

## UPLEADON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Upleadon Parish Council held on Thursday 29 September 2022 at Upleadon Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr M Manning (Chairman), Cllr E Wood, Cllr H Dunn, Cllr P Dallow, Cllr Mrs W Fabian,

Also Present: District Cllr P Burford, County Cllr Mrs Gill Moseley

Apologies: Cllr Mrs Turner – holiday, also District Cllr B Lewis

There was one Member of the public present

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5.00 There was no public representation

5.1 To give consideration to application in response to Co-option vacancy

One member of the public had applied in response to Co-option vacancy. He had completed an application form and had confirmed his eligibility to stand as a Parish Councillor. A vote was taken in favour in co-opting Mr Tim Rickard, proposed by Cllr Dallow, seconded by Cllr Mrs Fabian and unanimously agreed.

5.2 Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Mr Rickard signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office having previously been furnished with a copy of the Council's Code of Conduct, which was witnessed by the Clerk. Cllr Rickard was then invited to take part in the remainder of the meeting.

5.3 Approval of Minutes – Council meeting 5 May 2022

Approval of Minutes of the Council meeting of 5 May 2022 was proposed by Cllr Mrs Fabian, seconded by Cllr Dallow and unanimously agreed.

5.4 Matters Arising

There were no Matters arising other than the noting of the Three Stage Car Rally that had not taken place due to the date of it falling within the mourning period following the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

5.5 Approval of Minutes – Council meeting 9 June 2022

Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting of 9 June 2012 was proposed by Cllr Dallow seconded by Cllr Mrs Fabian and unanimously agreed.

5.6 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5.7 Approval of Minutes – Council meeting (Planning) 7 July 2022

Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting (Planning) of 7 July 2022 was proposed by Cllr Dallow seconded by Cllr Dunn and unanimously agreed.

5.8 Approval of Minutes – Council meeting (Planning) 11 August 2022

Approval of the Minutes of the Council meeting (Planning) of 11 August was proposed by Cllr Dallow seconded by Cllr Wood and unanimously agreed.

5.9 Finance/Sundry Payments/Bank Reconciliation

Members had been furnished with a current Bank reconciliation and considered the following payments to be made :-

Clerk Salary increase – for year 1 April 2021-31 March 2022

D Morley £18.72 net HMRC £4.68 (as agreed at last meeting)

Reimbursement to Clerk – purchase of computer part £19.99 (as agreed at last meeting)

Safelincs – purchase of replacement defibrillator Pads - £65.99 inc vat

Printerland – Toner for printer £66.42 plus vat (free delivery)

Ann Shaw – Reimbursement of payment of £55 paid to Framer of Village Photograph (Queens' Jubilee celebration)

Approval of the payments were proposed by Cllr Wood, seconded by Cllr Mrs Fabian and unanimously agreed.

## 5.10 Correspondence

### 5.10.1 Forest of Dean District Council – consultation on amendments to its Council tax support scheme

The Forest of Dean District Council is consulting with residents about amendments to its Council Tax Support Scheme, which if agreed, would come into effect from April 2023.

Members declined to comment on the amendments.

### 5.10.2 Bronwin & Abbey Chartered Foresters – appointed to draw up 10 year management plan for Collinpark Wood – invitation to give feedback on plan

Members considered the 10 year management plan for Collinpark Wood and unanimously agreed they had No Objection.

## 5.11 Business

### 5.11.1 To give consideration to Forest of Dean District Council Local Plan 2021-2041 Second Preferred Option consultation

Question 1 - Lydney Do you agree with the Councils approach to enhancing the role of Lydney featuring additional growth and improved facilities?

*Yes but improved facilities, infrastructure and more employment opportunities are essential. Should the role of Lydney hospital be enhanced in view of the larger population?*

Question 2 - Newent Do you agree with the Councils preferred option for development of Land at Newent?

*We are in favour and would support if a master plan was in place. Facilities and transport links are inadequate at present – there is a need to maintain and enhance the town centre.*

Question 3 - Major villages and towns

Do you agree with the Councils approach to Supporting mixed use development at major villages and towns?

Yes

Question 4 - Beachley Do you support the councils approach for redevelopment for mixed uses of land at Beachley?

*Yes we are in support of this.*

Question 5 - Sustainable development at villages Do you support the councils approach for sustainable development at villages?

Depends on the definition of "sustainable". Even small villages need some small scale development if they are to remain viable communities – and increased population makes the provision of services in itself more sustainable.

Question 6 -Tackling climate change Do you support the councils approach for addressing climate change?

*Yes we support – but it doesn't go far enough*

Question 7 - Improving and protecting the environment Do you support the councils approach to Improving and Protecting the Environment?

*Sounds good – but what does it actually mean?*

Question 8 - Sustainable design Do you agree with the councils approach to achieving a high standard of sustainable design?

*Agree – if enforced*

Question 9 - The strategy and plan vision

Do you agree with the councils assessment of the strategy against the overall points from the plan vision?

*No comment*

Question 10 - Scale and distribution of housing

Do you agree with the councils approach to the scale and distribution of housing?

*In general but see comments to Questions 1, 2 & 3*

Question 11 General policies Do you agree with the general policies that the council proposes to include in the local plan?

Yes

Question 12 Are there any further comments about the strategy you would like to add?

*We would like the settlement boundary to be reviewed to allow additional limited development.*

#### 5.11.2 To give consideration to increasing Council's email capacity

The Clerk advised that the Council's limited email capacity was creating difficulties and had contacted the Council's email provider to ascertain the provision of greater capacity. The provider had quoted several options and it was proposed by Cllr that an increased capacity of 500mb at £48 per annum be purchased. Proposed by Cllr Rickard, seconded by Cllr Dallow and unanimously agreed.

#### 5.11.3 To consider process of internet banking

The Clerk advised that she had visited the Council's bank with regard to the possibility of setting up internet banking given that it was increasingly difficult to make payment by cheque and/or having to wait for clearance thereof when making a purchase.

The Clerk detailed the procedure by which the Council could undertake internet banking and what would be required of signatories on the account in terms of authorising and verifying payments, and the necessary identification in setting it up. The Clerk suggested if the Council was mindful of proceeding with internet banking, it might want to delay doing so until the new Council was in place in May next year, to avoid the possibility of having to set up existing signatories to the account which may change in the Spring of next year. It was unanimously agreed to look at this matter further at this time.

#### 5.11.4 To give consideration to on-going maintenance to footpath – Gloucester Road through to Forge Lane

The Clerk advised that she had written to the Public Rights of Way Officer concerning the on-going maintenance of the footpath. Suzanne Hopes had advised that as Parish Councils had powers to undertake works/repairs to footpaths its own insurance should cover this, but if necessary they could cover volunteers under the County Council's public liability insurance providing details are given in advance of who was carrying out the work in this capacity. If the Council could find a local company who had the required licence and suitably qualified to apply weedkillers in public areas to undertake this work once/twice a year, the County Council may be able to help with the costs.

This to be investigated for the next meeting.

#### 5.11.5 Clerk's Salary/Home working allowance

The Clerk left the meeting whilst this matter was under discussion.

Cllr Mrs Fabian put forward a review of the Clerk's current pay scales. It was agreed that the scale be increased to Point 13 on the NALC payscale x 5 hrs per week, plus homework allowance of £312 per annum. To be paid quarterly from 1 October 2022.

#### 5.11.6 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the date of the next scheduled meeting would be Thursday 1 December 2022

This concluded the business of the meeting and it was declared closed at approx. 9.15 pm