

## UPLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Upleadon Parish Council held on Friday 8 December 2017 at Upleadon Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr H Dunn (Chairman), Cllr M Manning, Cllr E Wood, Cllr P Dallow, Cllr Mrs A Bassett, Cllr Mrs P Turner, Cllr T Webster

Also Present: District Councillor P Burford. There were no members of the public present.

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### 7.0 Apologies and approval for absence

There were no apologies.

### 7.1 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

### 7.2 Approval of Minutes of Council meeting of 21 September 2017

Cllr Manning proposed approval of the minutes of 21 September which was seconded by Cllr Dallow and unanimously agreed.

### 7.3 Matters Arising

#### 7.3.1 P.32 5.7.2 Planning application P1152/17/FUL – The Steps, Edens Hill, Upleadon

Cllr Wood advised that he had attended the Planning Committee Meeting and had put forward the Council's objections, however the Planning Officer advised the objections were within permitted development.

#### 7.3.2 P.32 5.9.1 Forest of Dean District Council – invitation to Parish and Town Council Liaison meeting

Cllr Dunn advised that he had attended the Parish & Town Council Liaison meeting. One of the items that had been raised was broadband and the involvement of Fastershire. The Clerk advised that she had recently contacted Voneus asking for an update about broadband in Upleadon but was yet to receive a response. Cllr Dunn reported that they and BT had attended his property with a view to looking to put up 4 dishes on his grainstore. Two new polls were envisaged across the river. BT was to price up – nothing further had materialised.

#### 7.3.3 P.32 5.9.2 Newent Town Council – support to campaign against closure of Barclays Bank Newent

Mark Harper MP responded that he had been assured that the decision to close the bank had been taken due to falling transaction levels at the branch and that a significant number of Barclay's customers in Newent are already using other branches. The Post Office had responded to the closure of the Bank advising a new agreement between the Post Office and UK banks which came into effect in January 2017 brings together the Post Office's existing arrangement with individual banks into a single set of services available to customers of virtually all UK banks. There new simplified service will allow personal and business customers to withdraw cash, deposit cash and cheques and make balance enquiries at Post Office branches. He had told the Post Office that he would be happy to assist with supporting the

banking services that the Post Office has on offer in Newent and would also to pass on any further specific concerns regarding this announcement to either Barclays or the Post Office.

Members noted these comments

#### 7.4 Approval of Minutes – Extraordinary Council meeting – 19 October 2017 – Planning only

Approval of Minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting of 19 October 2017 was proposed by Cllr Webster, seconded by Cllr Wood and unanimously agreed.

#### 7.5 Finance/Sundry Payments

Finance & Sundry payments were agreed as follows:-

1. Campaign for the Protection of Rural England – subscription £36.00
2. Royal British Legion – Poppy Appeal – £50.00
3. E. Wood – travelling expenses - £23.40

Cllr Wood declared an interest in item 3 and refrained from comment and voting on this matter.

Proposed Cllr Manning, seconded by Cllr Mrs Turner and agreed by 6 votes in favour, 1 abstention.

#### 7.6 Correspondence

##### 7.6.1 Forest of Dean District Council – Allocation Development Plan Main Modifications Consultation

Members made no further comment on the Allocation Development Plan Main Modifications consultation.

#### 7.7 Business

##### 7.7.1 To give consideration to Planning applications

1. P0106/17/Discon the Steps, Edens Hill, Upleadon – discharge of condition 05 (external lighting) of planning permission P1152/17/FUL

Cllr Dallow proposed no objection to the application, seconded by Cllr Webster and unanimously agreed.

##### 7.7.2 To give consideration to Budget and setting of Precept 2018/19

Members were furnished with a financial statement and bank reconciliation together with anticipated income/expenditure to the end of the current financial year and a draft budget for 2018/19. Cllr Manning proposed a Precept for 2018/19 of £2,000.00 which was seconded by Cllr Dallow and unanimously agreed.

### 7.7.3 Appointment of Internal Auditor

The Clerk advised that Mr C Fearn who had undertaken the internal audit for 2016/17 had advised he was willing to undertake the 2017/18 Audit. Cllr Manning proposed Mr Fearn be appointed to undertake the 2017/18 Audit which was seconded by Cllr Dallow and unanimously agreed. The Clerk explained the new process for the External Audit coming into force for next year's audit.

### 7.7.4 To give consideration to Clerk contract

Members considered a draft copy of the Clerk's contract based on that produced by the NALC. Cllr Manning proposed acceptance of the Contract, seconded by Cllr Dallow and unanimously agreed.

### 7.7.5 Highway matters

1. Cllr Dunn reported that at a recent meeting with the Highways representative he had indicated support for resurfacing the roadway to the Church. It was agreed to chase this.
2. It was agreed to report an overhanging Yew Tree from the Steps into the highway which was causing vehicles to pull onto the opposite side of the road to avoid contact.
3. The Clerk advised that she had chased Highways regarding concerns of visibility at Upleadon Cross. The response received was that the Highways' representative had visited the site and observed the speed limit approaching the junction is 30 mph and signed that there is a cross-roads. With this in mind it provides plenty of time for vehicles to safely exit both junctions onto Tewkesbury Road. If the Parish Council feel that traffic isn't sticking to the speed limit they would advise that they contact the Road Safety Team on [roadsafety@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:roadsafety@gloucestershire.gov.uk)
4. Members were advised of a consistently wet area of grassed verge near to the Old Vicarage. Severn Trent had visited and advised that "none of their assets were leaking and the problem was due to a blocked drain which was causing the ditch to become wet even during very dry periods." Highways had responded that "they have previously visited the site and no gullies are blocked. The water is coming from the Old Vicarage pond and draining very slowly into the ditch. They had no concerns with the small amount of water that was flowing into the ditch."

It was agreed to monitor the situation.

The Clerk advised that she had reported two large dead trees on the edge of the highway at Brass Mill, Hooks Lane. A Highways Tree Inspector had given notice to the owner/occupier that the trees were dead and that the responsibility "now lies with the owner/occupier to carry out the necessary action to remedy the situation."

It was agreed to review this matter at the next meeting.

7.7.6 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the next scheduled meeting of the Council would be on Thurs 1 March 2018.

7.7.7 Any Other Business which in the opinion of the Chairman/Clerk s considered urgent (for information only)

Cllr Manning reported the siting of a mobile home and the making of a new stoned entrance directly off the highway along Golden Valley. This had been reported to Planning Enforcement for their investigation.

This concluded the business of the meeting and it was declared closed at 8.30 pm.