



Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council

UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The parish of Upwood and the Raveleys consists of five settlement areas: Upwood village, Farm Close, Fairmead, Great Raveley and Little Raveley, which sit within an agricultural landscape with a sparse network of farms and individual properties and which are connected by a medieval road network.

The parish acts as a transit point for commuters as there is little indigenous employment and issues arising from this notably, traffic movements, the availability of housing, recreational resources, the safety of residents and the care of the local environment are the things which feature on the agenda of most monthly meetings of the Council.

All of the residential areas of the parish have differing needs and the Council attempts to use local knowledge and good communication to identify and meet these when they arise.

It is important that residents from each of the settlement areas sit on the Parish Council to represent their local interests, because without this there is a danger that the key local issues will not be addressed fully.

At the present six of the eight councillors reside in Upwood village and two in the Raveleys; meaning there are no representatives for Fairmead or Farm Close. We would like to change this in future and so urge residents of those areas to step forward when vacancies arise.

The parish is in good financial health with reserves sitting at just over 1.5 times annual expenditure (the recommended level) and through careful cost management, budget under-spends in recent years have allowed for low increases in the precepted rate from residents, despite increasing the investment in environmental care and safety in the parish.

The Parish must plan for increased land for burial space in future and must provide for future upgrade/replacement of the children's play area. These large capital projects demand extra increases to the annual budget and therefore the local precept required by the parish.

The parish receives a grant of £8000 per year from the Ramsey Wind Farm Community Development Fund, providing suitable projects can be identified and agreed by the approvals panel.

A successful application was made to Cambridgeshire County Council to fund a speed reduction plan on the Bury-Upwood road and it is intended that such applications will be made each year to help reduce the speeding problem.

The development and building of new homes is one of the more controversial subjects with which the council deals each year as they are always winners and losers for every given application.

The impending development of the airfield site and of Bury and Ramsey in general, will add many hundreds of new homes in the coming years and these will have a profound effect upon traffic levels passing through the parish. The council typically opposes these developments but because they form part of the local housing plan for HDC it is difficult to overturn planning decisions designed to improve the availability of affordable homes in the area. The council also opposes development of existing country land as it wants to protect the rural identity of our villages.

Each house which is built in the parish however is subject to a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to the parish, typically receiving £1000-£1500 per property and this income will go towards infrastructure and road safety improvements when it comes available.

Residents of the parish are justifiably proud of the environment in which they live and the Parish Council is responsible for ensuring grassed areas and hedges are regularly trimmed and public footpaths, ditches and other drainage systems are kept in good condition. The restoration of the churchyard has received praise from village residents and it now offers worshippers and visitors an attractive appearance upon arrival.

However, a battle is being waged against dog droppings, litter and fly tipping in the parish and there has been an increase in anti social behaviour in recent times.

Dog owners who fail to pick up their dog's waste will be prosecuted and could suffer severe fines, as will those who blight the environment with illegal tipping and the council is working closely with residents and the District Council to identify the culprits and hold them to account.

Each councillor is assigned a special responsibility during the year to provide focus on key issues and to ensure progress is being made between meetings and throughout the year.

The current portfolio responsibilities include

Planning and Development

Traffic Highways and Road Safety

Communication and Public Relations

Boundaries, Ditches, Grass and Hedges

Parish Aesthetics, Children's Play Areas, Health and Safety

Finance

Liaison with Upwood School and with Fairmead, Farm Close and the Raveleys.

The portfolio responsibilities for the new Term will be assigned following the appointment of the two new councillors both of whom bring specialist skills to bear. Jodie Twose from Little Raveley is an Ecology Consultant and her skills and energy will be invaluable. The second new councillor is Dan Hall, an Upwood village resident; Dan works with young people and will help lead the drive to improve activities for young people in the parish and engender more healthy lifestyles.

Two Councillors have not sought re-election this year. One of these is former County Councillor Michael Tew who contributed much since joining the parish council in November 2016, particularly in the area of community relations with Bury, Ramsey and surrounding villages and in the delivery of the Community Led Plan. The second retirement from the PC, Councillor Jo Paxton deserves a special thanks for her service of 34 years. Her immense local knowledge, innate good judgement and sense of fair play will be sorely missed and I would like to personally thank her for the huge contribution she has made to the Parish during her years in office.

My own decision to not stand for re-election as District Councillor means I have now left politics and will concentrate only upon parish council affairs in future. My successors as District Councillors are Graham Bull who is also my successor as Executive Leader of the District Councillor and Jill Tavener who take over the new Ward, Warboys and Bury, which now incorporates Upwood and the Raveleys.

Finally, I would like to thank our Clerk, Carol Silverstone who continues to raise the standard of governance and control for the Council and Councillors alike and has turned Upwood and the Raveleys into one of the best performing parishes in the County.

Robin Howe
Chairman
Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council
May 2018



Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting. 14 May 2018

Financial Report from the clerk to the parish council

In 2017/2018 the parish council worked with a budget of £24,924, £23,000 of which was raised through the precept. At the end of the year receipts totalled £28,912 and payments £22,171. The balance brought forward on 31 March 2018 was £46,026 (an increase of almost £7,100 on the previous year). Comparing the forecasted budget with actual expenditure in 2017/2018, there are five notable variances:

- Grants: The parish council received £2,000 from the Ramsey Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund to support communications projects across the parish. The grant will cover the cost of the parish website and Wifi provision to the village hall for two years. This grant in conjunction with Cambridgeshire County Council's Local Highway Initiative has also covered the cost of six "Welcome to Upwood and the Raveleys" parish boundary signs which are due to be installed in the very near future.
- Cemetery: The parish council is mindful of the need to extend cemetery provision within the next twenty years and will therefore set aside £2,000 each year for this purpose.
- Parish Maintenance: An "underspend" of £2,000 was recorded under parish maintenance. 12 of the 14 planned grass cuts were completed. The hedge cutting planned for the autumn was delayed and payment was therefore made at the beginning of the new financial year.
- £500 remained untouched in the budget heading for legal and professional fees.
- The parish council continues to earmark £2,500 for the inevitable replacement of the matting in the Bentley Close play area. It has also resolved to set aside £2,000 per year for the future refurbishment of this facility.

