

UPWOOD AND THE RAVLEYS PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Upwood and The Raveleys Parish Council was held on Monday 1st July 2013 at 7.00 pm in the Upwood Village Hall

Present: Councillors F Hopkins; J Noble; J Paxton (Chairman); G Shelford; K Sisman & C Bilverstone.

In attendance: 6 members of the Public

AGENDA

17/07-13 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Howe and Bryce.

18/07-13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Sisman declared an interest in transport issues.
Councillor Shelford & Councillor Hopkins declared an interest in allotment issues.

19/07-13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members were advised that Mr Hunt, a resident of Upwood had registered to speak at the meeting. As Mr Hunt was not present at the start of the meeting the Chairman used her discretion to alter the order of the agenda items. However, for ease of the reader, these minutes will follow the order of the agenda.

The Chairman welcomed Mr Hunt to the meeting and proposed that the meeting adjourn and it was

RESOLVED to do so.

Members were asked to welcome Mr Hunt of Upwood, to the meeting to speak in the public address.

Mr Hunt confirmed with the Council the following;

- The cars parked on the road had been removed.
- The pigs had now been re-homed.
- All of the neighbours had been spoken to and all concerns had now been dealt with.
- If there was no community interest in purchasing the village pub an expression of interest to Members was expressed by Mr Hunt.

The Chairman thanked Mr Hunt for his comments and proposed that the meeting reconvened. It was

RESOLVED to do so.

20/07-13 MINUTES

The Clerk advised Members that the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd June would be presented at the next Council meeting held on 2nd September 2013.

21/07-13 MATTERS ARISING OR CARRIED FORWARD FROM THE LAST OR PREVIOUS MEETING

21/07-13.1 Councillor Hopkins informed Members that the stall at the village fete advertising the Community Led Plan had been successful with a large number of responses of residents taking part in suggesting ideas to be included in the Parish Plan. The information would be collated and presented to residents at a meeting in October.

The Community Led Working Party would be meeting in July to abstract the data collected and discuss further ways of promoting the plan.

22/07-13.2 Members were advised of the fees for the renewal of a ten year lease of the playing field for £400 a year;

- Cost of the Diocesan Solicitors £1000
- Cost of Parish Councillor legal fees £375
- Joliffe Daking (Chartered Surveyors) £500 plus and any disbursements which may be incurred.

Members questioned why the Diocesan Solicitors were double to that of the Parish Council's legal fees and if it was necessary to use the agent to the land (Joliffe Dakings) in the negotiations.

The Clerk was requested to go back and request further reductions in the fees and a breakdown of costs from the Diocesan Solicitors and Joliffe Daking. It

was

RESOLVED to do so.

23/07-13 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

No reports were received.

24/07-13 ALLOTMENTS

Members were asked to consider security measures were required following reports of suspicious strangers loitering on the allotment plots in Upwood.

The Chairman invited the Chairman of the Upwood and Raveleys Allotment Association, Dr Miles, to address the meeting and proposed to adjourn the meeting.

It was

RESOLVED to do so.

Dr Miles informed Members that access to the site was easily accessible as entry was gained through two main gaps through the hedges large enough for vehicle access plus smaller pedestrian access. The conversation briefly led to insurance cover on the site.

Clerk's note: The allotments are now covered within the Council's existing policy limits, as the council are fully responsible for the land with the allotment association as a sub-committee reporting back to the council as agreed at the last Parish Council meeting.

A Member stated that as there were no security measures, if any break in or damage caused this would be a civil matter. If there were gates on site which were damaged by criminal entry then this would become a police matter.

The Chairman proposed that the meeting was reconvened and it was

RESOLVED to do so.

It was further

RESOLVED for Councillor Sisman contact the Police and arrange a site visit to discuss security measures on site.

25/07-13 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members considered the following planning application - Ref: 1300904FUL. Proposed extension to side of existing bungalow, Helen's Farm, Meadow Lane, Upwood

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend approval.

25/07-13.1. **PLANNING ITEMS RECEIVED SINCE PUBLICATION OF THE AGENDA**

There were none.

26/07-13 FINANCE

26/07-13.1 Members noted the financial report of July 2013. A Member asked for cancelled cheques to be recorded in the cash book.

26/07-13.2 The following accounts were **APPROVED** for payment all dated 1st July 2013.

