# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF UPWOOD AND THE RAVELEYS PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010 at 7.30 p.m.

Present Mr D Paine Chairman

Mr T Bell Mr N Gowler Mr D McCreadie Mr D Oldale Mr A Perkins Mr C Racey Mr K Sisman

Clerk, Cllr Victor Lucas and 92 (approx) members of the public

## 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr J Rignall. Mrs J Paxton was absent. Mr Paine then called upon Mr Oldale to bring members up to date on Mr Rignall's health.

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

## 3. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Mr Oldale commented that Mrs Paxton had made relevant comments about the cemetery which were missing from the Minutes. Clerk apologised for this omission. There was also an amendment to the abstention votes for the Chairman from 1 to 6. Subject to these amendments the Minutes were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

## 4. Matters arising

Mr Racey queried the position with the cemetery gates. Mr Paine advised that Clerk still to finalise notes which will then be forwarded to Mr Bell. Mr Bell advised that he had not yet spoken to Mr Lummis.

Mr Racey advised that Mr Papworth has finished work on the trees in the cemetery.

## 5. Correspondence

## 6. Cheques

Mr L Gray	£319.50
Clerk	£363.64
Mr L Gray	£319.50

#### 7. Maintenance

Mr Racey commented that it appears the strimming has been done in the vicarage paddock.

Mr Paine commented that whilst on the subject of the vicarage paddock he had been advised that building debris had been thrown onto the grass at the rear of the Nursing Home. Mr Paine had spoken to the Manager about this and also the absence of a boundary fence.

#### 8 Allotments

Mr Paine commented that he and Mr Oldale were aware that some allotments are well tended and some are not. Mr Paine suggested that a change is made to the current agreement to ensure allotment holders are made more aware of their obligation to keep their allotment cultivated. Mr Gowler suggested that perhaps a deposit should be taken when allotments are taken up and returned at the end of the tenancy if the allotment had been well tended.

Allotment rental fees are also due for review. Mr Oldale advised that use of the tap is being abused. Clerk advised that she had spoken to a lady called Karen at Anglian Water who had advised that the meter is to the left-hand side of the allotments, next to the tap. She advised that meter will be read in June. Clerk to contact again to find out date when meter is to be read. Agenda item for next meeting.

## 9. Funeral cart

Mr Paine advised that Swearers have agreed to take on the funeral cart, refurbish it and put on display in their new showroom. Mr Paine will draw up a contract and will bring back to next meeting for discussion. Thinking in terms of, say, period of five years. Agenda item for next meeting.

## 10. SHLAA: Site Assessments for Gypsy and Traveller sites

Mr Paine asked Mr Bell to comment, who expressed his surprise that such a site was being considered. Matter taken to High Court, action lost because no provision was made for sites for travellers to set up on.

Mr Bell then read out a letter sent by Mr Eric Pickles.

Mr Bell commented that there are still obstacles to overcome and his advice would be to continue with the exercise until there is a change in the law. Residents should continue with action against the sites.

Mr Sisman commented that the date given in the letter addressed to the Parish Council from HDC was too short a notice. Mr Sisman and Mr Oldale to attend the meeting being held on Wednesday, 9 June at the Civic Centre, Pathfinder House.

Mr Paine commented that one site is privately owned and it may be easier to defeat, but the other is owned by Cambridgeshire County Council and therefore may be more difficult to overcome.

The point was made that individuals each need to write because a petition bearing, say, 6,000 names would only count as one objection.

Members of the public were invited to speak after the Chairman had closed the meeting of the Parish Council.

## 11. Planning

No plans received.

## 12. Any other business

Mr Sisman advised that a drain cover was dislodged at the junction of Huntingdon Road and Church Road, which is very dangerous and needs urgent attention. Mr Racey commented that large lorries are missing the turn for the turbine works and have been reversing down Church Road and he suspects this is how the drain cover has become dislodged.

Mr Racey gave his apologies for the next meeting.

Mr McCreadie advised that the Great Raveley village sign is missing. Further advised that the hedge/verge needs attention at the junction of Great Raveley road.

Clerk advised that she had been contacted by a Mrs Gatward in connection with the Parish Council's decision not to allow a gravestone to be centered between two graves. Agenda item for next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.22 p.m.