Other notable expenses and achievements include continued financial support to the parish newsletter and the village hall; ongoing support for continued professional development for the clerk and for councillors; and further investment in the upkeep and maintenance of parish grass, trees and hedges, particularly in the churchyard and on the allotments.

Two successful bids to the Local Highway Initiative will result in the implementation of traffic calming measures on Ramsey Road, and the purchase of a mobile Speed Indicator Device. It is hoped that both initiatives will help to slow traffic and promote and improve road safety in the parish.

The parish council is fully compliant with all areas of governance and financial management although it is still waiting for confirmation from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils (CAPALC) regarding the implementation of a county-wide solution to address the challenges of the General Data Protection Regulation.

The parish council prides itself on its transparency and a significant amount of information relating the business of the parish council is readily available on the parish website. The Facebook page provides an additional communication channel.

The 2016/2017 Audit was extremely positive and despite significant effort the internal auditor failed to find any areas of the parish council's financial administration or governance in need of attention. A new auditor was engaged during the year and the parish council has undergone a positive mid-year audit. The final 2017/2018 audit has yet to take place but once again I look forward to challenging the auditor to find anything untoward.

In conclusion, the parish council continues to uphold an enviable reputation. I have been honoured to have been recommended by CAPALC to assist two troubled local councils and our chairman has also stepped in by order of the Secretary of State to help to restore one of these. We once again have a full complement of nine elected members and if councillors are prepared to rise to the challenge, we are well placed to apply for the ultimate recognition of "Quality Gold" status within the next twelve months.

Carol Bilverstone
Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council
14 May 2018

THE ART GROUP

Following the sad death of our inspirational founder, Frances Ashfield last December members of the group decided not to meet until April.

We also decided to meet from 10.00am to 12.00pm only on the first and third Saturday of each month to keep down costs and also to allow members to have some free Saturdays for other commitments.

We are a keen friendly group of artists (mainly amateur) using a variety of different media – graphite, coloured pencil, watercolour, pastels, oil and acrylic. We usually have a still life but many choose to continue work started at home.

Visitors are very welcome to come and meet us and maybe have a go. We offer the first three sessions free and have some free materials available.

Gill Shelford

The Cross Keys Upwood Golf Society.

The Society has held two events in the last year both at Lakeside Lodge Pidley.

The events have followed a new format for the day. Starting with a team competition of 9 holes on the Par3 course. This is followed by a full English breakfast before a 9 hole Texas scramble (the Murray memorial trophy) and 9 hole individual Stableford (the overall championship). This was then followed by a three course meal at the Cross Keys prizes and recommendations from the SHC on handicap adjustments for the deserving.

Both the autumn and spring events had 36 players and both the team and individual events were hard fought. Of note was that for the Spring event we had a first ever team made up of Ladies, who carried away the Murray trophy by .075 of a stroke. Following handicap adjustment they will find this difficult to repeat in the near future.

As Steve May will be leaving the Keys before the next event the Secret Handicap Committee wish to thank him for his generosity and hospitality and wish him well in the future.

Our next event is the Autumn open will be held on Friday 28th September.

Howard Smith

Home to Home Chairman's Report for Annual Parish meeting; May 2018

We were really sad to hear of the death in December of one of our stalwart members and long-time committee member and chairman, Frances Ashfield. Fran had been a real supporter of Home to Home for many years and she was unstinting in giving her time and her skills to keep the club vibrant. Another member sadly passed away in March. Ann Gamble was 'the quiz queen' and a stalwart member of the committee for several years. We will miss them both in so many ways.

Last year was a bit of an experiment – we decided to have fewer paid speakers and more members' evenings and we feel that the experiment worked. We started in February with an open forum, coffee and chat where we tried to discern what the members wanted from Home to Home. This was followed by a fascinating chat by Clive Beeke on the history of Ramsey Abbey. April saw us all furiously rolling a dice in our attempts to be the first to complete a 'bunny'. The May and June meetings went together as Neil told us all about his amazing Fenland garden near Somersham, and we then we visited it, spending a lovely June evening wandering the paths and enjoying the cakes!

July saw us 'puzzling over' a variety, in size, shape and material, of puzzles. The September meeting, a talk on kilts was very interesting. In October Jean, Margaret and Karen encouraged us all to be 'crafty' and our 'Heavenly Homes' took shape with much hilarity and determination. Hopefully Anne-Marie was pleased with our addition to the Christmas Tree festival. The highlight of the year, in my opinion, was Robin's talk on her year in the Falklands – it was totally fascinating and I could have listened for much longer. Maybe we can persuade Robin to tell us some more on another occasion. For the first time we visited Ramsey WI in December and were made very welcome as we joined in the delights (oh no we didn't) of their panto.

At the AGM in January the committee were all –re-elected and 3 new members joined. An interesting and varied programme has been planned for 2018. Unfortunately the committee got a bit carried away booking speakers so there are not as many members' evening this year but hopefully people will still enjoy the mix that has been created. We have already found out a lot of previously unknown information about each other at our January meeting, we welcomed Carol Bilverstone in February who kept us riveted whilst telling us all about the role of the Parish Clerk, while Ryan Berridge a community champion from the Fire Brigade helped us to become far more safety conscious in our homes in March. Our April meeting saw Carole Taylor telling us how her son Charles has overcome his deafness to create a successful woodwork business. And there is plenty more to come over the rest of the year.

