

A meeting of Upton Parish Council was held on Wednesday September 16th 2026.

The Chairman, Malcolm Yates, read out this statement

“Firstly I would like to pay tribute to the late Councillor Roger Jackson having lost his long battle with cancer. Roger was a great help to the Parish Council and a long time supporter of this village. Our thoughts are with his family.

Now on to the footpath, a bit of history that may answer any questions you may have.

Firstly over the latter half of last year, there were numerous complaints about the dangerous state of repair of the footpath. It was first raised on the agenda of the February 2026 meeting. Following that meeting I contacted Notts County Council to enquire what could be done, only to be hit with ‘not our problem and there is no money even if it was our problem’

So the Parish Council started making enquiries to find a solution that would be long lasting and compliant with health and Safety rulings. This issue was raised at following meetings and at the April meeting was decided to discuss it at the Open Parish Meeting to be held in May. At that meeting the issue was discussed at length and, of the numerous villagers present, only 2 raised possible objections to the work. Also at that meeting the Chief Planning officer for NSDC, Mr Oliver Scott was present. Mr Scott was, and still is, supportive of the use of Breedon Gravel as an excellent material for such works. Quotes were acquired from local trade’s people. During this process we enquired about replacing the York Stone, But found that this would be around 2 -3 x the cost. Breedon Gravel is used extensively by the National Trust, English Heritage & numerous stately homes and is also the product of choice for the path in the Collies Garden, as it is durable and complicit with the use of wheelchairs, mobility scooters and pushchairs. During the June meeting, the PC decided to proceed with the Breedon Gravel and finalise quotes with trades people.

Before works could commence, the materials and specification was approved by NSDC and Notts County Council Highways.

During the August meeting we appointed Southwell Landscapes to do the work and also applied to Notts CC for a closure notice, bearing in mind that winter months are coming and time for the works is running out.

As part of the project the contractor is also going to replace the broken gatepost at Church Walk end, tidy up the fence alongside the path and make good the first 2-3 metres of path into the church, using the existing material. We are hoping to negotiate with Parochial Church Council to sort out their path through the church yard in the near future.

We have explored ways of funding and we are extremely grateful for the funds and pledges of £500 that was received from Councillor R. Jackson, £500 from The Upton Fete £1500 from The Collies Charity. Notts CC and NSDC were approached but no money was available however the fee for the closure notice was waived.”

As a result of the PC meeting, it was decided not to sell the flagstones to help fund the path, but to offer them to the Parochial Church Council to help repair the path through the churchyard. The stones are now safely stored for later use.

District Councillor Keith Melton has been asked, since discussions on the path began, for funds but up to this date none have been available.

At no point has the PC or NSDC considered removing the Conservation Area from Upton, in fact the PC has been pushing NSDC to renew the Conservation area as, in planning law, it is classed as out dated.

Please note that all Parish Councillors are elected and try and do their best to make the village a better place to live, and they do this voluntarily. If villagers do not agree with matters, please come along to the meetings or put yourselves forward for election.

The September Lottery was drawn. Congratulations to the lucky winners.

1 st	113	S. Ward	£50
2 nd	246	E. McHaffie	£25
3 rd	019	J. Law-Riding	£10
4 th	254	A. Townley	£5

The Village Christmas Dinner will be taking place on Sunday November 29th. A Two or Three course meal will be served. Please see separate Advert in the Tonic for details.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday October 21st 2026.