

UPPER CLATFORD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10TH JANUARY 2024
AT 7.30 PM IN
THE KING EDWARD VII MEMORIAL HALL (COMMITTEE ROOM)

| Councillors | Clerk | TVBC + County Councillors | Others |
|--|-----------|---------------------------|--------|
| Cllrs P Heslop (Chairman) R Hydes R Hawkins C Williams C Eyre R Bennett N Freemantle P Littlehailes | E Attwood | M Flood D Drew | 1 |

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| 1. | Apologies for Absence: Borough Councillor S Hasselmann |
| 2. | To receive and accept declarations of interest: None. |
| 3. | Public Participation: - None |
| 4. | Borough Councillors Report – Councillor Flood reported on the following: See appendix A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Flood advised that the Local Plan 2040 is listed to be approved on a TVBC agenda on the 17th of January for endorsement. Cllr Flood said the plan included support for maintaining the local gap. |
| 5. | County Councillors Report- See Appendix B <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Drew suggested a list of maintenance for winter problems such as gulley's and drains maintenance needed to be addressed late summer rather than when problems occur during the winter. Cllr Hydes asked for Hampshire Cultural Trust to retain HCC support and not suffer cutbacks. Cllr Eyre thanked Cllrs Drew & Flood for grant contributions for the heating which had been installed in the church. Cllr Heslop highlighted the edge of the road cannot be seen along Watery Lane due to weather erosion. |
| 6. | To approve the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th December 2023 Minutes were circulated prior to the meeting. Resolved: That the minutes of the Council meeting of the Parish Council held on the 13 th of December be confirmed and signed as a true record. |
| 7. | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Clerks Report</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters hand delivered to The Green residents to remind them not to park in turning circle. Founds quote £13500 to rewire Chalk Pit. Service agreement chased with UCYFC – not received yet. Keys to Pavilion door now received. Gas bill seems a little high, sports club asked to obtain reading or pay. No reading to date. All Chalk Pit correspondence circulated including legal response from HALC. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Grass Cutting invoice paid by Village HallTree works at the Village Green were delayed due to extreme weather and should be completed soon.New Councillor forms deposited with TVBC.Clerk recommends councillor e mail addresses should be added to website – this was agreed as the e mail addresses are .gov.uk | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8. | <p>Planning - Review of decisions, applications, and responses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">23/03153/FULLN Balksbury Hill dog walking area Change of use. No objection requested that visual impact is considered as part of application. Permission granted24/00036//TREEN Trees Crook and Shears. Beech to remove low and overhanging branches to raise crown. No objection <p><u>Update on previous decisions.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">23/02318/FULLN Curry Cottages Stockbridge Road. Objection raised 18 Oct. Permission granted 12th December.HCC/2023/0211 Orchard Hill Farm TVBC No objection subject to National Highways and Lead local flood Authority, both of whom have sought additional information. No objection submitted with comments on 5 Sep 23. No decision23/02620/TREEN 5 Clatford Manor – Permission granted 18th December.23/02634/TPON 23 Brook Way. Oak. Crown raise by up to 6 m and reduce/shape by 2.5m . Permission granted 21st December.23/02798/TREEN. Trees on The Green. Live 1 Nov 23. Permission granted 20th December.23/02961/TPON. Oak at 26 Brook Way. Reduce branches from side of house and remove epicormic growth. No objection from UCPC. Decision awaited. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9. | <p>9.1 Finance - To receive and approve the Financial Statement 1st December 2023 – 31st December 2023. The Clerk had circulated financial statements prior to the meeting.