UPLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Upleadon Parish Council held on Thursday 02 September 2021 at Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr H Dunn (Chairman) Cllr Mrs P Cooke, Cllr Mrs P Turner, Cllr P Dallow, Cllr Mrs W Fabian

Also present: County Cllr Mrs G Moseley

Cllr Dunn welcomed the Council's visitors

Public Participation

Two members of the public had forwarded correspondence which formed part of the Agenda relating to:-

Climate Change/biodiversity: The member of the public spoke of the importance of this and requested the Council give support, for which he would do anything he could to assist. He advised he had been working with the Dymock Forest Rural Action Group and would like support for what they were doing too.

The second member of the public spoke of Newent Cycling Group's plans to create two link routes to bring safe commuting and recreational cycling between Newent and Gloucester. The Newent to Gloucester Cycleway will connect existing roads safe for cycling with two new links – one at Hooks Lane (at Malswick, east of Newent and the other between Murrell's End (Nr Hartpury University) and Maisemore. The propose route covers a distance of 10.2 miles at an estimated cost of £235,000. This is an on-going project working with Gloucestershire County Council and Gloucestershire Highways. Newent Cycling Group as a group has received a lot of support and are now approaching Parish Councils along the route to advise them of what they would like to do and to seek their support for their plans.

4.00 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Wood and Manning

4.1 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest

4.2 To give approval of Minutes of Council meeting – 05 May 2021

Approval of the minutes of the Council meeting 05 May 2021 was proposed by Cllr Dallow, seconded by Cllr Mrs Fabian and unanimously agreed, following an amendment on Page 2 item 1.9 Finance & Sundry Payments – Upleadon Village Hall website - delete "Hall"

4.3 Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising

4.4 To give approval of Minutes of Council meeting – 27 May 2021

Approval of the minutes of the Council meeting 27 May 2021 was proposed by Cllr Mrs Turner, seconded by Cllr Mrs Cooke and unanimously agreed.

4.5 Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising

4.6 To give approval of Minutes of Council meeting – 12 August 2021

Approval of the minutes of the Council meeting 12 August 2021 was proposed by Cllr Mrs Turner, seconded by Cllr Mrs Cooke and unanimously agreed.

4.7 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

4.8 Finance/Sundry Payments

The Clerk advised that all payments were up to date and Members were furnished with a Bank reconciliation showing a balance of £5245.08 at 30 July 2021.

- 4.9 Correspondence
- 4.9.1 Forest of Dean District Council invitation to participate in development of next Local Plan

Cllr Tim Gwilliam advised he had recently taken over both the planning portfolio and the task of producing the Council's next Local Plan. To support this work he wishes to set up two forums:

- Community engagement forum, where groups, individuals and Town and Parish Councils can be represented to play a key role in informing and advising the District Council as we continue to develop the new Local Plan for the district.
- Development sector forum, including those key local developers, could really assist the Council in assessing possible development locations, their viability and deliverability. Local knowledge can be critical.

Remote meetings to commence in September.

Whilst Members were aware of the extreme limitations for future development in Upleadon Cllr Mrs Moseley advised that she would try to engage with this Forum and the parish would be represented.

4.9.2 Dymock Parish Council – request to give support in passing a motion similar to their own, relating to the desire to reduce speed limits to 20 mph where vulnerable road users and vehicles mix in a frequent and planned manner, except where strong evidence exists that higher speeds are safe, and to request the County Councillor representative be asked to bring forward to Glos County Council.

County Cllr Mrs Gill Moseley advised that she took Dymock Parish Council's motion to the County Council in May and it has since been referred to the Environment Scrutiny Committee. Following a very comprehensive Officer's report to support, she believed it likely to be referred to Cabinet and would be moved forward from there.

The proposal would mean Traffic Regulation Orders but would hope this legislation would be approved by Government where it should be easier to get these limits where they are needed, and feel it should be community let.

Cllr Mrs Turner proposed Upleadon Parish Council support the motion in principle, which was seconded by Cllr Mrs Cooke and unanimously agreed.