Home to Home is always very welcoming and we would love to encourage more people to come along and join us – we meet on the last Monday of the month unless there is a bank holiday in the Village Hall and meetings start at 7.30pm. Our programme is on the parish website and there is always information in the parish newsletter and an advert in the Informer newspaper so if you haven't been to a meeting yet why not make 2018 the year that you do.

Pauline McLeod

Chairman

Home to Home

Meet and Munch 2018-05-13

Meet and Munch has had another busy year preparing hot lunches each month during the winter and afternoon teas in the summer months .A special party lunch is planned for July with a Wimbledon theme. Don't worry; we won't actually be playing tennis!

In December we had a visit from the Upwood Ukuleles who as usual put a smile on all faces as everyone joined in with the songs.

The number of members has sadly dropped as has the number of volunteers. We currently have 16 members and 10 volunteers so we would really welcome new members and volunteers. We are a very friendly, inclusive group of men and ladies. Anyone over 55 is eligible to be a member and there is no age limit for volunteers. Meetings take place on the first Saturday of the month. More details are available from the Co-ordinator Jan Howe.

St Peter's Handbell Ringers Report 2018

Upwood Handbell Ringers of St Peter's meet every Monday evening in St. Peter's Church. Our team currently consists of 8 players and a music director from Upwood and the surrounding villages. We are always willing to recruit and welcome or train new musicians.

Our facebook page has been well visited and as a result we have been asked to play at quite a few venues this year. We are also mentioned in the newly develop Benefice website and in the Upwood & Raveleys website.

Since last April, we played for the Ramsey Senior citizen Lunch Club twice, the Ramsey Golf Club, the Dementia Café in Ramsey, St Peter's Christmas Tree Festival, the Gables Care Home in Chatteris and we have some more performances dates in our diary for the near future.

It is noticeable how much people have enjoyed us and had their spirit lifted by the Handbell Ringers entertaining them and letting them try the bells themselves.

Vernon Cracknell

Juniors

The winter junior training was very well attended this year on Sunday afternoons at Ramsey One Leisure.

We are now training outside weather permitting on Monday nights. Times are

5-30 till 6-30 for the younger ones (School Year 1 to 4)

6-30 till 7-30 for the older ones (school Year 5 to 9).

Junior membership is £10 for the whole summer's coaching and £2 a game.

The aim is that everyone who regularly attends trainings will be guaranteed to play in some games. We are entering a record 5 teams this year in the county leagues and have lots of fixtures arranged:

- Two under 9 six-a-side softball
- Under 11 eight-a-side hardball
- Under 11 six-a-side softball
- Under 13 eight-a-side hardball

We have had over 30 juniors attend so far this year.

County Success

It is with great delight that we have recently had four of our juniors now confirmed in county sides. Sophie Lawrence and Annabelle Woodward were both part of the county girls under 11 squad last however they still had to go through the trials process as more and more girls are taking part in cricket across the county. Sophie has developed into an outstanding leg spinner who not only turns the ball with good flight but her accuracy is extremely good, particularly for a young "leggie". Annabelle started the year as a mainly as a seam/swing bowler but it is her batting that has really flourished this year and she is now playing a full range of shots against different types of bowling. The girls are now part of the U13 girls squad which will offer them fresh challenges.

For the first time in a number of years Upwood now have two boys presenting the county. Jacob Milner and George Tuffin over the early winter have been attending trials on Sunday evenings with boys from across the Huntingdonshire. Following the trials both boys have been selected to the eighteen boy under 10 county squad. Jacob is a powerful left hand batsman and right arm fast bowler and George has shown a keen eye for the ball both batting and wicket keeping.

The under 9 squad performed very well last year finishing undefeated in their league. They went on to finish runners up in the county finals day.

Adults

As have many local smaller clubs in recent years we sometimes struggled to put 11 players on the pitch but this year following successful recruitment drive we look to be in bit better shape. The 2nds are aiming to win more games than they lose and the 1st are hopeful of consolidating their place in Hunts League Division 2 following last year's promotion.

Adult membership is £10 for the year and £10 a game (which includes a tea).

New Developments for 2018

The club have managed to secure three grants in total to pay for the refurbishment of the front of the pavilion. The first is from the ECB small grant scheme which is for £ 1,359. The second is from the Ramsey Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund which was for £3500. The club are combining these two grants to get put in place a new extended paved patio and toilet access plus some benches and a new BBQ. The committee would like to thank club member Helen Nel for her support in help secure these funds. The front of the pavilion is mainly glazed and the old wooden framed windows are now very old and need replacing and this has been possible with money received from the Mick George Sports Fund which is kindly funding £1500 of their replacement and additional support for the roof.

Tenure

We have also secured a £16,000 grant for some much need net facilities but unfortunately this is dependent on tenure (as is the Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund). We have had written confirmation that this is the land owners intention some time ago but we have yet to get this fully secure thus preventing getting the funds. It is hoped that this will be resolved soon.

As always we are looking for new members of any age or experience in particularly someone who could offer a little of their time as club secretary so if interested in joining in any capacity please contact Neil at npe.tuffin@gmail.com or on 07968771138 or Chairman Rob Landymore at Robert.Landymore@parallelluk.com for more information.

