

Uffculme Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held
Thursday 4 May 2017 at The Square Corner

Chairman: E Hagelstein

Present: P Cornish P Disley J Gardner P Golding
M Pollard

17.5.1 Apologies:

P Blackman – Family Arrangements G Evans – Holiday P Mackian – Family
D Wells – Holiday
R Chesterton – DCC Election G Doe – DCC Election
B Evans – Holiday R Radford – DCC Election

17.5.2 - Co-option of Councillors - 3 Vacancies

The Clerk had circulated a short precis from each of the candidates for the vacancies on the Parish Council ahead of the meeting, these had been received from Sue Kidd, Pete Best, Ruth Kingdom, Simon Stimson & Matthew Kyle. The Clerk issued slips to all councillors which gave them a choice between the 5 candidates. All councillors attending the meeting were eligible to vote and were advised that they should place 3 ticks, one next to each person they wish to place a vote for.

The Clerk and Chairman, accompanied by P Cornish, retired to the kitchen to review the voting slips from all Councillors. The vote was recorded as follows: Sue Kidd – 3 votes, Pete Best – 6 votes, Ruth Kingdom – 4 votes, Simon Stimson – 4 votes, Matthew Kyle – 1 vote.

The meeting was therefore advised that Pete Best, Ruth Kingdom & Simon Stimson were the co-opted Councillors and they were invited to join other Councillors for the meeting.

17.5.3 – Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 6 April 2017 approved and signed as a correct record.

17.5.4 – Finance

17.5.4.1 – April Financial Statement

Approved as official council minutes.

17.5.4.2 – Defibrillators

The meeting was advised that the defibrillator training had been a success and we had received a lot of very positive feedback from those in attendance, particularly that the trainer was very enthusiastic. Councillor Cornish asked whether there was any information that could be circulated regarding the defibrillators and the Clerk confirmed that she had a DVD that had the training video on from the defibrillator company and she could circulate this, and or provide a link to the video to You Tube. It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate the You Tube link and also send this to Jim Clancy for his e-mail circulation list.

The Clerk would also do a notice to be placed on the notice board advising residents that the defibrillators were available in The Square and at Magelake.

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17.5.4.3 – Notice Board

The Clerk had received a quote from Ken White Signs to install a new door to the right-hand side of the notice board following the issues that people had had securing their notices. The quote was £375, net of vat, which the meeting felt was higher than anticipated. The meeting agreed that the Clerk would go back to Ken White Signs and ensure that the quote was only for the door and not the magnetic backing and ask them if there was anything that can be done on the price – this would return at the June meeting.

17.5.4.4 – Ashill Village Hall Sound System Monies

The Clerk advised that she had paid API the monies required for the installation of the audio and visual equipment that had recently been installed at Ashill Village Hall. The Clerk also advised that she had received the £3,000 donation from the Ashill Village Hall.

17.5.4.5 – Uffculme Village Hall Refurb Monies

The Clerk advised that following the April meeting she had issued a letter to the Village Hall committee advising them of the Parish Council's support and willingness to contribute the £2,600, being the 10% third party funding. The Clerk then received a request for a cheque of the same amount to be made payable to Viridor ahead of the Village Hall committee meeting where the papers would be signed off, before being sent to Viridor. The Clerk was able to arrange for the cheque to get to the Village Hall committee ahead of this meeting and she has since received an acknowledgement from Viridor for the cheque.

17.5.4.6 – Magelake Repairs

The Chairman advised the meeting that this would be dealt with in committee which would take place following the public meeting along with the agenda item dealing with the Magelake committee and future structure.

17.5.4.7 – Audit Papers

The Clerk confirmed that all Councillors were in receipt of the external audit papers that she had circulated ahead of the meeting. The meeting discussed each of the statements included on the annual return and we ran through the 8 items and the meeting was all in agreement that the Parish Council could respond yes to all of these questions and the statement was duly signed off.

17.5.4.8 – Other Finance Matters

The meeting discussed no further finance matters.

17.5.5 – Business Arising

17.5.5.1 - Uffculme Central

The meeting discussed that there had been little progress in respect of Uffculme Central and those involved in the committee discussed dates and the Clerk would arrange a meeting with Ian Sorensen of DCC and the Conservation Officer from MDDC in the next couple of weeks.

17.5.5.2 - Mid Devon Local Plan

There were no updates available in respect of the local plan it was still awaiting an Inspector to be appointed.

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17.5.5.3 – Landfill Site at Broadpath

The Chairman advised the meeting that a liaison meeting would take place in June and no Councillors presently had any further updates on the Broadpath landfill.

17.5.5.4 – Planning Application for Hill Head including the widening of Clay Lane

The meeting discussed that the planning committee had submitted a response to DCC in respect of the planning application. In short the planning committee supported the works to widen Clay Lane to ensure that vehicles, particularly HGVS, would enter and exit the site using the Clay Lane junction rather than past Downs Farm.

17.5.5.5 – ABN Feed Mill

Like the Broadpath Landfill liaison meeting there would also be a meeting in June and updates would be available following this.