4.10 Business

4.10.1 Newent – Gloucester Cycleway. Request to give support to proposal to connect existing roads safe for cycling with two new links, one at Hooks Lane, Malswick and the other between Hartpury and Maisemore, covering a distance of 10.2 miles and at an estimated cost of £235,000.

Cllr Mrs Cooke proposed the Council support Newent Cycle Group in this regard which was seconded by Cllr P Dallow, and unanimously agreed.

4.10.2 To give consideration and support to Kempley Parish Council's Biodiversity Resolution

Members considered Kempley Parish Council's draft Bio-diversity position statement and confirmed support for its proposals, and further that support is given for biodiversity in Upleadon and to working with other Parishes in the area as appropriate. Proposed by Cllr Dunn, seconded by Cllr Mrs Fabian and unanimously agreed.

4.10.3 To give consideration to requesting the installation of an alternative larger aperture Post box than that existing at Upleadon Cross and retaining the original post box insitu (as redundant) for historic purposes.

Cllr Mrs Cooke advised that a standard sized envelope as defined by Royal Mail was too large to fit in the aperture of the very small Victorian post box set into the wall at Upleadon Cross and proposed that Royal Mail be asked to provide an alternative post box with a larger aperture commensurate with modern day sizes of envelopes for siting on the opposite side of the road. Cllr Mrs Cooke added that the existing post box was recognised and valued as an historic part of the village and should be kept as such, and not removed from its existing location. Cllr Turner seconded the proposition and it was unanimously agreed that Royal Mail should be approached in this regard.

4.10.4 To give consideration to request taking on responsibility and upkeep of grass around War Memorial.

Cllr Mrs Fabian that she had for a number of years cut the grass around the War Memorial in a voluntary capacity and was happy to continue to do so.

4.10.5 Report on site-meeting regarding visibility issues at Upleadon Cross

Cllr Dunn reported that a site meeting had taken place with Nathan Choat of Gloucestershire Highways regarding the visibility issues at Upleadon Cross. He had advised that mirrors used in such situations were no longer included within Highway legislation, however they were available to purchase privately to aid visibility. Cllr Mrs Cooke who had been present at the site meeting advised of the size needed to give maximum visibility within the area concerned and gave a ball park figure of £40.00 in terms of cost. Cllr Dunn advised that a suitable location had been identified for siting a mirror and proposed that one be purchased to aid visibility at the Cross. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs Cooke and unanimously agreed.

4.10.6 Report on site meeting with Public Rights of Way Officer and County Cllr regarding resurfacing of Public Footpath between Forge Lane and Gloucester Road and to give consideration to the funding thereof.

Cllr Dunn advised that a site meeting had taken place with Council Members, Suzanne Hopes Public Rights of Way Officer together with County Cllr Mrs G Moseley to consider the resurfacing of the footpath. It had been suggested the path needed to be cleared and a membrane put down followed by type 1 stone and compacted. Cllr Dunn he had measured the path and it was 70 m long. Cllr Dunn advised that Suzanne had been asked for an idea of how much the resurfacing of the path would cost but this had not been received to date. Cllr Mrs Moseley advised that she had put in a bid for County Council funding in the sum of £1000 for the project. It was agreed to chase Suzanne for the costing and to update her regarding the situation of the overgrown hedge adjoining the path in relation to the encroached boundary at the end of the path.

4.10.7 Any Other Business

- 1. A particularly dangerous pothole on the edge of the roadside in Tewkesbury Road be reported to County Highways.
- 2. Large stones placed on edge of boundary at property below Leachfoot bridge causing vehicles to swerve to avoid. Also tall wooden pegs causing issues to motorists on boundary of property opposite. To be reported to Highways.
- 3. Tyres/cones discarded past wood on right at Eden's Hill. To be reported to Forest of Dean District Council.
- 4. Cllr Mrs Fabian advised The Honourable Company of Gloucestershire was inviting Town/Parish Councils before 30 Sept to take part in receiving trees and planting for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Members agreed to take part.

The next meeting to take place on Thursday 2 December 2021.

This concluded the business of the meeting and it was declared closed at 8.40 pm.