



Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting
Monday 14 May 2018. 8:00pm
Upwood Village Hall, High Street, Upwood, PE26 2QE

Minutes

Present: Councillors J. Edwards, D. Hall, R. Howe, H. Nel, J. Noble, A. Perkins, G. Slater, H. Smith, J. Twose.

In Attendance: Mrs. C. Bilverstone (Clerk) and 4 members of the public.

1. Welcome by Councillor Robin Howe

Councillor Howe, Chairman of Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council welcomed members and parishioners to the Annual Parish Meeting. He noted that the Annual Parish Meeting is a much-anticipated event in the parish council calendar as it serves as a celebration of our community and the diversity of activities it provides.

2. Apologies

To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Councillor T. Rogers (County Councillor), Councillor G. Bull & Councillor J. Taverner (District Councillors).

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting. 08 May 2017.

To receive and approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 08 May 2017

The minutes of the meeting of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 08 May 2018 had been circulated in advance following their informal approval by Councillor Tew (the vice chairman at that time). Councillor Nel proposed that minutes be approved. Councillor Edwards seconded the proposal. All who had been present at the meeting were in favour and it was resolved to do so. Councillor Howe signed the minutes on the council's behalf (Councillor Tew is no longer a council member).

4. Report from the Chairman of Upwood and the Raveleys Parish Council. Please find attached.

5. Financial report from the clerk to the council. Please find attached.

6. To invite community representatives to address the meeting

Reports were presented by representatives from the following community groups:

The Art Group, represented by Gill Shelford.

The Cross Keys, Upwood Golf Society, represented by Howard Smith.

Representatives of the following community groups had offered apologies and forwarded reports which were presented by the chairman:

Home to Home, prepared by Pauline McLeod, Chairman.

Meet and Munch, prepared by Jan Howe, Coordinator.

St. Peter's Handbell Ringers, prepared by Vernon Cracknell.

Upwood Cricket Club, Prepared by Neil Tuffin.

Upwood Table Tennis Club, prepared by Jack Holloway.

Upwood and the Raveleys Archive, Prepared by Judith Harvey.

Upwood and the Raveleys Community Allotment Association and Upwood Community Orchard, prepared by Liz Carter.

Upwood and the Raveleys Local History Group, prepared by Andrew Bilverstone, Chairman.

Upwood and the Raveleys Newsletter, prepared by Doug McLeod, Chairman.

Upwood Book Lovers – Evening Group, prepared by Julia Evans.
Upwood Quilters, prepared by Pauline McLeod.
Upwood Ukuleles, prepared by Pauline McLeod.
Upwood Village Hall Management Committee, prepared by Stephen Howes, Chairman.
Upwood Branch WEA. Prepared by Liz Carter.

Please visit www.upwood.org to view the reports.

7. To invite the public to raise any matters of interest

A parishioner expressed concern for the future of The Cross Keys Public House and asked for the support of the parish council should its future as a public house become uncertain. The chairman and councillors agreed that the pub is an important part of this community and the parish council will do everything within its power to ensure that the pub remains open. It will not support plans for alternative use.

Clerk's note: The Cross Keys Public House, car park and paddock was made an "Asset of Community Value" (ACV) in June 2013. It was removed from the register in September 2016 following confirmation that a relevant disposal had been completed. "The Community Right to Bid" aims to keep valued buildings or land in use by the community. It gives local community groups the opportunity to nominate buildings or other land to be included on a register which is held by Huntingdonshire District Council. Once on the register, if an asset comes up for sale or lease, a community group has a period of time in which they can register their interest as a potential bidder, delaying a sale on the open market. There are no restrictions on the number of times an asset may be listed. Registration as an ACV would be considered as a material consideration with regard to any future planning applications.

A parishioner noted the large excavation along Church Lane as sewerage pipes are laid for the new development. She asked for clarification on the responsibility for its repair and who would be responsible in the future if additional repairs were needed. The chairman confirmed that Church Lane is an adopted road and therefore under the jurisdiction of Cambridgeshire County Council.

A resident whose property is adjacent to a public right of way expressed concern that items of litter have been thrown into her garden and damage has been caused to her fences. The clerk confirmed that she is working closely with Huntingdonshire District Council's Community Protection and Enforcement Team who in turn take a multi-agency approach (with Cambridgeshire Police and the local housing associations) to address all aspects of anti-social behaviour including dog fouling, littering and fly-tipping. Close monitoring is taking place across the parish and signs have been posted to this effect. Offenders will be prosecuted under the Public Space Protection Order, Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. Parishioners are encouraged to report all aspects of anti-social behaviour to the district council in the strictest confidence on 01480 388302 or via to: crm_communityprotectionandenforcement@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Discussion followed regarding grass cutting across the parish and concerns were raised that grass clippings were not being collected. The chairman confirmed that almost £9,000 is budgeted for parish maintenance in 2018/2019 (this equates to one third of the council's budget), but the contract does not include the removal of grass clippings. The current three-year contract is due for renewal in the spring of 2019 and the parish council could consider including the removal of grass clippings at that time. Councillor Slater reminded members and parishioners that the grass in the churchyard is raked and cleared by a volunteer and the parish council is grateful for his ongoing commitment and support.

8. Questions for county and district councillors

There were no county or district councillors present.

9. Chairman's closing remarks

The chairman thanked everyone for the time and effort taken to prepare reports and to contribute to this meeting. He also thanked councillors for the time they contribute and for their stalwart commitment to their portfolio responsibilities and to this community. He welcomed two new councillors and added that he looked forward with great optimism to the year ahead when the parish council will aim to gain the ultimate recognition of the Quality Gold Award.

Close of Meeting