</p> <table><tr><td>Bank Reconciliation</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Business Account</td><td>£5,704.44</td></tr><tr><td>Treasurers Account</td><td>£34,163.94</td></tr><tr><td>Fixed term deposit</td><td>£35,000.00</td></tr><tr><td>Closing Balance as of 31 Dec 23</td><td>£74,868.38</td></tr></table> <p>Resolved: That the financial statements between 1st December – 31st December were approved and signed by the Chairman.</p> <p>9.2 Payments for approval December 2023</p> <table><tr><td>PV76</td><td>E Attwood Clerks Salary</td><td>£619.93</td></tr><tr><td>PV76</td><td>HMRC - Clerks Tax</td><td>£8.40</td></tr><tr><td>PV77</td><td>R Hydes - Refund Registry Search</td><td>£34.95</td></tr><tr><td>PV78</td><td>King Edward V11 Hiring Hall</td><td>£30.00</td></tr><tr><td>PV79</td><td>One two tree</td><td>£1,200.00</td></tr><tr><td>PV80</td><td>SJ Stephens - tree report</td><td>£690.00</td></tr></table> | Bank Reconciliation | | Business Account | £5,704.44 | Treasurers Account | £34,163.94 | Fixed term deposit | £35,000.00 | Closing Balance as of 31 Dec 23 | £74,868.38 | PV76 | E Attwood Clerks Salary | £619.93 | PV76 | HMRC - Clerks Tax | £8.40 | PV77 | R Hydes - Refund Registry Search | £34.95 | PV78 | King Edward V11 Hiring Hall | £30.00 | PV79 | One two tree | £1,200.00 | PV80 | SJ Stephens - tree report | £690.00 |
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| | <p>PV81 SSE energy £17.36 January 2024</p> <p>E Attwood Clerks Salary £619.93 HMRC - Clerks Tax £8.40 King Edward V11 Hiring Hall £30.00 Business Stream £27.80 British Gas £66.80</p> <p>Resolved: Payments for December 2023 & January 2024 were approved.</p> <p>9.3 & 9.4 Approval of Budget & Precept Cllrs discussed the proposed budget & precept but needed further time to consider the extra costs from losing the Chalk Pit tenant. It was approved to finalise at next month's meeting which will be bought forward by one week. It was agreed that a general reserve amount needs to be approved next month.</p> <p>9.5 Token of appreciation for free legal work – Cllr Eyre declared an interest. The Clerk advised that gifts could not be purchased for individuals, however the council felt that they had been given copious free legal advice by a Parishioner that has resulted in a donation towards the Church heating and installation. It was agreed to divert the money raised by the Chalk Stream lectures to pay for the gift.</p> <p>Resolved: Councillors approved purchasing an easel for the cost of £167.00 as a thank you gift for the free legal advice.</p> <p>9.6 Maintenance contracts 24/25</p> <p>Resolved: Cllrs approved the following contracts for the forth coming year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £3128.99 plus VAT – UCYFC contract for grounds maintenance & pitch maintenance by TVBC (<i>Post meeting, now approved by UCFYC</i>) • £1420.00 plus VAT – Emptying dog bins. • £8071.45 plus VAT – Village ground maintenance for open spaces, playparks, and hedges. |
| 10 | <p>Playing Fields - To report the Monthly Monitoring of the Play Park Equipment</p> <p>10.1 Coronation Field (Anna Valley Playing Field – Cllr Williams reported that there were no concerns.</p> <p>10.2 Bawksbury Bridge Playing Field – Cllr Williams reported that the green growth cannot be removed. It is not slippery and currently not causing a hazard. It was also reported some branches had come down over the other side of the river, but this does not affect the play park.</p> |
| 11 | <p>Chalk Pit – The next steps for the Chalk pit were discussed and various items are to be kept confidential until the legal matter of the dilapidations has been settled. All listed in Appendix C.</p> <p>Inspection of Palisade Fencing. Cllr Heslop has completed the inspection of the palisade fencing around the perimeter of the top of the Chalk Pit and reported that there has been no erosion in areas of less than 3 metres to the edge since the last annual inspection.</p> <p>Update- No income now tenant has left which will affect the budget costs for the forth coming year.</p> <p>It was agreed that Stratford's need to resolve the dilapidations, a £4000.00 verbal agreement has been given by ANT towards clearing the site of rubbish. This money is due by the 2nd of February. The quote received is £6000.00.</p> <p>Budget – To include costs for the Chalk Pit that have to be incurred.</p> |

