

UPLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Upleadon Parish Council held on Thursday 03 March 2022 at Upleadon Village Hall, at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr H Dunn (Chairman), Cllr M Manning (Deputy Chairman), Cllr Mrs P Cooke, Cllr Mrs P Turner, Cllr Mrs W Fabian

County Cllr Mrs G Moseley (from 7.45 pm)

Public Participation

3 Shires Stages 18th Sept 2022 - Elaine Ward - Secretary of Meeting & Assistant Clerk of the Course was present to give information and answer questions regarding the Rally. She apologised that the Chair of Cheltenham Motor Club had hoped to be at the meeting but was unable to do so due to illness. The Assistant Clerk of the Course advised that the consultation period for this year's event was now underway and as such she was making contact with Parishes on the route of the course in order to integrate with communities and to enter into discussion and to take feedback on any matters relating to it.

The Chair advised very strongly that the procedure relating to the timing of the re-opening of the roads at the end of the event last year had been dangerous. He had provided straw bales for the course and no time at all had been given for their removal before the roads were re-opened. Stewards were attempting to clear the roads and had been forcibly put in danger from the many vehicles coming through before this could be achieved.

Apologies were given from the Assistant Clerk of the Course that this had happened and that this information will be fed back to the Clerk of the Course who will ensure that much tighter control on safety will be given to this year's event.

The Assistant Clerk to the course advised in terms of safety the course will be driven numerous times before the event to ensure every aspect is considered and that this year the course will be run in reverse to that previously. Cllr Mrs Fabian pointed out to the Assistant Clerk of the Course that a large number of people watched the event directly at the end of Middletown Lane (joining at Gloucester Road) and if cars are now to proceed **towards** this junction the organisers needed to know this in terms of their risk assessment with regard to spectators at this point.

Cllr Mrs Turner reminded the Club, as in previous years that several villages who were not on the route of the Rally but who would be affected by it, needed to be informed of the event and that better publicity needed to be put in place regarding this.

7.00 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from District Cllr P Burford

7.1 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest

7.2 To give approval of Minutes of Council meeting – 02 December 2021

Approval of the minutes of the Council meeting of 02 December 2021 was proposed by Cllr Mrs Turner, seconded by Cllr Mrs Fabian and unanimously agreed.

7.3 Matters Arising

P.13 6.8.3 Footpath GUP11 Gloucester Rd to Forge Lane

Members expressed positive comment on the newly renovated footpath and that it is now being very well used. The Clerk advised that letters of thanks had been sent to County Cllr Gill Moseley and to Suzanne Hopes Public Rights of Way for their valuable monetary contributions which had enabled the project to be undertaken.

P.14 Potential highway visibility issues – Eden's Hill

Members were advised the matter had been reported to Highways who had responded that they would look at it, if and when visibility issues arose from the hedge.

7.4 Finance & Sundry Payments/Bank reconciliation

Members were furnished with a bank reconciliation showing a bank balance of £5,426.10 as at 17 December 2021

Payments for consideration:-

1. Gloucestershire County Council – contribution to improvements to footpath GUP11 - £700.00
2. Upleadon Village Hall – Hire of Hall - £60.00
3. Clerk salary - £1065.00 2021/2022
4. HMRC £266.20

Cllr Manning proposed approval, seconded by Cllr Mrs Cooke and was unanimously agreed.

7.5 Correspondence

7.5.1 Request for signage on Forge Lane indicating location of Church

The Clerk advised that a written request had been made by a member of the public and subsequently supported by a letter from the Parochial Church Council for a directional sign to the Church to be erected in such a place so that those travelling from Oridge Street/Corse could locate the Church. The position of the Church set back from the highway currently makes it difficult for persons wishing to visit the Church to do so from this direction given it is not visible from the highway. The Clerk advised she had written to Highways about this matter and a response had been received suggesting a suitable sign at the location of the entrance to the Church would provide visibility issues for vehicles exiting the field and would quickly become damaged. They did not believe the cost would be expensive and suggest requesting it via the local County Cllr via the highway local funding during the next fiscal year.

Members considered the best approach would be to request a site meeting to discuss further. This was proposed by Cllr Manning, seconded by Cllr Mrs Turner and unanimously agreed. County Cllr Mrs Moseley advised she would be willing to attend if available.

7.5.2 Motorsport UK – Consultation Cheltenham Motor Club – 3 Stage Rally – Sunday 18 September 2022

Cllr Dunn expressed his grave concern further regarding the safety aspect of the Rally last year as detailed to the representative of Cheltenham Motor Club in the

public session. Cllr Mrs Fabian stated that whilst the Council should be firm about this aspect in its response to the consultation, she would not wish to see the event cancelled as many villagers enjoyed and looked forward to it, and that there was a lot of positivity about it taking place.

It was agreed to respond to the consultation expressing the Council's concern about the safety aspect based on experience last year with regard to re-opening the road too soon and also the need to ensure neighbouring communities to Upleadon were aware of the event so they could plan alternative routes if necessary. Proposed by Cllr Dunn, seconded by Cllr Mrs Turner and unanimously agreed.

7.5.3 Forest of Dean District Council - (Local Plan) Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA) 2022 - CALL FOR SITES

Members were not able to put forward any potential housing or employment sites at the present time and within the short-time scale of 31 March 2022 in order to be considered as part of the 2022 review, however were mindful that submissions could be received after the deadline, to be assessed as part of the SHELAA update in 2023.

7.6 Business

7.6.1 To give consideration to appointment of Internal Auditor

The Clerk advised that Chris Fearn who had undertaken the role of Internal Auditor in previous year was prepared to do so again this year. It was proposed by Cllr Manning that Mr Fearn be appointed as Internal Auditor which was seconded by Cllr Mrs Turner and unanimously agreed.

7.6.2 Queen's Platinum Jubilee – plans for

Cllr Mrs Fabian advised that villagers had proposed plans for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee:-

The lighting of a beacon - on the Thursday evening
A Coffee morning and Pop up Pub with a Jubilee theme – on the Friday evening
A picnic and photograph of villagers in the garden of the former Vicarage.

Cllr Dunn proposed that the newly refurbished footpath between Gloucester Road and Forge lane be formally dedicated to the Platinum Jubilee and that a suitably inscribed Plaque be erected to commemorate the occasion. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs Cooke. It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Cooke would look into identifying such a plaque, inscription and costings for putting before Council at the next meeting in early May.

Cllr Mrs Fabian requested the Council consider funding/contributing to the cost of the village photograph. This was agreed to a figure of £75.00. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Fabian, seconded by Cllr Manning and unanimously agreed. Cllr Mrs Cooke offered to assist with mounting the photograph.

7.6.3 Date of next meeting and Annual Assembly meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be 5 May at 7.00 pm with the Annual Assembly meeting following at 7.45 pm.

7.6.4 Any Other Business (for information only)

Cllr Manning questioned a recent reference to the Church's responsibility to the War Memorial when in fact this was under the remit of the Parish Council. Cllr Mrs Cooke explained that the reference was to "The Friends of St Mary's" which was not the same as St Mary's Church and they were simply a group raising funds for heritage/conservation purposes.