Hello Carol,

Upwood Table Tennis Club

I am pleased to report that the table tennis club continues in the same vein with 50+ members enjoying their table tennis in a social manner complemented by other events arranged by the committee. As you will already know we sadly lost one of our founder members, Ken Alderton, testament to his popularity many club members attended his funeral and he will always be remembered for his friendly light-hearted manner

Our original chairman, David Williams, has moved away and I have just taken on his role and have found not only the table tennis but also the Village Hall committee very helpful. So I think we can look forward to another enjoyable year.

Jack Holloway

Archive Group Report 2018

There has been little activity this year. It is hard to gauge if there is any interest in retaining an Archive Group for Upwood or not. The website fees (£100) are due in May although no bill has been received.

The aim is to do some advertising through the next parish newsletter and see what interest there is. The Archive is an online archive and that seems to worry a few people. In the format it is set up, provided the annual fee is paid, it is much safer and far more readily searchable than the current options through the village website. It is set up through Community Sites which is widely used by on line archives.

As a tool for anyone researching life or locations in the villages or local family history, be that school projects or family history, the need to search by keyword is important. The material will not be lost if the archive is closed but will no longer be available.

There are options for local grants although some require a new project rather than offering support to existing projects. If there is local interest then this is well worth continuing.

The Upwood and Raveleys Archive Group is still part of Cambridgeshire Community Archive Network which is itself working on new local projects and once again becoming more cohesive as an organisation.

REPORTS FOR THE UPWOOD & RAVELEY PARISH COUNCIL AGM – MAY 2018

UPWOOD & RAVELEY COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

The Association presented a detailed report to the Allotment Trustees in March to which the Parish Council has access, so this is an updated precis of that report.

Although growing conditions were trying throughout the year, the allotments at both Gt Raveley and Upwood have managed to prosper. All of the cultivated plots at Gt Raveley are now tenanted and the field section is rented out on an annual let. There is still no water supply for this site but the tenants cope with a large water container. The site at Upwood has a slow turnover of tenants, and currently has a selection of small plots available to rent. These are being managed by the committee whilst vacant to keep them ready for use. Where the older, large-size plots tenancies are terminated, we endeavour to divide the area into smaller, more manageable plots which suit the modern-day gardener. The grass track is regularly mown by contractor and the hayfield hedge has now been cut back to a manageable height. The finances look good with sufficient in the bank to cover this year's anticipated expenditure on maintenance and we are looking to make small improvements on the site as per our business plan from any surplus.

UPWOOD COMMUNITY ORCHARD

The Community Orchard has now been fully planted up and sponsored and an explanatory map with list of trees and sponsors has been placed on the noticeboard by the entrance. Trees have been winter-pruned where appropriate and, at the current moment, the Orchard is a mass of blossom. The site is kept mown by contract and the committee keep the smaller areas tidy with strimming around the seat and raised beds which are planted with lavender and a selection of bulbs and ornamental grasses. Sponsors have been invited to take an active role in managing light maintenance of their own trees.

The small pond has attracted some wildlife and provides water for the birds, helping to keep them off the nearby allotments, and also helping to keep the community car park from flooding in winter.

Wildflowers are being introduced slowly around trees and the pond and it is planned over the next year to designate specific areas for wildflowers.

A fund-raising Quiz is planned for October to provide money for further improvements to the tree cages and we are looking to find funds for a special walk-way to enable wheel and push chairs to access the seating.

It is hoped to stage some community events in the Orchard, inviting the Art Group to visit for a session and holding a Book Group session there.

Liz Carter

Upwood & The Raveleys Local History Group – Annual Report 2017/18

2017/18 year has again been a very period for the History Group as the seasons passed in rural Cambridgeshire. The proactive programme committee has again done us proud with some varied and interesting subjects. We enjoyed the Fenland Story Telling and the local aspects that brought historical dialect, ways and words where we learnt about the split goose feather as the mark of a Fenman which saved Charles 1st within the English Civil War. We learnt about the Cambridgeshire Transport and how that has evolved through the centuries where ways and means of improving transport developed. Boadicea eventually rode her chariot into the village hall and we learnt from Tacitus among others of the developing view of her through history. We explored the underground workings of Ramsey Great Whyte and the structures that lie under our feet in Ramsey.

We took visits to the newly refurbished Norris Museum taking us from 160 million years ago to today. We also went to Denney Abbey which with much consternation in the freezing cold and rain included downloading an audio tour as the guide hadn't turned up. Each visit and talk was engaging and informative, but as always this cannot be achieved without efforts from willing volunteer - these visits and talks cannot organise themselves.

As we look forward to 2018/19, we lose some valuable volunteers from the Programme Committee. Pauline McCleod is standing down and we will lose a major proactive volunteer who had done some absolutely sterling work in the background of the group. We are also losing Gill Shelford who again has worked hard in researching and organising events. While publicly I gave my personal thanks to the dedicated volunteers who have all done so much this year, we again desperately need volunteers to run the small posts within the group.



Upwood & The Raveleys Newsletter

Report for the Annual General Meeting – 13th April 2018

This year's report begins on a sad note as Frances Ashfield, our vice-chairman, passed away just before Christmas. She was one of the founding members of the newsletter, possessing an unequalled drive, determination and enthusiasm which helped to make the newsletter the success that it is today. With David Paine standing down from the committee last year and Deana Hudson having moved to Cornwall a while ago, Geoff Carrington and myself are now the only remaining committee members from the original group of five parishioners who began the newsletter 15 years ago.

However, the team has now grown to involve people from 24 different households who help to keep the bi-monthly newsletter being produced and delivered free of charge to every home in the parish. This year we were able to provide this service through the financial support of Upwood & The Raveleys Parish Council and Upwood Open Gardens as well as donations from Upwood villagers who deliver the Ramsey & Warboys Informer and donate their fee to newsletter funds each month. As can be seen from our Treasurer's financial projections, on the current level of funding we have a steadily depreciating balance which would go into deficit by October 2020. We continue to look for new funding streams but these are few and far between at the moment.