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| | Risk Assessment – To be completed for approval at next months meeting. |
| 12 | <p>Trees and Open Space.</p> <p>12.1 Trees Village Green Red Rice Road: A small delay due to poor weather in December. The work is scheduled for mid-January</p> <p>Tree Planting - 30 trees are due to be planted on Sat 10 Feb 24 by the UC Conservation Group in Bawksbury Hillfort field, which are being donated by the Hampshire Forestry Partnership as part of HCC initiative 'Shoots along the Routes'. Volunteers are wanted to assist and should contact Cllr Bennett. Cllr Hydes is investigating if more trees can be planted at Bury Hill Meadows.</p> |
| 13 | <p>Footpaths & Highways Pillhill Brook & Bins</p> <p>13.1 Taskers Plinth – Repairs will be completed in the spring.</p> <p>13.2 Highways Update – Cllr Hydes reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Rice Road Hedgerow protruding onto road. Cllr Hydes will contact the landowner and ask them to trim it back. • Trees still need trimming along Foundry road in 3 places to allow the Peter Symonds bus access. • Watery Lane – A lorry ended up off the side of the road. Highways are responsible for repairing the tyre marks in the verge. • <p>13.3. Footpaths update by Cllr Bennett</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The overhanging obstruction on the footpath just East of the Parish boundary with Abbots Ann, which was reported in Feb 23 and has been chased many times since with HCC and TVBC has finally been scheduled for clearance by Hampshire Countryside Services. (HCC Rights of Way Problem Report 231054219) |
| 14 | <p>Pavilion & Sports Field</p> <p>14.1 Service Agreement – UCYFC had sent back the service agreement with some suggested minor amendments. Cllr Hawkins explained the amendments which were all minor in the wording.</p> <p>Resolved: It was agreed to make the amendments. UCYFC will be invited to May's meeting for an annual update.</p> |
| 15 | <p>Correspondence received for discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An e mail about the bus stop and parked cars on Foundry road. Cllrs will observe the parking situation as the Parishioner did not provide too much detail. |
| 16 | External Committees and Events – None |
| 17 | Parish Projects – This can be removed from the agenda as this year's project will be the Chalk Pit. |
| 18 | The next Parish Council meeting is to be held in the Village Hall at Goodworth Clatford on Tuesday 6th February 2024 at 7.30pm. |

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Appendix A Borough Councillor Hasselmann and Floods Reports

Free Start Your Own Business Guide for Test Valley Businesses. To complement the free Test Valley business support service, Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) has partnered with the company 'Start Your Own Business' (SYOB) to provide a new Start Your Own Business in Test Valley guide. The guide leads potential business owners through a comprehensive range of issues from pre-start up planning and raising funds, to tax and accountancy matters, marketing, employing staff and growing the business. A local directory, and free resource templates, are included to help new business owners to start off on the right foot. The guide can be downloaded free of charge from Small business support service | Test Valley Borough Council New businesses can also take advantage of the TVBC Business Incentive Grants of £750 that are available for new business start-ups. Grants must be approved before the business has started trading and will be paid after the business has been trading for six months. Find out more Business Incentive Grant | Test Valley Borough Council.

Rural England Prosperity Fund

Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) has been awarded just over £500,000 of Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) money to support its rural communities and businesses. Capital grants for Community groups of between £3,000 and £20,000 will be available to projects that support new and improved community facilities, local art and heritage, rural green space, and/or essential community services for local people. Capital grants for business of between £5,000 and £25,000 will be available to new and existing rural businesses, to develop new products, services and equipment that will be of wider benefit to the local economy. This could include farms looking to diversify or businesses needing new equipment to develop. For more information please visit:

<https://testvalley.gov.uk/BusinessREPF> for Business Grants or
<https://testvalley.gov.uk/CommunityREPF> for Community Grant

Thermal imaging and home energy training session

20 January 2024 Dragonfly Power and Community Energy South are hosting a training session for individuals and community groups to understand thermal imaging surveys and how they can be used to make buildings more energy efficient. Learn about the thermal inefficiencies of homes, how to use the camera, and how to interpret the images it creates. The event is on Saturday 20 January between 10am and 1pm at King's Somborne Village Hall. If you would like to attend, please register for a ticket at: Thermal imaging and home energy training Tickets, Sat 20 Jan 2024 at 10:00 | Eventbrite This training forms part of the Test Valley Community Energy programme, which is supported by Test Valley Borough Council and funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

Reporting rural business crime

The Hampshire Rural Crime Partnership are inviting those with business connections to the rural and wildlife environment to register for DISC, a platform for reporting rural and wildlife crime incidents quickly. After signing up, you will receive up to date news and alerts on incidents and crimes in the area and have a quick and direct way to report any crime that you experience. Please email discreports@hampshire.police.uk asking for a link to the registration form.

