting should be arranged with Willand and Councillor Wells and Councillor Kingdom would like to attend.

19.9.8.3 MDDC Parish Walk About 4/10/2019

The Clerk advised that the walk about would take place on 4 October commencing from Highland Terrace if anybody wished to attend.

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19.9.8.4 Speed Review

The Clerk advised that she had been sent an e mail from both Councillors Evans and Radford with regards to a new speed review that had taken place, the Clerk shared the details that had been provided and the meeting agreed that the information was very vague. It was agreed that the Clerk would revert back to Councillor Radford to gain more information with regards to when the speed test was taken, where it was taken and how many vehicles had frequented. This information will be provided at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 3 October at Magelake Parish Pavilion.