During the year we made an application for extra funding to the Windfarm Trust to allow us to print each issue in full colour. Unfortunately this was unsuccessful but we still maintain 4 colour pages (front, back and centre pages) and have moved over to printing on glossy paper which has given the newsletter a more appealing and professional appearance.

I am pleased to report that Lesley Gee, from Great Raveley, has kindly offered to join the editorial team which should help to spread the editorial load in future. I am acutely aware that much of the pressure to get an edition to print falls on the editorial team of Paul Charman, Judith Harvey, Pauline McLeod, and more recently Lesley Gee. Once again I would like to place on record my sincere thanks for their voluntary efforts. Paul, who has been on the editorial committee for the last 6 years, has decided to stand down this post as well as that of secretary of the management committee; I would like to thank him for all the wonderful work he has done for the newsletter during this time. Fran Charman continues to do a grand job as proof reader by running a fine tooth comb through the final drafts and Paul is going to assist her with this in the future. Pam Dowdell handles the largely unsung job of Distribution Co-ordinator with calm efficiency while Geoff Carrington ensures that our finances are kept well in order. As a management committee these people produce a valuable service to the community which deserves due recognition.

One final mention of appreciation goes to of Micromac Printers who always produce the copies of the newsletter on time and with minimal fuss.

Doug McLeod
Chairman
Upwood & The Raveleys Newsletter Committee

UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS NEWSLETTER

Annual Open Meeting - 13th April 2018

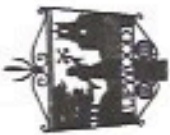
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

1st March 2017 - 28th February 2018

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Grants - Parish Council (2017)	525.00 ✓	Printing - Issues 89 - 94 incl colour	1,264.00 ✓
Donation - Upwood Open Gardens	370.00 ✓	Expenses (Hire of Hall)	6.68 ✓
Flyer delivery - Cross Keys	20.00 ✓		
Flyer delivery - St Peter's Church	20.00 ✓		
Donations from "Informer" deliveries	96.00 ✓		
		TOTAL	<u>1,270.68</u>
		Income over expenditure (minus)	<u>- 239.68</u> ✓
		In bank as at 1st March 2017	<u>2,031.04</u> ✓
TOTAL	<u>1,031.00</u> ✓	Balance as at 28th February 2018	<u>1,791.36</u> ✓

