

UPWOOD AND THE RAVLEYS PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Upwood and The Raveleys Parish Council was held on Monday 8th April 2013 at 7.00 pm in the Upwood Village Hall

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

In attendance: Councillor Jason Ablewhite, Executive Leader of Huntingdonshire District Council; Dr Ali Miles, Chairman of Upwood & the Raveleys Council Allotment Association (URCAA) and three members of the public.

196/04-13 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor A Perkins.

197/04-13 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Sisman declared an interest in transport issues.

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

Councillor Bryce declared an interest in planning application 1300417OUT.

198/04-13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

199/04-13 MINUTES

Copies of the minutes of Upwood & the Raveleys Parish Council meeting held on 4th March 2013 had been circulated in advance of the meeting following their informal approval by the Chairman.

It was then proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED that these were a correct record and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

200/04-13 MATTERS ARISING OR CARRIED FORWARD FROM THE LAST OR PREVIOUS MEETING

200/04-13.1 Councillor Hopkins advised Members that the first meeting of the Community Led Plan Working Party would take place on 18th April. Mike Barnes of Cambridgeshire Acre would also be in attendance to offer support and advice on the subject. The meeting would be the first meet and greet for Members and to discuss what skills individuals could bring to the project and the roles that could be allocated. The Community Led Plan would be put into context with the Localism Act and Huntingdonshire District Council's Local Plan. Focus would be given on how the residents could be engaged, the potential questions that the community could be asked and how the project plan could be developed. It was

RESOLVED to note the report with thanks.

200 /04-13.2 Councillor Sisman informed Members that he had received quotations from Mr Davis of Landscaping & Tree Services and Huntingdonshire District Council to undertake work for grass cutting and hedge cutting in the Parish for a two and three year period. Copies were available for Members information. Members were also advised Councillor Sisman had meet with Mr Spencer Ambrose of K Ferguson Ltd but no quotation had been received.

Councillor Sisman stated that out of the two quotes, Mr Davis was the most competitive and had quoted for twelve grass cuts per year for a fixed price of £345 per cut for a total of 12 cuts per year and an additional fixed price of £685 per year for hedge cutting in the Parish. The Chairman asked the Clerk

if anyone else had been contacted and was advised that enquires had been made with the Clerks at Abbots Ripton, Warboys and Ramsey, who had confirmed that Huntingdonshire District Council carried out the work. The contractor for Kings Ripton had been asked to quote for the work but had declined, as had the contractor who carried out private work for members of RAF Alconbury.

Members noted that Mr Davis lived locally and had historically cut the grass and hedges. No problems had been reported with the work. It was therefore

RESOLVED to approve Mr Davis's quotation for a fixed term of three years for twelve grass cuts a year and hedge works.

It was also

RESOLVED to thank Councillor Sisman for this time and effort on the project.

200/01-13.3 Members were advised that the solicitors Jolliffe Daking LLP had been notified that the Parish Council wished to apply for a new lease for Glebe Paddock Playing Fields on terms to be negotiated and the Clerk was currently waiting instruction from the Diocesan Office. It was

RESOLVED to note the report with thanks.

200/04-13.4 Members heard that Cambridgeshire County Council had appointed Cheffins to auction Upwood Storage Depot. No further comments were added to the discussion that had been held at the previous meeting and it was

RESOLVED to note the report with thanks.

200/04-13.5 The Chairman informed Members that the Clerk had received an e-mail from the Secretary of St Peter's Church Council (PCC) concerning the Quinquennial inspection that had been held in November 2012. The report had never been adopted by the Parish Council as a master plan and had highlighted a number of recommendations with references to the trees in the Church Yard, such as thinning out the trees in the north-west corner and a number of deciduous trees with dead branches required attention. There were also a number of yew trees which needed to be cut back as did the boundary hedge on the south side of the Church Yard. The Yew tree close to the north aisle and at the west end had to be cut back if the root systems were not to affect the masonry walls.

The Chairman went on to explain that Councillor Perkins had been asked to talk with the PCC; budgetary funds had been allocated so it was time to take the matter forward.

200/04-13.6 Members were advised that the RoSPA inspector had contacted the Clerk and would be e-mailing a selection of dates in the next week. A report would be available at the next meeting for Members information.

201/04-13.4 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Jason Ablewhite to the meeting and it was

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting.

Councillor Ablewhite thanked Members for their time and stated how agreeable it was to note such an active group of volunteers there were in the parish, particularly with the Community Led Plan and went on to explain the benefit of adopting a Community Led Plan if a housing development was going to take place in the Parish.

Members were advised that under current legislation 15% of the development contract would be allocated to the Council for spending projects in the Council known as section 106 money. With the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy housing developments close to the Parish such as The Alconbury Weald Development and RAF Upwood and Upwood Hill House, Ramsey could bring 25% of the development contract if a Parish Plan had been adopted.

Councillor Ablewhite went on to explain how the Community Infrastructure Levy was designed to be fairer, faster and more transparent than that of the agreed planning obligations between local councils and developers under the Section 106 planning act. The charges would be set by the local council, based on the size and type of the new development. The money raised would give local authorities the freedom to set their own priorities for what the money should be spent on and would give local authorities a predictable funding stream that would allow them to plan ahead more effectively.

