

ULLESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Ullesthorpe Parish Council held virtually via Zoom on Monday 1st March 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present Councillors: Simon Smith, Hugh Robertson Smith and Geoff Turley.

In attendance: Katherine Clarke (Parish Clerk) and four members of the public.

21-017 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies for absence received from Cllr Lesley Chamberlain.

21-018 To receive Declarations of Members' Interests on items on the agenda

Members are asked to declare personal interests in any item on the agenda. Members are reminded that the Code of Conduct which took effect from 7 August 2012 provides that they should declare the existence and nature of their personal interest at the commencement of the relevant item (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is prejudicial, they should withdraw from the room and not seek improperly to influence a decision about that matter.

Cllr Turley declared an interest in agenda item 21-025b.

21-019 To receive an update on the casual vacancies

The Parish Council have a casual vacancy following the resignation of Stephanie Oswald. Since the meeting in February 2021 Steve Smith has resigned so UPC currently has two casual vacancies, the second vacancy is currently being advertised. UPC have received two expressions of interest.

21-020 To note any questions or comments from the public (15 minutes)

A parishioner asked UPC when the temporary fencing at Green Gardens will be replaced.

A parishioner asked why no one from UPC spoke at the Planning Committee meeting when the Mere Lane application was considered. The Chair advised that the written submission from UPC was included in the report to the Planning Committee. It was agreed that if the application is resubmitted to the Planning Committee, UPC will make a representation if possible.

A parishioner left at this point in the meeting.

21-021 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2021

Cllr Smith proposed signing the minutes of the meeting held on 1st February 2021 as accurate, Cllr Robertson Smith seconded, Cllr Turley agreed. The minutes are to be signed electronically.

21-022 To review any actions arising from the meeting held on 1st February 2021

The Clerk has requested that Leicestershire County Council review parking and speeding issues on Main Street once the lockdown is eased.

The Clerk has contacted the parishioner who would like to place a geocache at the railway cutting and advised that there is no objection in principle but UPC would prefer that it is not sited until works are completed at the railway cutting.

Masters & Sons have advised that they will need to revise their quote for the railway cutting as the cost of steel has increased.

The Clerk, Cllr Robertson Smith, Cllr Page and Suzanne Hayto met with Siobhan Woodward from Leicestershire County Council and placed wooden hearts on the wildflower sites.

The water at the bridge on Frolesworth Road has been too high for Cllr Smith to take any photos. The potholes on Manor Road have been reported to Leicestershire County Council.

The Clerk has asked Leicestershire County Council to consider placing bollards on the raised crossing points on Ashby Road.

The Clerk has sent a letter of support to Claybrooke Joint Burial Board for their application to Harborough District Council for s106 money for railings repairs and replacement.

21-023 Matters arising from District and County Councillor Rosita Page

Cllr Page has been in regular contact via phone and email throughout the month with the Councillors and the Clerk updating and advising on issues concerning UPC and assisting with any concerns UPC have raised.

21-024 Financial Matters

a) To note the Bank Reconciliation to 01.03.21

The last bank statement received, dated 05.02.21, has been reconciled to the cash book. The reconciled balance on the account is £27,736.30.

b) Accounts for payment

Cllr Turley proposed and Cllr Robertson Smith seconded payment of the following accounts:

CHQ NO	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
001368	Claybrooke JBB	Annual precept	£1,236.56
001369	Harborough District Council	Emptying of waste bins	£160.09
001370	BHIB Insurance	Mower insurance	£173.59
001371	K Clarke	Parish Clerk salary and expenses	£411.30

c) Other financial matters

No other financial matters raised.

21-025 Planning Matters

a. To consider planning application 21/00206/FUL:

Conversion of garage to habitable accommodation with insertion of rooflight into rear roof slope, replacement windows and doors, replacement siding to large workshop
Granary House, Mill Road, Ullesthorpe

Resolved: The Parish Council has no objections to the application.

