

UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes for Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 18th February 2026 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

Present: Councillors: Malcolm Yates (MY/Chair), Roger Norman (RN), Kim Hickenbotham (KH)
Alan Robinson (AR)

In Attendance: R Holloway (Clerk)

	DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS
176/26	To receive representation from the public (10 minutes): 1 member of the public attended. Michael outlined that work by the Collies volunteer group was a light touch again due to the amount of rain over the last month and how wet the ground was. Rob had planted some yellow rattle to encourage wildflower diversity, Alan and Jude had added winter planting in the raised bed and the Christmas lights had all been removed. Sue was continuing placing the painted stones around the garden. The report by the Volunteer group would be added to the Parish Council website so residents could see the work done every month.
177/26	To receive and accept apologies for absence: Cllr. Jackson
178/26	Declarations of interest: none
179/26	To approve the Minutes of the last meeting: The PC accepted the Minutes from the meeting held on 21 st January 2026 as a true record and were signed off by the Chairman.
180/26	To note Matters Arising: none
181/26	To receive the Chairman's report: As outlined in the agenda items below
182/26	Reports from District/County Councillors: Councillor Melton outlined the benefit of having a neighbourhood plan and that there may be a little money available to enable Parish Councils to get this started. It was highlighted by MY that it would take a huge amount of resources from the Parish Council in time and money to carry out the work needed for a NP and as the PC are down to 5 Councillors at the moment it was not feasible to do. Cllr. Melton was asked if he had 'called in' the planning application for the two houses on 23 main Street as requested at the January meeting. This hadn't been done and he felt that as stated at the January meeting it may be too late, however he would enquire.
183/26	To Receive updates on the Green Spaces/burial ground, and rights of way. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. CVG: As outlined above b. To receive report on footpaths/dog bins: To receive playground update: Dog bins are all OK. The Footpaths Officer has been contacted again; there is an issue of levels of dog poo left near the village green which is creating a hazard for residents. c. To receive Playground update: The play park annual inspection report had been received, it was noted that there were no immediate issues to resolve and that any items required over the longer period would be factored in. KH said she would arrange for a jet wash of the pathway to be done once it stopped raining. d. To receive an update on the footpath from Church Walk to the Churchyard: MY noted that he was still looking at options for the replacement of the footpath.
184/26	To note the Village Hall update: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Finance: The Bank reconciliation for the Village Hall was presented and signed off by the Chairman

	<p>b. Maintenance and caretaking: An application had been made to edf energy to fit a smart meter for the gas so that consumption could be checked more regularly, and the supply would be moving to a flexible Direct Debit from March.</p> <p>c. To receive an update on the Village Hall refurbishments: The double-glazed units had been installed, and the hall was noticeably warmer now. MY was getting quotes for the painting of the hall, he had received a very welcome offer from a resident to make some new curtains for the hall which is gratefully accepted.</p>
185/26	<p>Financial Matters:</p> <p>a. To accept the latest financial reconciliation as of 31st January 2026: The Parish Council Bank reconciliation was agreed and signed off by the Chairman</p> <p>b. To note payments received and authorise invoices for payment: The payments received were noted and invoices for payment were signed off by two Councillors</p>
186/26	<p>Planning matters: 25/02116/HOUSE Upton Barn 83 main Street. Proposed rear single storey lean-to extension. Glazed veranda lean-to roof. Flat roof open timber porch. Solar panels. RN outlined the details of this application; it was discussed in detail and Councillors agreed that the PC response would be to state the PC had 'no objections' in principle but would ask that the materials used on the project met conservation rules.</p>
187/26	<p>To receive highways update: MY noted again that speeding through the village was an ongoing issue, all the potholes continue to be reported to NCC, some patching had taken place, but some still left.</p>
188/26/ a	<p>To discuss co-option on to the Parish Council: It was noted that the statutory timeframe for the request for an election had now passed and the Parish Council will continue to promote the vacancies through the Tonic, social media, the noticeboard and the website. MY mentioned he had received an enquiry from a resident who was interested in becoming a Parish Councillor and he would follow this up.</p>
188/26	<p>To receive the community defibrillators monthly report: The Clerk had obtained prices for replacement pads, batteries and servicing of the units, after discussion with the Chairman, he had authorised the purchase of replacement pads and servicing for both defibrillators as the pads were out of date and the servicing was overdue. The PC would wait for the report from the servicing to see if new batteries were needed as the cost was quite high at £280.00 per battery.</p>
189/26	<p>To note and action service faults: The lamp in the Churchyard to be replaced</p>
190/26	<p>Lottery draw for November 2025: 1) £50.00-no.201, 2) £25.00 – no 8, 3) £10.00 -no 216, 4) £5.00- no 102</p>
191/26	<p>Correspondence: All correspondence circulated electronically.</p>
192/26	<p>Agenda items for next meeting: none to add</p>
193/26	<p>Any other business: None</p>
194/26	<p>Date of next meeting: Wednesday 18th March 2026 at 7.30 pm at the Village Hall</p>
195/26	<p>Close: There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.45</p>

Signed

Chairman

Date.....