G Carrington
Treasurer
7th March 2018

Checked by :- *K W. Redwood*



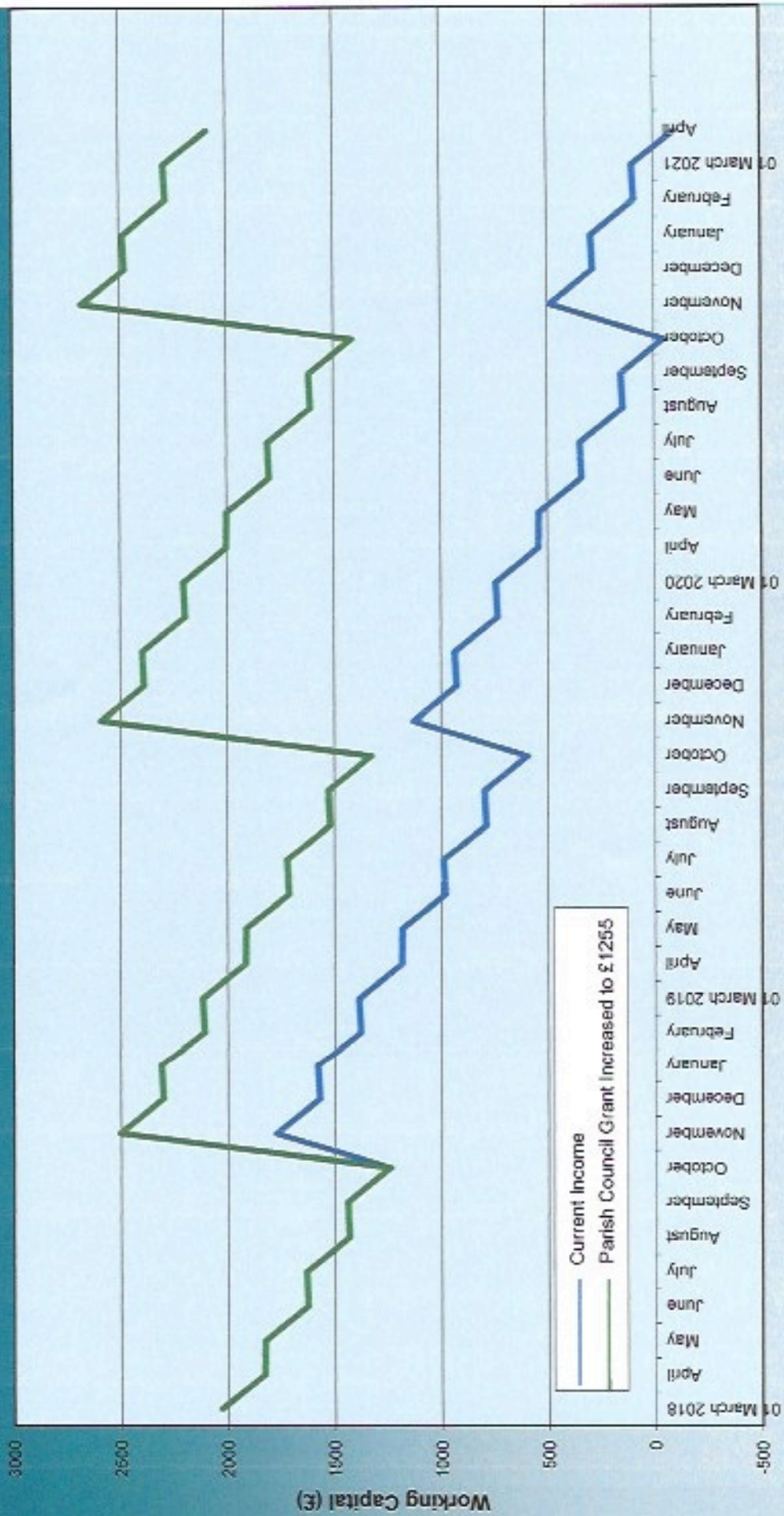
UPWOOD & THE RAVELEYS NEWSLETTER

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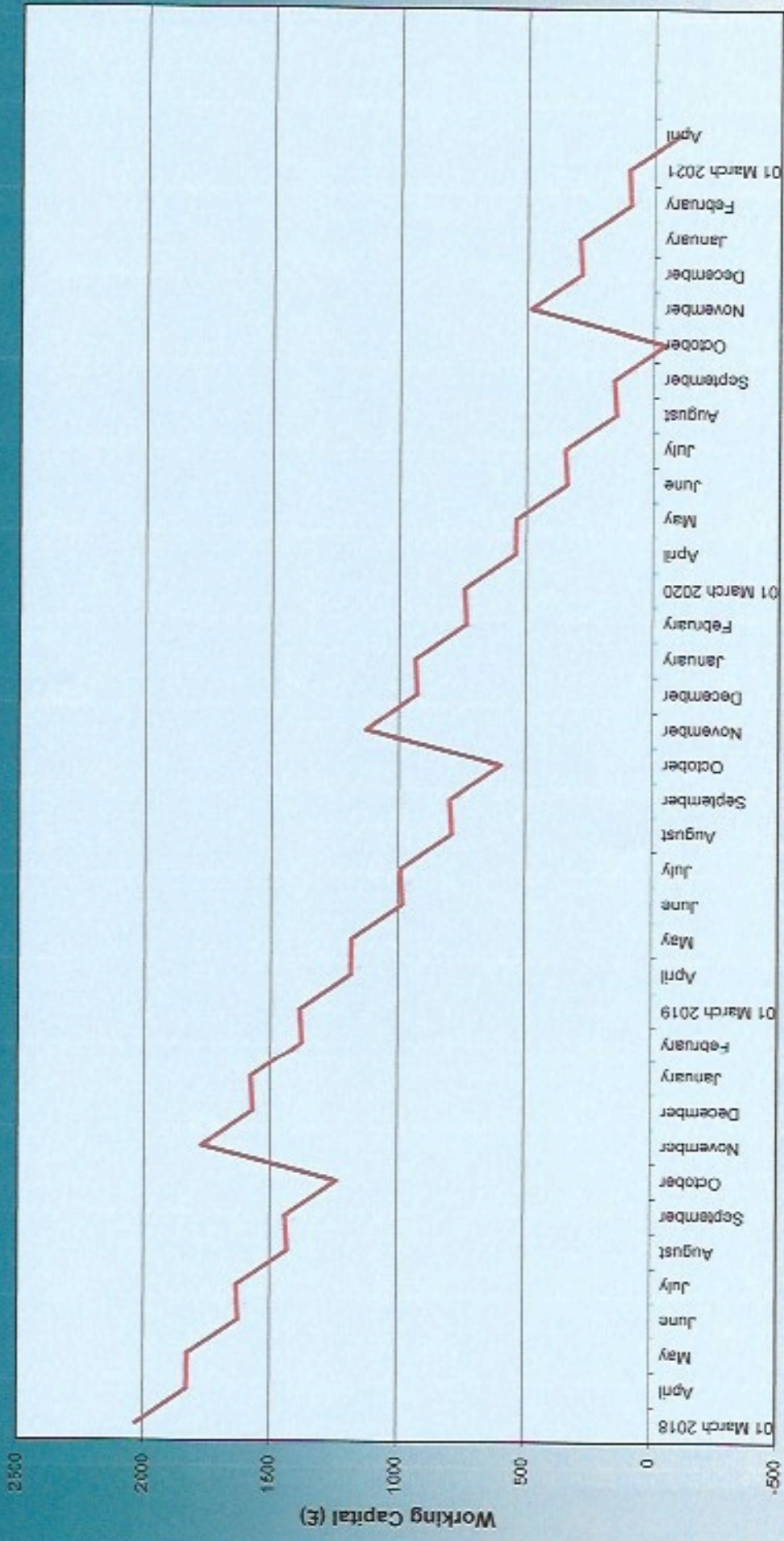
Accounting Period : 01.03.2017 to 28.02.2018