Cllr Turley left the meeting whilst planning application 21/00301/FUL was discussed.

b. To consider planning application 21/00301/FUL:

Demolition of single storey outbuildings and erection of single storey rear extension
Hillbrow, 2 College Street, Ullesthorpe

Resolved: The Parish Council has no objections to the application, Cllr Chamberlain advised in advance of the meeting that she has no objections to the application.

Cllr Turley re-joined the meeting.

c. Other planning matters

No other planning matters raised.

21-026 Railway Cutting

a. To adopt the Vision Statement prepared by Cllr

Turley Item deferred until the April meeting of UPC.

b. To receive an update on the working party meeting held on 08.03.21

Cllr Robertson Smith will set up a prospective representation of what UPC would like to achieve. This can be used as a basis for landscape designers to obtain quotes to allow consultation and grant applications etc. Cllr Robertson Smith advised that this will be a long-term project. Cllr Turley

noted that there are some general maintenance items that need to be addressed more urgently.

c. Other matters arising at the railway cutting

Cllr Smith has undertaken some general maintenance in the railway cutting including making some trip hazards safe. Cllr Smith noted that there is a lot of dog waste, Cllr Robertson Smith suggested it may be a good idea to install a bin at the head of the steps. Cllr Turley suggested a price is obtained for a bin at both ends of the cutting.

A parishioner left at this point in the meeting.

21-027 To discuss correspondence received from the Joint Burial Board

UPC have received a letter from Claybrooke Joint Burial Board regarding the potential purchase of land to allow for expansion of the cemetery. UPC want to support the purchase but are unclear on what level of funding is required etc. UPC asked the Clerk to arrange a meeting between the Clerk of the Joint Burial Board and representatives of the three parish councils to gain a better understanding of the situation.

21-028 To note and discuss any matters and concerns relating to environmental matters and village maintenance

UPC will apply to the Leicestershire County Council litter picking support scheme for equipment. If successful, the equipment will be stored in the shed sited at the village hall.

21-029 To decide whether to repair or replace the village flagpole

Cllr Smith has been to look at the flagpole and has managed to get the mechanism working. UPC will obtain the handle to make sure it all works correctly.

21-030 To note and discuss any matters relating to s106 contributions

No matters raised.

21-031 A.O.B. - FOR NOTIFICATION ONLY

2021 is a census year and the census will take place on 21st March 2021.

An email has been received from a parent of one of the scouts at Ullesthorpe Scout Group requesting a donation as they are short of funds following the pandemic, UPC will contact the Treasurer of the Scot Group.

Concerns were raised regarding Cllr Chamberlain's absence from meetings over the last 12 months. The Chair will speak to Cllr Chamberlain to see if she wants to continue as a Cllr.

Cllr Robertson Smith advised that Severn Trent are planning to undertake works in the village which will involve road closures for extended periods of time.

Cllr Smith asked if UPC know when Leicestershire County Council will undertake the first grass cut of the season. The Clerk advised that the information should be available on the County Council website.

Cllr Smith has received complaints regarding brambles on Manor Road adjacent to the White House. Cllr Smith will take some photos.

Cllr Smith advised that there is an issue with water running out of slade gutter onto Claybrooke Road adjacent to Woodlands. Cllr Smith will take some photos.

21-032 Clerk's Report and Correspondence

An email has been received from a parishioner asking for information about the rules surrounding garden bonfires.

Brian Fowler has written to UPC to ask if they are happy for him to continue as the Parish Council representative on the Alderman Newton Educational Trust for the next term. UPC agreed unanimously and noted thanks for the work Brian has undertaken during the current term.

21-033 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting of the next ordinary Parish Council will be Monday 12th April 2021 at 7.30pm and will be held remotely via Zoom. An extraordinary meeting will be held, date to be confirmed, to facilitate the co-option of two parishioners to fill the casual vacancies.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.06pm.

Approved as accurate at the meeting held on 12.04.21.