

Upton Magna Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 9th March 2023 at 7.30pm at St Lucia's School

23/012 REGISTER OF ATTENDANCE and APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Present: Cllrs Phil Roberts (Chair), Jeana Bennion, Andy Brooker, Michael Dawson, Julieanne Lloyd, Andy Pillow, Dan Sims.

Apologies: SC Cllr Lezley Picton.

Clerk: Alison Utting

Also: Huw Williams (Sundorne Estate Manager).

23/013 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION – None.

23/014 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None.

23/015 MINUTES – It was agreed that the Chairman should sign the minutes of 12th January 2023 as a true and correct record of the meeting.

23/016 REPORT FROM CLLR. LEZLEY PICTON (SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL) - Cllr Picton not able to attend due to ill health.

23/017 OTHER REPORTS

- a) **Police** – Motorcycle traffic teams have been out and about. Sixteen drivers were caught speeding locally.
- b) **SALC** – PR had attended the online meeting this evening. There was some information shared from the Police and Crime Commissioner. There has been significant progress in combating 'county lines' - bringing the known organisations in this area down from 20 to 4.
- c) **Village Hall** – The Arts Alive concert scheduled for this evening has had to be postponed because of the weather – new date TBC. There is to be a Fun Day held to celebrate the Coronation. This will be a bring-your-own food/drink, with 1950s music, children's games, etc. There is still a pressing need for more people to join the **Village Hall Committee**, to enable its continued operation.
- d) **Footpaths** – The group has met with Huw Williams.

23/018 WEST MERCIA POLICE COMMUNITY CHARTER

Council agreed to submit the following priorities for policing:

- Speeding – particularly on Pelham Road.
- Dangerous parking near the school.
- Farm thefts.

The Clerk has also submitted all our meeting dates for the year, with a request for police attendance if possible.

Councillors expressed frustration that the recent police surgery held in the village was not publicised and there was barely any notice given to the parish council. JB had attempted to attend the surgery 15 minutes after its start time, only to find that the officer had already left.

23/019 PROGRESS REPORT

- Village Hall fence** – No update yet regarding the fence, as problems with drainage have become a more pressing concern. Huw Williams is able to obtain quotes, but needs a clear specification in order to obtain fair comparisons. AB to work with Huw to procure some quotes for a) wooden rail fencing, and b) metal estate fencing. It is hoped that this will help the Village Hall committee.
- Speeding on Haughton-Astley road** – Responses received from WM Police, the Police & Crime Commissioner, and Shropshire Council.

23/020 GENERAL PARISH & HIGHWAY MATTERS

*Please note: Most highway and general repair matters are best reported using **fixmystreet.com**. This will usually get the quickest results.*

- JB reported continuing problems with **road surface drainage by the Business Park**. The ditch is running clear, but the gullies draining into the ditch (grips) need digging out. DS to report it to Highways via fixmystreet.com.
- AP reported that the **church lawnmowers** have all been serviced.
- AB raised the ongoing concerns about **pollution of the River Severn**. Although not within the parish, it is clearly a resource much used by locals and visitors alike. There will be meetings held in Shrewsbury – Shrewsbury Town Council and the Environment Agency will be trying to get more support from Severn Trent.

23/021 PLANNING

- 23/00345/FUL 1 Haughmond Houses**, Somerwood, Uffington

Proposal: Erection of a two-storey extension to rear, internal alterations, insertion of doors to rear and replacement side door. UMPC has no objection to this application.

- No further **planning applications** were received in advance of this meeting.
- No SC **planning decisions** were published in advance of this meeting.

23/022 FINANCE

a) Payments and receipts

Council noted the following **payments** made in February 2023:

Amount	Details	Power to spend
215.79	Clerk's salary (January)	LGA 1972 s112
33.72	Electricity for street lighting (Dec)	Parish Councils Act 1957 s.3 Highways Act 1980, s301

Council agreed to make the following **payments**:

Amount	Details	Legal Power
306.79	Clerk's salary and expenses	LGA 1972 s112 and LGA (financial provisions) 1963 s5.
117.00	PAYE (months 11 and 12)	LGA 1972 s112
	Electricity for street lighting	Parish Councils Act 1957 s.3 Highways Act 1980, s301
22.56	Microsoft365	LGA 1972 s142
40.00	Room hire (Jan-Mar)	LGA 1972, s134 (1-3)
13.99	Parts for mower	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9 and 10
65.00	Magazine advert (annual charge)	LGA 1972 s142
105.00	Training	LGA 1972 s111
18.00	Banking charges	LGA 1972 s111

Council noted the following **receipts**:

Amount	Details
14.10	Microsoft365 contribution from Hadnall Parish Council (Jan, Feb, Mar)

b) Council received and approved the **accounts** and **bank reconciliation** to date.

22/023 INSURANCE – This item was deferred to the next meeting, pending quotes.

23/024 OTHER MATTERS

- Council approved the annual **risk assessment**. It was agreed that any new contractors engaged by the council should comply with all necessary risk mitigation practices.
- Council resolved to appoint Lorna Pardoe to complete the **internal audit** for 2022-23 (£60).

- c) Council retrospectively approved Chairmanship **training** for AB (£75). It was agreed that no further training should be signed up for at present, but that if an important training need arose (e.g. new councillor), council would support this.
- d) It was agreed that the **Annual Community Meeting** for 2023 should be held prior to the council's annual meeting, at 7pm on 11th May.

23/025 CORRESPONDENCE

Highways -

Pelham Road (End Of) To The Parks Farm Junction, Withington - to be closed for one day on 22nd March (Severn Trent - amended date) and for one day on 14th April (National Grid, tree trimming works).

Uffington to Downton – to be closed 3rd and 4th April 2023 9.30am-4pm for vehicular barrier repairs (Shropshire Council).

Shropshire Council – Assets Officer, update on Assets of Community Value (Village Hall). Clerk to complete renewal application.

St Lucia's PCC (Sue Woods) - Thanks for the grant (new lychgate lighting).

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed:_____ Date: _____

NEXT MEETING – Thursday 11th May 2023 (Annual Meeting)

7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Alison Utting – Upton Magna Parish Council
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