UPTON BY CHESTER AND DISTRICT



PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of Upton by Chester and District Parish Council held on

3 September 2018, 7.00pm, at Upton Pavilion, Upton, Chester.

Present: Cllr A Bennion, Cllr M Bryan, Cllr J Evans, Cllr D Ford, Cllr S Eardley,

Cllr J Houlbrook, Cllr J Lee, Cllr M Lloyd, Cllr S Lloyd, Cllr A Paddock, Cllr F Samuel,

Cllr B Southward, Cllr K Vaughan and Cllr A Walmsley (Chairman).

In attendance: 1 member of the public, PC Rob Brown and Mrs S Pollard (Clerk).

**261.18 OPEN FORUM.**

No members of the public wanted to speak at the meeting.

**262.18 COMMUNITY SAFETY.**

PC Rob Brown attended the meeting to give a verbal report on police issues in Upton including:

Speed enforcement action is now possible in Caughall Road.

At the request of the Parish Council (on behalf of local residents), speed monitoring has been carried out in Egerton Drive.

Recent summer holiday play activities for young people held at the QE II playing field has been very successful with more than 250 attending pana football and the Xbox games session.

Approximately 90 young people attended the ‘Mountain Monkeys’ event – a climbing wall which was generously funded by Upton Borough Councillors.

Local police continue to use Upton Pavilion as a place to work in the community, regularly attending for police surgeries and other duties.

In addition to both the Cheshire and Chester Police social media accounts new Upton Police accounts are in operation.

**263. 18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Bartliff, Cllr M Lloyd, Cllr S Lloyd and Cllr McNae.

Cllr M Bryan was also absent from the meeting.

**Resolved: noted.**

**264.18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

No declarations of interest were made.

**265.18 MINUTES.**

**Resolved: the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2nd July 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.** **Proposed by Cllr Houlbrook, seconded by Cllr Vaughan.**

**266.18 CLERK’S REPORT.**

**Resolved: the report from the clerk was received.**

It was further reported that the meeting to discuss Weston Grove car parking has taken place. The CW&C Highways officer agreed to consider making the single yellow lines into double. The officer will also look into land ownership to the side of the shops with a view to adding new car park markings. A proposal put forward to improve the safety of car parking to the front of the shops was considered to be unviable due to cost.

It was further reported that it is not possible to locate a detailed sign post at the junction of Weston Grove and Wealstone Lane due to interference with the traffic sightline.

A response to the Parish Council’s letter of complaint regarding the poor standard of grass cutting has been circulated. Members considered the response to be unsatisfactory.

**Resolved: the clerk will write again on behalf of the Parish Council, to take issue with some aspects of the response.**

**267.18 COMMITTEE MINUTES.**

**Resolved: the Minutes of the following committees held since the last meeting were received.**

Finance Committee 16th July.

General Purposes Committee 16th July.

QE II Sub-Committee 30th July.

**268.18 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN.**

Cllr Evans reported the following:

An information stand was being prepared for the Upton Pavilion Fun Day.

A Housing Policy is currently being developed.

An incentive is being considered to encourage members of the public to complete the latest consultation questionnaire.

Also being worked on currently is the ‘physical character of Upton’ and ‘Policies for Local Services (e.g. shops).

**Resolved: the Minutes of the steering group meeting held on 30th July were received.**

**269.18 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS’ REPORT.**

**Resolved: the reports from Borough Councillors were received.**

It was further reported that Cllr Houlbrook will meet with CW&C officers to discuss ongoing maintenance at the Cock Pit and other green spaces in Upton, e.g. Lodge Gardens.

A Member requested that an ‘Information Board’ be created for Lodge Gardens.

A planning application to extend the hospital Neo Natal wing has caused concern from residents due to its proposed proximity to residential properties and that trees may be lost. A meeting with the Planning Officer is due to take place.

**Resolved: Cllr Houlbrook will request an Information Board be put in place at Lodge Gardens. An item will be put onto the next General Purposes Committee agenda to consider if the Parish Council may become involved in a joint project with CW&C Council for the improvement and care of Lodge Gardens.**

**270.18 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS REPORTS**.

**Resolved: the payment of salaries, expenses and invoices for goods and services rendered were approved. Receipts and balances were noted.**

**Proposed by Cllr Bennion, seconded by Cllr Evans. All agreed.**

**271.18 PLANNING FOR TRAVELLER SITES.**

Information on the latest CW&C Council consultation on planning for traveller sites was circulated to Members.

**Resolved: Councillors will review the consultation and make individual responses.**

**272.18 UPTON/ARRADON TOWN TWINNING.**

The Chairman reported on information received at the Upton Community Links AGM meeting.

Historically the town twinning arrangement was initiated by Upton High School; however, the current twinning agreement is with the Parish Council.

Upton Community Links would like the Parish Council to be more involved with the work and activities of the group.

**Resolved: that the Parish Council will take a more active role with Upton Community Links. The clerk will write a letter on behalf of the Parish Council.**

**Further consideration of selecting a Parish Council representative will take place.**

**A gifted weather vane currently being held by an Upton Community Links member will be erected onto the pavilion roof.**

An agenda item for the next meeting will consider Parish Council links to third world countries.

**273.18 PAVILION FUN DAY.**

**Resolved: income from the Parish Council Tombola stall will be set aside for QE II projects.**

**The remaining Fun Day income will be used to fund the Christmas Market; proceeds from which will be set aside for other projects.**

**274.18 UPTON SHOPPING CENTRES.**

A discussion took place regarding the appearance of Upton shops and surrounding areas.

**Resolved: the Parish Council will host a cheese and wine network evening to which all shop and business owners at Weston Grove, The Bache and Long Lane will be invited, to discuss how they feel the appearance of the shopping areas could be enhanced. Representatives from the NDP steering group will also be invited. This event will take place in late October / November.**

**275.18. BOWLING GREEN. – Pt II**

This item was taken in Pt II of the meeting.

**276.18. BUS SHELTER, UPTON LANE.**

To consider a request to paint a poppy onto the Parish Council owned bus shelter in Upton Lane. The clerk pointed out that the bus shelter is in need of cleaning and wood treatment.

**Resolved: the Parish Council approves the proposal to allow Upton High School pupils (under the guidance of the Country Park committee) to paint poppies on the wooden bus shelter on Upton Lane; a request for the bus shelter to be cleaned and wood treated (at the Parish Council’s expense), will be put to the organisers.**

**277.18. ChALC AGM / MOTION.**

**Resolved: PC ChALC representatives will attend the ChALC AGM. The clerk will draft a motion to ask that ChALC represent Town and Parish Councils, in calling for a change to legislation regarding the Annual Parish Assembly. Despite some expense and effort on behalf of the Parish Council, attendance at the Annual Parish Assembly continues to decline. It is thought that modern communication systems mean it is no longer necessary to ‘assemble’ in order for comments, information and discussion to be passed on.**

**278.18 INVITATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLICATIONS.**

Best Kept Village Competition Awards Evening, 1st November.

**Resolved: the Chairman will attend.**

**279.18 LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME.**

**Resolved: that the following draft policies are approved:**

**The Local Council Award Scheme is complete and accurate and will be submitted to the panel for consideration.**

**A file of all Parish Council Policies will be kept in the pavilion for public viewing.**

**279.18 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.**

**Resolved: the date and time of the next meeting will be on Monday 22nd October at 7.00pm.**

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