



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 Monday 13 September 2021, 7.30pm, Upton Pavilion, Wealstone Lane, Upton.

Present: Cllr M Carter, Cllr T Egerton-Parry (Chairman), Cllr J Evans, Cllr Greenhalgh, Cllr J Houlbrook (Chairman), Cllr G Hulmes, Cllr N Poulton and Cllr F Samuel.

In attendance: Suzi Bull (Clerk/Proper Officer) and 3 members of the public.

101.21 OPEN FORUM.

One member of the public – walking around Upton has noticed overgrown hedges.
App explained

102.21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

The following apologies for absence were received:

Cllr Bennion – work commitment.

Cllr Booth – family commitment.

Cllr Bryan – work commitment.

Cllr J Egerton-Parry – family commitment.

Cllr Keenan – medical.

Cllr Schmidt – family medical.

Cllr Southward – medical.

Cllr Walker was absent from the meeting without apology.

Resolved: noted.

103.21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Cllr Egerton-Parry declared a personal interest in item 14.

104.21 COMMUNITY SAFETY.

A written report from the community policing team was received; it was noted that the number of crime incidents reported was much higher than usual.

Resolved: The report was received and noted. The Clerk will clarify with the new PC whether the Countess of Chester Hospital crime figures were included in the report.

Councillors reported that immediately prior to the meeting there was an active break-in at the condemned youth club building on Wealstone Lane. Photographs have been taken.

Resolved: The Clerk will write to CW&C Council leader and Chief Executive to request the demolition of the building with some urgency.

105.21 MINUTES.

Resolved: The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12 July 2021 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed by Cllr Houlbrook, seconded by Cllr Evans. All agreed.

106.21 CLERK'S REPORT.

Resolved: The report from the Clerk, on action taken on resolutions made at the last meeting was received and noted.

107.21 COMMITTEE MINUTES.

The following Minutes of the committees held since the last meeting were received:

General Purposes Committee 19 July.

Communications Committee 6 September.

Finance Committee 6 September.

The following recommendations from the committees were considered:

Proposed by Cllr Evans, seconded by Cllr Egerton-Parry - To trial an E-newsletter, along with printed copies to be located at accessible, convenient 'pick-up' points across the parish.

Resolved: Approved.

108.21 NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

The Chairman of the NDP Steering Group reported on the progress of the plan. There have been over 1,000 responses to regulation 14 consultation.

The Parish Council Action List been removed from the main plan and will be considered and worked on in parallel to the Neighbourhood Plan.

Resolved: The Submission version of the Neighbourhood Development Plan for consideration by Cheshire West and Chester Council under Regulation 15 was approved.

Proposed by Cllr Houlbrook, seconded by Cllr Egerton-Parry.

Vote - 7 for, 1 against. Carried.

Resolved: The Parish Council will progress consideration of the *Suggested Actions for the Parish Council* to support the Vision, Objectives and Policies of the Neighbourhood Development Plan so that a final list can be agreed at the next Parish Council meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Houlbrook, seconded by Cllr Egerton-Parry

Vote - 7 for, 1 against. Carried.

109.21 BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' REPORTS.

Resolved: The written report from Cllr Houlbrook was received and noted. No report was available from Cllr Bryan.

A representative of the Nature Recovery Corridor project will be invited to attend the next meeting.

It was noted that CW&C will issue letters to owners of vehicles parked inconsiderately on Upton roads and grass verges. The Parish Council will no longer issue polite notices.

The Clerk will write to Cllr Bryan to remind him of his agreement to provide a written report on Borough Council issues in Upton.

110.21 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS REPORTS.

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

Proposed by Cllr Egerton-Parry, seconded by Cllr Greenhalgh. All agreed.

111.21 REMEMBRANCE PARADE.

Members thanked Cllr Bennion and Upton resident Doug Jenkins for leading the project to resume with a Remembrance Parade in Upton.

In line with new police protocol, the management of traffic for Remembrance Parades will no longer be covered by the police.

Traffic management company Telent, has been working in Upton with telecoms provider City Fibre, has agreed to take responsibility for the traffic management this year.

Parish Council insurers have confirmed that as a Parish Council led event, public liability insurance will be in place.

Resolved: Cllr Bennion will continue to liaise with the CW&C Events Manager to ensure that road closures are in place. Also with Telent regarding traffic management.

The Clerk will liaise with all parties to provide a risk assessment.

Resolved:

112.21 TREE PLANTING ON THE QE II PLAYING FIELD.

Resolved: The proposal to create a small woodland area on the playing field. Soil type, correct type of tree, water

Proposed by Cllr Greenhalgh, seconded by Cllr Evans.

113.21 CROWD FUNDING.

Members were asked to consider the use of Crowd Funding for Parish Council projects.

The Clerk confirmed that this type of resourcing is legal for Parish Councils and the money raised by crowd funding may be received as donations under section 139 of the Local Government Act 1972. All spending would need to be identified as part of the Parish Councils functions.

It was acknowledged that crowd funding platforms can be difficult to manage.

Resolved: Crowd funding as a resource will be further considered by the Finance Committee at some point in the future.

114.21 ELECTRIC CAR CHARGING STATIONS AT THE PAVILION.

The Parish Council was asked to consider providing electric car charging points in the Pavilion car park.

Resolved: The Parish Council may seek to enter into a contract to lease land to a company that provides electric car charging stations at some point in the future, but will not install or manage this service.

Proposed by Cllr Greenhalgh, seconded by Cllr Houlbrook. All agreed.

115.21 QUEEN ELIZABETH II JUBILEE CARNIVAL.

Resolved: The Parish Council will support the community in planning a Jubilee Carnival by way of hosting the 'finish line' for the carnival procession at the Pavilion. The Parish Council will plan and host a Jubilee Fun Day as part of this event.

116.21 CHRISTMAS CAROLS EVENT.

Resolved: The Parish Council will arrange and host a Christmas Carol singing event in December. A working party will be convened to plan this event.

117.21 UPTON LANE BUS STOP.

Resolved: This matter will be referred to the Finance Committee to provide a budget line for the cost of maintenance and repair of the bus shelter.

An inspection will be carried out as part of the Clerk's monthly inspection of Parish Council owned sites.

118.21 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MEETING.

Councillors were reminded of the third Community Engagement Meeting to be held on 16 September at 7.30pm and warmly invited to attend by the Chairman.

Resolved: noted.

119.21 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

Resolved: The date and time of the next meeting will be on 11 October 2021 at 7.30pm.

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