A Member enquired to what extent the Parish of Upwood & the Raveleys had been mentioned in Huntingdonshire District Council's Local Plan. The Chairman replied that the parish had been "named checked" with reference to a proposed cycle path from the school to Ramsey.

A Member then stated that Huntingdonshire District Council's Local Plan should take into account the additional infrastructure required that the additional housing would bring such as new bus stops and the roads being updated. Councillor Ablewhite explained that the plan would be updated at regular intervals.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Ablewhite for his comments and it was

RESOLVED to reconvene.

202/04-13.4 ALLOTMENTS

The Chairman welcomed Dr Ali Miles to the meeting and it was

RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting.

Dr Miles presented a report to Members on the Association's ten year plan, a copy of which is attached to the original minutes of the meeting. Members heard that in the first year the emphasis would be to encourage residents to grow and to work with the Parish Council to establish a new allotment agreement and understand the roles and responsibilities of the Association and the Council, in particular the insurance liability and track maintenance as Vehicles were driven onto the site and although the risk was low to the individuals on site, it was felt that public liability insurance was required.

Members were advised that clarification was required if the Association should have their liability insurance, if this was covered by the Parish Council or did the Parish Council require a separate policy. The Chairman asked the Clerk if the matter could be investigated and reported back to Council.

Dr Miles asked the Council to consider releasing £250 to the Association to clear unassigned plots which could be made ready for new starters.

Members were then invited to attend the Association's Annual General Meeting on 7th May 2013.

The Chairman thanked Dr Miles for her comments and advised it would be beneficial to have a member of the Association of the Community Led Plan Working Party. It was then

RESOLVED to reconvene.

The Chairman then asked Members to consider Dr Miles request to release £250 and it was proposed, seconded and unanimously

RESOLVED to do so.

203/04 -13.4 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Members next discussed topics for the Annual Parish which was agreed to be held on 13th May 2013 and the following items were recommend;

- Presentation on the local speedwatch programme
- Annual report from the local school
- Report from the Wildlife Trust on the local reserves in the area
- Annual report from the Hedgehog Rescue Centre based in Upwood
- Report from the Upwood & the Raveleys Council Allotment Association
- Annual report from St Peters Church Council

204/04-13.4 PLANNING

Members considered Planning Application Ref: 13000294CLED Certification of existing lawful use of existing bungalow as separate dwelling divorced from main two storey dwelling. Helens Farm, Meadow Lane, Upwood.

Based on the evidence provided and local historical knowledge it was

RESOLVED to accept that the existing bungalow is a separate dwelling to that of the main two storey dwelling.

204/04-13.4.1 PLANNING ITEMS RECEIVED SINCE PUBLICATION OF THE AGENDA

The Chairman advised that the following Planning Application had been received;

1300417OUT: Erection of two dwellings – land at the Paddocks, Great Raveley.

The Chairman outlined the plans in detail to Members and noted that the location of the dwellings had been changed to face the main road with gap in between for vehicles to pass and park behind the dwelling. A legal covenant on the land protected the land behind the proposed dwellings exempt further building from taking place.

A Member proposed that more time was needed to consider the application. It was

RESOLVED that Members postpone their comments and delegate authority to the Clerk to submit a response on behalf of the Parish Council based on the majority view.

Clerk's Note: As Councillor Bryce had declared an interest in this application he would not submit a vote to the Clerk.

A Member noted that on a separate issue the removal of the hedge by the developer had yet to be resolved as had the issue of the sewage outlet.

206/04-13 FINANCE

206/04-13.1 Members noted the finance report for April 2013, a copy of which is attached to the original minutes of this meeting.

206/04-13.2 Members were asked to approve the following accounts for payment:

Claire Tunnicliffe	101336	£323.45
HMRC	101337	£80.80
Payment for Hire of the Village Hall & Electric	101338	£59.85
Joliffe Daking	101339	£159.50
Anglian Water	101340	£17.02

206/04-13.3 Members next considered an application for financial assistance of £200 towards the Upwood & the Raveleys Village Fete. Following a short discussion a Member recommended that if the application was successful the Committee should retain funds from the 2013 to fund the next fete and break down of spending should be requested. It was then

RESOLVED to approve the application and further

207/04-13 CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS

Members had before a list of correspondence that had been sent by the Parish Clerk and were asked to appoint a Member to a meeting of the Huntingdonshire Flood Forum on May 22nd at Pathfinder House. It was

RESOLVED to appoint Councillor Sisman to attend the meeting.

208/04-13 SEWAGE OUTLET / DRAINAGE IN GREAT RAVELEY

This Item was deferred until the next meeting.

209/04-13 MATTERS ARISING FROM COUNCILLORS

The following matters were raised under this item;

- Parking on the high street on the junction of Church Lane, adjacent to the bus route – *this has been reported to the local PCSO.*
- Children climbing on trees on the grass area in Helens Close – *Names to be given to Councillor Howe.*
- On the allotment hedge on the side of Meadow Lane a political party have erected a sign – *Councillor Sisman to remove.*

210/04-01 MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

The Clerk was reminded to include the item of the sewage outlet / drainage in Great Raveley.

211/04-01

DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)

13th May 2013, the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm, the Village Hall followed by an ordinary Council meeting.

CHAIRMAN

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robin Howe." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.