



Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council

# UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2022 EDITION



## Welcome from our new Chairman

**Jan Burgess**

*Chairman, Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council*

I am a barrister practising in healthcare professional regulation. I have lived in Upwood for the past 20 years with my family and noticed traffic flow rapidly increasing and ever-increasing incidences of speeding. Feeling I should step up and try to tackle the issue, I joined the parish council in May 2020 and became Vice Chair in the summer of 2020. I held the portfolio responsibility for planning applications (this now resides with Councillor Howe) and am a member of the finance and traffic working parties.

It gives me great pleasure to now take over the role of Chairman from Cllr Howe, who continues on the parish council as the Vice Chairman. In his last report, he outlined four main priorities the parish council:

- Road safety and speed control
- Appearance of the parish
- Health and safety of the children of the parish
- Improved communication between the parish council and residents

These are very much my priorities too, and I look forward to working with the other councillors on these. There are three casual vacancies on the parish council. If you feel passionate about the place you live, and want to work to make a difference, then please get in touch – we would love to hear from you.



### **Obituary: a fond farewell to Councillor Michael Tew**

*Following many years of successful and committed public service, with Bury Parish Council and Cambridgeshire County Council, Cllr Michael Tew served as a parish councillor for Upwood and the Raveleys from November 2016 to April 2018 and again from December 2021 until his sudden death in July. He became a founding member of the RUB (Ramsey, Upwood and Bury) Alliance, drawing on his forensic research techniques to expose problems with large planning applications which he felt concentrated too much upon the number of homes being built and too little on the supporting infrastructure, notably traffic management systems. He had an encyclopaedic knowledge of local government rules and often quoted legislation or statistics to support council decisions. The clerk would check the facts when drafting the minutes but always found him to be correct. Mike had been attending a course in town and country planning and intended to use this knowledge to revise the community plan for Upwood and the Raveleys. He was always looking ahead to improve his knowledge and the welfare of residents. Sadly, these things will not now come to pass under Mike's watch. He will not only be remembered for his unwavering dedication to public service, but also with immense fondness by friends, colleagues and residents alike.*

### **Reports from county and district councillors**

Cllr Lowe will attend Cambridgeshire County Council's conference "*How we can work together to combat flooding*" and will report back at the next meeting. Residents are invited to participate in focus groups and to share ideas for the future of Huntingdonshire.

For further information please see: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/huntingdonshire-futures-51409352923>

### **Community Infrastructure Levy funding from HDC**

An application to support the refurbishment of Bentley Close playground has been submitted.

Councillors expressed their thanks to Cllr Mashford for taking the lead on this project and completing the application.

### **Defibrillator for Fairmead**

£1,300 has already been raised by residents, but more funds were needed. All agreed that the provision of a defibrillator at Fairmead in addition to existing provision at Upwood Village Hall and Bury Stores would be of great benefit to the community. Cllr Edwards proposed that the parish council supports this initiative with a donation of £250. All were in favour and it was resolved to do so. A member of the public very generously offered a further donation of £50 to meet the shortfall needed.