

ULLESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Ullesthorpe Parish Council held at Ullesthorpe Playing Field Pavilion on 2nd September 2024 at 7.30pm

Present Councillors: Simon Smith, Julie Kavanagh and Hugh Edgley.

Also present was Katherine Clarke (Parish Clerk) and five members of the public.

24-143 To receive apologies from members of council and accept valid reasons for absence

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr. Robertson Smith.

24-144 Declarations of interest

- a. To receive members' declarations of interest:** Cllr. Smith declared an interest in any matters relating to the Baldwins Charity, Joint Burial Committee, Marc Smith Educational Charity and the Pre-School. Cllr. Kavanagh declared an interest in any matters relating to the Playing Fields Association, the Baldwins Charity and the Joint Burial Committee. Cllr. Edgley declared an interest in any matters relating to the Village Hall Committee.
- b. To receive and consider members' requests for dispensations:** Dispensations granted for Cllr. Smith, Cllr. Kavanagh and Cllr. Edgley to discuss and vote on items relating to their declared interests.

24-145 To receive an update on the casual vacancy

No matters raised, following the co-option at this meeting of Linda Buckland, there will be one remaining vacancy that can be filled by co-option.

24-146 To co-opt a Councillor to fill one of the casual vacancies

Cllr. Smith proposed co-opting Linda Buckland to be a councillor for Ullesthorpe, all agreed. Cllr. Buckland signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was countersigned by the Clerk as the Proper Officer of the Council. Cllr. Buckland declared an interest in the Baldwins Charity and was granted dispensation to discuss and vote on items relating to this matter.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

24-147 To adjourn the meeting for contributions from other representatives and members of the public

- Two residents attended the meeting to discuss the future of the small grass area on Fairway Meadows which is owned and managed by Bloor Homes. Over the last 18 months residents have regularly raised concerns that the area is only maintained intermittently and is unsightly. The Clerk and County and District Cllr. Page met a representative of Bloor Homes to discuss future maintenance. It was proposed that Bloor Homes transfer ownership of the area to the Parish Council. Prior to a transfer of ownership Bloor Homes would remove the turf, put down a membrane and put stone or gravel, over the area which will have minimal maintenance requirement. They would also provide bollards to prevent parking. The residents of Fairway Meadows in attendance were accepting of this proposal. The Parish Council will discuss the matter further under agenda item 24-153 later this evening.
- A resident asked who cuts the footpath at the corner of Mill Road, the footpath is believed to be W71. The Parish Council advised it is maintained by Leicestershire County Council.

- A resident asked where the new bench at the railway cutting had come from. Cllr. Smith advised that it was part of the original Lottery grant application and was installed over the summer.
- It was noted that the police have been contacted regarding motorbike activity on the railway cutting.

Two parishioners left at this point in the meeting.

- A resident advised that hedging at Orchard Walk is extremely overgrown and in need of cutting. The Parish Council will contact Platform Housing Group who are responsible for the site.
- The Chairman of the Village Hall Trustees advised that they intend to apply to the Community Grant Fund provided by Harborough District Council to assist with funding the project to upgrade the village hall. The application requires a letter of support from the Parish Council and the Trustees would like to ask that the Parish Council can assist with this matter. The Parish Council are supportive of the project and will minute the decision to provide a letter of support under agenda item 24-156 later this evening.

Two parishioners left at this point in the meeting.

COUNCIL SESSION

24-148 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 1st July 2024

Cllr. Smith proposed signing the minutes of the meeting held on 1st July 2024 as accurate, Cllr. Edgley seconded the proposal. The minutes are to be signed electronically.

24-149 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 1st July 2024 not included on the agenda

It was noted that there have been technology issues over recent weeks which are in the process of being resolved. The Clerk will provide an update to the Parish Council once available.

24-150 Matters arising from County and District Cllr. 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.

24-151 Financial Matters:

a. To note the bank reconciliation to 2nd September 2024

The reconciled balance on the Parish Council bank accounts on 2nd September 2024 is £19,454.82.

b. To review and consider payment of accounts

It was agreed unanimously to pay the following accounts:

CHQ. NO.	ACCOUNT	DETAIL	AMOUNT
0001661	Hairy Bear	Tree surgery	£750.00
0001662	K Clarke	Parish Clerk salary and expenses	£83.70
0001663	K Clarke	Parish Clerk salary and expenses (Jul 24)	£295.00
0001664	K Clarke	Parish Clerk salary and expenses	£509.98

c. To note receipts

TYPE	RECEIPT	DETAIL	AMOUNT
-	-	-	-

d. Other financial matters

No matters raised.