Appendix B Cllr Drew

Household DIY waste charges at Hampshire HWRCs to end from 1 January

From 1 January 2024, residents using Hampshire County Council Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) will no longer be charged for disposing their DIY waste - in line with the Government policy changes.

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Hampshire residents must have an appointment to visit one of the County Council's HWRCs. From 1 January 2024, customers will be asked to confirm if they are depositing household DIY when making their online booking.

Cement-bonded asbestos is a hazardous material that requires a bespoke environmental permit and therefore is only accepted at five sites – Andover, Basingstoke, Efford, Netley and Portsmouth.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231112HWRCDIYcharges>

Good progress towards tackling Climate Change

Hampshire residents and communities are making a significant difference in the drive to tackle climate change, by taking part in Hampshire County Council backed community initiatives and making changes in their own homes and lifestyle choices.

Over the past two years, through the Solar Together scheme, 2,100 households have purchased competitively priced solar panels, resulting in the installation of 7,400kw of rooftop solar power, which has the capacity to save an estimated 46,000 tonnes of carbon emissions.

A further example of residents' activity, set out in the Annual Report, is the way in which communities across the county are being inspired and supported by The Greening Campaign to actively take carbon-saving actions in their own homes, such as reducing energy use and making space for nature.

The County Council's own work to tackle climate change is focused on key areas like reducing emissions from transport, making buildings and homes more energy efficient, generating local renewable energy and protecting and enhancing our natural environment.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231212ClimateChgProgress2023>

Hampshire's ongoing commitment to Ukraine

Hampshire County Council has today confirmed that payments to local residents hosting Ukrainian nationals as part of the Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme will continue for a third year, from 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025

More than 1,800 Ukrainian individuals and families are currently residing in Hampshire as part of the national Homes for Ukraine scheme.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231212HomesforUkrainehostpayments>

The results are in! Young people decide the new faces of Hampshire Youth Parliament for 2024-26

The votes have been counted and verified, and Hampshire Youth Parliament now has seven new Members, and Deputies, for the next two years. In total, more than 5,000 11–18-year-olds in Hampshire came forward to vote for their local representatives in the UK Youth Parliament

Central Hampshire (Eastleigh, Romsey and Winchester)

Member of Youth Parliament - Aryaveer Baljee

Deputy Member of Youth Parliament – Joshua Mulford

North West Hampshire (Andover, Whitchurch, Tadley and Basingstoke)

Member of Youth Parliament - Gabriel Llewellyn-Hyde

Deputy Member of Youth Parliament – Oscar-Bertie Vallance

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231215HampshireYouthParliament>

Ofsted inspection brings 'Good' news for learners with Hampshire County Council

Learners and apprentices develop the 'skills to live successfully' thanks to teaching and training programmes provided by Hampshire County Council. This is one of many positive findings following a recent Ofsted inspection of the County Council's 'Hampshire Achieves' service, which has been rated 'Good' overall and in all aspects of its service, including courses to support families and for learners with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/20231218HampshireAchieves>

Clampdown continues on sale of underage vapes by Hampshire Trading Standards

A Hampshire County Council Trading Standards operation has found two shops in the Aldershot and Havant area selling vapes illegally to underage buyers

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Trading Standards continue to regularly visit businesses to ensure that retailers are complying with the law and that the correct measures are in place to prevent underage sales of vapes and other age restricted products. If a business is found to be selling to people under the legal age, they will be investigated which could lead to a criminal prosecution.

A recent survey across secondary schools and colleges in Hampshire shows a large increase in the percentage of young people both experimenting with, and using vapes. The survey shows that experimentation with vapes increases from 4% in year 7 to 53% in year 13. Similarly, vape use increases from 7% in year 10, to 18% in year 13.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/News/21122023VapetestpurchasesPR>