Date	Description	Invoice	Pay In No.	Cheque No.	Amount Rec'd (£)	Payment Out (£)	Current Balance (£)
01.03.2017	Balance carried over						2031.04 ✓
17.03.2017	Donation - Informer delivery fees x 2		000115		✓16.00 Cash		2047.04 ✓
10.04.2017	Micromac Printers - Issue No 89			000142		199.00 Chq ✓	1848.04 ✓
18.05.2017	Donation - Informer delivery fees x 2		000116		✓16.00 Cash		1864.04 ✓
22.05.2017	Upwood Village Hall for NL AGM			000143		6.68 Chq ✓	1857.36 ✓
05.06.2017	Micromac Printers - Issue No 90			000144		199.00 Chq ✓	1658.36 ✓
05.07.2017	Donation - Upwood Open Gardens		000117		370.00 Chq ✓		2028.36 ✓
05.07.2017	Donation - Informer delivery fees x 2		000117		✓16.00 Cash		2044.36 ✓
02.08.2017	Micromac Printers - Issue No 91			000145		209.00 Chq ✓	1835.36 ✓
08.09.2017	Cross Keys - delivery of Flyers		000118		20.00 Cash ✓		1855.36 ✓
08.09.2017	Donation - Informer delivery fees x 2		000118		✓16.00 Cash		1871.36 ✓
03.10.2017	Grant from Parish Council	17/017	TFR		525.00 TFR ✓		2396.36 ✓
06.10.2017	Micromac Printers - Issue No 92			000146		209.00 Chq ✓	2187.36 ✓
04.12.2017	Micromac Printers - Issue No 93			000147		239.00 Chq ✓	1948.36 ✓
06.12.2017	Donation - Informer delivery fees x 3		000119		✓24.00 Cash		1972.36 ✓
24.01.2018	Donation - Informer delivery fees x 1		000120		✓8.00 Cash		1980.36 ✓
24.01.2018	St Peters Church - delivery of Flyers		000120		20.00 Chq ✓		2000.36 ✓
05.02.2018	Micromac Printers - Issue No 94			000148		209.00 Chq ✓	1791.36 ✓

Newsletter Financial Projection from 1st March 2018



Newsletter Financial Projection from 1st March 2018



Upwood Book Lovers – Evening Group

The evening group has 13 members and we continue to meet in the village hall at roughly 6 weekly intervals. Most of our books are sourced from the library service but some members use their kindles.

Our reading list comprises a book nominated by each member. To this we add a 'classic' and an author, both of which are drawn blind. With the nominated author we read a selection of their work, each member choosing their preferred title. Our reading list therefore naturally reflects a wide range of authors and genres and keeps us all challenged and involved. After discussion over tea and biscuits we each give a score out of 10.

We've had another year of diverse reading and stimulating discussions – our clear favourite was Helen Dunmore's 'The Siege' which received an average score of 8.8.

Upwood Quilt Group

Report for Annual Parish Meeting May 14th 2018

The Quilt Group continues to meet on the last Tuesday of the month from 1.30pm to 4pm in the Village Hall. Don't be misled by the title of this group - you certainly do not have to just do quilting, the members bring along a wide range of crafts including knitting, embroidery and patchwork. Help is on hand for those who would like to either improve their skills or learn a new one.

There has been quite a turn-round in the personnel who leads the group this year: Margaret has left the group after many years in charge and all the members wish to thank her for all her commitment and expertise and we wish her well in the future. The door is always open if you ever want to return Margaret. Ann, our other leader has had to stop coming for the time being and again we all send her our thoughts and prayers as she battles cancer. Heather has taken over leadership of the group, at Ann's request, and she is happy to continue running the group and arranging visits, projects or anything else that we, the members, want to do.

So if you enjoy a bit of sewing or want to improve or even learn how to sew, quilt, knit etc Upwood Village Hall is the place to come on the last Tuesday of the month. You can be sure that a warm welcome awaits you.

Pauline McLeod , member of Quilt Group

Upwood Ukuleles

Report for annual parish meeting 2018 by Pauline McLeod, bookings secretary & treasurer

4 years on and Upwood Ukuleles are still in great demand. None of us ever expected our popularity to reach the heights it appears to have done – we nearly always get invited back!

We still meet most Thursdays in each other's homes, with the occasional meeting taking place in the Village Hall so that we can experience playing in a larger venue without the pressure of performing.

Our chosen charity, Magpas Air Ambulance, has now received in excess of £22,000 from our gigs and it has become necessary to hand in the money to the Huntingdon headquarters on a much more regular basis than previously as our listeners become ever more generous to this wonderful charity. Secretly the real reason for this increase in frequency is so that Doug (Chief Uke) can get a big 'thank you' hug from Emma, one of the main fundraisers, every time we take in the proceeds! None of the ukulele players take any money, all travel costs are paid for by the players themselves and the only expenses we incur is for our public liability insurance and for props such as kazooos, which are given to members of the audience so that they can join in with the band.

Christmas 2017 saw the release of our first CD and we have been delighted that the sales have enabled us to cover the costs of its production and that Magpas will now benefit from each cd sold. Plans are in hand for a Christmas CD to be produced, hopefully in time for our very busy Christmas schedule.

We have 12 members in the band, 6 live in Upwood, 2 in Bury, 1 in Ramsey, 2 in Warboys and 1 in St Ives. Our latest member, Peter, joined us when Chris moved up to Stockport and he has fitted in seamlessly. 8 of the band have been playing since the group was formed in February 2014 and it is amazing the progress that has been made both in musicianship and presentation under the expert leadership of Doug. He is constantly challenging us with new songs, all arranged by him to cater for our varying proficiency, often with the words changed to be pertinent to the ukulele and his wacky way of looking at the world is translated into the way in which some of the songs are performed, including a 4DX approach to Fleetwood Mac's 'Albatross'.

We continue to play in a wide variety of places from care homes to WI's and from private parties to Rotary clubs. We are returning to Abbots Ripton Hall Garden Show in June, and have been asked to play in one of the St Ives Waits Sunday afternoon open air concerts in August. Our biggest gig by far comes at the end of September when we are supporting San Remo (a local Milton Keynes band) at The Stables, Wavendon, Milton Keynes. The Stables is the brain child of Cleo Lane and Johnny Dankworth and the auditorium holds nearly 500 people. We are looking forward to the challenge but you can imagine the excitement and terror (in equal parts) that this gig is causing us!

