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

26 February 2018, 7.00pm, at Upton Pavilion, Upton, Chester.

Present: Cllr T Bartliff, Cllr A Bennion, Cllr S Eardley, Cllr J Evans, Cllr D Ford,

Cllr J Houlbrook, Cllr J Lee, Cllr M Lloyd, Cllr S Lloyd, Cllr H McNae, Cllr A Paddock, Cllr F Samuel, Cllr B Southward, and Cllr A Walmsley (Chairman).

In attendance: Mr D Flaherty and Mrs S Pollard (Clerk).

**173.18 OPEN FORUM.**

No members of the public present at the meeting.

**174.18 COMMUNITY SAFETY.**

No members of the community safety team present at the meeting.

**175.18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Bryan and Cllr Vaughan.

**Resolved: noted.**

**176.18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

No declarations of interest were given.

**177.18 MINUTES.**

**Resolved: the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15th January 2018 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.**

**Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Eardley.**

**178.18 CLERK’S REPORT.**

**Resolved: that report from the Clerk is received.**

A response has been received to the UPC letter raising concerns about the fabric of the buildings and the unreliable utilities for the school (gas, electric, water) at Upton by Chester High School. The letter from the Secretary of State for the School System was circulated at the meeting.

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**Resolved: a letter will be sent to CW&C Council to raise issues contained in the Secretary of State’s response. Also to the Chair of Governors at the school, to state that whilst the Parish Council supports them, it is clear that the issue lie between the school and CW&C Council.**

**A copy of the response from the Secretary of State will be sent to the school.**

**179.18 COMMITTEE MINUTES.**

**Resolved: the Minutes of the Communications Committee 22nd January 2018 were received.**

**180.18 WORKING PARTIES.**

The Chairman of the QE II Playing Field Working Party reported on recent meetings held in which priorities for maintenance and refurbishment at the QEII Playing Fields has been identified.

In consultation with a professional agency, it has been agreed that the children’s playground will be repaired and enhanced with some additional equipment; in particular for the older age group.

Consultation drop in sessions are to be arranged to take place in the pavilion over the Easter holidays; this will be advertised widely and Councillors were asked to attend some or part of these sessions.

A brief discussion on the Borough wide Play Policy took place; this is a lengthy and detailed document.

**Resolved: the Upton relevant sections of the policy will be provided for consideration at the next QE II working party meeting.**

**181.18 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN.**

**Resolved: the Minutes of the steering group meeting held on 29th January were received.**

It was reported that an information leaflet is now ready to be distributed to all households, response collection points will be situated around Upton.

The Business Survey has been piloted and information fed back. Each survey will require a 30 minute appointment.

Councillors were requested to help in carrying out the business survey if possible.

**Resolved: noted.**

**182.18 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS’ REPORT.**

**Resolved: that the reports from Borough Councillors be received.**

It was further reported that the localised flooding around the drains on Wealstone Lane has been investigated; however, it is thought that a blockage is deep within the drains which may result in some extensive work being carried out.

Further to a recent request; a meeting with CW&C Highways has confirmed that no additional waiting restrictions (double yellow lines) will be put in place on roads in the Bache Hall Estate. The reason given for this is there is no safety issue involved in this area.

A proposal to make alterations to the car parking space at Weston Grove has been deemed not viable by CW&C Council.

**Resolved: a suggestion to hold a Christmas Market at the Weston Grove shops will be referred to the General Purposes Committee.**

**Details of the ‘Silent Soldier’ project will be referred to the General Purposes Committee.**

**The closure of the Frog Public House (a listed ‘community asset’) will be referred to the General Purposes Committee.**

**Pot holes and other highways issues should be reported online in order to track progress.**

**183.18 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS REPORTS**.

**Resolved: that the payment of salaries and expenses, the payment of invoices for goods and services rendered be approved. That receipts and details of current balances be noted.**

**Proposed Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr McNae.**

**184.18 A41 SPEED RESTRICTIONS.**

Cllr Houlbrook reported on the speed restrictions on the A41 on Long Lane. The proposal from CW&C Highways is to put down ‘roundels’ (markings that indicate the speed limit), on the road surface.

It was noted that the Parish Council agrees that some form of additional speed restriction signage is required on the A41.

It was proposed that the A41 speed limit highways signs are the responsibility of the Borough Council and not the Parish Council.

**Resolved: the Parish Council will not make a financial contribution to flashing solar speed signs.**

**Vote: For 14. Against 0. Abs 0.**

**185.18 INTERNAL AUDITOR.**

**Resolved: that the clerk will make arrangements for the appointment of Wellfield Accounting.**

**186.18 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY.**

The Annual Parish Assembly will take place on Monday 23rd April.

A discussion took place at to the content, venue and publicity for this event.

**Resolved: an advertisement will be put into the Inside Upton Handbook, along with a poster for all notice boards and selected local shops, the website and all forms of social media. Upton schools will be informed and asked to display a poster as will local public buildings.**

**A representative of the Friends of Countess Health Park will be invited to speak at the meeting.**

**The venue will be the ‘hub’ at Upton High School.**

**187.18 UPTON FEST.**

It was reported that the Parish Council has been asked to hire the playing field and pavilion to the organisers of an event previously known as the Hoole Fest. In order to expand and improve on the event, a larger and more accessible venue is required.

The event will now be known as the Upton Fest and will go ahead on Sunday 27th May.

**Saturday 27th May**

**188.18 INVITATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLICATIONS.**

None received.

**189.18 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.**

**Resolved: the date and time of the next meeting will be on Monday 9th April at 7.00pm.**

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