101354 Payment to Mr Edwards (Salary)	£67.84
101355 Payment to HMRC (for Edwards & Tunnicliffe)	£97.80
101356 Payment to Andy Davis (Grass Cutting)	£395.00
101357 Payment to Mr Young (Allotment deposit refunded)	£25.00
101358 Payment to Mijan Limited (Internal Audit)	£56.25
101359 Cheque Cancelled	
101361 Payment to National Allotment Association (Annual Fee)	£66.00
101362 Payment to Suffolk Acre Services (Annual Insurance)	£819.17
101363 Payment to CAPALC (Annual Membership)	£435.41

Clerk's Note: Members are asked to note that Cheque No 101364, dated 13th July, had been paid to Upwood & the Raveley Village Hall for £98.05 (Quarterly Invoice). Cheque stub to be initialed at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

26/07-13.3 Members were asked to consider an application for financial assistance of £1050 to the Upwood & the Raveleys Village Hall. The Committee had contacted the clerk to advise that a grant had not been received in 2012/2013. Upon further investigation the Clerk reported that no records of a request of financial aid had been received or minuted.

It was

RESOLVED to approve payment of £1050 for financial assistance.

26/07-13.4 Next Members were asked to consider an application for financial assistance of £120 to the Community Navigators project. Members questioned how many residents of the parish would benefit from the scheme and if it would be more appropriate for the scheme members to contact the Village Hall Committee to enquire if they could have the hall at a reduced rate.

It was also suggested that a breakdown of total spending costs should be supplied with information on other funding streams before a decision was made.

27/07-13 CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS

Members noted the following communication had been sent by e-mail for information;

- Good Councillor Guide
- Register of Members interest
- Secret Garden Party Car Passes
- Huntingdonshire Flood Forum 2013 - Notes of the meeting and presentation.
- E-Cops

28/07-13 MATTERS ARISING FROM COUNCILLORS

It was reported that ball games were being played in Bentley Close Play Area. It was recommended that information was placed in the Parish Newsletter to remind residents that ball games were not permitted.

Members heard that an issue had been reported with the grass cutting in the Cemetery which would be addressed by Councillor Sisman. A conversation then followed regarding the planting of flowers on the grave and the Chairman asked the Clerk to look into the policy of the Council.

It was reported that the open spaces at Farm Close required cutting. As this estate was not adopted it would be down to Bedfordshire Pilgrim Housing Association and Muir Group Housing Association. It was suggested that the Parish Council write to both associations to request that the grass was cut. It was

RESOLVED to do so.

It was proposed that an additional £50 each month was allocated to the grass cutting and open spaces budget which would allow Mr Davis additional grass cutting where required. It was then seconded and

RESOLVED to do so.

A Member stated that it had been brought to her attention that the minutes of the meeting held on the 4th March made reference to specific allotment plots in Upwood being converted to a community orchard. As a copy of the March minutes were not available for Members to discuss the matter the Chairman then asked the Clerk to look into the matter further.

Clerk's note: When considering the minutes of 4th February at the meeting of the Parish Council on 4th March the minutes read as follows:

"Copies of the minutes of Upwood & the Raveleys Parish Council meeting held on 4th February 2013 had been circulated in advance of the meeting following their informal approval by the Chairman. A Member advised the Clerk that item 177/01-13, Allotments, stated that the Association were working to convert plot 1 to a community orchard. In fact the plots that would be used were plots 2-3 would be suitable for the project"

The Chairman of the Upwood & the Raveleys Allotment Association has confirmed that there are no plans to convert plots 2 & 3 to a community orchard and any plans would be discussed with the allotment holders. Plots that are vacant would be only be considered. The Clerk has e-mailed the allotment holder of plot 3 and had apologised for the mistake.

It was reported that the land for sale at the airfield, Upwood, did not meet its reserve.

The lettering to replace the "Welcome to Ramsey" had been ordered.

29/07-13 MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

There were none.

30/07-13 CROSS KEYS PUBLIC HOUSE

Members were advised that the Parish Council had applied to Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) under the Localism Act 2012 to apply to have the public house, paddock and car park put on the Assets of Community Value List. The process could take up to eight weeks for approval as HDC would communicate with Enterprise Inns to advise them of the request. If successful Community interest groups have six weeks to a written request to be treated as a potential bidder. If such a request is entered then a six month moratorium will follow.

If the nomination is successful the Council could ask for a moratorium to put on the sale of the pub for six months.

Clerk's note: On the 26th July 2013 HDC have confirmed that that the nomination by the Parish Council has been successful and The Cross Keys public house, car park and paddock have been included in their list of Assets of Community Value.

31/07-13

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

2nd September 2013, Upwood village Hall, 7.00pm.

CHAIRMAN