24-152 Planning Matters

a. Planning applications:

- To consider planning application 24/00892/FUL
Two storey rear extension and first floor extension onto existing single storey side – 6 South Avenue, Ullesthorpe
Resolved: The Paish Council has no concerns regarding the application over and above the opinion of the Planning Officer.

b. Any other planning matters: no matters raised.

24-153 To discuss the future of the green space at Fairway Meadows

The Parish Council agreed the proposal outlined under agenda item 24-147 earlier this evening looks promising. Cllr. Smith proposed that Bloor Homes are approached to provide further information on materials etc. and the possible provision of an illustration or picture of something similar on one of their other sites, Cllr. Kavanagh seconded the proposal.

24-154 To discuss the future of the streetlight sited on Frolesworth Road

It was noted that the District Council and the County Council have been approached to adopt the streetlight and are not able to, however, the County Council is able to arrange for the disconnection of the service. It is the only streetlight under the management of the Parish Council and it was agreed unanimously, that in the current adverse economic situation and the cost of supplying electricity via the 2 x MPANs associated with the light, disconnection is the only option. Cllr. Smith proposed disconnection of the unit, Cllr. Edgley seconded the proposal, all agreed.

24-155 To receive an update and discuss matters arising regarding Claybrooke Joint Burial Committee

Cllr. Smith advised that one maintenance cut of the cemetery has been undertaken by DTM Gardens and Landscapes.

24-156 To receive and update and discuss matters arising at the Village Hall

- An update was provided by the Chairman of the Village Hall Trustees under agenda item 24-147 earlier in the evening.
- Cllr. Edgley advised that he will be attending their AGM on 10th October 2024 as the Parish Council representative.
- Cllr. Smith proposed that the Parish Council write a letter of support for the Trustees to accompany their application for funding from the Harborough District Council Community Grant Fund, Cllr. Buckland seconded the proposal, all agreed.

24-157 To receive an update regarding Ullesthorpe Playing Fields Association

Cllr. Kavanagh advised that a meeting has not been held, they are trying to arrange one as soon as possible.

24-158 To receive an update and discuss matters arising regarding the railway cutting

- The second bench was installed in August.

- Cllr. Smith has briefly spoken to the primary school about the possibility of children helping with bird boxes at the site.
- Cllr. Smith received a minor injury report from a resident on 2nd August 2024, the injury was caused by a small shard on the handrail. Cllr. Smith discussed the matter with the resident and immediately attended site to correct the problem.
- It was reported that there is a small amount of litter in the cutting. Cllr. Kavanagh advised that she is hoping to organise a litter-pick in the spring.

24-159 To receive an update and discuss matters arising regarding village maintenance

- It was noted that some resurfacing works have been undertaken on Main Street.
- It was noted that the hedge on Hall Lane needs cutting. The Parish Council will write to the landowner.
- An advert inviting expressions of interest grounds maintenance contractor will appear in the edition of The Swift Flash to be published on 11th September 2024.

24-160 To discuss Parish Councillor training

- Cllr. Edgley is attending an online Parish Councillor training session on 24th September 2024.
- The Clerk will send Cllr. Buckland later dates for Parish Councillor training.

24-161 To discuss social media communications

Item deferred.

24-162 To receive the Clerk's report on correspondence and consider any recommendations

No matters raised.

24-163 To consider items for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting

- Updates on matters arising from agenda items above.

24-164 To set the date of the next meeting of the Parish Council

The date of the next meeting of UPC is Monday 7th October 2024 at 7.30pm, it is unconfirmed at this stage if it will be possible to hold the meeting in the village hall due to the ongoing project work, it is likely to be held in the playing field pavilion, this will be confirmed closer to the date.

24-165 To resolve to discuss items of a confidential nature to be debated in the absence of the press and public. Under the Public Bodies (Admission to the Meetings) Act 1960 (due to the matters being protected by legal and professional privilege): No matters raised.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.27pm.

APPROVED AS ACCURATE ON 07.10.24.