

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS
PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday, 5th July 2010 at 7.30 p.m.

Present Mr D Paine Chairman
 Mr T Bell
 Mr N Gowler
 Mr D Oldale
 Mr A Perkins
 Mr K Sisman
 Clerk, Cllr Victor Lucas and 5 members of the public

Mr Oldale announced the sad death of Mr James Rignall on Sunday, 4th July 2010.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs J Paxton and Mr C Racey. Mr D McCreddie was absent.

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr Paine declared an interest in Item No. 6. Mr Sisman confirmed he was not a member of Upwood Action Group.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 7th June 2010

Mr Paine queried points under Item 10. Matters clarified. The Minutes were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Correspondence

Email – Ramsey Neighbourhood Centre
Ramsey Town Council – email – Notice of Ramsey Civic Service
Jean Noble – letter
CCC – letter – Extension to Upwood CP School: advising planning permission granted
HDC – letter – Erection of farm workers dwelling, Greatlands Farm: advising of refusal of application
Cllr Lucas – email – copy email correspondence letter from Shailesh Vara to HDC
CCC – email – Network News: new online quarterly magazine
HDC – email – Gypsy and Traveller statement

St Neots Museum – email – information on exhibitions and events
 CCC – letter – stakeholder meetings re project 5 year budget
 HDC – email – Balancing the Budget – Tough Challenges Ahead
 HDC – email – The Budget – LA On The Day Briefing
 CCC – email – Mobile library routes
 HDC – email – Gypsy and Traveller sites SHLAA consultation – extension
 Lee Gray – email – advising of dog fouling on grassed area outside cemetery
 HDC – letter – Town and Country Planning Environmental Impact Assessment (England and Wales) Regulations 1999
 Clerks & Councils Direct – July Newsletter
 Fawns Recreational Services Ltd – play equipment brochures
 Green Barnes – notice board brochure
 COPE Newsletter No. 68
 Cambridgeshire Community Services – Keeping in Touch Newsletter Summer 2010
 DT Leisure brochure
 Luminus Group – Headlines Newsletter June 2010

6. s137 payments

- Upwood and The Raveleys Newsletter

Mr Paine advised that £400-500 was needed to see newsletter through to the end of the year. He advised that print costs are increasing. Mr Gowler asked what the PC donated last year. Clerk confirmed £500. Mr Bell proposed the sum of £500, Mr Perkins seconded. Four in favour, one against, no abstentions.

7. Cheques

Mr L Gray	£319.50
Anglian Water	£51.88
Village Hall	£44.00
Clerk	£380.85
Mr L Gray	£319.50 (August payment)
Clerk	£331.93 (August payment)
Mr B C Edwards	£69.60
Upwood and The Raveleys Newsletter	£500.00

8. Maintenance

Mr Gowler commented that weeds have been sprayed and not strimmed in the paddock; grass killed off is competition to any weed growth. Deep rooted weeds will spring up again, but the grass will not. Clerk to email Lee Gray to advise that the PC prefers strimming to weed killer. Also suggested that 2” is left during the summer months, especially during any dry spell.

Cemetery hedge needs attention. Agenda item for next meeting.

9. Allotments

Allotments are to be re-numbered. Posts and numbers now ready. Chairman and Clerk to re-number when ground has softened up somewhat.

It was advised that the meter reading for the tap was taken on 16th June 2010.

Further discussion took place and it was agreed that no hosepipes are to be attached to the tap, for use only with a small watering can. Clerk to advise this note in the annual letter sent to allotment holders.

The wording of a notice to be affixed to the tap was discussed. *“This tap is for use by visitors to the cemetery only”*. Proposed by Mr Oldale and seconded by Mr Perkins.

Increase in rental payments - Agenda item for next meeting.

10. Funeral cart

Mr Paine advised that Swearers have had a change of heart on having the funeral cart due to vandalism at their premises recently. Mr Paine continuing to search for a new home for the cart.

11. Naming of new road

Clerk had received email from Kathryn Campbell on behalf of Gould Construction Limited in connection with development of new houses on land situated at 60A Huntingdon Road, Upwood, requesting the PC put forward suggestion for name of new road. Mr Gowler proposed Royal Oak Close, seconded by Mr Bell. All in favour.

12. Cemetery

Clerk had received a request for a gravestone to be moved between two graves. This had been refused by PC in the recent past, but it is apparent that it has been allowed previously. Councillors therefore agreed to the gravestone being moved, on the proviso that any relatives assume responsibility for keeping grave tidy. Further discussion took place. No surrounds are permitted; no stone chippings and no shrubs are to be planted on the graves. Clerk to investigate rules of what the PC does allow.

13. Leader or Mayor - The Choice for Huntingdonshire

Email documentation received in connection with consultation exercise being undertaken by HDC on which form of leadership should be adopted by the Council next year. Discussion took place and Councillors agreed no Mayor for Huntingdon. Proposed by Mr Sisman, seconded by Mr Oldale. All in favour.

14. Jointly Funded Minor Improvement Schemes - 2011/12

Member of public suggested a standpipe for the cemetery. Mr Lucas not certain that it would meet the criteria. Mr Sisman would like to see better road safety signs near Longholme Road junction. Paperwork passed to Mr Sisman for him to formulate an application.

15. Application for vacancy on Parish Council

Mr Sisman suggested that a member of the public should be invited from the Fairmead Estate or Farm Close.

Mr Lucas advised that a form is available to advertise that a position on the PC is open. Mr Paine to contact Keith Philips at HDC.

16. Proposed letter to HDC – Gypsy and Travellers sites

Mr Paine distributed notes to members suggesting points to be raised in a letter to HDC. Discussion followed and it was noted that traffic density is a problem within the immediate area which will be worsened by the addition of the number of pitches envisaged. The character of the village will be considerably changed.

Cllr Lucas advised that the Longholme Road site assessment should be amended to take account of the impact on surrounding nature and also felt there was archeological interest. Clerk to amend draft letter and email to all Councillors for comment before it is signed and sent.

17. Planning

There were no plans.

18. Any Other Business

Comment was made that the road between Raveley and Wistow had been resurfaced, but there appears to be no improvement. Clerk to write to Highways.

A “tractors turning” sign would be useful for the Turf Fen Road/Longholme Road junction as traffic using this route approaches too fast.

Mr Sisman commented that the white lining near the school has not been done for some considerable time, the lines have worn away. Clerk to write to Highways.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.