



MINUTES OF A UPTON ST LEONARDS PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD IN THE PAVILION ON
MONDAY 1ST JULY 2024 AT 7.30 PM

Present: Cllr Pete Wilson Chairman
Cllr Cliff Alderman
Cllr David Hunt
Cllr Mary McLachlan
Cllr Matt Sergeant
Cllr Andrew Skelton

In Attendance: 8 Members of the Public

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- The meeting opened with an introduction from a representative from Morgan Elliott Planning. An outline of proposals for Hill Farm was delivered in preparation for a pending Planning Application.
- A member of the Public queried the recent vandalism of a hose pipe on Stanley Allotments. It was confirmed that the Police had been notified and Cllr Mary McLachlan provided an update on the situation.

1. Apologies

The Council accepted apologies from Cllr Keith Pearson, Cllr Jim Browne and Cllr Hilary Morris.

2. Declaration of Interest (Members are requested to declare any interest they may have in the business set out on the Agenda to which the approved Code of Practice appears.)

There were none.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on Monday 3rd June 2024

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting and duly signed.

4. a. To receive a report from County Councillor.

Chairman Pete Wilson provided an overview of County Councillor Sue William's June Report. The full report can be found on the Parish Website.

b. To receive a report from the District Councillor.

Cllr Matt Sergeant provided an overview of his report (circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting) and reminded participants that all District Council meetings are on YouTube.

c. To receive a report from the Council Chairman.

There was no specific report to deliver on this occasion, however Cllr David Hunt did make reference to the recent anti social disturbances in the Parish. It was noted that should future events arise, members of the Public should contact the police.

d. To receive a report from Coopers Edge Councillor.

In continuation to Cllr Hunt's anti social update, Cllr Matt Sergeant also updated everyone on the anti social behaviour in Coopers Edge. Disappointingly Cllr Sergeant reported that the situation was not improving and was in fact getting worse. The Public and Cllrs were reminded that in any situation of anti social disturbances a certain protocol should be followed and this was outlined as below:

- Call 999 if there is an immediate threat to life, harm, or intimidation.
- Call 101 to report non urgent events – this will allow monitoring to occur.
- Never approach the culprits.

As part of the Coopers Edge discussions, Cllr David Hunt confirmed that the project for displaying aircraft history lecterns around the area was on a temporary hold. Complications regarding land ownership and transfers proving problematic when trying to instruct contractors.

e. To receive the Clerks Report.

Chairman Peter Wilson delivered an overview of the Clerk's report and as part of these discussions also discussed options regarding including the Minutes of meetings in USL Life. The Clerk suggested some ideas with an invite given to a reporter of USL Life to visit the Parish Office after meetings to obtain highlight points to publish.

5. To receive an update from the M5 Working Group and agree any actions.

There were no updates on this occasion.

6. To receive an update on a recent meeting with the Highways Stakeholder.

Chairman Pete Wilson delivered the report written by the Parish Office in response to a meeting held on June 18th 2024. A member of the Public also joined in brief discussions on the topic of the Six Acre pavements and a recent pedestrian accident. It was decided that the report on progress was useful therefore would be sent by the Clerks Assistant to the Editor of USL Life for the next edition. As part of this discussion it was also highlighted that some members of the Public are not able to access online updates therefore Cllr Mary McLachlan suggested coffee mornings in the Parish would also provide a good route for communication.

Other topics discussed as part of this update included progress on the Auto Speedwatch cameras and confirmation that Cllr Keith Pearson will be in contact with the Highways Stakeholder re visual documentation of the drains. It was also concluded that since the Highways report had been written, it had been formally confirmed that Ashgrove does fall under the Highways responsibility.

7. To consider and approve the funding for a Autospeed Camera System.

Funding for the Autospeedwatch Camera system was approved by the Councillors. Being proposed by Cllr Mary McLachlan and seconded by Cllr Andrew Skelton. Cllr Cliff Alderman did suggest concerns regarding vandalism but the Clerk confirmed that the cameras are very small, positioned and a good height above pavement level and has had no issues in other Parishes.

8. To consider and approve the adoption of a Parish Council logo.

The Councillors approved the use of the Parish logo circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk confirmed that the creator was happy for its usage. Cllr David Hunt proposed the idea and Cllr Mary McLachlan seconded.

9. To receive the following reports

a. Allotments:

Cllr Mary McLachlan confirmed that new signage was going up on the Stanley Allotments due to the recent hose pipe vandalism. Cllr McLachlan also made reference to disappointing scenarios recently where people have been helping themselves to other allotment holders produce.

b. Recreation Ground / Pavilion:

The recent damage to the Recreation Ground bench was discussed again (following on from the previous meeting). A member of the public queried if it had once been said that the bench would not be replaced however the Clerk confirmed no such comment had been made. Cllr Cliff Alderman suggested a member of the footpath team may be able to look at the bench further therefore the matter was left with him to investigate. There was also discussions regarding the overgrown hedges. The Clerk confirmed that hedges can only be cut before September 1st if they are proving a health and safety risk and even then can only be cut by hand-shears. As previously referenced it was encouraged that people log issues on Fix My Street if they think situations meet the criteria.

Finally as part of the Recreation Ground update the topic of group organised BBQs was discussed. The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council could not support this due to liability risk and if a private individual was to organise an event they should also have Public Liability, or Event Insurance. It was decided that BBQs on the Rec should be discussed in more detail and the September meeting and placed on the agenda.

c. Environment

i. Initiatives

Cllr Pete Wilson confirmed there were no specific updates other than the Stroud Valleys Project and the offer to plant trees in the Parish. As a previous location

discussed is no longer available other options are being looked at. Cllr Cliff Alderman also suggested a community orchard with the Clerk reminding everyone that there is a community orchard at the Stanley allotments site. From this discussion a general discussion was raised regarding surplus produce in the Parish arising from gardens and allotments. A food share scheme was briefly discussed however it was confirmed that this would need to be looked into in more detail, especially in terms of managing and ensuring sharing sites do not attract rodents and wild animals.

As part of the discussion focusing on rubbish it was also noted that bins in the Parish are often full therefore close observation was to be placed on these to ensure they are being emptied. It was also suggested that on the next agenda an item regarding a dog waste bin on Valley Lane should be looked into. Cllr Mary McLachlan also raised continued concerns at the random grass cutting in the village suggesting that if areas are to be left for biodiversity intentions then signage and explanation should be available to the public.

10. Accounts.

a. To approve the Accounts for Payment as per the list circulated prior to the meeting.

A22 Jc

A	C	D	
Accounts for payment July 2024			
Payee	Chq Number	Amount	Reason
M Harvey	3356	£60.00	Clean B
R Balgobin	3357	£ 1,081.64	Salary
VOID - ERROR	3358	£ -	
T Slator	3359	£ 434.54	Salary
HMRC	3360	£ 382.72	Tax & P
VOID - ERROR	3361	£ -	
Cuttlefish Multimedia LTD	3362	£ 1,200.00	New W
Severn Signs	3363	£ 48.00	Memor
G Knight	3364	£ 270.00	Grass c
J Evans	3365	£ 40.00	Litter p
Communicorp	3366	£ 126.60	Grahan

The Council agreed that the accounts be accepted for payment.

11. Date of the next meeting – Monday 2nd September 2024 at 7.30pm in the Recreation Ground Pavilion.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS
THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.55 PM**

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