

**MINUTES OF A UPTON ST LEONARDS PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING HELD IN THE PAVILION ON**  
**MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023 AT 7.30 PM**

Present: Chairman Chrissie Castle  
Cllr Jim Browne  
Cllr David Hunt  
Cllr Mary McLachlan  
Cllr Hilary Morris  
Cllr Pete Wilson  
Cllr Keith Pearson  
Cllr Matt Sergeant

In Attendance: County Cllr Sue Williams  
4 Members of the Public

**1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Council accepted apologies from Cllr Graham Hayes and Cllr Roy Roberts.

**2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA**

Cllr Pete Wilson declared an interest in Agenda Item 8a.

**3. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

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

**4. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING REPORTS:**

**a. County Councillor.**

A report was circulated to the Members prior to the meeting, the County Councillor then detailed the salient points.

*The report is available on the Councils Website – follow the link below:*

<https://www.uptonstleonards-pc.gov.uk/parish-council/parish-council-meetings/>

- During discussions with County Cllr Sue Williams; Cllr Keith Pearson also raised concerns regarding recent flooding in key areas of the Parish in particular the junction with Staites Orchard and Churchfield Road. The Council also raised its concern in regards to the provision of the ANPR cameras which the Parish have had approval for and are still awaiting delivery of.
- The Council raised its concern about the change of County Council Cllr areas being currently consulted upon. The Council agreed to include an Agenda Item on its next meeting to discuss and make its representation.

**b. District Councillor.**

District Cllr Keith Pearson updated the council on District Council matters which included:

- Confirmation that the District Council is in financially good shape compared to other Councils.
- Concerns were raised over the Local Plan and predatory applications in the area.
- The installation of EV Charging points in the District Councils Car Parks.

**c. Council Chairman.**

Chairman Chrissie Castle updated the council on matters which included:

- A pay rise for Clerks and Officers authorised and to be back dated to April 2023.
- M5 Jct 11A project – Currently running on time and should be completed by its scheduled end date for Christmas 2023.
- A reminder that the Armistice Memorial Service will be held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at the Parish Church with the wreath being placed at 11am.

**c. Coopers Edge Councilor.**

Cllr Matt Sergeant updated the council on ongoing issues with the Coopers Edge estate. Updates included:

- The local Deli being recognised for an award.
- Ongoing Anti-Social Behavior.
- Discussions around future youth provisions in the area with reference being made to a Police Meeting and Community Event during the week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> November.
- Chairman Chrissie Castle introduced the idea that Parish Council Meetings could also be held at the Coopers Edge Community Centre more frequently which was unanimously agreed. It is hoped this will begin in the New Year, potentially February 2024.
- It was proposed by the Council that £2,000 of funding per annum would go towards the Coopers Edge Youth facilities with immediate effect and would be listed in the pending budget.
- Cllr David Hunt also informed the Council of a new funding plan which will allow for strategic interpretation boards throughout the Coopers Edge reminding local residents on the historic importance on the site and the Gloucester Aircraft company.

**d. Clerks Report.**

- Confirmation that the trees recently damaged in the storms had been dealt with.
- Confirmation that a meeting had been organised and had already taken place in reference to the floodlight request at the Recreation Ground.

## 5. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE M5 WORKING GROUP

The Chairman of the M5 Working Group, Tony Pryce advised that no further updates since Cllr David Hunt reported that our formal complaint is still being considered by the ombudsman in the October Council Meeting.

## 6. To note the revised opening hours to the public of the Parish Office.

The revised hours of the Parish Office were unanimously agreed to with immediate effect. The confirmed hours will now be 10am-12pm Tuesday and Thursday (Term time only).

## 7. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING REPORTS:

- a. **Allotments.** Cllr Mary McLachlan updated the Council on Allotment matters, and confirmed that a numbering system would be funded and investigated by the Parish Council Office. Reference was also made to a new community compost area at the Perry Orchard allotments.
- b. **Recreation Ground/Pavilion.** Cllr David Hunt reported that the meeting to review the temporary floodlights during training sessions for the Football Club was successful with no immediate issues identified for surrounding residents. It was confirmed that the lights would be battery powered and monitoring of the land must take place to ensure damage is limited in high concentration training areas. It was agreed that training should only happen when ground conditions are suitable to prevent damage for other users of the area. It was unanimously agreed that two nights a week between 7pm - 9pm the floodlights could be used with details being provided to residents in the next Parish Newsletter.
- c. **Environment.** Cllr Pete Wilson provided details in reference to his recent meeting with Transition Stroud and an exciting E-Bike scheme the Parish could benefit from. Details of which will be published in the next Parish newsletter. Cllr Wilson also detailed other pending schemes he is investigating such as group discounts for the adoption of solar power. Cllr Wilson also indicated to the Council that he would be participating in an online training course on Bio-Diversity which would also benefit the Parish. Other discussions included the potential for land allocation to tree planting in the future and other ideas for improving the village such as kissing gates, concerns in regards to the Churchfield Road / Bondend Road. The Council agreed to seek a site meeting with the Area Highways to discuss highways concerns. Cllr David Hunt updated the Council on his discussions with SDC in regards to the potential conservation area for the village advising that a further meeting is to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> November with SDC.
- d. **Village Hall.** Cllr Keith Pearson acknowledged the requirement new trustees as a member steps down.

## 8. FINANCE

a. **APPROVAL OF ACCOUNT** to approve the Accounts for payment. The following accounts were presented for payment:

Payee	Chq Number	Amount	Reason
HMRC	3210	£ 72.40	Tax /NI
MS Roofing	3211	£ 675.00	Pavilion
T Slator	3212	£ 300.56	Salary / Exp
STW	3213	£ 170.86	Water Survey Cud Hill
Severn Signs Ltd	3214	£ 140.36	Memorial Plaques
J Evans	3215	£ 40.00	Litter Pick
A Russell	3216	£ 954.45	Pavilion / Footpaths
RBL Poppy Appeal	3217	£ 50.00	Grant
Allstone Ltd	3218	£ 829.20	Skip Hire
USL Life	3219	£ 1,000.00	Grant
D Cridland	3220	£ 2,430.00	Groundworks
T Slator	3221	£ 341.96	Salary / Exp
R Balgobin	3222	£ 1,429.86	Salary / Exp
HMRC	3223	£ 656.12	Tax /NI
SLCC	3224	£ 144.00	Training Course
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£9,234.77</b>	

The Council agreed that the accounts be accepted for payment.

## 9. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30 pm in the Recreation Ground Pavilion.**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.10 PM**