17.5.5.6 – Willand Proposed Boundary Change

The Clerk had previously advised Councillors at the April meeting that the boundary review would take place following the DCC elections which were taking place on 4 May 2017 – however, as a general election had been called it should be anticipated that there would be further delay in dealing with the boundary change within Mid Devon due to officers being involved in the general election.

17.5.5.7 – Magelake Committee & Future Structure

This item was discussed in committee at the end of the meeting.

17.5.5.8 – St Marys Church Planning Application for Mobile Phone Mast

The meeting was made aware that the church committee was still waiting for a decision from the Diocesan Advisory Council as to whether they would grant permission for the mast to be installed within St Marys spire.

17.5.5.9 – Land West of Harvesters Existing Permission for 60 Houses

The meeting was given a brief rundown of the planning committee's meeting with DCH, the developer, in April which was also attended by local residents. A general overview of the meeting was that they were progressing with layout designs and were keen to ensure that all existing trees were retained, they would also be looking to have a large open space at the bottom of the site, which would also double up as a flood area. It was hoped that the developers along with their architects would return to the council during May to present their final plan which would form part of their planning application to MDDC.

17.5.6 – Police Reports

No police report was made to the meeting.

17.5.7 – Highway Matters Road & Traffic

17.5.7.1 – Commercial Road Footpath

The meeting discussed that progress in respect of this project had been particularly slow and that the officer at DCC was not responding to requests for a site meeting with the council. Councillor Radford had previously asked for matters to be progressed in his absence due to him being limited in what work he can undertake due to the forthcoming election, the Clerk agreed that she would chase this up further following the meeting.

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17.5.8 – Correspondence

17.5.8.1 – Information Available

The Clerk confirmed that she had not received any information which could be passed onto Councillors at the meeting.

17.5.9 – Clerks Report

17.5.9.1. – Pathfield Play Area

The Clerk advised the meeting that she had nearly progressed the lease to an agreement stage with MDDC and it was hoped that within the next month, or so this would be agreed.

The Clerk showed the play equipment that was proposed for the site and all Councillors were in agreement.

17.5.9.2 – Picnic Benches for the Rec

The Chairman advised the meeting that the Council should write to the Exe Valley Rotary Club to request a contribution towards the cost of the picnic benches. The Rotary Club had previously offered to contribute towards the cost of the defibrillators. However, as the Council had been successful in other funds, the Parish Council had declined their contribution as it had sufficient funds. The Chairman had provided the Clerk with contact details and a letter would be sent.

The Clerk ran through the quote she had received for the picnic benches and the picnic bench designs. It was hoped that we would get the picnic benches from the company that would be installing the equipment at Pathfields and they had provided a quote for the supply of picnic benches and these were discussed at the meeting and agreed. However, the company's quote for installing the 3 picnic benches on concrete plinths was in excess of £3,000 which the council thought was excessive. The Clerk had been in contact with Councillor Pollard ahead of the meeting to discuss these costs and Councillor Pollard had arranged to meet with a local contractor who would be able to undertake the works for the 3 concrete plinths and would come back to the council on this.

17.5.9.3 – Ayshford Parking Issues

The issues with vehicles driving down the footpath on Ayshford Green had been resolved by the installation of the additional bollard recently.

The issue in respect of the paving being broken up due to vehicles driving on it, for which it's not intended, was still an issue. The local walk about by MDDC in April had not provided any information to the Clerk on matters. The meeting agreed that the Clerk and Chairman would contact our District Councillors and ask them to issue a report from the walkabout and also to provide an update in respect of the broken paving outside Ayshford House which could be a trip hazard.

17.5.9.4 – Dog Waste Bins

The Clerk advised the meeting that MDDC were meeting the following Wednesday to discuss the policy on waste bins. It was hoped that following this meeting the officer who the Clerk had been dealing with would be able to come back with the policy on collecting waste from new bins. The Parish Council could then make a decision as to how it wished to proceed.

The Clerk advised the meeting that she had received reports of dog waste being thrown in to resident's gardens which border the long shrubbery footpath. This issue was reported by a resident who has a fence that can be seen through from the footpath and it was not an isolated incident. Councillor Best advised that he has a camera

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that could be used to record activity and if this was successful we could ask the police to visit the area to see if they could catch those people who are causing offence.

It was also agreed that the Clerk would generate a notice in respect of dog waste which would be circulated to all councillors to display where possible and also to Jim Clancy for his e mail list.

17.5.9.5 – Request for Section 106 Money

The Clerk advised the meeting that she had been contacted by an officer of MDDC who had requested details of projects that the Parish Council would like to secure S106 monies for from any building projects with in the Parish. The meeting discussed some projects that would fit the criteria and in short these were The Square, Ayshford Green, The MUGA at Magelake, a new play area (perhaps Ashley Road/Denners Way), West Country Pond. It was agreed that all Councillors would go away and think about options where the council could make an application for S106 money and they should forward these to the Clerk who would compile the necessary information to submit to the District Council.

17.5.10 – County Councillors Report

No report was available due to the forthcoming election.

17.5.11 – District Councillor Reports

As no District Councillors were in attendance, nor had they provided reports ahead of the meeting, no reports were available.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 1 June 2017 at The Square