We continue to travel all over the county and are well received by all who hear us. We love having the opportunity to have great fun whilst fund raising for such an excellent cause. When it stops being enjoyable we will stop but meanwhile we'll just keep on learning new songs and entertaining the good folk of Cambridgeshire and beyond and of course raising money for the wonderful people of Magpas Air Ambulance.



UPWOOD VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

April 2018

2017 has largely been a year of 'business as usual' at the hall. Regular bookings have remained steady and we have welcomed a new regular Wednesday morning church coffee and 'bacon butty' get-together, however there are still a number of available booking slots during the week and at weekends.

Performing arts at the hall continue to go from strength to strength thanks to Doug's hard work and Upwood is becoming a well-established venue on the 'circuit' for many performers who enjoy returning each year.

The management committee continues to work hard to maintain the general fabric of the hall. During the past year the store room has been refurbished and a problem with damp on the outside wall of the store repaired. In addition, we have continued to make improvements to the kitchen facilities.

Sadly, we said farewell to two of our long-standing committee members. David Williams had been our 'house member' responsible for organising odd jobs and repairs but he and his wife have moved to Lincolnshire. Kim Evans had been our secretary for many years but she and her husband David have just moved to Washington DC for three years.- we have warned Kim however that once she returns to the UK we will immediately coerce her back on to the committee!

On a positive note however we welcome Jack, Jill and Martyn onto the committee and look forward to seeing them at our meetings.

We would like to thank all of our fundraisers who enable us to invest in major refurbishment projects and to the Parish Council who's grant helps to cover our insurance costs.

Last but not least, my sincere thanks go to the Village Hall committee and its trustees whose tireless efforts continue to ensure that the hall remains a valuable community resource.


Stephen Howes
Chairman,
Upwood Village Hall Management Committee

Upwood and The Raveleys Village Hall Bank Balances as at 28 February 2018

Current Account (No 30379868) Balance	£1,588.48
Business Instant Access a/c (No30543368)	£15,104.08
Fund Raising Account	£19,467.97
Petty Cash	£0.86
	<hr/>
	£34,572.91

I hereby certify that the income and expenses accounts and balance sheets for Upwood and The Raveleys Village Hall for the year ending 28 February 2017 are a true record according to the information provided.

Signed



R.W. Peckover

Date 16.3.2018

Upwood and The Raveleys Village Hall

28th February 2018

Income		Expenditure	
Deposits	£ 755.00	Refunds	£ 521.62
One-off users	£ 965.17	Rates	£ 239.50
Art Group	£ 652.25	Water Rates	£ 357.86
History Group	£ 110.68	Cleaner	£ 1,173.97
Home to Home	£ 200.43	Repairs & Maintenance	£ 2,003.46
Parish Council	£ 1,928.05	Electricity	£ 1,018.69
St Peter's Church	£ 329.11	Insurance	£ 920.99
Quilting Group	£ 202.74	Consumables	£ 72.06
Ramsey U3A Table Tennis	£ 318.91	Plusnet	£ 338.40
Table Tennis	£ 2,476.18	Sundry expenses	£ 600.88
WEA	£ 498.08		
Book Club	£ 147.66		
Performing Arts	£ 315.99	Income over Expenditure	£ 2,303.32
Miscellaneous	£ 420.00		
Upwood Ukuleles	£ 223.23		
Interest	£ 7.27		
	£ 9,550.75		£ 9,550.75

R. W. Beckwith
16.3.2018

Upwood and The Raveleys Village Hall Fund Raising Account 1st March 2017 - 28th Feb 2018

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Ticket sales 1.3.2017 to 28.2.2018	£10,705.50	UVH elec & hire for 7 events	£315.99
Raffles	£1,127.00	Cardboard Fox performance fee	£792.00
Donation	£10.00	F B Pocket Orchestra performance fee	£600.00
Interest	£15.32	Ninebarrow performance fee	£742.50
		Chris While & Julie Matthews performance fee	£960.00
		Jez Lowe & Kate Bramley performance fee	£900.00
		Johnny Coppin performance fee	£900.00
		Granny's Attic performance fee	£600.00
		K Roberts & S Lakeman performance fee	£900.00
		Refreshments for artistes - 8 events	£128.00
		Expenses for B&B and for sound engineer	£280.00
		Ramsey Arts Festival - 50% F B P Orch profits	£163.50
		Misc expenses & gifts	£140.42
			<u>£7,422.41</u>
		Income over Expenditure	£4,435.41
TOTAL	<u>£11,857.82</u>	TOTAL	<u>£11,857.82</u>

W. Lewis
16.3.2018

REPORT FOR THE UPWOOD & RAVELEY PARISH COUNCIL AGM – MAY 2018

UPWOOD BRANCH WEA

The Upwood branch of the WEA has had a good year providing two excellent courses for students. The autumn course looked at the slavery debate of the 18th and 19th century with Maureen James. The spring term course took a scientific turn with the history of medicine from medieval to modern times with Mike Muncaster. The stand-alone study days have also proved popular with our favourite lecturer Ian McLachlan enthraling listeners with stories and facts from the First World War and we are looking forward to the return of Fiona Lucraft in June with her fascinating insight into the life and works of Picasso. Both study days are very well attended.

Courses are booked for both the autumn term 2018 and spring 2019 with something completely new in September when we look at Russian Culture with Marina Burrell and in the spring we welcome back Andrew Sankey with a course on Popular Gardens which should include a visit.

The only cloud on the horizon comes from an aging committee who are having problems finding replacements to take up the reins. Added to this there is a distinct shortage of tutors within the organisation due partly to increased beaurocracy and paperwork which means less choice for branches. There is no easy solution to these problems and the future of the branch will be discussed at our annual AGM in the autumn.

Liz Carter